

**STATEMENT**  
**by His Excellency**  
**Deputy Minister of Foreign**  
**Affairs of the Republic of**  
**Belarus Mr. Valentin B. Rybakov**  
**at the High-level segment of the**  
**XIII UN Congress on Crime**  
**Prevention and Criminal Justice**  
**(April 2015, Doha, Qatar)**

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Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Belarus I would like to offer most sincere thanks to the Government of the State of Qatar for hosting the **XIII United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**.

I would also like to praise an immense amount of **preparatory work** that has been done prior to this Congress.

Mr. President,

**Sixty years ago**, Geneva hosted the first Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Since then, the international community held more than a dozen of them.

These events were of great significance to the world. First and foremost, they **shaped our understanding** of the issue of transnational organized crime. This in turn, enabled us to develop **appropriate global normative standards**, which we subsequently translated into our **domestic policies** against crime.

The current Congress is **particularly important**. Indeed, we are fast approaching one of those rare global **critical junctures**, which determine how humanity will develop in many years to come.

This juncture is **the United Nations Summit**, to be convened in New York in September. The Summit is set to endorse a **new UN global development agenda** for the next decade and a half.

Since the Rio+20 conference in June 2012 we seem to have been in agreement that the new agenda should be built around **the paradigm of sustainable development**.

Sustainable development is about a **holistic approach** to addressing all global threats and challenges. Such an approach should in full measure account for the **three pillars** – economic, social, and environmental – which underlie the concept.

Belarus is convinced that **the post-2015 agenda should adequately reflect the issues of crime prevention and criminal justice**.

The logic from which we proceed is simple enough – **crime poses a grave threat** both to international peace and security, and to global development.

This is the **conclusion** of a number of meetings, which the UN Security Council and the General Assembly, among other international entities, held on these interconnected issues over the past few years.

In the context of the post-2015 UN development agenda this **threat is even more formidable**. Some studies indicate that the implementation of the new agenda will require **financing** on a scale far above the current level. So, at the very time when the international community will be struggling to find necessary funding, the organized crime will be stealing resources away from sustainable development.

With the view to forestalling this, we must do our best to firmly embed the crime and rule of law perspective in the post-2015 agenda.

Mr. President,

While advocating a comprehensive approach to the new global development agenda, Belarus stands for the need to address challenges **pertaining to crime in a holistic way**, too.

This means that the international community should pursue the policy of twin objectives with regard to crime prevention and criminal justice.

First, it must continue to fight effectively "**conventional**" crimes like, among others, drug trafficking, human trafficking, illegal migration, terrorism, and corruption.

At the same time, we must devote increasing attention to **new and emerging forms of crime**, like cybercrime, economic-related fraud, trafficking in human organs.

In Belarus' opinion, the **Doha Declaration**, adopted at the Congress, adequately reflects our comprehensive understanding and approaches to transnational organized crime.

**International cooperation** in implementing the Declaration will be crucial. **Belarus will do its best** to contribute to this effort.

Thank you for your kind attention.

