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Work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention

Work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention

Report of the Executive Director**

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I. Introduction

1. It is now commonly acknowledged that the process of globalization has significantly increased opportunities for transnational crime. That development has exposed citizens and businesses to threats generated not only from traditional forms of criminality but also emanating from abroad in new and unprecedented ways. The extent to which crime and security issues are of importance to the world's citizens is illustrated by a recent survey that found that the majority of citizens in 35 countries cited crime and security as a critical problem. (See the Pew Research Center for People and the Press, *What the World Thinks in 2002*, Washington, D.C., December 2002.) Despite the magnitude of the challenge, it has to be stressed that problems of crime and corruption can be effectively tackled through government action. This is true for urban crime, as demonstrated in several major cities in recent years, as well as for transnational organized crime and corruption.

2. Studies carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention) have revealed a close relationship between institutional failure in the justice sector and the extent of organized crime in many countries. In States where law enforcement, administration of justice and financial systems are weak, criminal groups committing serious crimes and corrupting officials are more prevalent. If the commercial sector and government agencies are controlled or influenced by criminal groups, prospects for economic development are much reduced. In such an environment, local entrepreneurs refrain from expanding their businesses for fear of extortion, racketeering and other criminal threats. Citizens are disinclined to pay taxes because their money is misspent or embezzled by government officials. Foreign investors stay away because the risks are too great. A vicious circle of impoverishment and lawlessness is set in motion. Tackling crime in order to ensure sustainable development becomes crucial.

3. In countries without prospects for growth and increasingly dysfunctional institutions, conflicts—be they based on ethnic, social or economic cleavages—can easily flare up and escalate into insurgency or civil war. Criminal groups profit from such intracountry conflicts by supplying weapons to protagonists and capturing lucrative markets for smuggling illicit goods, as well as illegal commodities such as drugs or diamonds produced in zones where no effective state authority exists. Organized criminal activities tend to thwart peacemaking efforts and perpetuate conflicts and humanitarian crises.

4. To prevent and remedy such situations the importance of a strong legal infrastructure, including functioning criminal justice systems, is critical. The relationship between sustainable development and peace and security was until recently not always sufficiently understood. Rampant crime and corruption were seen as a result of underdevelopment and not themselves as a cause of poverty. The main solution to human insecurity was believed to be development. The results in the main have been disappointing. Often funds earmarked for projects did not find their way to those most in need. Development stalled in many States because of crime and public insecurity. It is now recognized that without effective prevention of crime and corruption there can be no sustainable development and no poverty reduction. (That link was, for example, the focus of a recent high-level international policy dialogue, organized by Capacity Building International (Germany) (InWEnt)

in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, on tackling cross-border crime: challenges of international development cooperation in Bonn, Germany, on 16 December 2002.) Good governance and the rule of law are prerequisites for prosperity and social justice. The work of the programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is directly relevant to the goals set forth in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (General Assembly resolution 55/2) given that it is entrusted with activities aimed at reducing crime and building a more secure life for the people of the world.

5. The present report contains an overview of the activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for 2002. Important developments have taken place both in respect of the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I, the "Organized Crime Convention") by a growing number of Member States, but also with regard to the progress in the negotiation of a new international legal instrument to fight corruption. The increasing scope of technical assistance work undertaken has been remarkable. It is worth highlighting in that respect that the period under review saw the launch of an additional global programme in support of the fight against terrorism, as well as preparatory work for a large criminal justice reform programme in Afghanistan. In other areas of technical assistance, such as countering corruption, reducing trafficking in persons, the fight against organized crime and reforming and rebuilding systems of criminal justice, the number of projects that are currently being implemented is testimony to the commitment of the Centre and its staff to doing something concrete about those global evils. Activities are increasingly being implemented within the framework of the Office's operational priorities, which contain a specific commitment to an integrated approach to drugs and crime; to placing drug and crime issues in the context of sustainable development; to balancing prevention and enforcement activities; to selecting operations on the basis of knowledge and strategic vision; to fostering institutions that promote best practice; and to leveraging resources to exploit the power of partnership. The implementation of those activities will be accelerated during 2003.

II. Towards the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and the completion of the negotiation of the draft United Nations Convention against Corruption

6. With more than 30 States having become parties to the Organized Crime Convention, it is reasonable to expect that that important international instrument will enter into force before the end of 2003. In accordance with the recommendations of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 57/168 of 18 December 2002, the promotion of the ratification process of the Convention and the three Protocols thereto (General Assembly resolutions 55/25, annexes II and III, and 55/250, annex), as well as the provision of assistance to States seeking to ratify them, have been one of the core priorities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention. A number of States have generously provided financial support for that purpose. Assistance has been achieved through a two-pronged strategy: regional and

subregional ministerial meetings and seminars aimed at attracting proper attention and securing the political commitment of the States of the various regions, as well as advisory services to States requesting the Centre's assistance in formulating changes in their respective national legislation. In addition, ongoing training of criminal justice officials has also contributed to achieving that aim.

7. While more details are provided in a separate report to the Commission (E/CN.15/2003/5), it should be noted that on the occasion of the second anniversary of the High-level Political Signing Conference for the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto, held in Palermo, Italy, from 12 to 15 December 2000, a personal communication was addressed to permanent representatives of Member States in order to encourage their respective Governments to take the necessary action towards the ratification of the instruments, which, once in force, would constitute the most effective framework for improved international cooperation in this field.

8. In its resolution 57/169 of 18 December 2002, the General Assembly noted the progress made by the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, and urged the Ad Hoc Committee to endeavour to complete its work by the end of 2003. No efforts have been spared to provide the Ad Hoc Committee and its bureau with the maximum support, as well as to ensure the participation of as many States as possible in its proceedings, thanks to the generous financial support given by several Governments. As at January 2003, the Ad Hoc Committee had held four sessions, during which it had completed the first and second readings of the draft convention. At its fifth session, the Ad Hoc Committee will start the third reading of the draft convention, building on the progress made in the negotiations, the profound understanding of the issues involved and the spirit of cooperation and political will to complete its work in a timely manner, as called for in resolution 57/169.

9. In that connection, it should be recalled that, as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee, a workshop on asset recovery was organized during the third session, while a global study on the transfer of funds of illicit origin derived from acts of corruption (A/AC.261/12) was submitted to the Ad Hoc Committee at its fourth session, in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/13 of 24 July 2001.

10. Consequently, drawing on a better understanding of the issues involved and building on the progress made so far in the negotiation process, there is good ground for optimism regarding the timely completion of that important accomplishment: the political will is present, as well as a good spirit of cooperation, which has characterized the work of the four sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee.

III. Global Programme against Terrorism

11. In the wake of the attacks of 11 September 2001, additional mandates were given to the Centre for International Crime Prevention for activities related to the prevention of terrorism (see General Assembly resolutions 56/88 of 12 December 2001, 56/123 of 19 December 2001 and 56/261 of 31 January 2002). At its eleventh session, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice endorsed the use of the institutional knowledge, practical experience and field

presence developed at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as a contribution to the anti-terrorism work of the United Nations as a whole in a draft resolution subsequently adopted by the Economic and Social Council as resolution 2002/19 of 24 July 2002 and a number of activities were the result, as described in a separate report to the Commission (E/CN.15/2003/9).

12. In addition, in its resolution 11/1, the Commission encouraged Member States to participate in a Symposium on Combating International Terrorism: the Contribution of the United Nations, held in Vienna on 3 and 4 June 2002, at which the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and other prominent speakers advised on possible areas for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist in developing a global anti-terrorism capacity. The Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee stressed the importance of providing guidance to States with less experience in legislating and implementing anti-terrorism measures and noted the important role that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime could play in preparing guidance notes and implementation kits to help Member States, upon request, in ratifying the international instruments against terrorism.

13. As a result, as mandated by the Symposium and with the endorsement of the Commission, a Global Programme against Terrorism was launched in October 2002. Its overall aim is to respond promptly and efficiently to requests for counter-terrorism assistance by the Counter-Terrorism Committee or directly from requesting States. Voluntary funding enabled the hiring of consultants, while two Professional staff members of the Centre for International Crime Prevention were assigned to strengthen the existing staff of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime until the General Assembly provided additional posts to the Centre.

14. The launching of the Global Programme against Terrorism has made the Centre for International Crime Prevention a key partner and executive agent for technical assistance of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. Partnerships and collaborative ties have been established not only with the Counter-Terrorism Committee, but also with the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat and regional organizations such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Organization of American States (OAS), as well as the Commonwealth Secretariat and national ministries.

IV. Implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century

15. In its resolution 56/261, the General Assembly took note with appreciation of the plan of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, annexed to the resolution, and invited Governments to use the plans of action as appropriate. By a note verbale dated 26 September 2002, the Secretariat sought information from Member States on steps being taken to implement the plans of action. As at 28 February 2003, responses had been received from Austria, Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Morocco, Qatar, Slovakia, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine and Venezuela. A number of States indicated that they were being guided by the plans of

action in their development of policies and programmes at the national level. Some sent new legislation to the Secretariat and described innovative programmes. Of particular interest in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice reform are the *casas de justicia* (legal centres) in Colombia; a restorative justice programme in Croatia; special “youth sanctions” introduced in Denmark; mediation and conflict-resolution mechanisms introduced throughout Finland; community work programmes in Greece; a probation and mediation agency in Slovakia; an electronic monitoring project in Sweden; a penal reform programme in Turkey; and the new criminal code in Ukraine.

16. The Member States that responded also supplied information on new legislation introduced to combat organized crime, corruption, money-laundering, trafficking in persons, kidnapping, exploitation of children, as well as on protection of witnesses, assistance to victims and compensation. Detailed descriptions of law enforcement and judicial training programmes, new techniques introduced, bilateral arrangements and a depiction of crime prevention efforts were also provided. It is hoped that the plans of action will continue to steer States towards the early implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and more widespread use of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. Further information relating to the substantive issues covered by each of the plans of action is contained in the respective sections of the present report. It is essential that the momentum in respect of the implementation of the plans of action be enhanced and the Centre will continue to keep the Commission apprised of this matter.

V. Data collection, analysis and dissemination

17. In 2002, the Centre for International Crime Prevention published statistical information on crime and criminal justice over the period 1998-2000 received from over 80 Member States, collected through the seventh United Nations survey of crime trends and operations of criminal justice systems (accessible at www.unodc.org/odccp/crime_cicp_survey_seventh.html). The web-based statistics are accessed by large numbers of users each year. For example, the information downloaded during one month, October 2002, was 275,000 pages of text (1,097 gigabytes). With 519 variables, the survey remains the most comprehensive statistical database on global crime and criminal justice available. A review of selected data from the fourth to seventh surveys will be published shortly in *Forum on Crime and Society* (see below). A manual for the collection of crime statistics has been designed and published, in collaboration with the Statistical Division of the Secretariat.

18. The Centre continued to expand its efforts to disseminate information by electronic means, through its web site at www.unodc.org/odccp/crime_prevention.html. A series of new publications reflecting the work of the Centre and the activities of the global programmes have been added during the course of the year under review. In 2001, the Centre launched a peer-reviewed journal aimed at academics and practitioners in the field of criminal justice, *Forum on Crime and Society*, published twice a year in the six official languages of the United Nations and distributed widely throughout the world (also accessible at www.unodc.org/odccp/crime_cicp_publications_forum.html). The last issue (vol. 2,

No. 1 (2002)) was devoted to the theme of corruption. The next three issues of the journal will focus on global crime trends, terrorism and organized crime and war and reconstruction, respectively.

Global crime trends

19. During 2002, work was focused on initiating the Centre's global trends study, which examines the links between institutional arrangements and organized crime and public sector corruption. A preliminary report has been completed and will shortly be published in *Forum on Crime and Society*. Drawing on that information, the data provided by the various United Nations surveys of crime trends and operations of criminal justice systems and the international crime victims surveys, as well as additional information, the Centre is aiming to begin work on a world report on crime during 2003, for eventual publication in 2004. This follows on the publication of the first *Global Report on Crime and Justice* in 1999.¹

VI. Technical cooperation activities

A. Strategic orientation

20. In 2002, the Centre for International Crime Prevention supported projects with a total value of approximately \$7.5 million (see table 1). It should be noted that the Centre expanded its technical cooperation programme from 5 country projects in 1998 to 40 in 2002 (both ongoing and planned).

Table 1

Technical cooperation projects supported by the Centre for International Crime Prevention, 2002

<i>Country or area</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Total value (United States dollars)</i>
Global	Assistance to signatories of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto	1 975 466
	Database on flows of trafficking in persons	144 301
	Judicial integrity	100 000
	Strengthening the legal regime against terrorism	230 000
	Brazil	Measures to combat trafficking in persons
Colombia	Strengthening local government institutions in the fight against corruption	505 280
Hungary	Assessment of corruption in Hungary	175 263
Lebanon	Support for the national anti-corruption strategy	305 551
	Strengthening the legislative and institutional capacity for juvenile justice	754 049

<i>Country or area</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Total value (United States dollars)</i>
Nigeria	Strengthening judicial integrity and capacity	293 968
Philippines	Coalitions against trafficking in persons in the Philippines	269 312
South Africa	Mechanisms to counteract domestic violence	660 000
	Measures to counteract organized crime	414 000
	Donor coordination in the field of criminal justice	40 000
	Support for the National Anti-Corruption Programme	359 340
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Preventing and controlling economic and financial crime	330 000
Central Asia	Assessment of transnational organized crime	64 636
Eastern Europe (Czech Republic and Poland)	Criminal justice responses to trafficking in persons	519 348
Total		7 540 514

21. In accordance with the overall objective of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the strategies for achieving it, as established by the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005² and the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003,³ the main priorities for its technical cooperation activities are fostering of international cooperation and strengthening national capacity in:

- (a) Combating transnational organized crime;
- (b) Combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children;
- (c) Promoting anti-corruption policies and measures, in particular as regards judicial integrity;
- (d) Ensuring effective policy interventions in the area of criminal justice reform, most notably as regards juvenile justice, victim support, prison administration, violence against women, restorative justice and prevention of social crime, pursuant to the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration (General Assembly resolution 55/261, annex);
- (e) Promoting anti-terrorism policies and measures, pursuant to the plan of action against terrorism of the Vienna Declaration and keeping in mind relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions.

22. Synergy between the Centre for International Crime Prevention and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), the two components of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, continued to be strengthened in 2002. New operational priorities for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime were issued in November 2002 outlining a number of guiding principles with a view to strengthening, inter alia, an integrated approach to drug and crime issues. The

capacity of the Centre to deliver technical assistance has been enhanced at the operational level through its increased representation at the country and subregional levels, as a result of the conversion of selected offices of UNDCP to field offices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. It is expected that in early 2003 all the field offices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime will be converted to field offices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

B. Administrative matters

23. As at 1 January 2003, the authority to manage the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, as well as the sub-account for the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, was transferred to the Executive Director. Included in that authority is the acceptance of contributions and issuance of allotments and allocations. Accordingly, the processing period for the aforementioned activities will be shortened considerably and will also be more cost-effective. The transfer is welcomed as an opportunity to increase the efficiency of the Centre's activities.

24. The Centre continued to turn to the United Nations Office for Project Services for the provision of administrative, financial and other inputs to support the implementation of a number of projects. The Centre is currently working with the Office on new streamlined expenditure reporting procedures that should, after a trial period of six months, provide accurate monthly reports on incurred expenditures. Those monthly financial reports will initially be certified in the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) and shared with the substantive and field offices. Thereafter, they will be migrated to the Programme and Financial Information Management System (ProFi).

25. Consultations began in 2002 with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on the finalization of a working arrangement. The objective is to set a framework for cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and UNDP and to define the services to be provided by the latter in the area of management of field personnel and field office administration as well as for projects and the financial and administrative conditions under which such services are to be provided. The arrangement is expected to be finalized by June 2003.

C. United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

26. The contributions and pledges made to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund during 2002 (see table 2) amounted to \$5,011,915, representing an increase of 7 per cent in contributions compared with the previous year. It should be noted that the past five years have been characterized by a constant upward trend in contributions to the Centre (an 82 per cent increase since 1998). That trend is expected to accelerate in 2003.

Table 2
Contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, 2002
(United States dollars)

<i>Country</i>	<i>General-purpose funds</i>	<i>Special-purpose funds</i>	<i>Total amount pledged</i>
Austria	45 683 ^a	1 062 670 ^{a, b}	1 108 353
Canada	-	82 863 ^a	82 863
Chile	5 000 ^c	-	5 000
Germany	-	24 777 ^b	24 777
India	3 000 ^c	-	3 000
Italy	148 622 ^a	644 202 ^a	792 864
Japan	-	94 000 ^c	94 000
Malta	2 500 ^a	-	2 500
Morocco	2 000 ^c	-	2 000
Netherlands	-	551 867 ^b	551 867
Norway	-	208 908 ^a	208 908
Republic of Korea	8 000 ^a	-	8 000
Switzerland	-	124 363 ^b	124 363
Tunisia	2 000 ^c	-	2 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	-	298 659 ^a	298 659
United States of America	200 000 ^c	1 528 410 ^c	1 728 410

^aPaid.

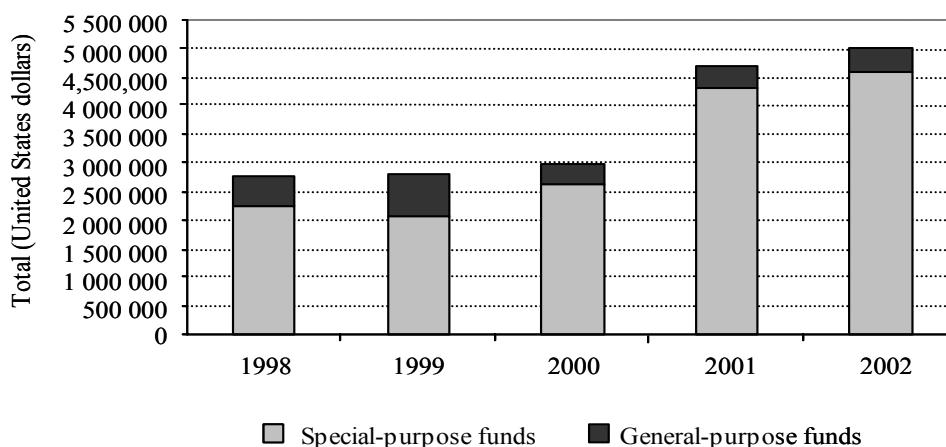
^bPaid in part.

^cPledged.

27. The Centre's goal in 2002 was to broaden its donor base and to encourage its current donors to increase their voluntary contributions. In 2003, while pursuing the broadening of the donor base, the Centre will aim to increase the volume of general-purpose contributions, which currently correspond to less than 10 per cent of the Fund. That increment is of particular importance if the Centre is to fulfil the increased number of mandates and to implement the projects recently launched. A staff member will continue to work full time on fund-raising.

28. The information provided in the figure shows the pattern of contributions over the past five years and the distribution between general-purpose and special-purpose contributions. The bulk of the special-purpose contributions went to the three global programmes and to supporting the pre-ratification assistance activities of the Centre aimed at speeding up the entry into force of the Organized Crime Convention.

Figure
Contributions and pledges made to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, 1998-2002



D. Global Programme against Corruption

29. Since 1999, when the Global Programme against Corruption was first launched, more than 30 States have requested assistance. So far within the framework of the Global Programme, a project in Romania has been completed, support continued to be provided to Lebanon, Hungary, Nigeria and South Africa and a new project was launched in Colombia. In addition, a series of projects are being initiated that focus mainly on strengthening judicial integrity, a unique strategic niche, with potentially high impact.

30. In order to assist Member States in preparing the ground for the implementation of the future United Nations Convention against Corruption, the Global Programme has developed an anti-corruption tool kit; a United Nations anti-corruption manual for policy makers (in draft), a handbook for prosecutors and investigators, and a publication series on anti-corruption topics, all available on the web site of the Centre for International Crime Prevention (www.unodc.org/corruption.html).

31. More recently, the Centre has been requested: (a) to take the lead in establishing an inter-agency anti-corruption coordination mechanism that will ensure better coordination and cooperation among United Nations and other entities active in the field of anti-corruption work; and (b) to support the Office of the Internal Oversight Services in developing an organizational integrity initiative aimed at mainstreaming ethics throughout the United Nations system. A proposal for a formal mechanism has been designed in consultation with 14 international organizations.

32. The Global Programme against Corruption in collaboration with Transparency International and the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have designed a special project of support for chief justices from common- and civil-law countries in identifying and

applying best practices in strengthening judicial integrity and capacity. Meetings with chief justices were serviced by the Centre in Vienna in 2001, in The Hague in 2002 and in Colombo in 2003. The outcome of the process so far has been: (a) a list of key objectives for judicial reform; (b) a set of measurable performance indicators and a comprehensive assessment methodology for judicial integrity and capacity; and (c) a draft universal declaration of judicial conduct. The initiative underpins the country projects promoting judicial integrity.

Country projects

Colombia

33. The aim of the project in Colombia is to strengthen the rule of law at the subnational and national levels by increasing the integrity of local governments and strengthening local prosecutorial capacity. Based on the institutional assessment of three pilot local governments, the Centre identified anti-corruption policy reforms balancing preventive and enforcement measures. The full-fledged project supporting the further implementation of the above-mentioned policy recommendations was launched in February 2003. The results of implementing those policy measures will be shared with all national, regional and local government authorities in early 2004.

Hungary

34. The Centre, in collaboration with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, carried out a comprehensive corruption assessment that was widely disseminated. A National Anti-Corruption Decree was adopted by the Hungarian Council of Ministers in 2001. A broad-based Integrity Steering Committee has been established and a national integrity meeting was held.

Lebanon

35. Initially the project in Lebanon focused on: (a) a comprehensive corruption assessment in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute; and (b) assistance to the Government for the preparation of a national integrity action plan. The Government, supported by the Centre for International Crime Prevention, established the National Integrity Steering Committee and, in 2001, organized a broad-based expert meeting presenting the findings of the assessment. At the request of the Government of Lebanon, the second phase of the project focuses on youth. It has been agreed: (a) to develop a code of citizenship for youth and socio-educational material to enhance awareness among adolescents to fight corruption; and (b) to launch an awareness campaign to increase the adherence of youth to the rule of law.

Nigeria

36. The project in Nigeria aims at enhancing the rule of law by increasing judicial capacity and integrity. In October 2001, the Centre launched the project with the organization of the first federal integrity meeting for chief judges. Three state integrity meetings for the judiciary were conducted, in Borno, Delta and Lagos, which came up with action plans outlining measures to enhance access to justice. With additional financial support from the German Development Agency (GTZ), several of the measures outlined in the action plan have already been implemented.

In December, a second federal integrity meeting for chief judges was conducted to review the results of the assessment of judicial integrity and to share the action plans developed by the three state integrity meetings.

South Africa

37. This project assists the Government of South Africa in its efforts to prevent, detect and fight corruption and to promote the rule of law within the country. A comprehensive corruption assessment was conducted and the final report was adopted by the Government in January 2003, with a public launch and presentation to Parliament. Moreover, the Centre for International Crime Prevention, in collaboration with the United States Department of Justice, organized workshops for specialized investigative and prosecutorial units to finalize a United Nations handbook on corruption investigation and prosecution and to assist those units in enhancing their operational capacity. In 2003, the Centre will provide a mentor to the anti-corruption desk of the Directorate of Special Operations as well as to the Directorate of Public Prosecutions.

Future projects

Indonesia

38. The project in Indonesia is targeted at supporting judicial integrity and capacity in order to enhance the rule of law in the country. To that end, the Centre will first assist the judiciary, both at the national level and in two pilot provinces, in the development of comprehensive anti-corruption action plans. The necessary basis for that strategic planning exercise will be provided through a comprehensive assessment of judicial integrity and capacity in two pilot provinces.

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

39. The project on strengthening judicial capacity and integrity in the Islamic Republic of Iran is aimed at strengthening the effectiveness, transparency and accountability of the judiciary in that country through three main components: (a) the organization of a study tour for Iranian judicial officers to Vienna and to Singapore in order to enhance their readiness to undertake judicial reforms; (b) the organization of a workshop on international best practices relevant to the Iranian context; and (c) the proposal of policy measures to be implemented in a second-phase project based on the findings of the study tour and the outcome of the workshop.

E. Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings

40. Within the framework of the Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings technical assistance continued to support Member States in their efforts to combat trafficking in human beings. Given the complex nature of trafficking in persons, securing the expertise of other organizations and ensuring complementarity of action are essential. A close working relationship was maintained with other United Nations entities and international, regional and non-governmental organizations and an inter-agency coordination mechanism was initiated.

41. Together with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within the framework of the Global Programme, is currently conducting research and assessment activities examining the trafficking processes, including the role of organized criminal groups in trafficking. To that end, a number of research tools have been developed and tested. The Global Programme has established a database on trafficking flows that includes data from multiple sources on global trends, cross-national routes and the volume of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. Data are also collected on victims of trafficking and offenders as well as responses of criminal justice systems to that criminal activity.

42. In order to collect and assess promising practices in preventing and combating trafficking, a manual or tool-kit is being prepared to provide examples of good practices. The tool-kit covers the four sectors of legislative reform, strengthening criminal justice responses, victim protection and support and international cooperation.

43. For the Global Programme's analytical work, partnerships were sought with the network of institutes and organizations cooperating with the Programme, in particular the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the Australian Institute of Criminology, the United Nations University and the Innocenti Research Centre of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), as well as government agencies, local research institutions and individual scholars.

44. Following the success of the first public service announcement campaign on trafficking in humans for sexual exploitation, launched in 2001, a second video featuring trafficking in men, women and children for bonded and forced labour, such as in factories, on farms or as domestic servants, was released in February 2002. The video aims to raise consciousness among the general public about the epidemic growth of this modern-day form of slavery. A third video on victim empowerment is in preparation.

Technical assistance projects

Benin, Nigeria and Togo

45. A project on the assessment of trafficking flows and measures for combating trafficking in persons, including training components for local professionals, and intercountry cooperation in Benin, Nigeria and Togo started in 2003. In addition, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, in cooperation with the Government of Italy and the Government of Nigeria, has initiated a project addressing the smuggling of minors and young women from Nigeria into Italy.

Czech Republic and Poland

46. A project addressing trafficking in persons along routes leading to and from Eastern Europe has begun in the Czech Republic and Poland. It addresses the need for law reform, strengthened investigation and prosecution of such trafficking cases as well as assistance to victims at the local level. In the Czech Republic, a structure for a database aimed at strengthening investigation of such trafficking cases has been established. An international conference on legislative issues and best practices in investigation and prosecution of such trafficking cases was also organized.

The Philippines

47. The pilot project in the Philippines has been completed. It included awareness-raising and training sessions for law enforcement officers of different regions of the Philippines and workshops on improved police-prosecutor cooperation. It resulted in the formulation of an inventory of relevant legislation, the determination of guidelines for investigation and the testing of a new training curriculum for consular staff. The project also resulted in a national plan of action.

Future projects

Brazil

48. A project to assess the routes and modalities used by organized criminal groups and to improve law enforcement response and victim support has been developed at the request of the Government of Brazil in cooperation with the country office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Implementation began in early 2003.

Slovakia

49. One of the key objectives of the project in Slovakia is to assist the newly established trafficking unit of the criminal police to become fully operational. In that regard, officers of the new unit have visited similar units in the Czech Republic, Germany and the Netherlands. A model for protecting and assisting victims of trafficking will be developed.

Economic Community of West African States

50. Following the adoption in 2001 of a political declaration and an action plan against trafficking in human beings by the annual summit of the Heads of State of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), a joint United Nations/ECOWAS expert group meeting, held in Lomé on 2 and 3 December 2002, evaluated action taken by States of the region. The meeting recommended priority activities, including bilateral and multilateral assistance, with a focus on the establishment of national coordination structures and focal points, reinforcement of the legal frameworks and the formulation of national action plans and institution-building.

Viet Nam and South-East Asia

51. A project in Viet Nam has been prepared to enhance the existing mechanisms against trafficking in persons by increasing investigation and prosecuting capacity, networking between law enforcement and the judiciary and training of personnel of the agencies involved. A project for computer-based training in the South-East Asian region aims at building upon the existing expertise of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in computer-based training.

F. Global Programme against Organized Crime

52. The Global Programme against Organized Crime is active in a number of areas, including monitoring national policies and measures for combating organized

crime and assessing their effectiveness and efficiency; promoting awareness of the existence, causes and gravity of the threat posed by transnational organized crime and on promoting successful strategies to combat it; and providing technical assistance through advisory services and field projects.

Information-sharing and assessments

53. During 2002, the pilot project on collecting and analysing information about criminal groups in a large number of societies was completed. A report containing an analysis of information on 43 criminal groups in 17 countries was published in the journal *Trends in Organized Crime*.⁴

54. Country-specific information on organized criminal groups and national anti-mafia structures will be combined into a single format that can be accessed on a country-by-country basis through a web site. Information on the requirements for international cooperation in each country will be added. The web site is meant as a tool for law enforcement officials and in particular prosecutors seeking information from other legal jurisdictions on cases involving organized crime. In 2003, a manual of best practices in preventing and fighting organized crime will be completed.

Training of criminal justice practitioners

55. Within the framework of the Global Programme against Organized Crime, a multimedia seminar aimed at training law enforcement personnel, including police investigators, prosecutors, judges, intelligence analysts and customs officials has been initiated and refined. The seminar examines best practices in fighting organized crime and corruption as regards investigations, international cooperation, collaboration with and protection of witnesses, prevention of organized crime and legislation against organized crime. Participants are requested at the end of the seminar to carry out a needs assessment to strengthen their respective countries' anti-mafia policies and measures. It is expected that the series of seminars will also contribute to the establishment of a global network of anti-mafia specialists, facilitating implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto.

56. Pilot seminars were held in Colombia, Croatia, Peru and Slovakia and, in the course of 2002, additional seminars were held in Colombia, Mexico, Nigeria and Romania. A seminar for Central American countries was held in Guatemala City and was attended by participants from five countries. During 2002, a total of 480 investigators, prosecutors, judges and other officials were trained. In 2003, seminars will be conducted in Chile, Ecuador, Indonesia, Mongolia and Ukraine, as well as a subregional seminar for the 14 countries of Southern Africa.

Technical cooperation projects

Measures against organized crime in South Africa

57. The project on measures against organized crime in South Africa was completed in 2002. It was intended to assist the South African authorities to develop effective strategies and expertise to fight organized crime, through, among other means, the provision of training and mentors. Recognizing that organized crime in South Africa could not be isolated from the development of the phenomenon in the region as a whole and in order to broaden the impact of the project, the remaining

funds for 2002 were used to conduct a regional workshop to develop a crime threat analysis for Southern Africa.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

58. In 1999, a project was launched in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to tackle economic and financial crime by strengthening legal provisions and the establishment of a specialized police unit. Domestic problems have slowed implementation. Nevertheless, it is hoped to meet the final objectives of the project in 2003.

Assessment of transnational organized crime in Central Asia

59. The project has aimed to collect and analyse information on the nature of organized crime in the Central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, with a view to developing further technical assistance activities. The assessment has been completed and a draft report prepared.

Assessment of transnational organized crime groups in West Africa

60. The project addresses the phenomenon of transnational organized criminal groups active in selected countries in West Africa—Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal—and their transnational dimension. It aims to provide systematic collection and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data and information on organized criminal groups operating in the region and as a result to formulate practical recommendations to combat and prevent organized crime.

Future projects

61. The Centre for International Crime Prevention has been requested to provide an initial report on kidnapping, based on responses from Members States, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twelfth session (see E/CN.15/2003/7). The development of effective technical assistance in that area will be a critical goal of 2003. More detailed work will also be done on the connections between the development of organized crime in the context of war and post-conflict peace-building, in order to determine practical policy recommendations in that regard. Finally, specific technical assistance projects will be developed to support specialized organized crime units in a number of countries where the problems of organized crime are particularly severe or have the potential to become more serious.

G. Crime prevention and criminal justice reform

62. In 2002, requests for crime prevention and criminal justice reform projects have greatly increased. A second phase of support for the juvenile justice system in Lebanon, focusing on girls, has begun, while a project to strengthen legislative and institutional capacity for juvenile justice in Egypt has been initiated. A similar project for Jordan is under consideration. As part of a larger programme of rehabilitation, the juvenile justice system in Afghanistan will be assisted. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime closely coordinates all juvenile justice

projects with UNICEF and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

63. At the request of the Government of Italy, two large projects on restoring criminal justice and crime prevention systems have been initiated in Afghanistan and Somalia. A crime prevention project in Senegal has been launched, while comprehensive crime prevention programmes have been formulated for Brazil and Nigeria by the field offices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Forty draft crime prevention and criminal justice projects have been developed by the South Africa field office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime within the strategic programme framework for drug control and crime prevention activities for Southern Africa. A smaller number of projects have been identified by the Caribbean field office. A project aimed at exchanging experiences in crime prevention between the subregions of the Caribbean and Southern Africa has been approved for the Development Account.

64. A programme of building up non-governmental support structures for victims of violent crime, including trafficking in persons, was initiated in 2002 with funding for Italy and the Netherlands. The project to establish shelters for victims of domestic violence in South Africa, financed by Austria, has been expanded to another province. Projects to improve the conditions in the female detention centre in Kabul and the rehabilitation of the central prison in Afghanistan have been formulated and will be implemented with priority. Advisory assistance to improve prison management in Timor-Leste was provided in 2002. Numerous requests for assistance have been received for penal reform and modernizing the criminal justice system, for instance from Algeria, Ethiopia and Sierra Leone.

VII. Coordination of activities with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network

65. During the eleventh session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in 2002, a workshop on criminal justice reform: lessons learned, community involvement and restorative justice was organized by the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, coordinated by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.

66. In cooperation with the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute organized the seventeenth coordination meeting of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network in Turin and Courmayeur, Italy, on 4 and 5 December 2002.

67. The institutes of the network collaborated with the Centre for International Crime Prevention in conducting a series of seminars on the ratification of the Organized Crime Convention and its Protocols. With the support of the Government of Canada, the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy and the Centre for International Crime Prevention have begun to develop a guide to the legislative reforms required to effectively combat transnational organized crime.

68. More specific information on cooperative activities between the Centre and the institutes of the Programme network is provided in the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network (E/CN.15/2003/4).

VIII. Strategic management of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

69. Intersessional activities and consultations continue to be of great assistance to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to the Secretariat. In that connection, the extended bureau met five times (29 April, 8, 14 and 23 May and 4 July 2002) to discuss preparations for and follow-up to the Symposium on Combating International Terrorism: the Contribution of the United Nations. In pursuance of Commission resolution 11/1, the Executive Director reported on the proceedings of the Symposium and the views of the Commission thereon to the Secretary-General for his consideration in finalizing his report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 56/123 of 19 December 2001. On 12 July 2002, the first intersessional meeting of the Commission was held to discuss the report of the Executive Director on the proceedings of the Symposium (SYMP/TERR/3/Rev.1).

70. On 3 December 2002, the extended bureau met to be briefed on a number of issues and to provide its guidance thereon. Issues included the outcome of the discussion at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly on crime prevention and criminal justice issues; preparations for the thematic discussion on trafficking in persons at the twelfth session of the Commission; review of the substantive agenda items and workshop topics for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; follow-up on the Symposium on Terrorism; and the provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the Commission. The same issues were discussed at the second intersessional meeting of the Commission, on 12 February 2003. The third to fifth intersessional meetings are scheduled to be held in April and May 2003 prior to the twelfth session of the Commission.

IX. Programme questions

71. In its resolution 57/282 of 20 December 2002, the General Assembly adopted the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 submitted by the Secretary-General,⁵ including programme 12, Crime prevention and criminal justice, which had been considered by the Commission at its eleventh session.

72. At its fifty-seventh session, the General Assembly considered a report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Secretariat (A/57/152 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and 2 and Add.2), submitted pursuant to the request by the Assembly contained in paragraph 103 of its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001. In its resolution 57/173 of 18 December 2002, the Assembly reaffirmed the importance of the work of the Centre in contributing to the prevention of international terrorism; and reaffirmed the role of the Centre in providing to Member States, upon request,

technical assistance in the prevention of international terrorism. In its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002, the Assembly approved five new posts (three Professional and two General Service) under section 14, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

73. At its fifty-eighth session, the General Assembly will approve the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, including section 16, Crime prevention and criminal justice. A note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work in crime prevention and criminal justice for the biennium 2004-2005 will be before the Commission at its twelfth session (E/CN.15/2003/12).

X. The way ahead

74. The year 2002 saw important steps being taken in respect of a number of priority areas in the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention. Most particularly, significant numbers of States have now ratified the Organized Crime Convention, while the negotiations for a new international instrument to counter corruption have proceeded apace. Critically too, the Centre has continued the process of transforming itself into an institution capable of delivering high-quality technical assistance in specific areas. The focus here is on practical and operational assistance activities in areas that mirror the current priorities of the Commission: transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons and corruption. Added to those priorities are now the ratification and implementation of the international conventions against terrorism, as well as the issue of criminal justice reform, including the important issue of the promotion of urban security.

75. The Centre is now well positioned for further growth, as shown by its plans for the forthcoming year that have been spelled out in the present report. There will be important developments in 2003, most notably the ratification of the Organized Crime Convention by the required number of States and the subsequent establishment of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention. Guidance will be required from that new body, but also, of course, from the Commission itself as to the future direction of the Centre. The further growth of operational activities, ongoing requests for assistance and the continued support given to the ratification of the Organized Crime Convention and the negotiation of the future convention against corruption have stretched the Centre's limited resources. Additional voluntary contributions and cost-sharing arrangements with assisted countries are an essential requirement. Further, additional steps are being taken to increase the synergies between the drug control and crime programmes.

76. As was stated at the outset of the report, issues of crime and insecurity are of significant concern to the citizens of the world. Those problems must and can be tackled. The necessary legal tools for international collaboration in the fight against organized crime and corruption have been, or are being, forged by the international community. The Commission for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as its Secretariat must respond to the challenge, increasing the assistance provided to investigators, prosecutors, judges and other law enforcement practitioners in Member States to put those tools to good use. The challenge is to provide a system of effective and fair criminal justice across

the globe, increasing safety and security and, ultimately, fostering development and peace.

Notes

¹ New York, Oxford University Press.

² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/55/6/Rev.1)*.

³ *Ibid., Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6*.

⁴ Vol. 6, No. 2.

⁵ A/57/6 (Prog. 1 and Corr.1, Prog. 2, 3, 5, 7-19 and 24-26).
