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

REPORT OF THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING  
ON THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

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## INTRODUCTION

1. The European Regional Preparatory Meeting on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders was the first of a series of regional meetings convened to discuss the provisional agenda for the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held in 1985, in pursuance of General Assembly resolutions 415(V) and 36/21 and Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 1982/29 and to make appropriate recommendations concerning the preparations and documentation for the Conference. The list of the five substantive topics for the provisional agenda of the Congress recommended by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its seventh session, held at Vienna from 15 to 24 March 1982, and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1982/29, was adopted as the agenda for the Meeting. To facilitate the discussion, the Meeting had before it a discussion guide prepared by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (A/CONF. 121/PM.1), which outlined the subject matters to be covered. A list of documents relevant to the discussions is contained in annex I.

2. The European Regional Preparatory Meeting was held at Sofia from 6 to 10 June 1983, on the invitation of the Government of Bulgaria. Over 70 participants, including participants from 26 European and other countries from both Eastern and Western Europe and several non-governmental organizations, attended the Meeting. The Director of the recently established Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations, and the Director of the United Nations Social Defence Research Institute also participated in the Meeting. The list of participants is contained in annex II.

3. Mr. Konstantin Lyutov, Attorney General of Bulgaria, was elected Chairman. Mr. Helge Røstad, Judge of the Norwegian Supreme Court and Mr. Dusan Gotić, Judge of the Supreme Court of Yugoslavia, were elected Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Konrad Hobe, Ministerial Counsellor at the Ministry of Justice of the Federal Republic of Germany, was elected Rapporteur.

4. The participants were welcomed by Mr. Ivan Nenov on behalf of the host country, in the presence of Mr. Yaroslav Radev, Vice-President of the State Council of Bulgaria, Mrs. Svetla Daskalova, Minister of Justice, and other members of the Bulgarian Government.

5. The Meeting was opened on behalf of the Secretary-General by the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, who thanked the Government of Bulgaria for the excellent arrangements for the Meeting. She went on to explain the purpose of the preparatory meetings for the Congress and briefly outlined the agenda items, emphasizing the value of an international sharing of experience and discussion of priority issues for the formulation of effective and humane policies, to be applied world-wide.

6. The Minister of Justice of Bulgaria described the successful policies of her Government in preventing crime and establishing equitable and humane social and criminal justice measures. She emphasized the close relationship of crime prevention and justice to the political system, economic development and social and cultural values of each country, noting that the strategies for the prevention and control of crime should form an integral part of the plans

for social, economic, political and cultural development. She noted further that international and regional co-operation, especially through the exchange of experience and information, could be highly effective in pursuing the fight against crime and in establishing fairer systems of criminal justice.

7. The representative of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control pointed out that, for the first time in the history of the Congress, the Committee was formally represented at the regional preparatory meetings, in accordance with the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/30. He observed that the Committee's participation would undoubtedly contribute to the effective and smooth preparation of the Congress.

8. It was announced that the International Association of Penal Law, the International Society of Social Defence, the International Society of Criminology and the International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation, working together through the International Committee of Co-ordination, would organize meetings in 1983 and 1984 as a contribution to the preparations for topic II (Criminal justice processes and perspectives in a changing world), and topic IV (Youth, crime and justice), and would hold working groups on topic III (Victims of crime) and the sub-topic on the transfer of foreign prisoners of topic V of the Congress.

9. Deep appreciation was expressed to the Government and people of Bulgaria for the excellent arrangements and facilities provided, as well as for the kind and generous hospitality extended to all participants and observers.

I. DISCUSSION OF THE SUBSTANTIVE TOPICS ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA  
FOR THE CONGRESS

A. Topic I: New dimensions of criminality and crime prevention  
in the context of development: challenges for the future

10. In introducing the item dealing with topic I, "New dimensions of criminality and crime prevention in the context of development: challenges for the future", the representative of the Secretariat pointed out that it was intended to provide a sense of continuity between the Sixth and the Seventh Congresses, serving as a vehicle for strengthening international co-operation. Discussions of the topic could further help to develop the desiderata expressed in the Caracas Declaration (see General Assembly resolution 35/171, annex) into the new guiding principles called for in General Assembly resolution 36/21, by developing an effective and integrated approach to crime prevention, which would not merely stress the legal points of view but would be consistent with the unique political, economic, social and cultural characteristics of each country. If all countries succeeded in pooling their experiences, they could contribute greatly to the elaboration of the new principles to be formulated by the Seventh Congress, keeping in mind their political, economic, social and cultural differences.

11. In considering the various issues raised in the discussion guide, some participants stated that the emphasis ought not to be on crime alone but on its prevention. If prevention were effective, societies would not be compelled to punish. Prevention ought to be the main element in the strategies to combat crime, i.e. through the removal of its causes. It was, therefore, important to elucidate such causes scientifically in order to be able to remove them. As crime was a historically changing phenomenon, certain participants insisted that the fight against it should proceed from the knowledge that crime might be socially conditioned. When class antagonisms based upon the exploitation of man by man were eliminated, crime would disappear. The decrease in the number of crimes and their less dangerous nature, factors that were concomitant with economic, social and political changes in some countries, showed that socio-economic development in itself did not lead to an increase of criminality. An effective strategy for crime prevention should be based on the comparative value of the means used by society to control crime, in which the various measures to be adopted, of a technological, ideological, political and legal character, should be addressed to the elimination of conditions conducive to crime.

12. International co-operation was, therefore, important and justified, although perhaps more for the exchange of experience in crime prevention programmes than for the development of new standards; it could only be successful if an atmosphere of peace and confidence prevailed among countries.

13. One participant stressed the need to identify global principles that could be relevant for the prevention of crime, taking into account the realistic chances of translating such principles into action. Clear priorities should therefore be defined, against the background of the social, political, economic and cultural characteristic proper to each country, as no country seemed to have found a fully satisfactory pattern for dealing with the phenomenon of crime. The importance of research in that connection was also underlined. Another participant emphasized that crime prevention should be

related to the nature of crime, which was a complex phenomenon determined by social conditions; therefore, the fight against it should be based on different types of measures, which should be integrated into the overall socio-economic development planning process, with adequate co-ordination among the various national and local sectors and authorities so that they would be the concern of the whole nation. Moreover, crime prevention ought to conform strictly to the principles of legality, taking into consideration the basic freedoms of mankind, and with the full involvement of the community.

14. It was noted by another participant that efforts to control modern crime must be intensified, particularly since planners and policy-makers had only recently realized that there were new opportunities for crime, especially in the economic sectors. To control crime, the opportunities for it had to be controlled. Preventive activities, although of prime importance, needed to be supplemented by measures in the area of criminal justice. Whether in the area of modern or traditional crime, criminal justice should, however, always be used as a last resort. Regarding modern forms of criminality, economic crime was of great concern. Nonetheless, criminalization should be very selectively applied, with clear priorities. Also, in view of the limited resources available, perhaps less attention should be directed at traditional crime, since the danger and cost of modern economic crime had been underestimated. In that regard, international guidelines should call for action against the new forms of criminality.

15. The view was expressed that the problems of crime prevention could not be discussed in isolation from the economic and social context in which crime occurred and that its elimination was a lengthy and gradual process, in which all citizens should participate and the entire community be involved. The relationships between crime and the political and socio-economic aspects of society considered were of primary importance, since crime was closely related to the political and legal structures of any given country. Therefore, the topic should mainly centre on the exchange of experiences regarding effective crime prevention policies.

16. That position was supported by other representatives, who also mentioned that attention should be paid to the growth of economic crime, in particular when caused by transnational corporations, predominantly affecting the developing countries, and to the major relationships between crime and socio-economic factors in the context of the new international economic order. Since in many countries inequality and poverty were associated with crime, those causes had to be eliminated if the fight against crime was to be effective. Any workable strategy of crime prevention ought, therefore, to include a solution to the above problems, as well as educational and prophylactic measures aimed at changing the system of human values and attitudes, so as to overcome anti-social tendencies. Moreover, crime prevention ought to be the task of the whole society and community action.

18. Another speaker asserted that crime was a serious threat to the quality of life. Crime prevention should not, however, under any circumstance infringe upon basic human rights and fundamental freedoms. Involvement of the community in preventive measures was essential, but the public at large had to be made aware of its role. Regarding the relationship between crime and

current economic difficulties, the suppression of discrimination and the creation of equal opportunities could help in the prevention of crime. An exchange of information on crime trends and strategies was advisable, and intensified influence should be brought to bear to increase the public's efforts to protect itself.

19. In the course of the discussion it was emphasized that crime prevention, while remaining within the competence of each State, should nevertheless also be based on exchanges of information and experiences at the international level. The Meeting was informed of legislation recently enacted in one country concerning the protection of minors, the promotion of society's sobriety, and persons avoiding work. Those and similar measures could only be efficient when a strong degree of societal control was ensured, also through legislative efforts.

20. The Director of the newly created Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated to the United Nations, summarized the activities of the Institute, which dealt predominantly with the organization of seminars for policy-makers and experts in crime prevention and control and with the collection, publication and dissemination of information to further the role of the United Nations, while strengthening regional co-operation.

21. Some participants reported on the current crime situation in their countries, where a considerable increase in property crimes as well as in economic offences, drug-related crimes and violence, was noticeable. The increase, however, could be interpreted in many ways, and societies might react to it accordingly. It was noted, for example, that the concentration of problem families in certain residential areas could be conducive to violence and that, on the other hand, a more efficient system of crime detection could lead to the recording of an increasing number of offences. To cope with the rising crime rates in residential areas, architectural design offered certain options for improving the overall residential situation, even though research had not yet found a direct connection between urban design and criminality.

22. It was also mentioned that, although unemployment tended to contribute to an increase in crime, there was not always a causal relationship. It was only when other problems were added that unemployment became important.

23. At the international level, it was essential to develop measures that could help to reduce crime. The guiding principles being formulated for the next Congress were a first step forward, especially if emphasis was given to crime prevention, with the associated social factors and respect for human rights.

24. It was also stated that, according to the Caracas Declaration, crime was preventable. The factors associated with crime should, however, be further clarified in order to be able to prevent it. Therefore, particular attention had to be paid to research, and especially to research into the relationship between crime and urbanization or industrialization.

25. In the opinion of other participants, national and international terrorism, as well as illicit traffic in drug and weapons, had to be areas of major concern in crime prevention and, regarding economic crime, priority had to be given to consumer protection legislation. In the field of the treatment of offenders, alternatives to imprisonment had to be further explored and more widely applied.

26. In a further intervention, it was asserted that criminality had existed since early times, and countries had to work from the hypothesis that criminality would also exist in the future. The question was, consequently, how to reduce it to a minimum. Increased international co-operation, for instance, in the field of economic crime, could be one means of doing so.

27. Several participants emphasized the extreme importance of topic I, with its guiding principles, since crime seriously affected the development process of many countries, particularly the developing ones. Strategies therefore had to be designed to ensure the closest possible co-operation between those in charge of the planning of crime prevention and those in charge of economic development planning. Special attention should be paid to the activities of transnational criminals, who contributed to the increase of certain particularly dangerous forms of crime. The acute and urgent need for international co-operation, although a difficult task, required continued and intensified efforts in that direction, with a view to achieving an integrated and systemic approach to crime prevention, which could be simultaneously sectoral and intersectoral.

28. The following were mentioned as desirable features of integrated crime prevention programmes, implemented by law enforcement agencies: (a) a crime prevention department in each police force; (b) a crime prevention centre specializing in training and in giving advice; (c) representation of the community in national and local crime prevention committees and panels; (d) wide-ranging arrangements for crime prevention publicity; and (e) a substantial research programme.

29. It was also pointed out that in recent years the interest in crime prevention had increased, owing to the increased costs of the criminal justice system and the demonstrated success of some well-designed crime prevention policies and programmes. Increased economic opportunity, better housing and improved education might all play a role in reducing crime, but the effect was difficult to demonstrate empirically. In any case, legislation in economic and social areas seemed to be lagging. More thought should be given to crime prevention implications before introducing innovations in the economic and social sphere. Community participation should be promoted by giving added responsibilities to the community so that the whole society could concern itself with crime prevention.

30. Within the scope of topic I, the Meeting considered the draft guiding principles in the context of development and the new international economic order, prepared by a group of experts convened at the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (A/CONF.121/PM.1, annex), for consideration by the Congress in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/21.

31. Some uncertainty was expressed regarding the role of the Meeting in discussing the draft guiding principles. It was noted that the regional meetings should merely make preliminary observations, which would be taken into account by the interregional meeting on the topic and by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control as the preparatory body for the Congress; it was hoped, moreover, that the experiences of the countries attending the Meeting could be of some help for the regional meetings still to follow.



32. In discussing the draft guiding principles, several participants observed that the formulation of the guiding principles constituted a major and difficult task for the United Nations. The value of the ideas underlying the principles suggested in the draft was generally acknowledged, as was the seriousness of the efforts already undertaken. It was underlined, however, that further thought had to be given to the scope and formulation of the principles.

33. In fact, much of their content represented a valuable contribution to the further development of crime prevention and criminal justice in a broader context, but the text needed deeper consideration and elaboration, from the point of view of both wording and suitability.

34. Moreover, it was felt that the principles had to be more balanced; that more attention had to be given to both traditional and modern crime problems, such as the avoidance of over-criminalization; and that they could be shortened to limit their scope to new principles, thus avoiding questions that had already been discussed at previous Congresses.

35. Some doubt was expressed about the applicability of the principles as currently formulated; the appropriateness of making crime prevention a component of development planning was questioned, since it was thought that the criminal justice system had to be considered as the last resort of social control and not as a major instrument of social policy. Furthermore, it was pointed out that more emphasis should be given to human rights considerations, in an effort to raise the standards of protection of all people involved in the criminal justice process. It was also suggested that, in the further elaboration of the guiding principles, the introduction could be part of a preamble stating their purposes and mandate, in order to conform to the pattern of other United Nations instruments.

36. The vagueness or ambiguity of the concepts contained in certain principles was noted, as was the rigidity in others, and, in view of the amount of work involved, some concern was expressed that the two years remaining until 1985 might not be enough to complete the work, as further comments might have to be requested.

37. It was recommended, however, that the existing draft be considered by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control for further review and elaboration at its next meeting in 1984, taking into account the observations of the other regional preparatory meetings.

38. Within the framework of the above general observations, the following specific points were made by way of illustration, regarding certain of the principles:

Principle 1: Doubt was voiced regarding the proposal that "changes in the national economic structure should be followed by corresponding reforms in criminal justice", as such a requirement seemed too rigid. What was called for was a periodic review of the criminal justice system, whenever it was deemed to be needed, so as to adapt the criminal justice system to current changes.

Principle 2: The broad scope of principle 2 caused difficulties, as the view was held that the focus should be on crime prevention and not on international relations. Also, the use of the word "effective", referring to the criminal justice system, was questioned.

Principle 5: The concept of crime inherent in principle 5 was considered ambiguous or overextended, since it also embraced harm inflicted in inter-State relationships.

Principle 6: To avoid oversimplification, examples of conventional and unconventional crimes could be provided.

Principle 10: The issue of corporate criminal responsibility would be difficult to apply in practice because of existing legislation, even if the idea could be subscribed to. More flexibility in the wording would be needed.

Principle 12: A more flexible formulation would be appropriate.

Principle 13: Principle 13 could also be extended to foreigners.

Principle 14: A more balanced view could be provided, taking into account the fact that development and progress can increase the burden of the criminal justice system.

Principle 20: The proposed cost-benefit approach seemed to be unsatisfactory, since material and social costs could not be measured by the same yardsticks. In addition, there were other considerations to be taken into account, such as human values and adequate protection of human rights, which were beyond price.

Principle 22: Some further clarification was needed in order to give a correct interpretation of the term "instrument of socio-economic policy".

Principle 30: The role of the mass media in public education with reference to crime prevention was questioned.

Principle 35: While it was true that computers could be used as a means of committing crimes, it was questionable whether individual access to data files was an area that fell within the scope of crime prevention.

Principle 36: The content of principle 36 was not applicable to some countries.

Principles 38 and 39: Their scope seemed to go beyond the subject matter under consideration, as they touched upon the area of international law.

#### Summary

39. The discussion on topic I may be summarized as follows:

(a) The first topic was seen as a very important one, which should be the subject of broad discussion at the Seventh Congress;

(b) Representatives from the socialist countries declared that criminality in their countries was constantly decreasing, a positive trend that had been strongly influenced by favourable cultural and socio-economic development;

(c) Representatives from Western European States noted that, in their countries, at least some types of crime were statistically increasing, i.e. crimes against property and acts of violence;

(d) The following offences warranted much greater attention in the future: economic crimes, drug traffic, traffic in firearms, terrorism and other forms of violent acts, including family violence;

(e) The need was pointed out for scientific research on the criminogenic factors of crime, keeping in mind the socio-economic specificities of each country. Among the factors associated with crime, the following were mentioned: mass exploitation, poverty, unequal opportunity, unemployment, urbanization, industrialization, motorization, alcoholism and drugs;

(f) Special importance was given to crime prevention measures to be conceived within a broader system of preventive policies. Crime prevention was seen as an important task for the whole of society, in which efforts had to be made not only by official bodies but also by private enterprises and the public as a whole. Many countries represented at the Meeting had sophisticated policies for crime prevention, including self-defence measures;

(g) It was felt that the general observations and specific comments on the annex to the discussion guide should be considered at the next session of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, with a view to further elaborating and refining the text. A revised text should be prepared by the Secretariat and circulated to the members of the Committee before the meeting;

(h) All activities in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice had to respect human rights and must not exceed the limits of those fundamental rights;

(i) Although measures of crime prevention and criminal justice were the concern of each country, international co-operation was considered necessary in order to be able to exchange views and experiences; agreement was reached manifesting a willingness to strengthen co-operation in that field. The possibilities for broader international co-operation, especially those afforded by the United Nations, were highly appreciated.

B. Topic II: Criminal justice processes and perspectives in a changing world

40. In introducing the item dealing with topic II, "Criminal justice processes and perspectives in a changing world", the representative of the Secretariat explained that the topic focused attention on a systematic approach to the administration of justice that would satisfy the need for a more affective co-ordination of the activities of the various sectors; such an approach would ensure greater consistency while maximizing the potential for

adaptation to changing external circumstances. He also underlined the fact that, although each national criminal justice system had unique characteristics, an exchange of information on the various issues related to the topic would permit a better understanding of common concerns, such as development in policing, the concepts and practices of diversion from the criminal justice system, popular participation and other important aspects of criminal justice and crime prevention programmes.

41. Several participants proposed that consideration of the topic might start from the basic premise that each national criminal justice system had its own special characteristics, and operated under different social, economic, cultural and political circumstances. Those circumstances, in fact, influenced to a large degree the institutional organization of the criminal justice systems and their responsiveness to economic and social change, societal goals and cultural values. In some countries, wide-ranging legislative reforms were under way, whose object was to improve the overall performance of the criminal justice system, including intersectoral co-ordination. The legislative reforms encompassed a variety of penal questions but most were addressed to the decriminalization of certain categories of offences and the introduction of the widest possible alternatives to imprisonment.

42. One participant mentioned that the current processes of decriminalization and depenalization were the result of the changing of the criminal justice "clientèle". Others stressed that the processes went hand in hand with the implementation of measures directed at the de-institutionalization of corrections. Several participants reported statistical data reflecting continuing efforts at de-institutionalization. One participant added that such efforts relieved the strain on the prison administration, because penal institutions would otherwise have to cope with an overflow in prison admissions.

43. It was also pointed out that similar strains on the performance of prison component of the criminal justice system might be due to the large number of foreign offenders in the prisons, which had often led to further action involving proper legal provisions for their transfer to their home countries, or for special arrangements concerning their humane containment.

44. As was observed by another participant, the criminal justice system had to cope with both external and internal pressures. As far as legal reforms were concerned, they should take into account the rights of the offenders as well as those of the victims, the necessity for fair and speedy trial and, at the same time, the need to lower the costs entailed in the functioning of the criminal justice system. One participant further observed that complex criminal law reforms were under way in his country, which would have a positive effect on the performance of the criminal justice system. The changing dimensions of criminality posed challenges to the criminal system and to the entire society that had to cope with them. Criminality against persons and property, which had been on the decrease, was again becoming highly visible as a result of certain socio-economic factors, and needed to be effectively counteracted by society and the criminal justice system itself.

45. Urbanization was considered by some participants to be one such socio-economic factor. If not properly controlled, it could lead to increased criminality, including violence. Well-planned development and proper attention to the crime prevention component of overall planning might help to control criminality more successfully.

46. Other participants, drawing on similar examples, noted that, with due regard to the context in which the criminal justice system operated, international exchanges of information should be further enhanced and continued. From that point of view, the consideration of the topic was felt to be justified and warmly welcomed; emphasis was to be placed on the role and functions of crime prevention agencies in the criminal justice system, and especially on the involvement of the public in crime prevention activities. Those participants further expressed their readiness to share with others their experience of community participation in crime prevention, as part of the broader operations of the criminal justice system.

47. Many participants, referring to the involvement of citizens in the administration of criminal justice, stressed that their presence and participation, in their various forms and modalities, was important in every stage of the process. Community courts and new forms of reconciliation were mentioned, as well as the involvement of local authorities. It was also emphasized that the public should be informed about the activities of the criminal justice system, so that they would be better able to understand the rationale of its work and appraise its performance, have more confidence in its personnel and be supportive of its activities.

48. The Meeting was told about the initiatives of the Council of Europe with regard to different crime prevention activities in its member States, especially with reference to participation by the public in criminal policy matters.

49. Several participants observed that a systematic approach to crime prevention and criminal justice entailed consideration of the changing priorities of particular agencies, and the community-oriented functions of police were quoted as an example. It was also stressed that, in view of the central role of the judiciary in the processing of offenders, particular attention should be devoted to the preservation of its independence. Yet, because the courts functioned in co-operation with other criminal justice agencies and were responsible not only for a fair but also for a speedy processing of offenders, judges' awareness of those problems had to be raised, with emphasis on the need for co-ordination. The usefulness of providing continuous training for judges was stressed and various examples of such training programmes were given.

50. Great importance was attached to the issue of speedy and fair trial, as a relevant issue of the systematic approach to the administration of criminal justice, and relevant statistical data were reported. It was also indicated that in countries of both Eastern and Western Europe, during the criminal proceedings, the time allowed to process the suspected offenders was strictly regulated by law, and even stricter regulations were laid down regarding the detention and charging of such offenders.

51. With reference to the above question, it was also noted that article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (see General Assembly resolution 2200, annex) did not provide any specific time-limit for the detention of suspected offenders and their subsequent trial. It was therefore proposed, in view of the importance of speedy trial for the offender, the victim and society at large, that Member States could in future agree, within the frame of the Covenant's provisions, to a maximum six months' time-limit between the initiation of the criminal proceedings and the charging of the offender before the court, or before any equivalent body.

52. Several participants drew attention to specific questions contained in the discussion guide and emphasized the need to elucidate further the internal proceedings and the functioning of the various sectors of the criminal justice system, whose staff viewed their operations from different angles because of their diverse, sometimes incompatible, interests and purposes. The widening of channels of communication between the specific components of criminal justice might solve possible conflicts and thus facilitate their smoother overall performance. It was also added that reforms within and outside the criminal justice system had to be of a continuous character, in order to respond to the changing forms and manifestations of criminality and to react to them in good time.

53. The need for improved co-ordination between the different sectors of the criminal system was further emphasized, in view of the interaction and interplay between its various components, which meant that changes in one subsystem might have consequences - sometimes unforeseeable - in other subsystems. In that connection, the clear delineation between the comprehensive macro-scope of topic I and the more technical micro-perspective of topic II was highly welcomed.

54. Reference was also made to current technological problems and to the role, advantages and disadvantages of computerizing some activities of the administration of justice. In that regard, a fair balance should be struck between the effectiveness and usefulness of computer technology for the criminal justice system and the due protection of the offender's right to privacy.

55. Finally, all the participants agreed that the role of criminological research should be further enhanced and expanded, so as to respond adequately to the demands of a more systemic approach to crime prevention and criminal justice.

#### Summary

56. The discussion on topic II may be summarized as follows:

(a) Participants from most of the countries represented at the Meeting mentioned that wide-ranging reforms of the whole criminal justice system were being implemented, which took into consideration, inter alia, the multiple social and economic changes and developments within differing societies;

(b) Several principles were mentioned which guided such reforms including due respect for basic human rights and the necessity for a fair, speedy and equitable process, taking into account the rights of the defence. It was felt that long pre-trial detention should be avoided as much as possible. It was also stressed that the criminal process should not be too costly;

(c) Some participants pointed out that in their countries the criminal justice system was overburdened and overloaded, possibly leading to a loss of confidence in the criminal justice system on the part of the population. To alleviate the situation, different measures had been taken, including the diversion of cases;

(d) Regarding criminal law, there was a strong trend towards decriminalization and depenalization. A widespread system of penal sanctions was being elaborated in many countries and various differentiated measures had been adopted both to fit such measures to individual cases and to ensure the reintegration of the offender into society. There was also a strong trend towards the reduction of imprisonment in favour of alternative measures which would not deprive the individual of his liberty;

(e) It was underlined that it was necessary to ensure a systemic approach to criminal justice, so as to co-ordinate more effectively the different sectors of the criminal justice system;

(f) It was also emphasized that the criminal justice system should ensure a better co-operation with the different agencies of crime prevention, as well as full involvement of the public. Furthermore, crime prevention and criminal justice should be considered as part of the global institutional, political, social and cultural system of the society in which it functioned;

(g) The need for a broad exchange of practical and scientific experience in the above-mentioned fields was particularly stressed.

### C. Topic III: Victims of crime

57. In introducing the item on topic III, "Victims of crime", the representative of the Secretariat pointed out that it stemmed from the recommendations of the Sixth Congress dealing with abuses of power and with measures aimed at redressing or compensating the effects of such abuses. The plight of victims of crime was an area of concern that had gained great importance in recent decades. The European Meeting was in a unique position to contribute to the topic, since the countries represented had already developed a variety of compensation and restitution schemes and their experiences could thus constitute a valuable input for the Seventh Congress. It was also essential to identify the groups of victims particularly vulnerable to criminality and to devise measures aimed at preventing crimes against collective victims, in view of their implications for human rights.

58. Most of the participants recognized the importance of the topic and acknowledged that a shift of focus had taken place from an emphasis upon traditional crime and the protection of the rights of the offenders to the protection of the rights and interests of the victims of crime, a subject that had been almost totally ignored in the past. One participant, however,

expressed doubts concerning the usefulness of the general concept of victimization, due to some lack of clarity characterizing it. It was also pointed out that endeavours that increased the protection of individual victims should not lead to measures that reduced the procedural safeguards of the offender, or to a trend towards the imposition of more serious penalties.

59. The need for scientific research in the field of victimology was strongly emphasized, including victimization surveys and other studies aimed not only at assessing the real level of crime but also at elucidating the needs, views and perceptions of victims, as well as their expectations regarding the offender's punishment. Such knowledge was essential for determining the most appropriate methods and ways of helping victims. The results of victimization surveys and studies being conducted in various countries were also outlined and their methodology explained. It was specifically noted that increased knowledge of the nature of victimization might lead, on the one hand, to the recognition of indirect and insufficiently acknowledged modes of victimization and, on the other hand, to the elimination of unrealistic and exaggerated fear of crime. The United Nations was invited to collect the results of those studies and contribute to their wider dissemination, particularly during the Congress, which would thus be provided with unique information concerning the impact of crime, as well as the risk or fear of being victimized.

60. The Meeting was also informed of the existence of various compensation schemes, at least for victims of crimes of violence, or other regulations providing for compensation already implemented or being implemented in many countries. Mention was made, at the international level, of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, whose jurisdiction could be expanded - according to one participant - to include victims of other crimes. It was also pointed out that the Council of Europe had recently elaborated a convention on the compensation of victims of violent crimes, in pursuance of the following aims: (a) to harmonize the minimum provisions for compensation of victims of crimes of violence and to give to those provisions a binding quality; (b) to ensure co-operation among the member States of the Council of Europe in the area of compensation of victims of violent crimes and, inter alia, to promote specifically the compensation of foreign victims, regardless of their place of residence, on the understanding that the offence was committed in the territory of the State which assumed the financial responsibility.

61. Almost all the participants reported the introduction in their respective countries of legislation, structures and procedures aimed at protecting the rights of victims and providing them with much needed assistance.

62. It was stressed by some participants that compensation ought to be provided by the State, particularly in cases when the victimizer was in no position to make the financial reparation required by his or her crime. Moreover, compensation should not be limited to victims of crimes of violence or to victims who found themselves in extreme economic need. The principle of equality should apply to victims of all crimes, regardless of their financial need.

63. The necessity of dealing with family violence was also underlined by several participants, as was the need to protect the rights and interests of the victims by providing them with adequate information and professional



advice during the period of investigation, as well as during the process, so as to avoid subjecting them to undue stress and tension, especially when they were serving as witnesses; as that could inflict additional harm and thus be tantamount to double victimization.

64. With respect to victims' rights, great interest was shown in means whereby the role of the victim could be or had been improved in the criminal justice process.

65. Specific mention was made of the possibility for the victim to claim compensation during criminal proceedings as well as of measures to protect victims of sexual offences in cases where they were required to take the witness stand, even to the point of being excused from any role as witnesses; and of the possibility of prosecuting the offender, irrespective of whether the victim consented, provided that there was some suspicion that he or she had been subjected to pressure or threat by the offender. Where no such pressure or threat existed, the interest of the victim might, however, also reduce or eliminate the need to initiate punitive action, at least in minor offences.

66. Moreover, in some legislations, payment of compensation to the victim had been made a prerequisite for granting a conditional sentence to the offender, while in others special funds had been established to provide compensation for victims from part of the money earned by the offender during his or her imprisonment, from the collection of fines, or from other State funds.

67. Particular attention was paid to specific groups of victims, for instance, children and minors, elderly and disabled or handicapped people, and victims of traffic offences. With respect to victimization on a very large scale, it was pointed out that women - who represented 50 per cent or even more of the world's population - were the victims of assault, rape, sexual offences and violence within the family; and that for those offences the dark figure was extremely high. Specific service programmes addressed to the above categories of victims were described, as were different modalities for their implementation, including crisis intervention centres, special police training, special victims offices in the courts, and public awareness campaigns.

68. It was also pointed out that mere financial compensation to victims did not suffice, since it did not redress the moral damage inflicted on them. In fact, in various countries other kinds of help (medical, social, psychological etc.) were provided within the existing social security schemes and medical services, which were used as an integral part of a broad social policy of help to victims.

69. The following measures were proposed for the further improvement of national legislation and practices: free treatment for injured victims, social assistance for those victims and the persons supported by them, a lessening of the burden for victims who brought their claims against the offender before the courts and wider possibilities for the resolution of the victim-offender conflict, as well as specialized prevention with the active involvement of the community.

70. It was suggested that countries that did not have the financial means to establish State-supported compensation schemes for all victims might establish an order of priority, starting with the victims of crimes of violence, to be followed by specially vulnerable groups, by victims of abuse of power and miscarriage of justice and by minority groups. Moreover, existing social security schemes could be enlarged so as to include a contribution by potential victims, so that they would be insured against the risk of victimization.

71. With reference to large-scale and collective victimization, such as discrimination, genocide and criminal encroachments upon human rights, it was observed by one participant that international co-operation for the realization of United Nations initiatives in those areas should be strengthened. More active and effective measures by all Governments would be necessary, including sanctions against régimes that practised genocide, oppressed groups of the population and persecuted political opponents.

72. Crimes assumed to be committed by some transnational corporations were also mentioned, and concern was expressed for their victims, which in certain cases could comprise entire populations. Possible methods were outlined not only to curb bribery and corruption but also to control illicit transactions, including the finalization of a code of conduct on transnational corporations.

73. Attention was drawn to another aspect of collective victimization, namely persecution (especially where institutionalized on grounds of race, religion or ideology), torture, extra-legal executions and disappearances. Previous United Nations congresses had contributed to the increased recognition of those grave human rights violations as serious crimes. The need to codify State and individual responsibility for such crimes was stressed, as was the importance of compensating the victims and their families, also on the basis of the principle of social solidarity.

#### Summary

74. The discussion on topic III may be summarized as follows:

(a) It was noted that recent years had witnessed an increasing interest in the plight of victims of crime and in a fuller protection of their right of redress, as well as in the role of those victims in the criminal justice system, including ways and means by which the position of the victim could be improved;

(b) Special compensation and redress schemes for various categories of crime victims had been developed in many countries, as well as under the auspices of international organizations;

(c) Such schemes were based on the principle of State and individual responsibility for such acts, as well as that of social solidarity. Some participants noted that their countries also extended compensation and redress to victims of criminal acts who were foreigners;

(d) In many countries financial compensation and redress were coupled with medical assistance and other social services rendered to the victims of crime, in both cases, in principle, regardless of their financial situation, or with measures of specialized prevention;

(e) Those and other developments and experiences should be widely shared among interested countries, as there was a decided need for such an exchange of information for policy formulation.

D. Topic IV: Youth, crime and justice

75. The representative of the Secretariat introduced the item on topic IV, "Youth, crime and justice", which focused upon the problems of youth crime and its growth in many countries of the world, as well as on humane and fair ways of coping with such problems. It was emphasized that, since the Seventh Congress coincided with the International Youth Year (1985), the latter event added weight to the importance of the topic. The rising proportion of young people in the population of many countries, particularly developing countries, and the increased difficulties they encountered in finding their place in society during a period of serious economic crisis, tended to aggravate the problems of juvenile and youth criminality. The elaboration of a set of standard minimum rules for the administration of juvenile justice in accordance with the mandate in resolution 4 of the Sixth Congress,<sup>1/</sup> was considered to be one of the most urgent and important tasks facing the next Congress.

76. There was agreement on the importance of the topic, although the problem of youth crime was not a matter of grave concern for all countries alike, since the proportion of crimes committed by juveniles differed considerably and was often only a negligible fraction of the total criminal activity. Furthermore, the rates of juvenile delinquency and youth crime had stabilized themselves, or even decreased in a number of countries. Additionally, it was pointed out that the discussion of the topic should not be confined to the elaboration of a set of standard minimum rules but should also include consideration of other crucial questions related to youth, such as education, equal opportunity and full employment.

77. It was explained by some participants that industrialization, migration and urbanization should not be considered to be, per se, criminogenic factors. They were rather normal and necessary aspects of socio-economic development. Well-planned industrialization could, as a matter of fact, be the cause of a reduction in crime rates, since it contributed to the satisfaction of material and spiritual needs. Crime could not be regarded as a consequence of progress. Progress, on the contrary, contributed to crime prevention. Moreover, development could not be withheld from developing countries on grounds of crime prevention.

78. It was also stated that the true causes of juvenile crime and delinquency should be sought, inter alia, in poverty, illiteracy, and unemployment. Such causes were eliminated when the State guaranteed to its young citizens a life free from exploitation, as well as facilities for their harmonious development, and provided the opportunities for their participation in the organization of the political and economic life of society. In fact, extended institutional and social measures taken in the interests of young people, as well as material welfare and constant efforts to reduce conflictive life situations, had contributed to a decrease in rates of juvenile crime in some countries. The increased allocation of funds to social services therefore had positive implications for the prevention of youth crime.

79. Several participants, however, recognized the complexity and seriousness of the problem of youth crime and the gravity of the task, as the number of offences committed by youths was often much higher than that reflected in official statistics of apprehension and conviction.

80. It was also recalled that a high percentage of youth offenders ceased their delinquent criminal behaviour spontaneously with the onset of adulthood. That raised the question whether enough toleration was shown towards youth deviance. A balance was necessary, however, between the level of tolerance and the legitimate claims of the victims of juvenile delinquency and youth crime.

81. Participants differed in their evaluation of the role of mass media in contributing to criminal behaviour. Although no conclusive evidence had emerged from research on the relationship between television and violence, it was suggested that juvenile delinquency could perhaps be attributed to demoralization and the loss of a sense of ethics and social responsibility. When properly used, the mass media in general, and television in particular, could contribute to creating social and cultural integration, and hence be a positive factor in crime prevention.

82. With reference to youth violence and protest, it was pointed out that such behaviour was at times directed against society as a whole, and at other times against some of its institutions. In the latter case, violence and protest did not represent a rejection of society but only of certain forms of social control. Thus they should not always be regarded as authentic criminality; sometimes they could be an expression of rebellion against an imposed style of life. Young people had to be made aware of the basic goals and purposes of society, while society should reconsider its role vis-à-vis youth. The police should receive special training on how to handle confrontations with youth. On the other hand, young people should have an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the activities and duties of the police, as a climate of understanding between the two was mutually beneficial.

83. Early prevention, in the form of early detection of potentially problematic cases, was also emphasized. It could be an active factor in decreasing the levels of unlawful behaviour on the part of youth, by giving a more active role in crime prevention to the school and community institutions, as prophylactic action at those levels had been shown to be very effective in reducing youth crime. The importance of the role of the family in preventing delinquency was also particularly stressed. Erratic patterns of upbringing, poor parental supervision, and involvement of the parents in criminal activities had been identified as the main factors leading to deviance and crime. Attention was drawn in that context to the obligation of parents to carry out their duties properly.

84. Some agreement emerged on the priority to be given to educational and supervisory measures in the community when dealing with juvenile delinquency and youth criminality, especially when the offences committed were of a trivial nature or were not grave enough in terms of their social implications. In such cases, however, while taking into account the interests of youth and without any undue pressure or imposition, the basic right of defence should not be disregarded.

85. The need for scientific research was often stressed. To be effective, crime prevention had to seek out the underlying causes of crimes, since only by neutralizing such causes could crime be eliminated. Research methodology needed to be refined and improved, to make it a truly useful tool in the formulation of crime prevention policies aimed at reducing youth crime.

86. The Director of the United Nations Social Defence Research Institute also emphasized the crucial importance of research, not only at the national but also at the regional and international levels. The questions in the discussion guide were all full of research potential. If valid research was not being carried out in many countries, that was also due to the dearth of research facilities in other regions. Secondment of research personnel to the Institute was an effective way for developed countries to help the less developed nations to build up their research potential.

87. Legislation and practices concerning the rights of youth, as well as the competence, composition and jurisdiction of the juvenile courts, were discussed, taking also into account the elaboration of the standard minimum rules for the administration of juvenile justice on the basis of the mandate contained in resolution 4 of the Sixth Congress.<sup>1/</sup> It was observed that, since the rules would be addressed to youth, which was a wider age-group than that covered by many current legislations on juvenile delinquency, efforts should be made to overcome the artificial legal distinction between delinquents and young adults and to extend the scope of the rules to both categories.

88. Regarding the sanctioning system, alternative measures allowing for the discontinuance of procedures and various modalities for diversion were particularly underlined, including restitution and compensation to victims and community service orders which would limit the scope of incarceration to the most serious offenders, thus reducing its negative effects. The need to redress the balance between concern for the welfare of youth and the necessity for due process was also stressed.

#### Summary

89. The discussion on topic IV may be summarized as follows:

(a) It was pointed out that the problems of juvenile delinquency and youth crime were not equally pressing for all countries, since their intensity and gravity varied from one country to another;

(b) Nevertheless, the topic was considered to be of considerable importance and great complexity, requiring careful scientific analysis based upon sound and refined methodologies: only the information yielded by such research could provide the knowledge needed to formulate effective preventive policies;

(c) The problem of youth crime had to be approached globally, taking into account social, economic and cultural factors, as well as the uniqueness of each society;

(d) The relationship between phenomena connected with economic development, like industrialization and urbanization, and crime could not be assumed to be a direct and simple one. The criminogenic or non-criminogenic value of such processes depended upon a variety of additional variables, which needed to be taken into account before reaching any definitive conclusions;

(e) The role of the mass media in the causation of crime remained unclear, since the information available was still inconclusive;

(f) Due consideration should be given to the spontaneous resocialization of the majority of young offenders when they reached maturity, which called for a greater degree of tolerance on the part of society towards youth crime;

(g) The role of the family in the prevention of juvenile delinquency needed additional support and development;

(h) Re-educational rather than punitive measures when dealing with young offenders should receive priority when crime prevention policies were being formulated;

(i) In the elaboration of new standards, a proper balance should be struck between concern for the welfare of youth and the exigencies of due process. Efforts should also be made to extend the scope of the standards to both juvenile delinquents and young adults, overcoming artificial legal distinctions.

E. Topic V. Formulation and application of United Nations standards and norms in criminal justice

90. In introducing the item on topic V, "Formulation and application of United Nations standards and norms in criminal justice", the representative of the Secretariat noted that it reflected the long-standing concern of the United Nations with the humanization of criminal justice in order to secure and preserve the dignity of all those who came into contact with the criminal justice system. Consideration of the topic, which referred to an area of concern that had also had a place on the agenda of past congresses, would include the following issues: (a) a review of existing United Nations standards and norms in criminal justice, such as the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, adopted at the First Congress, the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (General Assembly resolution 3452(XXX)), and the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials (General Assembly resolution 34/169); (b) an assessment of the impact of those standards and norms and the difficulties encountered in applying them; (c) consideration of the need to improve the implementation of such standards and norms or to formulate new ones, for example a model agreement on the transfer of foreign prisoners in accordance with resolution 13 of the Sixth Congress<sup>1/</sup> and the recommendations of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control (see E/CN.5/536), or recommendations on alternatives to imprisonment and the effective involvement of the community in the resocialization of the offenders, requested by the Sixth Congress in its resolution 8;<sup>1/</sup> and, in particular, (d) the question of minimum legal guarantees and safeguards for the prevention of arbitrary or summary executions.

91. The representative of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control stressed that standard-setting was an important task of the United Nations in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice. One of the recommendations of the Committee was that the United Nations should assess the impact of its standards and norms in that area.

92. The representative of Italy extended an invitation on the part of his Government to act as host to the Interregional Preparatory Meeting for the Congress on topic V. He noted that the invitation reflected the great interest existing in Italy in crime prevention and criminal justice, and, in particular, in the application of relevant United Nations standards and norms.

93. Most participants agreed with the emphasis that the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and the Economic and Social Council had placed on the topic. It was observed that the discussion guide (A/CONF.121/PM.1) formed a useful basis for the further elaboration of the topic.

94. It was pointed out that a significant factor in the effective promotion and implementation of United Nations standards in criminal justice was their application in practice, also in the context of national strategies and plans for economic and social development. In order to facilitate the implementation of those standards, they should be flexible and wholly compatible with the different socio-economic and cultural conditions prevailing in various countries. Reference was made to the principles contained in the Caracas Declaration, which were also relevant to the formulation and implementation of United Nations standards and norms in criminal justice.

95. It was also stressed that a clear distinction should be made between the two approaches, parallel, although different with regard to their legal nature, of United Nations work in that area: on the one hand, the development of legally binding covenants, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and, on the other hand, the formulation of recommendations in the form of basic principles, guidelines and standards, such as the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials and the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

96. Some participants considered that standard-setting in criminal justice was not a task of first priority for the United Nations, as it might impinge in certain cases on the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of Member States. In particular, some doubt was expressed with regard to the need to formulate additional United Nations standards and norms.

97. The implementation of existing United Nations standards in criminal justice was, however, a matter of great significance and high priority. Its success depended, in the first instance, on efforts undertaken by Governments by virtue of their domestic jurisdiction and competence.

98. In that respect, several participants reported that their Governments were not encountering any particular problems in implementing the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, as national legislation and practice in their respective countries already corresponded to the principles incorporated in the Code. In some countries, the domestic regulations concerning law enforcement included even higher or stricter norms than the guidelines contained in the Code.

99. As regards the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, it was emphasized that they were very useful and continued to influence to a large degree the legislation and practice in the countries represented at the Meeting. It was pointed out, however, that it might be worth while to consider amending and improving certain rules in order to bring them more into line with recent developments in penology and thus to facilitate their implementation. Mention was made, for example, of modern procedures for registering prisoners; the provision of free hospital and ambulatory treatment for inmates by the prison administration and the establishment of a network of public, State and voluntary agencies that would assist the offender in the resocialization process after his or her release from prison.

100. As far as initiatives in United Nations standard-setting in criminal justice were concerned, it was recommended that the highest priority should be given to the formulation of a model agreement for the transfer of foreign prisoners, in accordance with resolution 13 of the Sixth Congress<sup>1/</sup> and the recommendations of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control (see E/CN.5/536). It was emphasized that the model should be based on the principle of mutual respect for national sovereignty and jurisdiction and on the principle of voluntary transfer, that is the transfer should be dependent on the consent of both the sentencing and the administering State, as well as on that of the prisoner.

101. Mention was made of a number of bilateral and multilateral agreements, including the 1978 Convention on the Transfer of Prisoners Being Sentenced to Imprisonment, Aiming at Enforcement of the Sentence in the Country of Origin (for the European socialist countries), the European Convention on the International Validity of Criminal Judgement and the Convention on the Transfer of Prisoners drafted by the Council of Europe. Several participants also referred to the 1983 draft Model Agreement on the Transfer of Prisoners, formulated by an international seminar organized by the Vienna-based Alliance of Non-Governmental Organizations on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as a very useful and valid document for the further elaboration of the United Nations model.

102. It was further proposed that the Congress should also consider the possibility of formulating a similar model agreement with regard to the reciprocal exchange of persons under probation, and, as one possible point of reference, the European Convention on Supervision of Conditionally Released Offenders was mentioned. It was also suggested that the elaboration of a United Nations model for the transfer of penal proceedings might be envisaged.

103. Attention was drawn to the guidelines on the protection of persons detained on grounds of mental illness, which were being formulated by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. The importance of disseminating information on existing standards was stressed. Reference was made to resolution 12 of the Sixth Congress<sup>1/</sup> and to General Assembly resolution 35/170 on the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, as well as to the recommendation by the Sixth Congress regarding the finalization of procedures for the effective implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.<sup>2/</sup> Mention was also made of the value of United Nations fact-finding possibilities and, in the case of particularly grave violations of United Nations norms and standards, the utility of bringing United Nations concern to the attention of the authorities in question.



104. Reference was made to the question of capital punishment and, in that connection, the right to life provided for in article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human rights was recalled. It was emphasized that the main objective to be pursued by the United Nations in that field was the progressive restriction of the number of offences for which the death penalty could be imposed, with a view to abolishing the penalty in all countries.

105. Particular attention was paid to the question of arbitrary or summary executions and extra-legal executions. The problem was considered to be an extremely serious and pressing one in some parts of the world, although not of direct concern to the countries represented at the Meeting. It was stressed that the United Nations and, notably, the Sixth Congress, had repeatedly and strongly condemned and deplored the brutal practice, and it was considered appropriate that the issue should be discussed at the Seventh Congress, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/24, in which the Council had decided that the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control should study the question further.

#### Summary

106. The discussion on topic V, may be summarized as follows:

(a) Standard-setting was considered an important task for the United Nations in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice, with the proviso that the standards should be sufficiently flexible and wholly compatible with the different socio-economic and cultural conditions prevailing in various countries;

(b) The implementation of existing United Nations standards and norms in criminal justice was viewed as a matter of great significance and priority.

(c) With regard to the formulation of new United Nations standards, priority should be accorded to a model agreement for the transfer of foreign prisoners;

(d) The importance of the question of capital punishment was underlined, as was the serious issue of arbitrary, summary and extra-legal executions, which should be discussed at the Seventh Congress, with a view to making appropriate recommendations for the effective prevention of such brutal practices.

II. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

107. The report was adopted unanimously at the last meeting, on 10 June 1983.

108. At the same meeting, closing statements were made by the Chairman and by the representative of the Secretariat in charge of the preparations for the Seventh Congress.

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1/ Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Caracas, Venezuela, 25 August-5 September 1980:

Report Prepared by the Secretariat (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IV.4), chap. I, sect. B:

2/ Ibid., sect. C.

Annex I

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

- A. Basic document
- A/CONF.121/PM Discussion guide for the regional and interregional preparatory meetings for the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders
- B. Background documents
- A.35/289 Implementation of the conclusions of the Fifth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders
- A/36/442 Crime prevention and criminal justice and development: report of the Secretary-General
- A/CONF.87/5 Juvenile justice: before and after the onset of delinquency - working paper prepared by the Secretariat
- A/CONF.87/6 Crime and the abuse of power: offences and offenders beyond the reach of the law: working paper prepared by the Secretariat
- A/CONF.87/8 United Nations norms and guidelines in criminal justice: from standard-setting to implementation - working paper prepared by the Secretariat
- A/CONF.87/9 Capital Punishment: working paper by the Secretariat
- A/CONF.87/10 and Corr.1 New perspectives in crime prevention and criminal justice and development: the role of international co-operation - working paper prepared by the Secretariat
- A/CONF.87/11 and Add.1 The implementation of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners: working paper prepared by the Secretariat
- A/CONF.87/14/Rev.1 Report of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

E/1980/9

Human rights questions: capital punishment -  
report of the Secretary General

E/AC/57/1982/4 and Corr.1  
and Add.1

Implementation of General Assembly resolution  
35/172 on arbitrary and summary executions:  
report of the Secretary General

E/CN.5/1983/2

Report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and  
Control on its seventh session

Annex II

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Anghel Djambazov, Chief Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Official Liaison  
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Jan Brol, Deputy Minister of Justice  
Woyciech Tomczyk, Director, Office of the Minister of Justice  
Przemyslaw Mackowiak, Head, Department for International Relations of the Institute of Research in Judicial Law, Ministry of Justice  
Zbigniew Nowicki, Deputy Director, Central Militia Office

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Ion Argesanu, Prosecutor, Office of the Prosecutor General

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Anthony Brennan, Deputy Under-Secretary of State, Home Office

Quentin Thomas, Assistant Secretary, Home Office

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ronald L. Gainer, Deputy Assistant to the Attorney General of the United States of America, Department of Justice

Josef E. Lake, Alternate Representative, First Secretary, Embassy of the United States of America, Sofia

Cameron S. Thompson, Second Secretary, Embassy of the United States of America, Sofia

YUGOSLAVIA

Dusán Cotič, Judge, Supreme Court

Nikodim Stefanovič, Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT

Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs

UNITED NATIONS BODIES

United Nations Social Defence Research Institute

UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE

Robert Linke, Representative, Committee on Crime Prevention and Control

REGIONAL INSTITUTE

Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control,  
affiliated with the United Nations

Inkeri Anttila, Director

Seppo Leppä, Programme Officer

Terhi Viljanen, Programme Officer

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH  
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Category I

World Federation of the United Nations Associations

Hristo Karakashev



Category I

Amnesty International

Nigel S. Rodley

Melani Anderson

International Commission of Jurists

Gunnar Berg

Helmut Epp

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation

Konrad Hobe

Helge Røstad

World Federation of the United Nations Association

Justice Association

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