9. Takes note of the measures taken by the bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to promote equal employment opportunities for disabled persons and urges them to continue their efforts in this field.

10. Endorses, in particular, the terms of reference proposed in the report of the Secretary-General53 for the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Year of Disabled Persons, henceforth to be called the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons.

11. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to administer donated funds, using them for projects under the present structure of the Trust Fund, and in addition to make new provisions in order to offer a selection of projects to donor countries which might be willing to finance a particular programme under the "Special Purpose Contributions".

12. Reaffirms that the resources of the Trust Fund should be used to support catalytic and innovative activities in order to implement further the objectives of the World Programme of Action within the framework of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, with priority, as appropriate, to programmes and projects of the least developed countries.

13. Requests all bodies and organizations of the United Nations system administering assistance projects to take into account the concerns of disabled persons in their projects for the rehabilitation of the disabled and their integration into society, as well as to include disabled persons in their overall planning objectives.

14. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

15. Further requests the Secretary-General to include in the report requested in paragraph 14 above information on preparations for the meeting of experts to evaluate progress at the mid-Decade, as provided for in paragraph 16 of resolution 37/53 and paragraph 13 of resolution 39/26, as well as information on the establishment of inter-organizational task forces, as recommended by the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons at its third and fourth sessions and by the General Assembly in paragraph 17 of its resolution 36/77 in order to provide support services for the exchange of technical information and transfer of technological know-how and other activities in the fields of prevention, rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities in developing countries.

16. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled "Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons".

46th plenary meeting
29 November 1983


The General Assembly

Recalling its resolution 35/171 of 15 December 1980, in which it endorsed the Caracas Declaration, annexed to that resolution, and urged implementation of the conclusion relating to the new perspectives for international co-operation in crime prevention in the context of development adopted by the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.59

Recalling also its resolution 36/21 of 9 November 1981, in which the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders was invited to consider current and emerging trends in crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to defining new guiding principles for the future course of crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development needs, the goals of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade60 and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,21 taking into account the political, economic, social and cultural circumstances and traditions of each country and the need for crime prevention and criminal justice systems to be consonant with the principles of social justice.

Recalling further its resolution 39/112 of 14 December 1984, in which the Secretary-General was requested to ensure that the substantive and organizational work of the Seventh Congress was fully adequate for its successful outcome.

Noting the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in crime prevention under General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950, which was reaffirmed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolutions 731 (XXVIII) of 30 July 1959 and 830 D (XXXII) of 2 August 1961, and in the promotion and strengthening of international co-operation in this field in accordance with Assembly resolutions 3021 (XXXII) of 18 December 1972, 32/59 and 32/60 of 8 December 1977, 35/171 of 15 December 1980 and 36/21 of 9 November 1981.

Bearing in mind the theme of the Seventh Congress, "Crime prevention for freedom, justice, peace and development", and the importance of preserving peace as a condition for development and international co-operation.

Welcoming the fact that the Congress, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/112, paid particular attention to the question of illicit drug trafficking.

Alarmed by the growth and seriousness of crime in many parts of the world, including conventional and non-conventional criminality, which have a negative impact on development and the quality of life.

Considering that crime, particularly in its new forms and dimensions, seriously impairs the development process of many countries, as well as their international relations.

Voting that the function of the criminal justice system is to contribute to the protection of the basic values and norms of society.

Aware of the importance of enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of criminal justice systems.

Voting that to limit effectively the harm caused by modern economic and unconventional crime, policy measures should be based on an integrated approach, the main emphasis being placed on the reduction of opportunities to commit crime and on the strengthening of norms and attitudes against it.

Aware of the importance of crime prevention and criminal justice, which embraces policies, processes and institutions aimed at controlling criminality and ensuring equal and fair treatment for all those involved in the criminal justice process.

Mindful that the incorporation of crime prevention and criminal justice policies in the planning process can help to ensure a better life for people throughout the world, promote the equality of rights and social security, enhance the effectiveness of crime prevention especially in such
spheres as urbanization, industrialization, education, health, population growth and migration, housing and social welfare, and substantially reduce the social costs directly and indirectly related to crime and crime control by ensuring social justice, respect for human dignity, freedom, equality and security.

Convinced that due attention should be paid to crime prevention and criminal justice and the related processes, including the fate of victims of crime, the role of youth in contemporary society and the application of United Nations standards and norms,

Determined to improve regional, interregional and international co-operation and co-ordination to achieve further progress in this area, including effective and full implementation of the resolutions of the Seventh Congress,


1. Expresses its satisfaction with the report of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and with the preparatory work carried out by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, as the preparatory body for the Congress, at its seventh and eighth sessions and by the regional and interregional preparatory meetings convened in co-operation with the regional commissions, interregional and regional crime prevention institutes and interested Governments;

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and of his report on the conclusions of the Seventh Congress;

3. Approves the Milan Plan of Action,60 adopted by consensus by the Seventh Congress, as a useful and effective means of strengthening international co-operation in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;

4. Recommends the Guiding Principles for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the Context of Development and a New International Economic Order61 for national, regional and international action, as appropriate, taking into account the political, economic, social and cultural circumstances and traditions of each country on the basis of the principles of the sovereign equality of States and of non-interference in their internal affairs;

5. Endorses the other resolutions adopted unanimously by the Seventh Congress;

6. Invites Governments to be guided by the Milan Plan of Action in the formulation of appropriate legislation and policy directives and to make continuous efforts to implement the principles contained in the Caracas Declaration and other relevant resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Sixth Congress, in accordance with the economic, social, cultural and political circumstances of each country;

7. Also invites Member States to monitor systematically the steps being taken to ensure co-ordination of efforts in the planning and execution of effective and humane measures to reduce the social costs of crime and its negative effects on the development process, as well as to explore new avenues for international co-operation in this field;

8. Invites the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to review, at its ninth session, the Milan Plan of Action, the resolutions and recommendations adopted unanimously by the Seventh Congress and their implications for the programmes of the United Nations system and to make specific recommendations on the implementation thereof in its report to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1986;

9. Requests the Economic and Social Council to examine, at its first regular session of 1986, the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and the recommendations of the Seventh Congress for further implementation of the Milan Plan of Action in order to provide, within the United Nations system, overall policy guidance on crime prevention and criminal justice, and to undertake periodically the review, monitoring and appraisal of the Milan Plan of Action;

10. Urges the United Nations system, including the regional and interregional institutes in the field of crime prevention and the treatment of offenders and the relevant non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to become actively involved in the implementation of the recommendations of the Seventh Congress;

11. Also urges the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme to give their full support to projects of technical assistance, in particular to developing countries, in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and to encourage technical co-operation among developing countries;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to translate into action, as appropriate, the relevant recommendations and policies stemming from the Milan Plan of Action and the Guiding Principles for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the Context of Development and a New International Economic Order and to ensure that the other resolutions and recommendations adopted unanimously by the Seventh Congress are followed up adequately;

13. Also requests the Secretary-General, in his report to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, to initiate a review, as a matter of urgency, of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including the United Nations regional and interregional institutes, paying special attention to improving the co-ordination of relevant activities within the United Nations in all related areas in order to establish priorities and ensure the continuing relevance and responsiveness of the United Nations to emerging needs, and to submit the final report to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1987;

14. Further requests the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Seventh Congress to Member States and intergovernmental organizations in order to ensure that it

59 A/40/751.
61 Ith id. sect. II.
is disseminated as widely as possible, and to strengthen information activities in this field:

15. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its forty-first session, a report on the measures taken to implement the present resolution;

16. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled “Crime prevention and criminal justice”.

96th plenary meeting
29 November 1985

40/33. United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (The Beijing Rules)

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,62 the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights63 and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as other international human rights instruments pertaining to the rights of young persons,

Also bearing in mind that 1985 was designated the International Year: Participation, Development, Peace and that the international community has placed importance on the protection and promotion of the rights of the young, as witnessed by the significance attached to the Declaration of the Rights of the Child,64

Recalling resolution 4 adopted by the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,65 which called for the development of standard minimum rules for the administration of juvenile justice and the care of juveniles which could serve as a model for Member States,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 1984/153 of 25 May 1984, by which the draft rules were forwarded to the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Milan, Italy, from 26 August to 6 September 1985 through the Interregional Preparatory Meeting held at Beijing from 14 to 18 May 1985,66

Recognizing that the young, owing to their early stage of human development, require particular care and assistance with regard to physical, mental and social development, and require legal protection in conditions of peace, freedom, dignity and security,

Considering that existing national legislation, policies and practices may well require review and amendment in view of the standards contained in the rules,

Considering further that, although such standards may seem difficult to achieve at present, in view of existing social, economic, cultural, political and legal conditions, they are nevertheless intended to be attainable as a policy minimum,

1. Notes with appreciation the work carried out by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, the Secretary-General, the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and other United Nations institutes in the development of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice;

2. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the draft United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice;


4. Adopts the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice recommended by the Seventh Congress, contained in the annex to the present resolution, and approves the recommendation of the Seventh Congress that the Rules should be known as “the Beijing Rules”;

5. Invites Member States to adapt, wherever necessary, their national legislation, policies and practices, particularly in training juvenile justice personnel, to the Beijing Rules and to bring the Rules to the attention of relevant authorities and the public in general;

6. Calls upon the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to formulate measures for the effective implementation of the Beijing Rules, with the assistance of the United Nations institutes on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders;

7. Invites Member States to inform the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Beijing Rules and to report regularly to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on the results achieved;

8. Requests Member States and the Secretary-General to undertake research and to develop a data base with respect to effective policies and practices in the administration of juvenile justice;

9. Requests the Secretary-General and invites Member States to ensure the widest possible dissemination of the text of the Beijing Rules in all of the official languages of the United Nations, including the intensification of information activities in the field of juvenile justice;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to develop pilot projects on the implementation of the Beijing Rules;

11. Requests the Secretary-General and Member States to provide the necessary resources to ensure the successful implementation of the Beijing Rules, in particular in the areas of recruitment, training and exchange of personnel, research and evaluation, and the development of new approaches to institutionalization;

12. Requests the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders to review the progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Rules and of the recommendations contained in the present resolution, under a separate agenda item on juvenile justice;

13. Urges all relevant bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the regional commissions and specialized agencies, the United Nations institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to collaborate with the Secretariat and to take the necessary measures to ensure a concerted and sustained effort, within their respective fields of technical competence, to implement the principles contained in the Beijing Rules.

96th plenary meeting
29 November 1985

62 Resolution 1386 (XIV)
65 A/CONF.121/14 and Corr. 1