



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
2 May 1999

Original: English

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Eighth session

Vienna, 27 April-6 May 1999

Draft report

Rapporteur: Adrian **Vierita** (Romania)

Addendum

Chapter X. Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held its eighth session in Vienna from 27 April to 6 May 1999. The Commission held 16 meetings. The Committee of the Whole held its meetings in parallel with the plenary.
2. The eighth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was opened by the outgoing Chairman of the seventh session, Cristina Luzescu (Romania).
3. At the opening meeting, Emomali Rakhmanov, the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, addressed the Commission. He noted that the recent upsurge in transnational crime had resulted in the penetration of central Asia by criminal groups and that the development of effective legislative frameworks and legal mechanisms for fighting crime had become a priority of the new sovereign States in that area. Legal reform and the drafting of specific laws to counter corruption, organized crime and money-laundering were essential. He expressed appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to his country by the donor community and United Nations entities, including the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention. He expressed his concern that the situation in the Afghan-Tajik area might get out of control if joint measures were not taken immediately. He called for continued support for his country in its efforts to fight organized crime, adding that his Government was open to proposals on constructive cooperation with all interested Governments and international organizations to combat transnational organized crime.

B. Attendance

4. The eighth session was attended by representatives of 38 States members of the Commission and by observers for 76 other States, 8 bodies of the United Nations, 3 specialized agencies, the 11 institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, 14 intergovernmental organizations and 41 non-governmental organizations. A list of participants is contained in annex I to the present report.

C. Election of officers

5. At its 1st meeting, on 27 April 1999, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

<i>Chairman:</i>	Ana María Cortez de Soriano (Bolivia)
<i>Vice-Chairman:</i>	Irene Freudenschuss-Reichl (Austria)
<i>Vice-Chairman:</i>	Chung Dal-ho (Republic of Korea)
<i>Vice-Chairman:</i>	Abubakr Salih Nur (Sudan)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Adrian Vierita (Romania)

6. The elected officers constituted the bureau of the Commission, which met several times during the session to consider matters relating to the organization of work and to strategic management.

7. Following her election, the Chairman of the eighth session made a brief introductory statement.

8. The Executive Director of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, noting the progress achieved in developing the convention against transnational organized crime, underscored four priority issues to be addressed: (a) abolition of bank secrecy in criminal investigations worldwide; (b) action against the misuse of offshore financial centres for money-laundering; (c) supporting the trend towards greater transparency in financial transactions; and (d) channelling the value of confiscated illicit resources back into the fight against transnational organized crime and allocating a portion of that value to supporting developing countries in their efforts in that area. He reported that the Centre had reinforced its technical cooperation efforts and refocused its work on the future challenges and mandates that would arise from the convention, especially through its newly launched global programme against corruption, global programme against trafficking in human beings and global studies on transnational organized crime.

D. Agenda and organization of work

9. At its 1st meeting, on 27 April 1999, the Commission adopted by consensus its provisional agenda (E/CN.15/1999/1), which had been agreed on by the Commission at its seventh session and approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1998/227. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention:
 - (a) Criminal justice reform and strengthening of legal institutions: the development, analysis and policy use of crime and criminal justice information and the computerization of criminal justice operations;
 - (b) Technical cooperation;
 - (c) Cooperation with other United Nations entities and other bodies;
 - (d) Resource mobilization.
4. Strategies for crime prevention:
 - (a) Promotion and maintenance of the rule of law and good governance: crime and public security;
 - (b) Elimination of violence against women;
 - (c) Development of crime prevention standards.
5. Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.
6. International cooperation in combating transnational crime:
 - (a) Implementation of the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime;
 - (b) Elaboration of an international convention against transnational organized crime and other possible international instruments.
7. Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.
8. Strategic management and programme questions:
 - (a) Strategic management;
 - (b) Programme questions;
 - (c) Appointment of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.
9. Provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Commission.
10. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its eighth session.

10. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the organization of work for its eighth session (E/CN.15/1999/1/Add.1), which included eight meetings for the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and four meetings for the Committee of the Whole.

E. Documentation

11. The documents before the Commission are listed in annex [...] to the present report.