

4. *Urges* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its International Bureau of Education, in co-operation with the regional commissions, the regional and interregional institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice, other specialized agencies and other entities within the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations concerned and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, to become actively involved in this process;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funds:

(a) To develop a set of guidelines and a manual on prison education that would provide the basis necessary for the further development of prison education and would facilitate the exchange of expertise and experience on this aspect of penitentiary practice among Member States;

(b) To convene an international expert meeting on prison education, with a view to formulating action-oriented strategies in this area, with the co-operation of the regional and interregional institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice, the specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations concerned and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to inform the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, at its twelfth session, of the results of his endeavours in this area;

7. *Invites* the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, at its twelfth session, to consider the question of prison education.

*13th plenary meeting
24 May 1990*

1990/21. Implementation of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind the Milan Plan of Action²⁹ and the Guiding Principles for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the Context of Development and a New International Economic Order,³⁰ adopted by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Bearing in mind also the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power,³⁷ the Safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty,³⁸ the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials,³⁹ the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary,⁴⁰ the

³⁷ General Assembly resolution 40/34, annex.

³⁸ Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/50, annex.

³⁹ General Assembly resolution 34/169, annex.

⁴⁰ *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August–6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. D.2.

Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners,³³ the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (The Beijing Rules),³⁴ the Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-Legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions,⁴¹ and the Model Agreement on the Transfer of Foreign Prisoners,⁴²

Bearing in mind further the Procedures for the effective implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners,⁴³ the Procedures for the effective implementation of the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary⁴⁴ and the Guidelines for the effective implementation of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials,⁴⁵

Noting the difficulties that countries have found in supplying complete and accurate replies to the questionnaires designed to measure the extent of compliance with those standards and procedures,

Acknowledging the important role the United Nations has played, and continues to play, in the development of those standards and procedures through its quinquennial congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of the United Nations to those endeavours through its human rights activities, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,³¹ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,³² the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol thereto,³² and the Second Optional Protocol thereto, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty,⁴⁶ the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁴⁷ the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment⁴⁸ and other relevant instruments,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 40/146 of 13 December 1985, 41/149 of 4 December 1986, 42/143 of 7 December 1987 and 44/162 of 15 December 1989 on human rights in the administration of justice,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/53 of 28 May 1987 and 1989/68 of 24 May 1989 on the review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/63 of 24 May 1989 on the implementation of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Welcoming the steps taken by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and by the

⁴¹ Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/65, annex.

⁴² *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August–6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. D.1, annex I.

⁴³ Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/47, annex.

⁴⁴ Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/60, annex.

⁴⁵ Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/61, annex.

⁴⁶ General Assembly resolution 44/128, annex.

⁴⁷ General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

⁴⁸ General Assembly resolution 43/173, annex.

Centre for Human Rights, of the Secretariat, to ensure even closer co-operation, particularly in the preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Commending, in particular, the fact that focal points have been further developed within the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and the Centre for Human Rights to monitor the human rights aspects of the administration of justice in various programmes and to provide, as appropriate, advice on co-ordination and other relevant issues,

Convinced of the need for further co-operation and concerted action, as reaffirmed by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolutions 1989/24 of 6 March 1989, on human rights in the administration of justice, 1989/32 of 6 March 1989, on the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, jurors and assessors and the independence of lawyers, and 1989/64 of 8 March 1989, on summary or arbitrary executions,⁴⁹

1. *Calls upon* all Member States:

(a) To adopt and implement at the national level the United Nations standards in crime prevention and criminal justice, in accordance with their constitutional processes and domestic practices;

(b) To ensure that the standards are widely publicized in at least the main or official language or languages of the country;

(c) To guarantee that justice personnel, members of the executive branch and the legislature and the public in general, are informed in the most appropriate manner of the content and importance of the standards and that the standards are made available to them;

(d) To design ways and means of enhancing the observance of the standards, including the elaboration of realistic and effective implementation procedures, the use of the standards in the curricula of universities and other institutions, the organization of seminars and training courses, as well as of other meetings at the professional and non-professional levels, the more active involvement of the community and the increased support of the mass media;

(e) To promote studies on measures for the effective implementation of the standards, with emphasis on new developments in that area;

(f) To provide needed support to the United Nations regional and interregional institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice and the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre, as well as to other entities of the United Nations system concerned with the implementation of the standards;

(g) To increase, as far as possible, the level of support for technical co-operation and advisory services, either directly or through international funding agencies, so as to promote the provision of technical co-operation to Governments requesting it;

2. *Urges* the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to continue reviewing the standards and following up their implementation, to make recommendations on their future application and to identify existing

obstacles to, or shortcomings in, their implementation, *inter alia*, through contacts with the Governments of the countries concerned, with a view to suggesting appropriate remedies;

3. *Authorizes* the Chairman of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to designate members of the Committee, with due regard to appropriate regional representation, to assist the Committee in the periods between its sessions in the implementation of specific standards, in close co-operation with the United Nations regional and interregional institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice, the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre and the other entities and organizations concerned, without financial implications for the United Nations, and to inform the Committee and its pre-sessional working groups of the results of those endeavours;

4. *Invites* Member States to allocate extrabudgetary funds to enable the designated members of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to draw on their best available professional and academic sources of information, to consult with non-governmental organizations and to hold *ad hoc* meetings as required;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the designated members of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control with all the assistance necessary for the successful completion of their tasks;

6. *Calls upon* the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, at its twelfth session, to make specific recommendations to the Economic and Social Council on further action required for the effective implementation of existing standards, on the basis of the proposals made by the pre-sessional working group established in accordance with Council resolution 1989/63, paragraph 6, taking into account, in particular, the following issues:

(a) Measures to increase the level of support for programmes of technical co-operation and advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice to permit more effective implementation, including special projects designed and carried out at the country level and more active involvement of potential funding agencies;

(b) The role of the United Nations, in particular, of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, in promoting the implementation of existing standards, including modalities for strengthening existing review procedures, and more active inter-sessional involvement of Committee members and other experts;

(c) The relationship between the effectiveness of implementation and the work-load of the Committee and the Secretariat;

(d) The growing burden imposed on many States by the expansion of reporting obligations, and the need for technical assistance;

(e) The problem of inadequate reporting or excessive delays;

(f) The question of additional or alternative sources of information;

(g) The capacity of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to provide the Committee with the administrative and

⁴⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20)*, chap. II, sect. A.

technical support required, in view of inadequate staffing and other financial constraints;

7. *Authorizes* the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to continue the practice of convening a pre-sessional working group for two days before each session;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and its pre-sessional working group with all the assistance necessary for the successful completion of their tasks;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, the widest possible dissemination of United Nations standards in crime prevention and criminal justice and the periodic reports on their implementation, in as many languages as possible, and to make them available to all States and to the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned;

10. *Emphasizes* the significant role of the United Nations regional and interregional institutes and regional commissions, the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre, the regional and interregional advisers in crime prevention and criminal justice, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, including professional associations concerned with promoting United Nations standards in crime prevention and criminal justice, and invites them to continue and intensify their active involvement;

11. *Reaffirms* the importance of developing diversified funding strategies, including recourse to voluntary and mixed multilateral and bilateral contributions for specific projects, and of strengthening the involvement of United Nations development agencies, including the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank;

12. *Invites* the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders to consider the following issues:

(a) The means by which to accord adequate priority to the implementation of existing standards;

(b) The possibility of consolidating reporting arrangements.

*13th plenary meeting
24 May 1990*

1990/22. Victims of crime and abuse of power

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 40/34 of 29 November 1985, by which the Assembly adopted the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, which is contained in the annex to the resolution and which had been approved by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Recalling that in the same resolution the General Assembly called upon Member States and other entities to take the necessary steps to give effect to the provisions contained in the Declaration and to curtail victimization,

Taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/57 of 24 May 1989 on the implementation of the Declaration,

Bearing in mind the recommendations of the preparatory meetings for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,⁵⁰

Having considered the Guide for Practitioners on the Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power,⁵¹

Recognizing the need for continuing efforts to give effect to the Declaration, and to adapt it to meet the full range of needs and the circumstances of different countries,

Recognizing, in particular, the need to look beyond national measures in some instances, especially where victims of transnational crimes and abuse of power are concerned,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power;⁵²

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, together with all the entities of the United Nations system and other appropriate organizations, to undertake and co-ordinate the necessary action, with a humanitarian objective, to prevent and curtail severe victimization where national means of recourse are insufficient, and:

(a) To monitor the situation;

(b) To develop and institute means of conflict resolution and mediation;

(c) To promote access to justice and redress for victims;

(d) To assist in providing material, medical and psycho-social assistance to victims and their families;

3. *Invites* the United Nations regional and interregional institutes to provide mechanisms for the development and international co-ordination of services for victims, and to promote the collection, collation and exchange of information and ideas in order to improve standards for the treatment of victims;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to devote attention to policy and research on the situation of victims of crime and abuse of power and to the effective implementation of General Assembly resolution 40/34;

5. *Recommends* that Member States and the United Nations regional and interregional institutes take the necessary steps to provide professional and other persons dealing with victims with suitable training in issues concerning victims, taking into account the model training curriculum developed for this purpose;⁵³

6. *Invites* the United Nations funding agencies, especially the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the Secretariat, to support technical co-

⁵⁰ See A/CONF.144/IPM.1-4 and 5 and Corr.1 and A/CONF.144/RPM.1 and Corr.1, 2 and Corr.1, 3 and Corr.1 and 2, 4 and Corr.1 and 5 and Corr.1.

⁵¹ See E/AC.57/1990/CRP.1.

⁵² E/AC.57/1990/3.

⁵³ See E/AC.57/1990/NGO/3.