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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

*The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission
and has the honour to kindly request that the attached communication
be forwarded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Mission.*

[address]

Making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism

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Reference: CU 2009/45 (A)

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the [FunctionalTitle] and has the honour to inform the Government that the Regional Preparatory Meeting for Western Asia for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice will be held in Doha, Qatar, from 1 to 3 June 2009. The Twelfth Congress will be held in Brazil, from 12 to 19 April 2010, with pre-session consultations on 11 April 2010.

The Regional Preparatory Meeting will have before it a combined discussion guide on the substantive agenda items and the workshop topics to be covered by the Congress, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network.

The provisional agenda for the Congress, as approved in General Assembly resolution 63/193 of 18 December 2008, provides the basis for the provisional agenda for the regional meeting, which is as follows:

1. Opening of the Western Asia Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

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4. Consideration of the substantive items on the agenda of the Twelfth Congress:
 - (a) Children, youth and crime;
 - (b) Provision of technical assistance to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the international instruments related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism;
 - (c) Making the United Nations guidelines on crime prevention work;
 - (d) Criminal justice responses to the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons: links to transnational organized crime;
 - (e) International cooperation to address money-laundering based on existing and relevant United Nations and other instruments;
 - (f) Recent developments in the use of science and technology by offenders and by competent authorities in fighting crime, including the case of cybercrime;
 - (g) Strengthening international cooperation in fighting crime-related problems: practical approaches;
 - (h) Crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families.
5. Consideration of the topics to be considered by workshops within the framework of the Twelfth Congress.
6. Consideration of recommendations for the draft declaration of the Twelfth Congress.
7. Adoption of the report of the Regional Preparatory Meeting.

The following issues will be considered by the workshops within the framework of the Twelfth Congress:

- (a) International criminal justice education for the rule of law;
- (b) Survey of United Nations and other best practices in the treatment of prisoners in the criminal justice system;
- (c) Practical approaches to preventing urban crime;
- (d) Links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime: international coordinated response;
- (e) Strategies and best practices against overcrowding in correctional facilities.

The Regional Preparatory Meeting is invited to examine the substantive agenda items and workshop topics of the Congress from a regional perspective and to make action-oriented recommendations to serve as a basis for the draft recommendations and conclusions for consideration by the Twelfth Congress.

Meeting documents in the relevant languages can be accessed through the following internet address: <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime-congress-preparatory-meetings/index.html>

The Secretary-General would appreciate being informed, as soon as possible and not later than 18 May 2009, of the composition of the Government's delegation to attend the meeting, including full name(s), title(s), address(es), facsimile and/or telephone number(s), and e-mail address(es), which should be provided directly to the Division for Treaty Affairs, at the following address: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Vienna International Centre, 1400 Vienna, Austria, facsimile: +43-1-26060-5933, e-mail address: reg.prep.mtg@unodc.org

20 April 2009
