



## Economic and Social Council

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### Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Tenth session

Vienna, 8-17 May 2001

Agenda item 5

**Follow-up to the Tenth United Nations Congress on the  
Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders**

#### **Mexico: draft resolution**

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice recommends to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the following draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly:

#### **Role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders**

The Economic and Social Council recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that, in its resolution 53/110 of 9 December 1998, it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to review the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, including the issue of regional preparatory meetings for the congresses,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the results of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held in Vienna from 10 to 17 April 2000,<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10-17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

*Bearing in mind* that the congresses are a consultative body of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in accordance with paragraph 29 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the Programme, annexed to General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991,

*Recognizing* the significant contributions of the congresses to the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice,

*Recognizing also* that the congresses have been a forum for promoting the exchange of experiences in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice between States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

*Recognizing further* the role played by the congresses in making recommendations on the programme of work of the Commission,

*Aware* of the need to review the functioning and method of work of the congresses in order to improve their effectiveness,

*Noting with appreciation* the offers made by the Governments of Mexico and Thailand to host the Eleventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

1. *Decides* to continue holding the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders every five years, following a dynamic, interactive and cost-effective method of work and a focused programme of work;

2. *Also decides* that, beginning in 2005, the congresses shall be held in accordance with the following guidelines:

(a) Each congress shall discuss a main topic to be determined by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

(b) Each congress shall include a high-level segment, to be held in plenary meetings, in which States will be represented at the highest possible level and shall be given an opportunity to make statements on the main topic of the congress;

(c) As part of the high-level segment, the heads of delegations shall participate in a number of interactive round tables, to be held in parallel with the plenary meetings, in order to further the discussion on the main topic of the congress through open dialogue;

(d) Panels of experts, to be selected by the Commission with due regard for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, shall hold workshops dealing with specific aspects of the main topic of the congress, maintaining an open dialogue with the participants and avoiding the reading of statements;

(e) Each congress shall adopt a single declaration containing recommendations derived from the deliberations of the high-level segment, the round tables and the workshops, to be submitted to the Commission for its consideration;

(f) The Commission, as the preparatory body for the congress, shall request the Secretary-General to prepare only those background documents which are absolutely necessary for implementing the programme of work of the congress;

(g) The costs of the regional preparatory meetings for each congress shall be streamlined by holding them in conjunction with other regional meetings, shortening their duration and limiting the preparation of background documents;

3. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to continue to act as the preparatory body for the congresses and to follow the guidelines contained in paragraph 2 above in organizing future congresses;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue providing the staff required to serve as secretariat for the congresses and the regional preparatory meetings for the congresses;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention with the necessary resources, within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, for the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and to ensure that adequate resources are provided in the biennium 2004-2005 for the holding of the Eleventh Congress;

6. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to formulate, at its eleventh session, recommendations for the Eleventh Congress, including recommendations on the main topic, the organization of round tables and workshops to be held by panels of experts and the venue and duration of the Eleventh Congress, and to submit those recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Also requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to formulate, at its eleventh session, appropriate recommendations to enable the Economic and Social Council to introduce the necessary amendments to the rules of procedure for the congresses to reflect the guidelines contained in paragraph 2 above;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eleventh session.