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Draft report

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Addendum

Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

1. At its 7th meeting, on 25 April 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 6, entitled “Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice”. For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice (E/CN.15/2013/11);

(b) Report of the Secretariat on responses of Member States with respect to the Abu Dhabi draft preliminary recommendations on the oversight and regulation of civilian private security services and on their contribution to crime prevention and community safety (E/CN.15/2013/20);

(c) Report of the Secretariat on the work of the Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (E/CN.15/2013/23);

(d) Note verbale dated 2 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations (Vienna) addressed to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.15/2013/26);

(e) Comments and proposals for amendments to the text of the Abu Dhabi draft preliminary recommendations on the oversight and regulation of civilian private security services and on their contribution to crime prevention and



community safety, as received from responding Member States (E/CN.15/2013/CRP.4);

(f) Proposal of the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, South Africa, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (E/CN.15/2013/CRP.6);

(g) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime maritime crime programme (E/CN.15/2013/CRP.9).

2. The Director of the Division for Operations and the Chief of the Justice Section of UNODC made introductory statements. Statements were made by the representatives of Germany, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, Algeria, China, Switzerland and Indonesia. Statements were also made by the observers for Australia, Libya, Finland, Canada and the Dominican Republic.

Deliberations

3. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the work of UNODC carried out through its broad and diversified project portfolio in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice. Several speakers informed the Commission about criminal justice reform initiatives supported by UNODC in their countries.

4. Several speakers underlined the continued importance of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners as the main international reference for prison systems worldwide and stressed that any amendments to the Rules should not lower current standards. Several speakers commended the progress made by the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and encouraged it to continue its work so that the revised Rules incorporated recent developments, including outcomes of the work of relevant United Nations human rights bodies, as well as good practices, such as the mainstreaming of gender sensitivity. One speaker stated that the revision of the Rules should be completed as expeditiously and economically as possible and that Member States should step up efforts to implement the Rules.

5. UNODC was commended for its current work in East Africa under its counter-piracy programme, and several speakers expressed support for its plan to build on the expertise gained through that programme and broaden its scope into a maritime crime programme covering new regions, such as the Gulf of Guinea, and building the capabilities of Member States to respond to maritime crime.

6. Speakers stressed the importance of implementing effective crime prevention strategies and programmes in order to better address risk factors leading to criminality and contribute to the protection and promotion of human rights. It was noted that the standards and norms in crime prevention provided an important framework to guide such efforts. UNODC was asked to further mainstream prevention in its work, including in its data collection efforts and in its work on justice for children. A call was made for further examination of the Abu Dhabi draft preliminary recommendations on the oversight and regulation of civilian private security services and on their contribution to crime prevention and community safety, as well as for their use in the development of technical assistance tools by UNODC.