

Mister Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Finland fully aligns itself with the statement made by Portugal on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

Let me start by congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, for your election as Chair of this 30th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. My delegation wishes to ensure our full cooperation with you and this Commission.

We would like to express our gratitude for the organisation and preparation of this meeting. We look forward to the discussions on thematic agenda item on effective measures to prevent and counter smuggling of migrants. Our delegation will address the floor again during the debate.

Mr. Chair,

Finland congratulates the UNODC and the Government of Japan on the successful 14th UN Crime Congress, which took place in March in Kyoto in hybrid format. Our delegation is very pleased with the results of the negotiations and the adoption of the Kyoto Declaration. The leadership showed during the process sets a benchmark of a high standard for international cooperation in future.

Finland commits itself to work with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to ensure appropriate follow-up and implementation of the Kyoto Declaration.

We welcome the early start of preparations for the next Crime Congress. We look forward to building on the accomplishments of Kyoto as we work with all partners towards a similarly successful Congress in 2025.

Mr. Chair,

Human rights are at the core of all work of the UN system. Finland acknowledges the important role of UNODC in affairs concerning crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as in supporting Member States to achieve a safe society based on the rule of law. In this respect, we are happy to announce that Finland, as a country that has been dedicated to promoting human rights for decades, is now seeking membership of the UN Human Rights Council for the period of 2022–2024.

Thank you.