

item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council".

16th plenary meeting
27 May 1988

1988/44. Review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice under Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 1986/11 of 21 May 1986 and 1987/49 and 1987/53, both of 28 May 1987, as well as General Assembly resolution 42/59 of 30 November 1987,

Noting that 1988 is the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the programme of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and that the scope and extent of criminal activity have assumed dimensions that could not have been foreseen by Member States when they entrusted the United Nations with a leading role in this field,

Emphasizing the central role of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control in assisting the Council in the preparations for the quinquennial United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders and in developing the programme of work of the United Nations in this field, as specified by the General Assembly in its resolution 32/60 of 8 December 1977 and by the Council in its resolution 1979/19 of 9 May 1979,

Conscious that the effective management of the increasing range of United Nations activities in crime prevention and criminal justice, and the efficient preparation of the quinquennial congresses, require professional, technical and specialized work on the part of the Secretariat, as well as close involvement on the part of the Committee,

Noting with concern that the resources available to the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat have decreased, while the commitments of the United Nations in this field have increased,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁷⁴

2. *Acknowledges* the work accomplished by the Secretariat in implementing its programme of work in this field, including progress in the preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, following the directives of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council, as specified in its resolutions 1986/11 and 1987/53, while recognizing the major tasks still to be undertaken;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations programme of work in crime prevention and criminal justice is supported by adequate resources through such measures as appropriate redeployment of staff and funds, including redeployment from relevant departments at Headquarters, and to ensure that the specialized and technical nature of the programme and the high priority attached by Member States to crime prevention and criminal justice are fully reflected in the management and staffing of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the interest shown in, and the support given to, the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch by many Governments, as well as by non-governmental organizations and the professional community, which have been involved in the preparations for the Eighth Congress, and invites them to continue to participate actively in such preparations;

5. *Welcomes* the appointment of the Secretary-General of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to pay particular attention to the operational aspects of the programme of work, specifically to assist interested countries in developing self-reliance in the area of crime prevention through human resources development, the reinforcement of national machinery, the promotion of joint training activities and the development of pilot and demonstration projects, and invites the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the Secretariat and other agencies that provide funding for technical co-operation to continue to provide effective support and assistance for this endeavour;

7. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in co-operation with the Secretariat, to play an active role in the formulation and implementation of technical co-operation projects in crime prevention and criminal justice and to allocate adequate resources and expertise for technical assistance activities through, *inter alia*, the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, and urges the Secretary-General to strengthen existing interregional advisory services;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to foster further close collaboration between the Secretariat and the United Nations regional and interregional institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice and to co-ordinate the activities of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch with those of the institutes, particularly through the reinforcement of existing contacts, the crime information network, substantive support of technical co-operation projects, staff secondment and exchange of expertise and research findings;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways and means of ensuring the optimal functioning of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control;

⁷⁴ E/1988/31.

10. *Invites* the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to give priority attention at its tenth session to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Eighth Congress and to make specific recommendations thereon, including recommendations on the staff resources to be provided for the preparation and duration of the Congress, to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1989;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1989, on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its tenth session.

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1988/45. United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which the Assembly adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, and resolution 37/53 of 3 December 1982, by which it, *inter alia*, proclaimed the period 1983-1992 the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons,

Noting that in accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/26 of 23 November 1984, the Global Meeting of Experts to Review the Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons at the Mid-Point of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons was held at Stockholm from 17 to 22 August 1987,

Reaffirming the validity and value of the World Programme of Action in promoting effective measures for disability prevention, rehabilitation and the full participation and equality of disabled persons in social life and development,

Mindful that Member States bear the ultimate responsibility for the implementation of the World Programme of Action,

Stressing that the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat is the focal point within the United Nations for the implementation and monitoring of the World Programme of Action,

Reiterating the need to give greater publicity to the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons in order to revitalize it,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,⁷⁵ submitted in response to General Assembly resolution 42/58 of 30 November 1987 and containing the preliminary conclusions and comments of Member States and relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system on the recommendations contained in paragraphs 10 to 39 of the report of the Global Meeting of Experts⁷⁶ and on the

report of the Secretary-General on the evaluation of the implementation of the World Programme of Action,⁷⁷

Noting with regret that owing to the small number of replies to the Secretary-General's request for comments and to the late arrival of those replies, there were not sufficient data on which to base a list of priorities for planning global activities and programmes for the remainder of the Decade and beyond,

1. *Urges* all Member States and relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet done so to submit to the Secretary-General, as soon as possible, their comments in accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/58;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-third session a more detailed report and analysis, based on the comments received, so that a list of priorities may be established for planning global activities and programmes for the remainder of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons and beyond;

3. *Calls upon* Member States, organs and bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to make all possible efforts in the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and to promote efforts at all levels in the context of the Decade;

4. *Reiterates* the need to launch a special global awareness and fund-raising campaign to give added momentum to the Decade;

5. *Welcomes* the appointment by the Secretary-General of the Special Representative for the Promotion of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, whose activities will be financed from special voluntary contributions;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments and non-governmental organizations for their voluntary contributions, which have made possible the appointment of the Special Representative;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-first session on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons during the second half of the Decade, and requests the Commission to give special attention to the implementation of the World Programme of Action.

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1988/46. Achievement of social justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Mindful of the pledge made by States Members of the United Nations in the Charter to take joint and separate action to promote higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development,

⁷⁵ E/1988/32.

⁷⁶ CSDHA/DDP/GME/7.

⁷⁷ A/42/561.