



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
JAURÈSGASSE 3, 1030 VIENNA

Statement by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Before

**The CCPCJ Thematic Discussion on the Implementation of the Kyoto
Declaration**

**Thematic Session 1: Addressing the Causes, including the Root Causes of
Crime; Enhancing Evidence-based Crime Prevention and Promoting Tailor-
made Crime Prevention Strategies**

(10-12 November 2021, Vienna)

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. Chair,

Before I commence, I would like to thank you and the Secretariat for organizing and leading this meeting and also appreciate the presentation delivered.

Mr. Chair,

Considering the first topic in thematic discussion, we are of the view that in addressing the causes of crime, regard shall be had to the economic root causes which emanate from underdevelopment and impediments that, in particular, developing states encounter on the path to development. Fighting crimes through development constitutes essential part of the provisions of UNTOC and UNCAC which further reminds us of the role of the economic factors in crime prevention strategies. As such, we underline the vital importance of assisting Member States in achieving sustainable development and removing barriers thereon so as to effectively eradicate the underlying economic root causes of crimes.

Along the same lines and notwithstanding the domestic measures necessary for preventing recidivism, we should also take into account the significance of international cooperation in this area. As a case in point, effective cooperation in identification, recovery and return of assets could highly contribute to development as well as reducing reoffending. This has been reaffirmed in the Kyoto Declaration which recognizes asset recovery as an important element of crime prevention and criminal justice. Therefore, cooperation for recovering and returning proceeds of crime should be focused on as a means for development thereby and also by itself preventing recidivism; for when an offenders' opportunities for perpetrating crime remain the same and when such person could escape justice and find safe haven for the assets acquired through commission of offence, their proclivity to pursue criminal activities would barely change. That is why we need to revisit asset recovery in the context of preventing recidivism.

In the end, we would like to once again highlight the importance of the Kyoto Declaration in reinforcing the commitments of Member States to the fight against crimes in all its forms and manifestations and reaffirm that respecting the economic, social, legal and cultural specificities of Member States and adherence to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law are vital for effective implementation of the Declaration. Such crucial elements as well as the various challenges that Member States face in implementing the Declaration including the Unilateral Coercive Measures should be fully taken into account throughout the follow-ups of the Declaration.

I thank you.