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FOURTH UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS ON THE PREVENTION  
OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

(It is kindly requested that this information note, prepared by the Secretariat of the United Nations, be given wide publicity by reproduction in part or in full in any language.)

I. BACKGROUND

By resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950, the General Assembly of the United Nations provided for the convening every five years of an International Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. The First Congress was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, in 1955; the Second Congress, with the Government of the United Kingdom acting as host, at Church House and Carlton House, London, in 1960; and the Third Congress, with the Government of Sweden acting as host, at Folkets Hus, Stockholm, in 1965.

II. DATE AND PLACE

The Fourth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders will be held at International Conference Hall, Kyoto, Japan, from 17-26 August 1970. The Government of Japan will act as host.

III. MEMBERSHIP

Under established practice, the Congress will group three categories of participants, namely:

(1) Members officially appointed by their Governments, who are experts in the field of social defence or are directly concerned with policies and programmes affecting the prevention and control of crime and delinquency (e.g., social planners; educational, social welfare, youth development and employment experts and policy makers) and who have a special knowledge of and experience in the topics on the agenda;

(2) Representatives of the specialized agencies of the United Nations, of intergovernmental organizations and of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council interested in or concerned with social defence matters;

(3) Individual participants having a direct interest in the field of social defence (such as members of the teaching staffs of universities, of criminological or social research institutes and of national non-governmental organizations concerned with social defence matters; staff of correctional establishments and institutions for juvenile delinquents; members of courts and Bar Associations; social workers; youth workers, education specialists, police officials).

The United Nations will not bear any expenses of participants.

#### IV. PROGRAMME

In the organization of the Congress, the Secretariat will be guided by the recommendations of the Advisory Committee of Experts on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. The programme will be centred around the over-all theme of crime and development and include the following items:

- (1) Social defence policies in relation to development planning;
- (2) Prevention of crime in the context of national development with particular reference to juvenile delinquency;
- (3) Participation of the public in the prevention and control of crime and delinquency;
- (4) The Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners in the light of recent developments in the correctional field.

It is understood that in the intervening one and a half years certain changes may still be required in the titles of the Congress topics.

The programme of the Congress will also include visits to institutions, film showings and an exhibition; post-Congress tours and a visit to the 1970 World Exposition at Osaka are also being planned.

The official languages of the Congress will be English, French, Spanish and Russian. Simultaneous interpretation from and into these languages will be provided at all section and plenary meetings.

#### V. DOCUMENTATION

The United Nations Secretariat will prepare a working paper on each of the substantive items on the agenda of the Congress. These documents will set the stage for the discussions by giving the elements of the problem, indicating the preoccupation of various countries and defining the major issues involved. The specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may also prepare, on the invitation of the Secretariat, background documentation on specific questions pertaining to the subject matters under consideration.

The documentation will be mailed to participants at least six weeks in advance and there will be no distribution of documents during the Congress.

#### VI. REGISTRATION

A registration card will be issued to persons deemed qualified under section III of this note. Applications for registration forms may be addressed to the Chief of the United Nations Section of Social Defence, United Nations, New York, New York, 10017. There is no registration fee.

#### VII. TRAVEL AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Inquiries concerning travel and hotel accommodation and requests for reservations should be directed to the following agency in Japan:

Japan Travel Bureau  
1-1 Marunouchi  
Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo  
Japan

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This archiving project is a collaborative effort between United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and American Society of Criminology, Division of International Criminology. Any comments or questions should be directed to Cindy J. Smith at [CJSmithphd@comcast.net](mailto:CJSmithphd@comcast.net) or Emil Wandzilak at [emil.wandzilak@unodc.org](mailto:emil.wandzilak@unodc.org).