Item 3: Statement by Ambassador Ugljesa Ugi Zvekic

Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

On behalf of European Public Law Organization (EPLO) I would like to express congratulations for the work and role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the main governing body for all anti-crime initiatives and programmes. This important role needs to be further enhanced in view of an imperative call to develop an international strategy for an effective global anti-crime governance.

Two mega-criminal justice conventions (UNTOC and UNCAC) provide a powerful normative platform for the national, regional and above all international cooperation against transnational organized crime and corruption. These are strongly supported by the political-developmental SDGs 2030 platform, in particular, targets 16.4, 5 and 6. Yet, there is lack of coordination and integration among these three important anti-crime platforms. They are divorced from each other in their organizational set up, governance and review machinery. They just do not even talk to each other.

From the inception of UNTOC and UNCAC we have witnessed an exponential growth in what I may coin “trans-conventions” illicit threats such as transnational linkages between organized crime, politics and business at a high national and international levels. The work on the cybercrime conventions adds to this linkage the threats posed by possible information and communication abuses for criminal purposes. We have a strong linkage between transnational organized crime and transnational organized/grand corruption. There is a need to undertake concerted political and organizational efforts and measures to enhance substantive and governance coordination between UNTOC and UNCAC and SDGs.

Therefore, CCPCJ as the principal governing body may wish to consider establishing an intergovernmental working group, with participation of international organizations and civil society, to develop an international strategy for an effective global anti-crime governance.

Thank you for your attention.