



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
23 April 2012

Original: English

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Twenty-first session

Vienna, 23-27 April 2012

Draft report

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Addendum

Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions

1. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 23 April 2012, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered agenda item 3, which read as follows:

“Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:

“(a) Work of the working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

“(b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme.”

2. For its consideration of agenda item 3, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the implementation of resolutions and decisions relating to crime prevention and criminal justice adopted in the period 2008-2011 in which action by UNODC was requested (E/CN.15/2012/2);

(b) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of UNODC (E/CN.7/2012/3-E/CN.15/2012/3);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (E/CN.15/2012/4);



(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015 (E/CN.7/2012/6-E/CN.15/2012/6);

(e) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC (E/CN.7/2012/12-E/CN.15/2012/12);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (E/CN.15/2012/23);

(g) Proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015: part two — biennial programme plan for programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice (A/67/6 (Prog. 13)).

3. At the 2nd meeting of the Commission, on 23 April 2012, the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs of UNODC made an introductory statement. The representative of Spain, speaking as Co-Chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, also made an introductory statement.

4. Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand, Cuba, Canada and the United States of America. Statements were also made by the observers for Norway and the Republic of Korea.

A. Deliberations

5. Several delegations welcomed the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC and expressed appreciation for the work of the Co-Chairs. The Commission took note of its election of Maria Oyeyinka Laose (Nigeria), at its intersessional meeting on 20 March 2012, to replace Taous Feroukhi (Algeria) as one of the Co-Chairs. The working group was seen as a useful mechanism for informal dialogue and information exchange, reinforcing transparency and accountability. The importance of having the mandated intergovernmental bodies providing guidance on administrative, financial and strategic management questions was also stressed.

6. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the work of UNODC in implementing and further developing its regional and thematic programmes. Delegations also welcomed the progress made by its Independent Evaluation Unit towards establishing a culture of evaluation within the Office. The importance of a results-based management approach and adequate evaluation, monitoring and reporting was stressed, as those were means to increase transparency and build confidence among donors, with a view to increasing financial support.

7. The importance of inter-agency cooperation and of working as “One United Nations” was emphasized. Several speakers welcomed the enhanced focus of UNODC on the protection and promotion of human rights and its commitment to integrate human rights issues and a gender perspective in its programmatic work.

8. Some delegations referred to the strategy for the period 2012-2015 for UNODC, and one delegation commented on the proposed strategic framework for 2014-2015,

mentioning that the Office should remain focused on its core strengths, as spelled out in the proposed strategic framework, while stressing that more attention should be given to the issue of crime prevention. Several delegations recognized the importance of prioritization in the work of UNODC and stressed the role of the Commission in identifying priorities in that regard.

9. Several delegations mentioned that UNODC had become a victim of its own success and expressed concern about its financial situation, especially in the light of the unpredictability of contributions and the low percentage of general-purpose resources in its overall budget. Speakers underlined the need for adequate, predictable and sustainable funding, while looking forward to the formulation of a fundraising strategy. Suggestions on possible improvements included an increase in resources from the regular budget of the United Nations, the application of soft earmarking by donors, enhanced partnerships with and support by the private sector and a commitment by UNODC to accept additional contributions only with the standard programme support charge of 13 per cent.

B. Action taken by the Commission

10. At its 2nd meeting, on 23 April, the Commission approved for adoption by the Economic and Social Council a draft decision on appointments to the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, draft decision [...].)

11. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to transmit the report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute for 2011 (see E/CN.15/2012/4) to the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with article IV, paragraph 3(e), of the Statute of the Institute, annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/56.
