



UNITED
NATIONS



**Sixth United Nations Congress on the
Prevention of Crime and the Treatment
of Offenders**

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Caracas, Venezuela, 25 August to 5 September 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Note by the Secretariat

1. The Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders will take place at Caracas from 25 August to 5 September 1980. The session will open at the International Conference Centre, Parque Central, on Monday, 25 August at 10.30 a.m.

I. PRE-CONGRESS CONSULTATIONS

2. Prior to the opening of the Congress, it is suggested that heads of delegations meet at pre-Congress consultations which are scheduled to take place on Sunday, 24 August. The purpose of the pre-Congress consultations, which will be open to all participating States, is to reach agreement on recommendations to be made on all procedural matters to be dealt with by the Congress on the opening day. It is suggested that the Executive Secretary of the Congress should preside over the pre-Congress consultations.

3. The agenda of the pre-Congress consultations is as follows:

1. Election of the President of the Congress
2. Adoption of the rules of procedure
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Organization of work
5. Election of officers other than the President

6. Credentials of representatives to the Congress:
 - (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee
 - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee
7. Report of the Congress

A. Election of the President of the Congress

4. It has been an established practice at United Nations conferences held outside United Nations offices to elect the head of the delegation of the host country as President. This is normally done by acclamation and the requirement of a secret ballot is dispensed with. The participants in the pre-Congress consultations may wish to recommend to the Congress to follow this established practice.

B. Adoption of the rules of procedure

5. The provisional rules of procedure of the Congress are contained in document A/CONF.87/2. Provisional rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders were worked out by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its fifth session and approved by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1979 (see Council decision 1979/25 of 9 May 1979). They were revised by the Council at its organizational session for 1980 (decision 1980/105 of 6 February 1980).

6. However, in the course of the preparatory work for the Congress, the chairmen of the regional groups have decided to request the Congress to increase the number of the members of the General Committee in order to ensure a more equitable distribution of seats on the General Committee among regional groups (see rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure).

7. In this connexion, the pre-Congress consultations may wish to recommend to the Congress to revise rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure concerning the membership of the General Committee accordingly.

C. Adoption of the agenda

8. The provisional agenda for the Congress was approved by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1980 and is contained in document A/CONF.87/1. The pre-Congress consultations may wish to recommend to the Congress to adopt the provisional agenda as contained in the above-mentioned document.

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D. Organization of work

9. The organization of work of the Congress as proposed by the Secretariat is outlined in section II below. The pre-Congress consultations may wish to recommend to the Congress the adoption of the proposed organization of work.

E. Election of officers other than the President

10. The pre-Congress consultations may wish to consider the question of the election of officers to the General Committee, the bureau of the proposed sub-committee of Committee II and the bureau of the Working Group of Committee I.

11. The pre-Congress consultations may also wish to consider the question of the election of the friends of the Rapporteur-General, as well as the Rapporteurs of the main committees.

F. Credentials of representatives to the Congress

1. Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

12. In accordance with rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Congress, the Credentials Committee shall consist of nine members appointed by the Congress on the proposal of the President and its membership shall, as far as possible, be the same as that of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its thirty-fourth session. The Credentials Committee of the thirty-fourth session of the General Assembly was as follows: Belgium (Chair), China, the Congo, Ecuador, Pakistan, Panama, Senegal, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America. The pre-Congress consultations may wish to recommend that the Credentials Committee consist of the representatives of the said countries.

2. Report of the Credentials Committee

13. In accordance with rule 4, paragraph 2 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Credentials Committee shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Congress. The pre-Congress consultations may wish to recommend to the Congress to set a specific date for the Credentials Committee to report on its work.

3. Report of the Congress

14. The reports of United Nations conferences, including the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, consist of the decisions of the conference, a brief account of the events leading to its convening, the proceedings of the conference, including a summary of the general debate in plenary and of the work of the main committees, and a Rapporteur's account of the action taken in plenary on the recommendations submitted by the main committees.

15. It has been the practice of similar United Nations forums to request each regional group to designate before the opening of the conference two persons to serve as friends of the Rapporteur-General as well as the Rapporteurs of the main committees to assist the latter in preparing the draft report of the conference.

16. The pre-Congress consultations may wish to follow this practice.

II. ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE CONGRESS

17. The Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1980 has adopted the following agenda for the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders:

1. Opening of the Congress
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Election of the President;
 - (b) Adoption of the rules of procedure;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (d) Organization of work;
 - (e) Election of officers other than the President;
 - (f) Credentials of representatives to the Congress:
 - (i) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
 - (ii) Report of the Credentials Committee
3. Crime trends and crime prevention strategies
4. Juvenile justice: before and after the onset of delinquency
5. Crime and the abuse of power: offences and offenders beyond the reach of the law?
6. Deinstitutionalization of corrections and its implications for the residual prisoner
7. United Nations norms and guidelines in criminal justice: from standard-setting to implementation, and capital punishment
8. New perspectives in crime prevention and criminal justice and development: the role of international co-operation
9. Adoption of the report of the Sixth Congress

18. The Economic and Social Council also recommended that the Sixth United Nations Congress should set up two Committees and one Working Group and that the agenda items of the Congress should be distributed among the sessional bodies as follows:

- (a) Committee I: agenda items 3 and 7;
- (b) Working Group of Committee I: agenda item 8;
- (c) Committee II: agenda items 4, 5 and 6.

19. In the light of the very heavy schedule of work of the Sixth United Nations Congress, it is further recommended that a sub-committee should be set up within the framework of Committee II and that this sub-committee should consider agenda item 6.

20. In order to complete the work of the Congress in time, it is recommended that the Congress should adopt the following programme of work:

Plenary

Agenda item 1	Opening of the Congress	25 August	a.m.
Agenda item 2	Organizational matters	25 August	a.m.
Agenda item 9	Adoption of the report	4 September	p.m.
		5 September	a.m.
			p.m.

Committee I

Item 2	Organizational matters	25 August	p.m.
Item 3	Crime trends and crime prevention strategies	25 August	p.m.
		26 August	a.m.
			p.m.
		27 August	a.m.
			p.m.
		28 August	a.m.
			p.m.
		29 August	a.m.
	Consideration of the report on item 3	1 September	a.m.

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Committee I (continued)

Item 7	United Nations norms and guidelines in criminal justice: from standard-setting to implementation and capital punishment	29 August	p.m.
		1 September	a.m.
			p.m.
		2 September	a.m.
			p.m.
		3 September	a.m.
			p.m.
	Consideration of the report on item 7	4 September	a.m.

Working Group of Committee I

Item 2	Organizational matters	25 August	p.m.
Item 8	New perspectives in crime prevention and criminal justice and development: the role of international co-operation	25 August	p.m.
		26 August	p.m.
		27 August	p.m.

The Working Group is expected to submit its report to Committee I on 28 August.

Committee II

Item 2	Organizational matters	25 August	p.m.
Item 4	Juvenile justice: before and after the onset of delinquency	25 August	p.m.
		26 August	a.m.
			p.m.
		27 August	a.m.
			p.m.
		28 August	a.m.
	Consideration of the report on item 4	29 August	a.m.

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Committee II (continued)

Item 5	Crime and the abuse of power: offences and offenders beyond the reach of the law?	28 August	p.m.
		29 August	a.m.
			p.m.
		1 September	a.m.
			p.m.
		2 September	a.m.
	Consideration of the report of Committee II on item 5	3 September	a.m.

Proposed Sub-Committee of Committee II

Item 2	Organizational matters	28 August	p.m.
Item 6	Deinstitutionalization of corrections and its implications for the residual prisoner	28 August	p.m.
		29 August	p.m.
		1 September	p.m.
		2 September	a.m.
			p.m.
		3 September	a.m.

The Sub-Committee is expected to submit its report to Committee II on
4 September a.m.

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 or Emil Wandzilak at emil.wandzilak@unodc.org.