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English only

**Commission on Crime Prevention
and Criminal Justice**

Twenty-fourth session

Vienna, 18-22 May 2015

Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

**Thematic discussion on follow-up to the Thirteenth United
Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal
Justice**

**Proposal by the Chair on the subthemes of the thematic
discussion at the twenty-fourth Session of the United
Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal
Justice**

Summary

The present conference room paper provides information for consideration under agenda item 4, entitled “Thematic discussion on follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”. It provides a proposal by the Chair to facilitate discussions among Member States on the subthemes of the thematic discussion at the twenty-fourth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

* E/CN.15/2015/1.



I. Introduction

In its decision 2014/230, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), decided that the thematic discussion held during the 24th session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) should focus on the **follow up to the Thirteenth Crime Congress**.

The present proposal is intended to facilitate discussions among Member States on the subthemes of the thematic discussion at the 24th session. The outcome can provide a useful input for the follow up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the implementation of the Doha Declaration.

<p><i>(a) “From Doha to New York — Contribution of the Thirteenth United Nations Crime Congress to the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda”</i></p>

[Morning session]

In September 2015 the General Assembly is expected to adopt a unified and universal post-2015 development agenda that responds to the many changes that have taken place in the global development environment since the Millennium Summit in 2000. The transition to an ambitious, integrated, coherent, people-centred and universal post-2015 development framework based on the sustainable development goals (SDGs) requires a clear, vision at the conceptual level of policies and at the stage of implementation across sectors, actors and levels. The areas of work of the CCPCJ, whose agenda addresses key priorities of the United Nations, which span across all the three pillars of sustainable development, namely economic, social and environmental.

The Thirteenth Crime Congress took place at an important historical juncture, where issues such as the rule of law and the post-2015 development agenda are taking centre stage globally. Its outcome has not only set the tone for, but more importantly, gives direction to the work in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice for the next five years, and beyond. It is now important for the international community to take into account the outcome and recommendations of the Congress, in its consideration of the way forward on the post-2015 development agenda, in advance of the September 2015 Summit.

Under the substantive agenda items and workshop topics of the Congress, Member States reaffirmed the linkages between the rule of law and sustainable development, while bearing in mind the overarching theme of the Congress. Member States have noted that the rule of law is both an outcome of and an enabler for development, and recognized the crucial need to include the rule of law and strengthening criminal justice systems in the post-2015 development agenda.

The Doha Declaration recognizes the importance of effective, fair, humane and accountable crime prevention and criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them as a central component of the rule of law, and acknowledges that sustainable development and the rule of law are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing. The Declaration further stresses the commitment and political will of Member States, at the highest level, to implement comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies which promote the rule of law at the national and international levels.

The morning session can focus on discussing:

- How can the outcome of the Thirteenth Congress feed into the overarching theme of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies for 2015, entitled “Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: What it will take”?
- How can the General Assembly consider and integrate the contributions of the Congress, including the Doha Declaration, in preparation for and at the September 2015 Summit?
- How can UNODC work towards assisting Member States in integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda support the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda?

(b) “Implementing the Doha Declaration: paving the way to Japan”

[Afternoon session]

The General Assembly requested the Commission in its resolutions 67/184, 68/185 and 69/191 to give high priority at its twenty-fourth session to considering the Declaration of the Thirteenth Congress, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its seventieth session.

The Doha Declaration is a robust, empowering and action-oriented, political document that outlines the areas of priority of Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice for the next five years and beyond.

Under the substantive topics of the Congress, emphasis was placed on the significance of upholding the rule of law, and preventing and countering crime in all its forms and manifestations, including new and emerging forms of crime, at the national, regional and international levels. Furthermore, there was a strong call for Member States to combat and address crime, corruption, terrorism, violence, and ensure that comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies are in place.

Member States recognized that the successful implementation of such policies should be based on a participatory, collaborative and integrated approach, while taking into account a gender perspective, and the inclusion of all relevant stakeholders, among them, most importantly, children and youth. The Doha Declaration holds in high regard instilling shared values based on the importance of the rule of law and protection of human rights to promote a culture of lawfulness.

The Declaration further recognizes the need for Member States to continue supporting the implementation of capacity building programmes and the provision of technical assistance to achieve the objectives set forth in the Declaration, in collaboration with UNODC as an essential partner for the achievement of these objectives in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.

The afternoon session can focus on discussing:

- How can Member States successfully follow-up and implement the Doha Declaration, to achieve the desired impact by 2020?
- How can Member States strengthen and join efforts at the national, regional and international levels to achieve the objectives set forth in the Declaration and how could UNODC support those efforts in the lead up to 2020?

- How can Member States achieve the integration of a gender and youth perspective in their implementation of the Doha Declaration?

II. Organizational Arrangements

Based on past practice and in line with its decision 18/1, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice could decide on the following organizational arrangements for the thematic discussions at its 24th session:

- One panellist would be nominated by each of the Regional Groups for the morning session and for the afternoon session.
- A representative by a non-governmental organization would be nominated by the Vienna NGO Committee in close consultation with the Extended Bureau.
- Each discussion, morning and afternoon session, would be moderated by the Chair of the Commission or a member of the bureau.
- Introductory statements or presentations by the panellists would be brief, not exceeding 10 minutes.
- Statements by participants would be limited to five minutes, in order to allow all interested participants to contribute.
- There would be no national statements.
- At the end of the thematic discussion, the Chair would prepare a summary, not subject to negotiation, including the most salient points discussed.

Regional Groups are invited to put forward their nominations for panellists as soon as possible but no later than 11 May 2015.
