



**Republic of Angola
Ministry of Justice and Human Rights**

Statement to be delivered by the representative of the Republic of Angola at the 32nd Session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Vienna, May 22-26, 2023

Agenda Item nº 3

Madam Chair,

On behalf of the Angolan delegation, allow us to congratulate you on your election to the 32nd Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the members of the bureau, and we thank the secretariat for the excellent work they have done in organizing this session.

First and foremost, I would like to commend the continuous efforts of the Organization and everyone involved in the sovereign mission of combating crime in general, and in particular, economic, financial, organized, and transnational crime, as a factor in promoting development and sustainability of communities, peoples, and states, ensuring peace, security, and international stability.

Angola aligns itself with the statements of the African Group and the Group of 77 and China.

Madam Chair,

Angola extols and recognizes the importance of participation in this forum, particularly in the sharing of information, knowledge, experiences, and international best practices for the development of national and international strategies and mechanisms for crime prevention and the strengthening of criminal justice.

Angola remains steadfastly and actively committed to the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its respective protocols.

In this regard, Angola advocates for the adoption of an additional protocol to UNTOC to Combat Wildlife Crimes, in accordance with the expressed will in resolution 31/1 adopted at the 31st session of the CCPCJ.

The inter-institutional perspective given to the fight against corruption, as a main objective of justice and government policy, is essential for strengthening the quality of democracy and the full realization of the rule of law, which has allowed the country to improve its performance in corruption perception indices, both domestically and internationally, with particular emphasis on asset recovery.

In this context, Angola has successfully repatriated a considerable amount of assets that were previously misappropriated, which are now available and used for the promotion of development and sustainability of the Angolan State and its people.

On the legislative front, we highlight the approval of the Public Appropriation Law, an important instrument in the field of asset recovery, amendments to the Angolan Code of Criminal Procedure to enhance the means of achieving criminal justice, and the enactment of a legal framework for State and other Public Corporate Entity Liability.

Regarding the national effort to prevent and combat money laundering, terrorism financing, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the country is now concluding the 2nd Round of the Mutual Evaluation Process on Compliance with the Angolan System for the Prevention and Suppression of (ML/TF/WMD). The discussion of the national report took place in March of this year, and we await the conclusion of this evaluation in the second half of 2023.

Despite acknowledging some shortcomings, we also highlight significant progress in compliance and effectiveness in accordance with internationally recommended standards. This encourages us to continue working hard in this direction.

We also emphasize the approval of the National Strategy and General Guidelines of the Action Plan for the Prevention and Combating of money laundering, terrorism financing, and the manufacture of weapons of mass destruction, which has already been published and includes concrete actions in various areas, with particular emphasis on the supervision of Non-Profit Organizations.

In the fight against corruption, a public consultation process is currently underway on the proposed National Strategy for the Prevention and Combating of Corruption, recognizing it as an underlying crime with detrimental effects on our societies. We are also updating legislation related to Non-Governmental Organizations.

As part of the Human Trafficking Combat Plan and the Victim Referral and Standard Procedures System, the Interministerial Commission Against Human Trafficking's database records 142 cases of human trafficking being handled by the competent authorities. Children are predominant among the victims, with Luanda and the border provinces registering the highest number of cases. We also highlight the initiatives for the family reunification of 10 young individuals, which have been developed since the second half of 2022.

The establishment of local jurisdiction courts and regional appellate courts, as well as the implementation of guarantee judges, aims to promote greater expediency and proximity of justice to citizens and ensure a broader respect for individual and collective rights, freedoms, and guarantees.

The Angolan State continues to recognize this forum as a sovereign opportunity to strengthen international cooperation among the various represented States, aware that without this important instrument, the impetus for combating crime would be significantly delayed. In this context, given the complexity and territorial scope of organized crime in general, and economic and financial crime in particular, cooperation with other states and the collaboration of specialized international organizations such as UNODC is indispensable.

We also highlight the fact that the Republic of Angola has signed International Judicial Cooperation Agreements with various States in recent years, both in criminal and civil matters, in order to remain committed to crime prevention and criminal justice.

Madam Chair,

The Angolan government reaffirms its commitment to continue promoting international cooperation and implementing universally agreed policies and strategies for crime prevention and the consolidation of criminal justice.

Furthermore, we are fully dedicated to the continuous approval of legislative, administrative, and policy measures to address the global phenomenon of crime and promote justice, thereby strengthening the democratic rule of law.

Thank you very much!