

1999/24. Action to promote cooperation and the functioning of the clearing house on international projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, in which the Assembly decided that the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme should be devoted to providing States with practical assistance to achieve the goals of preventing crime and improving the response to crime,

Recalling also its resolution 1994/22 of 25 July 1994, in which it requested the Secretary-General to establish a database on technical assistance, integrating needs of Member States, in particular developing countries, as well as on existing collaborative arrangements and funding, taking into account regional concerns,

Recalling further its resolution 1995/12 of 24 July 1995, in which it requested the Secretary-General to initiate a pilot project to establish a regional database on international training and technical assistance projects, with a view to considering additional regional databases or a global database,

Expressing its appreciation to the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations, for the establishment, in close cooperation with the National Institute of Justice of the United States of America, of such a regional centralized clearing house for central and eastern Europe aimed at facilitating the exchange of information to assist policy makers in all Member States in better allocating resources, identifying potential partners in cooperative projects and opportunities for collaborative action and improving support for an incremental approach to preventing crime and ensuring criminal justice,

Recognizing that this clearing house is also operational and available to interested parties via the Internet and that its structure is also applicable to other regions,

Concerned about the duplication and lack of evaluation of technical assistance and training projects, which may result in wastage of scarce resources for technical cooperation,

Noting that Member States, international organizations and other entities engaged in collaborative training and technical assistance have made insufficient use of the clearing house,

Aware of the operation of other databases on cooperation in specific fields, including the database of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to collect information from Member States and relevant international organizations and other entities on their projects involving international technical assistance and training in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in close cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network;

2. *Invites* all Member States, international organizations and other entities to utilize the existing central clearing house either by submitting information to the

Secretary-General or to the manager of the clearing house or by making direct use of the clearing house via the Internet;

3. *Recommends* that, in order to avoid duplication and to ensure transparency, entities with national or specialized clearing houses cooperate with the central clearing house by providing contact points for information or direct electronic linkages;

4. *Also recommends* that Member States consider the establishment of central contact points for information on their technical assistance and training projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, as appropriate;

5. *Further recommends* that the Secretary-General explore the possibility of expanding this pilot phase as a standing activity;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the functioning of the pilot phase to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its tenth session.

*43rd plenary meeting
28 July 1999*