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Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

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Agenda item 5

World crime trends and emerging issues and responses in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice

Italy and Thailand: draft resolution

Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to counterfeiting and piracy

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Recalling the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,¹ in which Member States noted with concern the rise of new and emerging forms of transnational organized crime,

Noting that counterfeiting and piracy may be regarded as a new and emerging form of transnational organized crime requiring effective international coordinated responses,

Taking note of the publication in 2007 of the report of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute entitled *Counterfeiting: a Global Spread, a Global Threat*,

Expressing concern that the extreme profitability of counterfeiting and piracy has increasingly made them a lucrative source of financing for organized criminal groups and illicit networks to fund other criminal activities and launder proceeds of crime,

Concerned that such phenomena are often perceived as victimless crimes, thus resulting in significantly reduced chances of sentencing and punishment and in inadequate recognition of their linkage to organized criminal groups,

¹ A/CONF.213/18.



Aware that counterfeit products, produced and traded within an unregulated market, not only pose serious threats to States' economies, but also create unacceptable risks for public health and safety,

Alarmed by the serious risk that the unregulated production of and trafficking in counterfeit medicines could pose to human health,

Recognizing that the piracy of digital media, especially in the form of DVDs, is traditionally regarded as an intellectual property offence that has had a negative impact on the entertainment industry, but that any effort to deal with it effectively should take into consideration the implications of its involvement with transnational organized crime, rather than relying on a purely economic analysis,

Recognizing also the importance of strengthening public-private partnerships in preventing and countering crime, particularly as demonstrated in the context of the Global Congress on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy, which will hold its sixth session in Paris in February 2011,

Considering that, in order to strengthen global responses to counterfeiting and piracy in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, there needs to be a comprehensive study of the nature of this phenomenon,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of understanding aspects of counterfeiting and piracy that pertain directly to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, with a view to developing appropriate programmes and capacity-building in this field;

2. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to conduct, in cooperation with other competent organizations, a study on the involvement of organized criminal groups in counterfeiting activities and in trafficking in counterfeit and pirated goods, focusing in particular on counterfeit medicines and piracy of digital media, and to report its findings to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twentieth session.