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Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

Tenth session

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Agenda item 3

Finalization and approval of the draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

Proposals and contributions

European Union: amendments to the draft resolution on the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime contained in document A/AC.254/L.224

Preamble

1. Although the purpose of the draft resolution is by nature procedural, it would seem appropriate to begin the preamble with a more substantive paragraph, recalling the threat posed by transnational organized crime and the need for a mobilization of the international community to combat it. The European Union therefore proposes to insert the following opening preambular paragraph:

“*Deeply concerned* by the growing impact of the activities of transnational organized crime on societies, and convinced of the urgent need to strengthen cooperation to combat such activities at the national, regional and international levels,”.

Operative paragraph 1

2. Insert the words “and the protocols thereto” after the words “draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, since the Protocols will have to be forwarded to the General Assembly under the same resolution. The same remark applies to operative paragraphs 2 and 5.

3. Insert a reference to the fact that the work of the Ad Hoc Committee was carried out at the headquarters of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat.

Operative paragraph 2

4. Specify that the Convention and the Protocols thereto, after the high-level political signing conference to be held in Palermo from 11 to 15 December 2000, will be open for signature for a further period of two years at United Nations Headquarters in New York by adding the following words at the end of the paragraph: “and thereafter for a period of two years, in accordance with article 26 of the Convention”.

Operative paragraphs 3 and 6

5. These two paragraphs, both dealing with funding, should be merged to read as follows:

“*Decides* that, until the Conference of the Parties established pursuant to the Convention decides otherwise, the account referred to under article 21 *bis* of the Convention will be operated within the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, and encourages Member States to begin making adequate voluntary contributions to the above-mentioned account for the provision to developing countries and countries with economies in transition of the technical assistance that they might require for implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,”.

6. After operative paragraph 3, insert a new paragraph to allow the Ad Hoc Committee to continue its work in order to prepare for the first Conference of the Parties on the basis of article 23, paragraphs 2-4, of the Convention.

Operative paragraph 4

7. The words “at the direction of” should be replaced with “under the direction of”.

8. In view of the proposal to continue the Ad Hoc Committee contained in paragraph 6 above, the reference to the functions of the interim secretariat designated in operative paragraph 4 should be amended accordingly.

9. Additional paragraphs may also be required to specify the modalities for participation of non-Parties in the first session of the Conference of the Parties and to address some political issues, as part of an agreement to be reached by the Ad Hoc Committee.
