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**COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

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Item 9 of the provisional agenda*

Technical cooperation, including resource mobilization, and coordination of activities

Statement** submitted by the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (category II)l.

The Secretary-General has received the attached statement,*** which is circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996.

* E/CN.15/1997/1.

** The views expressed in this statement are those of the author, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations Secretariat.

*** This statement is reproduced in the form in which it was received .

The resolution set forth below is submitted by the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation, containing the main conclusions of the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation World Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 30 October to 1 November 1996.

RESOLUTION

Crime prevention and criminal justice

The Asia Crime Prevention Foundation World Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 30 October to 1 November 1996;

Recalling the resolution of the 1995 Fourth ACPF World Conference on crime prevention and criminal justice in which the Conference expressed its conviction that the gravity of the problems of criminality in the Asia and the Pacific region, particularly in its transnational forms and dimensions, necessitates that the countries of the region re-examine their existing laws, regulations and approaches to crime prevention and criminal justice, taking advantage of successful experiences within and outside the region, with a view to developing more effective policies and strategies to combat crime;

Recognizing the direct relevance of crime prevention and criminal justice to sustained development, stability, security and improved quality of life in the Asia and the Pacific region;

Recalling General Assembly resolution 46/152 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the Statement of Principles and Programme of Action annexed to the resolution, in which the role and contribution of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations was underlined, as a valuable source of professional expertise, advocacy and assistance, which should be utilized in United Nations programme development and implementation;

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 50/146 in which the Secretary-General was requested to facilitate, as appropriate, the creation of joint initiatives, including bilateral activities, and the joint formulation and implementation of technical assistance projects benefiting developing countries and countries in transition, involving interested donor countries and funding agencies, particularly the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, with a view to establishing and maintaining efficient criminal justice systems on a country-by-country basis as an essential component of development effort;

Bearing in mind resolution 5/2 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in which the Commission invited all relevant international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue cooperating with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in support of its operational and technical assistance activities;

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/11 in which the Secretary-General was requested to submit concrete proposals to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for approval, with a view to developing practical models and guidelines for substantive and procedural legislations, building on the experience and expertise of States and drawing on contributions from relevant organizations, in order to assist, in particular, developing countries and countries in transition, upon request, in reviewing and evaluating their legislation and in planning and undertaking reforms, taking into account existing practices and cultural, legal and social traditions;

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/10 on the role of criminal law in the protection of environment in which the Secretary-General was requested to establish and maintain close cooperation with Member States and intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations active in the field of environmental protection, particularly in the area of technical cooperation and assistance, including the formulation of and implementation of joint projects on enforcement of environmental criminal law, and other relevant activities within the United Nations system concerned with legal matters;

Concerned about the growing violence and the economic power of criminal organizations and terrorist groups that engage in the production of, and traffic in and distribution of drugs, and arms and their involvement in other illicit criminal activities;

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among the countries of the Asia and Pacific region in combating drug-related crimes, such as terrorism, illicit arms trade and money laundering, and bearing in mind the role that could be played by the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

Noting that the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, has a vital role to play at the sub-regional, regional and international levels by contributing to the advancement of crime prevention and criminal justice policies and practices in the region;

1. Takes note with appreciation of the work accomplished by the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation, during the period 1995-1996, and encourages it to continue its active role in advancing viable crime prevention and criminal justice strategies and policies in the Asia and Pacific region;

2. Expresses its deep appreciation to those governments, enterprises and individuals who have contributed to the growth of the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation and appeal to them to continue their support to enable the Foundation to strengthen its capacity and resource base to provide assistance and promote technical cooperation in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;
3. Welcomes the work accomplished and the results achieved by ACPF Working Groups, established in accordance with the 1995 ACPF Conference resolution, on extradition and mutual legal assistance and on the role of criminal law in the protection of environment;
4. Expresses its appreciation to the governments of Thailand, the Republic of Korea and the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute (UNAFEI) for hosting the Working Groups and providing them with the necessary support to fulfil their tasks;
5. Approves the guidelines on the role of criminal law in the protection of environment and recommend them to the governments of the region to be guided by them, as appropriate, in formulating legislation and policy directives regarding the protection of the environment, and requests the Chairman of the ACPF to circulate the guidelines as widely as possible;
6. Requests the Working Group on the role of criminal law in the protection of environment to prepare a commentary on the use and application of the Guidelines on the role of criminal law in the protection of environment, with a view to assisting the countries of the region in their efforts to give effect to these guidelines;
7. Requests the Working Group on Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance to continue its valuable work in reviewing further the existing extradition arrangements at the bilateral, regional and international levels, with a view to elaborating an Asia and the Pacific regional treaty on extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, taking into account the United Nations model agreements on extradition and mutual legal assistance;
8. Invites the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations Asia and the Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders to extend their cooperation and support to the Working Groups to enable them fulfil their tasks;
9. Requests the Working Groups to report to the Sixth ACPF World Conference on the results of their work for action and proper follow-up;
10. Welcomes the close collaborative ties established between the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme regarding the exchange of information and the sharing of experience, and formulation and implementation of crime prevention and criminal justice assistance projects benefiting particularly developing countries;