

jectives of the new international economic order and the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Noting the importance of the availability of technical assistance and technical advisory services, on a regular basis, to members of the international community which request them, especially among the developing countries of the world,

Concerned that the countries of Africa south of the Sahara, in spite of numerous appeals to the international community for assistance in establishing regional institutes to facilitate research, planning and implementation of crime prevention programmes and strategies, are still without viable regional means of collaborating systematically and in concert in matters pertaining to crime prevention and the treatment of offenders,

Recalling that the United Nations has already established institutes in other regions of the world,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish an institute for Africa south of the Sahara in the field of crime prevention and the treatment of offenders;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to restore and make available through the United Nations Development Programme the services of interregional and regional advisers in the field of crime prevention and the treatment of offenders to Member States, at their request;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, under the auspices of the programme of technical co-operation among developing countries, to explore new formulae for providing developing countries with technical experts through the United Nations, for instance, providing experts whose basic salary would be covered by the sending country and whose additional expenses would be covered by the receiving country.

*14th plenary meeting
9 May 1979*

1979/21. Strengthening of United Nations institutes and United Nations-affiliated institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the importance of co-operation among Member States and the value of efforts already made by the international community in the field of crime prevention and the treatment of offenders, and also the need to promote development of this co-operation at the interregional and regional levels,

Recalling its resolution 1086 B (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965 concerning the strengthening of the United Nations social defence programme, in pursuance of which, *inter alia*, was established the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, and also General Assembly resolutions 32/58, 32/59 and 32/60 of 8 December 1977,

Reaffirming the primary importance of the role of research and training in the field of social defence,

Aware of the fact that if the United Nations institutes and United Nations-affiliated institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders

are to be successful in the work they are doing in the context of economic and social development, they must be able to plan an organic, coherent and long-term policy,

Considering that the results which the institutes have achieved and the services they have rendered both to the international community as a whole and to specific regions or countries not only justify the maintenance of those institutes but also militate in favour of their consolidation and strengthening,

Also aware of the fact that the means hitherto employed may benefit from increased co-ordination and co-operation,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to all countries, in particular to the host countries Costa Rica, Egypt, Italy and Japan, which, by their voluntary contributions, have so far made possible the establishment and operation of the institutes;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with a view to strengthening the above-mentioned institutes, to take all appropriate measures to ensure permanent financial resources—in addition to other voluntary contributions provided by governmental and non-governmental sources—by placing the question before the competent bodies of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations regional commissions;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to study, with the competent bodies of the United Nations and the Secretariat services concerned, the most appropriate steps to secure better co-ordination of the work programmes of the institutes,

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1979/22. Capital punishment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2857 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 and 32/61 of 8 December 1977 in which the Assembly confirmed the continuing interest of the United Nations in the study of the question of capital punishment with a view to promoting full respect for everyone's right to life and also reaffirmed that the main objective to be pursued was the progressive restriction of the number of offences for which the death penalty might be imposed with a view to the desirability of abolishing that punishment,

Concerned about the slow progress in achieving this objective,

Reaffirming its wish for the establishment of adequate legal procedures and the greatest possible safeguards for the accused in capital cases,

Mindful of its resolution 1930 (LVIII) of 6 May 1975, in which it requested the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2857 (XXVI), to proceed with the report on practices and statutory rules which might govern the right of a person sentenced to capital punishment to petition for pardon, commutation or reprieve, and to report on those questions to the Council at the latest at its first regular session of 1980, together with the basic report of 1980 on capital punishment,