Resolution 5/2. Technical cooperation and interregional advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/15 of 24 July 1995, on technical cooperation and interregional advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/27 of 24 July 1995, on the implementation of the resolutions and recommendations of the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 50/146 of 21 December 1995, on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity,

Recognizing the direct relevance of crime prevention and criminal justice to sustained development, stability, security, improved quality of life, democracy and human rights,

Bearing in mind the pressing need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, particularly least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in their efforts to translate United Nations policy guidelines into practice, including training and upgrading of national capacities,

Emphasizing the relevance of technical assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice to countries undergoing reconstruction after a situation of armed conflict or internal disturbance, with the consent of the Government concerned,

Convinced of the need for the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division of the Secretariat to assume the functions of a focal point and clearing-house for inter-agency coordination in crime prevention and criminal justice with other entities of the United Nations system,

Noting the continued increase in the requests for technical assistance forwarded to the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division,

Emphasizing the importance of coordinating the activities in the field of technical cooperation carried out under its responsibility with those under the responsibility of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, particularly as related to problems faced by States most affected by drug-related crimes, as well as those under the responsibility of the Commission on Human Rights,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on technical cooperation and advisory services of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

2. Reaffirms the high priority attached to technical cooperation and advisory services as a means for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme to respond to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and to assist Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime and improving the response to crime, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, on the creation of an effective United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

3. Reaffirms also the importance of continuing to improve and strengthen the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in order to meet the needs of Member States by undertaking advisory services and training programmes, by carrying out field studies at the regional, subregional, national and local levels, also drawing upon extrabudgetary contributions, by developing comprehensive strategic plans for technical cooperation and by preparing model assistance projects;

4. Commends the contribution of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme to United Nations peace-keeping and special missions, as well as its contribution to the follow-up to those missions, and requests the Secretary-General, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to develop further training material for peace-keeping police, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/34, section II, of 27 July 1993;
5. Invites developing countries and countries with economies in transition to include in their requests to the United Nations Development Programme for assistance, also as part of the country programme framework of the United Nations Development Programme, projects and/or elements on crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to upgrading national institutional capacity and professional expertise in that field;

6. Calls upon the Department for Development Support and Management Services of the Secretariat, the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other international, regional and national funding agencies to support technical cooperation activities devoted to crime prevention and criminal justice, also as part of current programmes in the field of good governance and institution-building, utilizing the expertise of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and taking advantage of the coordinating role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the cooperation between the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division of the Secretariat and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, including the undertaking of joint initiatives, particularly the formulation and implementation of technical assistance projects, as well as to consider the establishment of a joint unit for providing technical assistance regarding the control of proceeds of crime, including the prevention of money-laundering, in a manner so as not to duplicate efforts in other international forums;

8. Invites all relevant international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue cooperating with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in support of its operational and technical activities;

9. Calls upon Member States to strengthen technical assistance and cooperation at the regional level, also by making use of the institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, and to further increase their role and capacity;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to make increased use of the United Nations Crime and Justice Information Network as a tool for technical cooperation, particularly as related to the dissemination of crime statistics, United Nations standards and norms in criminal justice, and the establishment of discussion forums on relevant items;

11. Welcomes General Assembly resolution 50/214 of 23 December 1995, in which the Assembly approved the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, providing in section 20 funds for maintaining two posts of interregional advisers for crime prevention and criminal justice, and recommends that the Secretary-General should further strengthen the interregional advisory services to support technical assistance activities, including short-term advisory services, needs assessment, feasibility studies, field projects, training and fellowships;

12. Calls upon Member States to provide both general-purpose and earmarked contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund;

13. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States that contribute to the activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme by providing the services of associate experts, of consultants and of experts for training purposes, advisory missions and the implementation of technical assistance projects, by developing training manuals and other material, by offering fellowship opportunities and by hosting action-oriented workshops and expert group meetings and urges other States to do so to the extent possible;

14. Invites Member States to take into consideration the project proposals for technical assistance elaborated by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division for possible funding;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to explore with Member States the establishment of a mechanism for resource mobilization and coordination of activities in the area of technical assistance;

16. Decides to include under the relevant item of the agenda for its sixth session a separate topic on funding of international technical assistance in crime prevention and criminal justice and invites Member States to consider including officials of development funding departments and agencies of their Governments in their delegations for the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its sixth session;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.