Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolutions to be recommended by the Economic and Social Council for adoption by the General Assembly

1. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice recommends to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the following draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly:

Draft resolution I


The General Assembly,

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

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, in the annex to which Member States affirmed that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice should be held every five years and should provide a forum for, inter alia, the exchange of views between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines, the exchange of experiences in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recalling also the applicable provisions of its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001,

Recalling further the applicable provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996,

Recalling its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in which it stressed that all countries should promote policies consistent and coherent with the commitments of major United Nations conferences and summits, emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments in staying fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at major United Nations conferences and summits and invited the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits,
Recalling also its resolution 76/181 of 16 December 2021, in which it endorsed the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the Fourteenth Congress, and requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to review the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration under the standing item on its agenda entitled “Follow-up to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”,

Recalling further its resolution 77/231 of 15 December 2022, in which it decided to hold the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2026, without prejudice to the timing of subsequent United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice and with a view to maintaining the five-year cycle of the congresses, in the light of the intensive follow-up process undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration,

Recalling that, in its resolution 77/231, it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to approve at its thirty-second session the overall theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops of the Fifteenth Congress, recommended that, building on the experience and the success of the Fourteenth Congress, all efforts be made to ensure that the overall theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops of the Fifteenth Congress were interrelated and that the agenda items and workshop topics were streamlined and limited in number, and encouraged the holding of side events that were focused on and complemented the agenda items and workshops,

Recalling also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Recalling further its decisions 74/550 A of 13 April 2020 and 74/550 B of 12 August 2020, in which it decided to hold the Fourteenth Congress in 2021 instead of 2020 owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

Encouraged by the success of the Fourteenth Congress as one of the largest and most diverse forums for the exchange of views on and experiences in research, law and policy and programme development between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Praising the Government of Japan for conducting an intensive, succinct and fruitful Fourteenth Congress, despite challenging circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and mindful of the need to constantly look for ways to further improve the work of future congresses,

Stressing the importance of undertaking all preparatory activities for the Fifteenth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

Mindful of the Strategy for Sustainability Management in the United Nations System, 2020–2030, and best practices in the preparations for, and the organization of, the Fifteenth Congress,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,1

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1 E/CN.15/2023/11.
1. **Reiterates** its invitation to Governments to take into consideration the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. **Welcomes** the initiative of the Government of Japan to work with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in ensuring appropriate follow-up to the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration;

3. **Requests** the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in accordance with its mandate, to continue implementing the appropriate policy and operational measures for the follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration, including through the holding of intersessional thematic discussions to facilitate the sharing of information, good practices and lessons learned among Member States and relevant stakeholders, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

4. **Notes** the progress made thus far in the preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

5. **Decides** that the duration of the Fifteenth Congress should not exceed eight days, including pre-Congress consultations;

6. **Also decides** that the main theme of the Fifteenth Congress shall be “Accelerating crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: protecting people and planet and achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the digital age”;

7. **Further decides** that, in accordance with its resolution 56/119, the Fifteenth Congress shall open with a high-level segment, at which States will be invited to be represented at the highest possible level, for example, by Heads of State or Government, government ministers or attorneys general, and that representatives will be given an opportunity to make statements on the topics of the Congress;

8. **Decides** that, in accordance with its resolution 56/119, the Fifteenth Congress shall adopt a single declaration, to be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for its consideration;

9. **Also decides** that the Commission will give due consideration to the report of the Fifteenth Congress;

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to encourage the participation of representatives from relevant entities of the United Nations system in the Fifteenth Congress, bearing in mind the main theme, agenda items and workshop topics of the Congress;

11. **Approves** the following provisional agenda for the Fifteenth Congress, finalized by the Commission at its thirty-second session:

   1. Opening of the Congress.
   2. Organizational matters.
   3. Advancing innovative and evidence-based crime prevention strategies towards social, economic and environmental development.
   4. Promoting people-centred, inclusive and responsive criminal justice systems in a world of continuous change.

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2 Resolution 76/181, annex.
5. Addressing and countering crime – including organized crime and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations – in new, emerging and evolving forms.

6. Working better together to elevate cooperation and partnerships, including technical and material assistance and training, at the national, regional and international levels, in crime prevention and criminal justice.

7. Adoption of the report of the Congress.

12. Decides that the following issues shall be considered in workshops within the framework of the Fifteenth Congress:

   (a) Building resilient societies, with a focus on protecting women, children and youth: fostering engagement, education and the culture of lawfulness;

   (b) Ensuring equal access to justice for all: towards safe and secure societies while respecting the rule of law;

   (c) Getting ahead: strengthening data collection and analysis to better protect people and planet in times of new, emerging and evolving forms of crime;

   (d) Turning the digital age into an opportunity: promoting the responsible use of technologies in crime prevention and criminal justice.

13. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, to prepare a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Fifteenth Congress and for the Congress itself in a timely manner in order to enable those meetings to be held as early as possible in 2025, and invites Member States to be actively involved in that process;

14. Also requests the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of the regional preparatory meetings and to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in those meetings and in the Fifteenth Congress itself, in accordance with past practice and in consultation with Member States;

15. Urges participants in the regional preparatory meetings to examine the substantive items on the agenda and the topics of the workshops of the Fifteenth Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations to serve as a basis for the draft recommendations and conclusions for consideration by the Congress;

16. Encourages Member States to participate actively in the Fifteenth Congress by including in the composition of their delegations legal and policy experts, such as practitioners with special training and practical experience in crime prevention and criminal justice;

17. Emphasizes the importance of the workshops to be held within the framework of the Fifteenth Congress, and invites Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant entities to provide financial, organizational and technical support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network for the preparations for the workshops, including the preparation and circulation of relevant background material;

18. Requests the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Fifteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of
professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress, and encourages Member States to actively participate in the above-mentioned meetings, as they provide an opportunity to develop and maintain strong partnerships with the private sector and civil society organizations;

19. **Encourages** States to undertake preparations for the Fifteenth Congress at an early stage and by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees;

20. **Encourages** the relevant United Nations programmes, specialized agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Fifteenth Congress;

21. **Requests** the Commission to accord sufficient time at its thirty-third session to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Fifteenth Congress, to finalize in a timely manner all outstanding organizational and substantive arrangements and to make its recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

22. **Welcomes with appreciation** the offer of the Government of United Arab Emirates to host the Fifteenth Congress, to be held in 2026;

23. **Requests** the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission at its thirty-third session;

24. **Also requests** the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

**Draft resolution II**

**Reducing reoffending through rehabilitation and reintegration**

*The General Assembly,*

**Recalling** the outcome of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, as reflected in the report of the Congress\(^3\) and in the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,\(^4\)

**Reaffirming** the commitment expressed in the Kyoto Declaration to reduce reoffending through rehabilitation and social reintegration,

**Noting** the deliberations of the Fourteenth Congress under the agenda item entitled “Integrated approaches to challenges facing the criminal justice system”, during which, inter alia, the need for practical guidance for national criminal justice systems on reducing reoffending and the recommendation to develop new United Nations standards and norms on the issue of reducing reoffending were raised by some Member States,

**Noting also** the discussions held at the workshop on the topic “Reducing reoffending: identifying risks and developing solutions” and the three subtopics, as reflected in the report of Committee II of the Fourteenth Congress, in particular the encouragement given by some participants to Member States to share information on

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\(^3\) A/CONF.234/16

\(^4\) Resolution 76/181, annex.
promising practices and consider the development, under the auspices of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, of model strategies to reduce reoffending that reflect, among others, the good practices discussed during the workshop.\(^5\)

**Noting further** the efforts taken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to implement General Assembly resolution 76/182 of 16 December 2021, namely through convening, with the support of the Government of Japan, an online expert group meeting, during which a limited number of experts, participating in their individual capacity, met from 6 to 8 April 2022 to share information on promising practices and to identify a set of key elements to be considered for inclusion in draft model strategies on reducing reoffending,

**Recalling** its resolution 77/232 of 15 December 2022, in which it requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene a meeting of an open-ended intergovernmental expert group, with interpretation in all official languages of the United Nations, with a view to developing model strategies on reducing reoffending that could serve as useful tools for Member States, taking into consideration relevant provisions in the existing United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, current developments, research and tools, written contributions from Member States and, without prejudice, the output of the expert group meeting held from 6 to 8 April 2022,

**Recalling also** the standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice adopted or recommended by the General Assembly, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),\(^6\) the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules)\(^7\) and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules),\(^8\) and at the same time acknowledging the need for standards and norms specifically focusing on reducing reoffending,

1. **Encourages** Member States to develop comprehensive strategies or action plans to reduce reoffending through effective interventions for the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders;

2. **Also encourages** Member States to promote a rehabilitative environment in correctional facilities, including through designing and implementing effective treatment programmes based on an individual assessment of the needs of and risks faced by offenders, and to provide offenders with access to vocational and technical training and educational programmes to support them in developing the skills necessary for reintegration;

3. **Further encourages** Member States, as appropriate and in line with domestic legislation, to take into account the relevant and appropriate United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, mainstream a gender perspective into their criminal justice systems, support the development of necessary skills among offenders in correctional facilities and facilitate working opportunities, where appropriate, to promote the social rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders;

4. **Recognizes** the benefit that may be derived from incorporating respect for cultural diversity, based on respect for the rule of law, into rehabilitation and reintegration programmes;

\(^5\) A/CONF.234/16, chap. VII, sect. B.
\(^6\) Resolution 76/175, annex.
\(^7\) Resolution 65/229, annex.
\(^8\) Resolution 45/110, annex.
5. **Encourages** Member States to promote rehabilitation approaches and programmes within their judicial systems empowered to deal with specific problems, such as social or mental health issues;

6. **Also encourages** Member States to promote a rehabilitative environment in the community to facilitate the social reintegration of offenders with the active involvement of local communities, giving due regard to the need to protect society and individuals and the rights of victims and offenders;

7. **Further encourages** Member States to promote multi-stakeholder partnerships to reduce reoffending by fostering inter-agency coordination among relevant government authorities, such as employment and social welfare agencies and local governments, as well as public-private partnerships between those authorities and the community, including cooperating employers and community volunteers who support the long-term and social reintegration of offenders;

8. **Expresses appreciation** to Member States that shared with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, through written contributions, information on promising practices for possible inclusion in draft model strategies on reducing reoffending, for consideration by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to be convened pursuant to its resolution 77/232;

9. **Takes note** of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat examining preliminary areas for consideration by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group;\(^9\)

10. **Strongly encourages** Member States to actively participate in the meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group and to include in their delegations experts from a variety of relevant disciplines;

11. **Requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to support the efforts of Member States to reduce reoffending through the promotion of rehabilitative environments and reintegration by providing technical assistance, including material support, upon request, to Member States, in particular developing countries, taking into account their needs and priorities, as well as challenges and restrictions;

12. **Invites** Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes outlined in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

**Draft resolution III**

**Enhancing the contributions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”;

*Recalling* its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, in which it encouraged coherence of the General Assembly and its Main Committees, the Economic and Social Council, the specialized agencies and the functional commissions of the Council, and other intergovernmental bodies and forums with the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development towards the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

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\(^9\) E/CN.15/2023/13.
Recalling also its resolution 73/183 of 17 December 2018, in which it underlined the importance of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in actively contributing to the global follow-up to and supporting the thematic review of progress made in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals relating to its mandate,

Recalling further its resolution 75/290 B of 25 June 2021, in which it referred to the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit, held under the auspices of the General Assembly, marking the midpoint of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Bearing in mind that, in the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 10 the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was invited to engage with other relevant stakeholders in order to strengthen global partnership in advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda,

Underscoring the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

Noting the important role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in collecting data and information relating to several indicators under the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 16,

Noting also that, pursuant to its decision 77/553 of 7 March 2023, the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development, to be held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, will review in depth several Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 16,

1. Recalls the commitment made by States to contribute to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 11 through their efforts in crime prevention and criminal justice, with the firm recognition that sustainable development and the rule of law are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, that crime is an impediment to sustainable development and that achieving sustainable development is an enabling factor for States to effectively prevent and combat crime;

2. Underlines the important role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in actively contributing to the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda, within its mandate, and in contributing to the lead-up and follow-up to the Sustainable Development Goals Summit held in September 2023;

3. Welcomes the thematic discussions on the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, held by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice since 2021, which have also served as forums for discussing progress made in implementing the 2030 Agenda;

4. Also welcomes the contribution by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to the 2023 high-level debate of the General Assembly on the theme “Equal access to justice for all: advancing reforms for peaceful, just and inclusive societies”;

5. Invites the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to continue developing policy and awareness-raising initiatives at the global level on accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 16, on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development,

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10 Resolution 76/181, annex.
11 Resolution 70/1.
providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;

6. **Recalls** the role of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council in reflecting the integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the interlinkages between them, and in this regard invites the Commission, within its mandate, to contribute through its work towards strengthening the capacity of national institutions through international cooperation and technical and material assistance to and training for Member States, especially for the benefit of developing countries, for the balanced and integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

7. **Encourages** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue supporting the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, within its mandate, in activities related to the accelerated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 16;

8. **Encourages** Member States to continue raising awareness of the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and its relevance to the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

9. **Also encourages** Member States to accelerate, as appropriate, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through their efforts in crime prevention and criminal justice, including through the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in 2026;

10. **Recognizes** the fundamental role of effective international cooperation in preventing and combating crime, and to this end underlines the importance of addressing, tackling and effectively responding to international challenges and barriers, in particular measures, that hinder such cooperation, and which are not consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and obligations under international law, and in this regard urges States, consistent with their international obligations, to refrain from applying such measures;

11. **Welcomes** the cooperation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, within its existing mandate, with other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, and encourages the Commission to further enhance its cooperation with all relevant intergovernmental bodies and forums with a view to advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including in the follow-up to the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit;

12. **Undertakes** to enhance multidisciplinary efforts to prevent and combat crime through cooperation and coordination between law enforcement and other criminal justice institutions, and other governmental sectors, as well as to support their work, by engaging in and fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships with the private sector, civil society, academia and the scientific community, and with other relevant stakeholders as appropriate;

13. **Requests** the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to encourage Member States presenting voluntary national reviews at the high-level political forum on sustainable development to share their experiences, progress made, challenges and impediments in implementing those aspects of the 2030 Agenda that are related to the work of the Commission;

14. **Encourages** Member States to consider including information on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda related to the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, including on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16, in their voluntary national reviews for consideration by the high-level political forum during its meeting to be held in 2024, and to share relevant
information contained in those voluntary national reviews with the Commission during its thirty-third session, in 2024, including in the context of the general debate;

15. *Invites* Member States and relevant United Nations entities, international and regional organizations, the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network and other relevant stakeholders to provide, as appropriate, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, through its secretariat, for consideration during its thirty-third session, views on how the Commission can contribute to the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 16, and requests the Commission to transmit that information along with the outcome of its consideration to the high-level political forum at its meeting in 2024, within existing reporting requirements.

**Draft resolution IV**

**Technical assistance provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime related to counter-terrorism**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that all acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivations, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed, and that they are to be unequivocally condemned,

*Reaffirming also* that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

*Stressing again* the need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation to effectively prevent and combat terrorism, in particular by enhancing the national capacity of States through the provision of technical assistance, based on the needs and priorities identified by requesting States,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of all States to uphold the Charter of the United Nations in its entirety and to fully respect the principles of sovereign equality and the territorial integrity of States and that of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States throughout all our efforts in preventing and combating crime,

*Emphasizing* the need to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism while fully respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law,

*Recalling* the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace 12 and the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations, 13

*Recalling also* all relevant United Nations resolutions on technical and legislative assistance in countering terrorism, particularly the most recent ones, 14

*Recalling in particular* its resolution 74/175 of 18 December 2019, in which it, inter alia, called upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further enhance technical assistance, upon request, for building the capacity of States parties to implement the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, as well as to follow up on the implementation of the United Nations Global

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12 Resolutions 53/243 A and B.
13 Resolution 56/6.
Counter-Terrorism Strategy, its biennial review and other relevant United Nations resolutions, and recognizing the need for capacity-building to help Member States to understand the benefits of these conventions and protocols, so as to support States that are considering becoming States parties, in line with their legal frameworks,

Reiterating all aspects of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the need for States to continue the full implementation of all four pillars of the Strategy, and recalling its resolution 75/291 of 30 June 2021, entitled “The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: seventh review”, in which it, inter alia, requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue providing technical assistance to requesting States,

Welcoming the adoption by the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice of the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular the actions that Member States committed to taking in order to prevent and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on technical assistance in implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism,

Noting the ongoing work under the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, and noting also the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the Chair of the Working Group on Criminal Justice, Legal Responses and Countering the Financing of Terrorism,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support Member States in their efforts to prevent and counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism in the crime prevention and criminal justice context, including their efforts to address the conditions conducive to terrorism, reinforce development and social inclusion, promote the integration of the rule of law, human rights and gender equality, in a manner compliant with their obligations under domestic and international law, and reiterating that this work needs to be done in close coordination with Member States,

Reaffirming the primary responsibility of Member States and their respective national institutions in countering terrorism, concerned that terrorists continue to endeavour to exploit underlying conditions in some countries, such as the limited reach of Governments and lack of capacity to deliver essential services by law enforcement and security institutions, and emphasizing that enhancing the capabilities and capacities of State institutions, where applicable and upon request, to prevent and counter terrorism is a pivotal component for successful efforts against terrorism,

Underscoring the importance of a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, stressing the importance of relevant stakeholders, including civil society, in supporting and complementing the efforts of Member States in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism conducive to terrorism, and in this regard encouraging the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and youth in this process,

Reaffirming its concern that in some cases terrorists benefit from transnational organized crime as a source of financing or logistical support, recognizing that the nature and scope of the linkages between terrorism and transnational organized crime vary by context and in some contexts are evolving in scope and scale, and

15 Resolution 60/288.
16 Resolution 76/181, annex.
17 E/CN.15/2023/15.
emphasizing the need to coordinate efforts at the local, national, regional, subregional and international levels to respond to this challenge, in accordance with international and domestic law,

_Welcoming_ the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the issue of children affected by terrorism, including on the prevention of the involvement of children with terrorist groups and on the rehabilitation and reintegration of those children, including children associated with foreign terrorist fighters, and taking note of the _Handbook on Children Recruited and Exploited by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups: the Role of the Justice System_ and its three related training manuals, and of the road map on the treatment of children associated with terrorist and violent extremist groups developed by the Office,

_Recognizing_ that Member States may face challenges in obtaining and using admissible evidence, including digital, physical and forensic evidence, including in areas affected by armed conflicts, that can be used to help prosecute and secure the convictions of foreign terrorist fighters and those supporting foreign terrorist fighters,

_Taking note_ of the Global Programme on Preventing and Countering Terrorism (2022-2027) of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which supports Member States, upon request, in preventing and countering terrorism through preventive, legal and criminal justice approaches, with a focus on the safety and protection of people,

_Taking note also_ of the independent, in-depth evaluations of projects and programmes on preventing and countering terrorism that have been undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate,

1. _Urges_ Member States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the existing international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate and in close coordination with the relevant entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, for adherence to and legislative incorporation of those international legal instruments;

2. _Encourages_ Member States to consider becoming parties to other relevant conventions to support international cooperation in criminal matters, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and to effectively implement relevant international instruments to which they are party and relevant United Nations resolutions, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance to requesting States to those ends;

3. _Requests_ the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue and enhance its assistance, upon request, related to international legal and judicial cooperation pertaining to countering terrorism, including in criminal matters related to foreign terrorist fighters, by fostering the development of strong and effective central and other relevant authorities for international cooperation in criminal matters;

4. _Also requests_ the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, to ensure that assistance provided to Member States in relation to preventing and countering terrorism is aligned with and relevant to the priority needs of the requesting States, taking into account their particular circumstances, including the national and regional context, as well as fully respecting applicable international law;

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5. Recognizes the fundamental role of effective international cooperation in preventing and combating crime, including terrorism-related crimes, and to this end underlines the importance of addressing, tackling and effectively responding to international challenges and barriers, in particular measures, that hinder such cooperation, and which are not consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and obligations under international law, and in this regard urges States, consistent with their international obligations, to refrain from applying such measures;

6. Recognizes with deep concern the overall rise in instances of discrimination, intolerance and violence, regardless of the actors, directed against members of religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, antisemitism, Christianophobia and prejudice against persons of any other religion or belief;

7. Calls upon Member States to take appropriate measures to address the new and emerging threats posed by the rise in terrorist attacks on the basis of xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance, or in the name of religion or belief, including through investigation, information exchange and cooperation, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance to requesting States to those ends;

8. Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate and in cooperation with Member States, other United Nations entities, regional and subregional organizations and relevant actors, to consider supporting initiatives to involve youth in the promotion of a culture of peace, tolerance and intercultural and interreligious dialogue and develop, as appropriate, an understanding of respect for human dignity, pluralism and diversity, including, as appropriate, through education programmes, as well as sports and physical activities, that could prevent and discourage their participation in acts of terrorism, violent extremism conducive to terrorism, violence, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination, and takes note of the guidance issued by the United Nations, including the technical and practical guides on preventing violent extremism through sport published by the Office;

9. Also requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, related to collecting, analysing, preserving, storing, using and sharing forensic and electronic evidence for the investigation and prosecution of terrorism and terrorism-related offences and related to enhancing mutual legal assistance in that regard, recalls the Practical Guide for Requesting Electronic Evidence Across Borders, developed by the Office, and takes note of the updated Model Law on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, with new provisions on electronic evidence and the use of special investigative techniques, and related technical tools on electronic evidence and international cooperation developed by the Office;

10. Calls upon Member States, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant United Nations entities that support capacity-building, to share best practices and technical expertise with a view to improving the collection, handling, preservation, admissibility, sharing and use of relevant information and evidence, consistent with domestic and international law, including digital evidence and information and evidence obtained in areas affected by armed conflict, in order to ensure the effective investigation and prosecution of those who have committed crimes, including foreign terrorist fighters returning and relocating to and from areas affected by armed conflict;

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19 In cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the International Association of Prosecutors.
11. *Stresses* the importance of the development and maintenance of effective, fair, humane, transparent and accountable criminal justice systems by Member States, in accordance with domestic law and applicable international law, as a basis for any strategy to counter terrorism, bearing in mind, as appropriate, the relevant and applicable provisions of the United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to take into account in its technical assistance to counter terrorism the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law;

12. *Encourages* Member States to use, as appropriate, the platforms and tools developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including the Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime knowledge management portal, and further invites Member States to consider the use of the Office website on the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,²⁰ to facilitate international cooperation in criminal matters related to terrorism and to provide the Office with relevant information to promote the sharing of good practices and experiences, including the contact details of and any other relevant information about designated authorities for inclusion in its repository database;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization and other relevant entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, with a view to building their capacity to responsibly collect, record and share biometric data in order to detect and identify terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters, in compliance with domestic and international law;

14. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate in the area of countering and preventing terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, to continue to develop specialized legal knowledge and to continue to strengthen the provision of technical assistance to Member States, upon request, on effective measures for criminal justice responses addressing the prevention of terrorism in compliance with all their obligations under applicable international law, including human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

15. *Calls for* increased attention and action at the national and international levels to assist Member States, upon their request, to ensure that all counter-terrorism measures comply with the rule of law and applicable international law, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law, and encourages in this regard the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to engage with and, upon request, provide support to Member States, within its mandate, to integrate and mainstream the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout its capacity-building projects and programmes across all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to build the capacity of Member States in assessing their terrorist financing risks, effectively investigating and prosecuting cases of terrorist financing, effectively implementing asset-freezing mechanisms, strengthening their financial oversight and regulatory systems to deny terrorists the space to exploit, raise and move funds, and implementing effective inter-agency cooperation, in line with relevant international standards on countering money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, to comply with their applicable international obligations to prevent and combat the financing of terrorism;

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17. **Encourages** Member States to further identify, analyse and counter any potential, existing and in some cases growing links between organized crime, illicit drug-related and other activities, fraud, money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, in order to enhance criminal justice responses to those crimes, recognizing that terrorists could benefit from organized crime as a source of financing or logistical support and that the nature and scope of the linkages between terrorism and transnational organized crime vary by context, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to support, upon request, the efforts of Member States in that regard;

18. **Requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to support requesting Member States in the implementation of capacity-building programmes to strengthen crime prevention and criminal justice responses to the destruction of and trafficking in cultural property by terrorists;

19. **Rejects** attempts at the justification or glorification of terrorist acts that may incite further terrorist acts, calls upon all Member States to adopt such measures as may be necessary and appropriate, and in accordance with their obligations under international law, to prohibit by law incitement to commit a terrorist act or terrorist acts, and to prevent such conduct and deny safe haven to any persons with respect to whom there is credible and relevant information giving serious reasons for considering that they have been guilty of such conduct, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance in this regard to requesting States;

20. **Calls upon** Member States to strengthen efforts to improve the security and resilience of critical infrastructure and the protection of particularly vulnerable or “soft” targets, such as infrastructure and public places, as well as to develop strategies to prevent, protect against, mitigate, investigate, respond to and recover from damage from terrorist attacks, in particular in the area of civil protection, and to consider establishing or strengthening partnerships with the public and private sectors in this regard, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, with a view to strengthening their criminal justice responses as well as their strategies for reducing the risk of terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure;

21. **Also calls upon** Member States to strengthen their border management so as to effectively prevent the movement of foreign terrorist fighters and terrorist groups, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to that end to requesting States;

22. **Requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate and in collaboration with, when appropriate, relevant entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, to continue to provide assistance to requesting Member States in addressing the threat of foreign terrorist fighters, including returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters, where appropriate, through its capacity-building activities, with regard to enhancing their cooperation, developing relevant measures and appropriate criminal justice responses, preventing the financing, mobilization, travel, recruitment, training, organization and radicalization of foreign terrorist fighters, ensuring that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in supporting terrorist acts is brought to justice and developing and implementing appropriate criminal justice responses, in compliance with relevant obligations under international and domestic law;

23. **Notes with appreciation** the cooperation between the Office of Counter-Terrorism, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the International Civil Aviation Organization and the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Secretariat under
the United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel Programme in providing to Member States, upon request, related technical assistance to build their legislative and operational capacity, including in establishing terrorist screening databases and collecting, processing, analysing and effectively exchanging travel data such as advance passenger information and passenger name record data, and bearing in mind in this regard the International Civil Aviation Organization standards and recommended practices on passenger name record data adopted in June 2020;

24. **Requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue, within its mandate, to develop its specialized knowledge of the international legal framework against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism as enshrined in the relevant conventions and protocols in order to continue to provide assistance to requesting Member States in the effective legal, operational and technical implementation of these instruments, including through capacity-building;

25. **Expresses concern** at the global dissemination of terrorist content through the Internet, including materials from real-world attacks, and recognizes the importance of multi-stakeholder approaches to address such threats, which are inclusive of Governments, private entities, civil society and academia, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance to requesting States in this regard;

26. **Requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate and in cooperation with other relevant entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, to continue to support innovative measures and approaches to build the capacity of Member States, upon request, in relation to the challenges and opportunities that new technologies provide, including human rights aspects, in preventing and countering terrorism;

27. **Also requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide, upon request, technical assistance for building the capacity of Member States in the development and implementation of assistance and support programmes for victims of terrorism, including victims of gender-based violence committed by terrorists, in accordance with relevant national legislation, human rights and applicable international law, with emphasis on the particular needs of women and children, and takes note in this regard of the *Model Legislative Provisions to Support the Needs and Protect the Rights of Victims of Terrorism*, developed by the Office together with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Office of Counter-Terrorism;

28. **Further requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to support requesting Member States, in accordance with relevant national legislation, in preventing the involvement of children in armed and terrorist groups and in ensuring that children alleged to have, accused of having or recognized as having infringed the law, particularly those who are deprived of their liberty, children who are victims and witnesses of crime, and children born of sexual violence committed by armed and terrorist groups are treated in a manner consistent with their rights, dignity and needs, including for psychosocial support, in accordance with national legislation as well as applicable international law, in particular the obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child,\(^\text{21}\) for States parties to the Convention, with the best interests of the child as a primary consideration, and, bearing in mind relevant applicable international standards on the rights of the child in the administration of justice in this regard, urges Member States, in accordance with their national law, to consider relevant measures to effectively reintegrate children formerly associated with armed groups, including terrorist groups;

29. **Encourages** the efforts of Member States, including through their competent agencies, to engage, where appropriate, with relevant actors, including

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\(^{21}\) Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.
religious authorities and community leaders with relevant expertise, in crafting and delivering effective counter-narratives and in countering narratives used by terrorists and their supporters, underlines that Member States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and facilitating understanding, inclusive dialogue and respect for religious and cultural diversity and human rights, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide, within its mandate, technical assistance to requesting States;

30. **Calls upon** all Member States, given the complex global security context today, to highlight the important roles of women in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, while avoiding their instrumentalization, and encourages the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in cooperation with other relevant entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, to assist Member States, upon request, in mainstreaming gender perspectives into criminal justice responses to terrorism in order to prevent the recruitment of women and girls as terrorists and to promote the full protection of women and girls from any form of exploitation or violence perpetrated by terrorists, consistent with their obligations under human rights law, also taking into account, as appropriate, inputs from relevant stakeholders, including civil society, and notes with appreciation the efforts of the Office in this regard;

31. **Encourages** civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to engage, as appropriate, in efforts to enhance the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including through interaction with Member States and the United Nations system, encourages Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue engagement with civil society in accordance with its mandate, to support the role of civil society actors in the design, implementation and monitoring of the Strategy, and encourages Member States to create and maintain an enabling environment for civil society, including a legal framework that protects and promotes human rights, in accordance with international human rights law;

32. **Requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, through its programmatic work on addressing prison challenges, to continue to support requesting Member States in taking appropriate measures, in line with domestic law, to maintain a safe and humane environment in prisons, taking into consideration the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),

22 develop tools that can help to address radicalization to violence and terrorist recruitment and develop risk assessments to evaluate the susceptibility of prisoners to terrorist recruitment and radicalization to violence, and in facilitating the dissemination of information on approaches and promising practices pertaining to the prevention of radicalization to violence and terrorist recruitment of individuals in prisons;

33. **Also requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate and upon request, to provide support to Member States in building their own capacity for the evaluation of programmes and projects and facilitate the exchange of experiences and knowledge from the evaluations relating to preventing and countering terrorism;

34. **Expresses its appreciation** to Member States that have supported the technical assistance activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including through financial contributions, and invites Member States to consider making additional, sustainable voluntary financial contributions and providing in-kind support, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations,

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22 Resolution 70/175, annex.
in particular in view of the need for enhanced, effective and coordinated delivery of technical assistance on criminal justice responses to prevent and counter terrorism;

35. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with sufficient resources to carry out activities, within its mandate, to assist Member States, upon request, in the implementation of the relevant elements of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;

36. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution V

Equal access to justice for all

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets that are indivisible and integrated and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, in which it recognized that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, and in which it committed to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner,

Recalling Sustainable Development Goal 16, to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and bearing in mind that the 2030 Agenda, inter alia, envisaged a world of universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination,

Recognizing the importance of providing technical assistance and capacity-building, upon request, to Member States, in particular developing countries, to support their efforts in crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the area of access to justice,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,\(^{23}\) which affirms that all are equal before the law and all are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law, and that all are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of the Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination, and which also enshrines the key principles of equality before the law and the presumption of innocence, as well as the right to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, along with all the guarantees necessary for the defence of anyone charged with a penal offence, other minimum guarantees and the entitlement to be tried without undue delay,

Recalling also the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,\(^{24}\) adopted by the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, in which Member States undertook to contribute to achieving the 2030 Agenda through efforts in crime prevention and criminal justice, with the firm recognition that sustainable development and the rule of law are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

\(^{23}\) Resolution 217 A (III).

\(^{24}\) Resolution 76/181, annex.
that crime is an impediment to sustainable development and that achieving sustainable development is an enabling factor for States to effectively prevent and combat crime.

Recalling further paragraph 48 of the Kyoto Declaration, in which Member States endeavoured to ensure equal access to justice and application of the law to all, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, including by taking appropriate measures to ensure treatment with respect and without discrimination or bias of any kind by criminal justice institutions,


Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,38 the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,39 the Convention on the Rights of the Child,40 the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,41 the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,42 and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,43

Underscoring the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and underscoring also the primary role and

25 Resolution 34/169, annex.
28 A/73/831-E/2019/56, annexes I and II.
31 Resolution 40/34, annex.
32 Economic and Council resolution 2002/12, annex.
33 Resolution 67/187, annex.
34 Resolution 45/110, annex.
35 Resolution 65/229, annex.
36 Resolution 40/33, annex.
37 Resolution 70/175, annex.
38 Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
39 Ibid.
41 Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.
42 Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.
43 Ibid., vol. 1465, No. 24841.
responsibility of Member States in defining their policies in enhancing the functioning of their criminal justice systems to ensure equal access to justice for all,

_Recalling_ Economic and Social Council resolution 2019/22 of 23 July 2019, in which Member States, inter alia, recognized that certain members of society, such as children, victims of violence and individuals with special needs, are to be accorded additional protection and are more vulnerable when in contact with the criminal justice system,

_Emphazising_ the importance of respecting cultural diversity when designing and implementing policies and programmes relevant to access to justice, in accordance with national legislation,

_Recognizing_ that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has severely affected the functioning of criminal justice systems and access to justice, especially for the poor and people in vulnerable situations,

_Affirming_ the need to eradicate violence, discrimination and intolerance against people in vulnerable situations, Indigenous Peoples and local communities,

_Recognizing_ that the primary responsibility for crime prevention and criminal justice, including mainstreaming a gender perspective, rests with Member States,

_Recognizing also_ the different challenges in accessing justice faced by people living in rural and isolated areas and the need to adopt policies and programmes that are responsive to those challenges,

_Recalling_ the mandate of the International Independent Expert Mechanism to Advance Racial Justice and Equality in Law Enforcement, which includes coordinating its work and strengthening its engagement with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and making recommendations on the concrete steps needed to ensure access to justice for Africans and people of African descent subjected to excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officials,

_Recognizing_ that access to legal aid is an essential element of fair, humane and efficient criminal justice systems that are based on the rule of law and that it is a foundation for the enjoyment of other rights, including the right to a fair trial, as a precondition to exercising such rights and an important safeguard that ensures fairness and public trust in the criminal justice process and can contribute to the progressive realization of economic, social and cultural rights,

_Recognizing also_ the importance of training criminal justice practitioners, such as police, lawyers and judges, to carry out their responsibilities in a non-discriminatory manner,

_Recalling_ Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 27/6 of 18 May 2018, entitled “Restorative justice”,

_Underlining_ the importance of effective international cooperation, carried out in a technical and impartial manner and to the fullest extent possible, in line with the obligations of States under international law and domestic legislation, and underlining also in this respect the importance of strengthening law enforcement cooperation and the exchange of information, as well as facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including, inter alia, mutual legal assistance requests and extradition, as appropriate and consistent with domestic law and applicable international obligations, to contribute to access to justice,

_Taking note_ of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Our Common Agenda”.

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44 A/75/982.
1. *Notes with concern* that challenges to access to justice in criminal justice systems undermine the rule of law, the achievement of safe and secure societies, and the right to equal treatment before the law;

2. *Emphasizes* the right of equal access to justice for all, including people in vulnerable situations, and the importance of awareness-raising concerning legal rights, and in this regard commits to taking all necessary steps to provide fair, transparent, effective, non-discriminatory and accountable services that promote access to justice for all, including legal aid;

3. *Takes note* of the thematic discussion on enhancing the functioning of the criminal justice system to ensure access to justice and to realize a safe and secure society, held during the thirty-second session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which provided an opportunity for Member States, international organizations and civil society to exchange viewpoints on this matter;

4. *Recalls* its decision to hold a high-level debate on the theme “Equal access to justice for all: advancing reforms for peaceful, just and inclusive societies”, and invites the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to consider the outcomes of that debate;

5. *Encourages* Member States, in accordance with their domestic legislation and within their capacity, to ensure equal access to justice and application of the law to all, including by taking effective measures that are informed by relevant data, such as data on age and gender;

6. *Also encourages* Member States to collect and use quantitative and qualitative data, disaggregated by relevant factors, to ensure that criminal justice policies and programmes are informed by all available and relevant evidence and data;

7. *Further encourages* Member States to explore cross-sectoral, multidisciplinary, multi-stakeholder, holistic and integrated partnerships, strategies and approaches at the national level when developing measures to reduce inequities in the criminal justice system, and to advance equal access to justice and equal treatment before the law for all, including through restorative justice programmes;

8. *Encourages* Member States to promote the use of technology that fosters inclusive and equitable access to justice, including by addressing the challenges that the use of such technologies may pose for people in vulnerable situations;

9. *Also encourages* Member States to, as appropriate, employ different models of legal aid, and to consider effective ways to provide access to legal aid to ensure access to justice for all, without discrimination of any kind;

10. *Further encourages* Member States, in accordance with their domestic law, to promote and implement policies aimed at guaranteeing access to justice for people in vulnerable situations without sufficient means, through timely, effective, adequately resourced and affordable and, whenever possible, free legal aid promoted by the State with the appropriate support of relevant academic institutions;

11. *Affirms* the importance that certain members of society, such as children, persons with disabilities, those in vulnerable situations and victims of violence be given additional protection in order to access justice systems;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue developing technical tools and training material based on United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and to provide technical and material assistance to Member States, upon request, to ensure access to justice for all;

13. *Welcomes* the increased cooperation and coordination between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations agencies in the area of equal access to justice;
14. **Requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene a meeting of experts, nominated by Member States, during the intersessional period, with interpretation into all official languages of the United Nations, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, with a view to sharing information on challenges, lessons learned, best practices and enabling factors needed to enhance the functioning of criminal justice systems to ensure equal access to justice for all;

15. **Recognizes** the fundamental role of effective international cooperation in preventing and combating crime, and to this end underlines the importance of addressing, tackling and effectively responding to international challenges and barriers, in particular measures, that hinder such cooperation, and which are not consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and obligations under international law, and in this regard urges States, consistent with their international obligations, to refrain from applying such measures;

16. **Requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its thirty-fourth session on the meeting of experts and on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. **Invites** Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

**B. Draft decision for adoption by the Economic and Social Council**

2. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

**Draft decision**

**Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its thirty-second session and provisional agenda for its thirty-third session**

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its thirty-second session;

(b) Reaffirms Commission decision 21/1 of 27 April 2012;

(c) Approves the provisional agenda for the thirty-third session set out below.

**Provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. General debate.
4. Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:
   (a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
   (b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme;
(c) Working methods of the Commission;
(d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.

5. Thematic discussion on promoting international cooperation and technical assistance to prevent and address organized crime, corruption, terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and other forms of crime, including in the areas of extradition, mutual legal assistance and asset recovery.

6. Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice:
(a) Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;
(b) Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
(c) Ratification and implementation of the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism;
(d) Other crime prevention and criminal justice matters;
(e) Other activities in support of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies.


8. World crime trends and emerging issues and responses in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.


10. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B, including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

11. Provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission.

12. Other business.

13. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-third session.

C. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

3. The following resolution and decision adopted by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:
Resolution 32/1

Taking action against trafficking in persons in business operations, public procurement and supply chains for goods and services

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which constitutes an offence and a serious threat to human dignity and human rights, physical integrity and sustainable development,


Guided by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29),\(^{47}\) of the International Labour Organization, and recalling the adoption of the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, which recognizes that trafficking in persons for the purposes of forced or compulsory labour is the subject of growing international concern,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights\(^{48}\) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,\(^{49}\)

Recalling also the adoption of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, and underlining the importance of its full implementation,

Recalling further the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,\(^{50}\) which reaffirms the commitment by Member States to take immediate and effective measures to, inter alia, eradicate forced labour and end modern slavery and trafficking in persons, as well as to promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities,

Recalling the importance of Sustainable Development Goal 17 for promoting, as appropriate, multi-stakeholder partnerships, including effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, as an important vehicle for mobilizing and sharing knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources in the fight against trafficking in persons,

Welcoming the commitments by Member States to take effective measures to eradicate all forms of trafficking in persons,

Bearing in mind the obligations of Member States to exercise due diligence to prevent trafficking in persons, to investigate and punish perpetrators of trafficking in persons and to protect and empower victims,\(^{51}\) and that not doing so may violate and impair or nullify the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the victims,

Recognizing that trafficking in persons in business operations and supply chains for goods and services has been identified as a serious problem and a challenge that


\(^{46}\) Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

\(^{47}\) Ibid., vol. 39, No. 612.

\(^{48}\) General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

\(^{49}\) Ibid.

\(^{50}\) General Assembly resolution 70/1.

\(^{51}\) The term “survivor” or “survivors” is not defined in the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, but in some Member States it is used to acknowledge that victims of trafficking in persons can recover or have recovered from the trauma that they have endured.
needs to be addressed in various economic sectors, including those integrated into global markets,

Being aware that trafficking in persons for the purpose of labour exploitation increasingly takes place at the lowest tiers of business operations and supply chains as a result of complex and frequently outsourced recruitment and hiring practices,

Recognizing the need to increase and support prevention efforts in countries of origin, transit and destination by focusing on the demand and supply chains that foster all forms of trafficking and the goods and services produced as a result of trafficking in persons, and to raise awareness of the harmful consequences of using goods and services derived from victims of forced labour and other forms of exploitation,

Recognizing also the vulnerability of children to trafficking for labour exploitation and the special needs of child victims, and that persons with irregular immigration status and persons affected by conflict and fleeing conflict are at great risk of being subjected to trafficking for labour exploitation,

Concerned that criminals are increasingly exploiting new and emerging technologies, including the Internet, to carry out their illicit activities, such as for the purpose of recruiting for forced labour, while acknowledging the role that technology can play in reducing the risk of such exploitation, in particular the use of technology by businesses for the purpose of tracking the production of goods and services from their source to the final destination, and stressing the need for increased law enforcement cooperation in this regard,

Commending Member States that require business contractors supplying goods and services to governments to take effective and appropriate steps to address the risks of trafficking in persons in their operations and supply chains for goods and services, including steps aimed at preventing subcontractors and employees from participating in activities known to lead to trafficking,

Commending also those Member States that encourage or require private sector businesses to consider the risks of trafficking in persons in their own operations and in those of their subcontractors and suppliers, aiming to ensure that they address risks proactively,

Welcoming the growing number of businesses that embrace a core business model that takes account of the impacts of their activities and that have adopted, and operate in accordance with, the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact, aimed at promoting responsible business practices,

Affirming the importance of United Nations bodies continuing to implement the United Nations Supplier Code of Conduct of the Procurement Division of the Secretariat, in particular article 5, pursuant to which it is expected that all United Nations suppliers prohibit forced or compulsory labour in all its forms,

Noting the activities by the United Nations system organizations to enhance transparency in their procurement and supply chains and step up their efforts to strengthen protections against trafficking in persons in all United Nations procurement and to that effect request major suppliers to establish and implement anti-human trafficking policies and disclose information on measures taken to counter trafficking in persons in their operations and supply chains,

Taking note in this regard of the activities of the Procurement Network of the High-level Committee on Management of the United Nations, in particular the launch in March 2019 of the Task Force for the Development of a Joint Approach to Combating Human Trafficking and Forced Labour in Supply Chains,

Welcoming the activities of the Human Trafficking and Forced Labour Task Force, in particular its efforts to develop the policy framework on combating human
trafficking and forced labour in United Nations supply chains, which is based on the best practices outlined in normative frameworks and government guidelines, as well as on the activities of several international organizations, and was adopted by the High-level Committee on Management at its forty-fourth session, in October 2022,

Welcoming also the joint programme initiated by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Labour Organization and the International Organization for Migration to develop a common framework and standards for measuring trafficking in persons for forced labour, discussed among experts in Vienna in November 2016 and reflected in the “Guidelines concerning the measurement of forced labour” adopted at the twentieth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, in October 2018,

Noting with appreciation the work of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons to provide a platform for the exchange of information, experiences and good practices on anti-trafficking activities, aimed at ensuring full and comprehensive implementation of all international instruments and standards of relevance for the prevention and combating of trafficking in persons and protection and support for victims of trafficking in persons and working towards a comprehensive, coordinated and holistic approach to trafficking in persons,

Taking note with appreciation of the thematic focus of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons in recent years on measures to prevent trafficking in persons in public procurement and in the procurement of goods and services by United Nations agencies and other relevant international and regional organizations,

Noting with appreciation the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Global Programme against Trafficking in Persons, and taking note of the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons,

1. Urges Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and also urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

2. Invites Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and its Protocol of 2014, of the International Labour Organization;

3. Calls upon Member States, including those that are countries of origin, transit or destination, to intensify their efforts to prevent and address, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters trafficking in persons for all forms of exploitation, including forced labour, and the goods and services produced as a result of trafficking in persons, and in this regard to put in place or to enhance preventive measures, including legislative and punitive measures to deter exploiters of trafficked persons, as well as ensure their accountability;

4. Encourages Member States to ensure that the promotion and protection of the human rights of victims of trafficking in persons, the prevention of trafficking in persons by addressing the social, economic, cultural, political and other contributing factors and the strengthening of the criminal justice response are at the centre of all efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and to protect, assist and provide redress to victims;

5. Calls upon Member States to assess the root causes of trafficking in persons, utilizing a gender-responsive, victim-centred and trauma-informed human
rights-based approach that helps to evaluate the influence of all factors, including socioeconomic inequalities, and the effectiveness and impact of policies, programmes and other initiatives aimed at preventing and combating organized crime, in order to subsequently adopt national policies and measures that can address those causes and respond more effectively to combating trafficking in persons;

6. **Urges** Member States to prevent and combat trafficking in persons in business operations and supply chains for goods and services, in accordance with their obligations under international and national law, and to this end to review and strengthen, as appropriate, the enforcement of relevant labour and other laws within their territories and jurisdictions that are aimed at, or have the effect of, requiring business enterprises, including recruitment agencies, to prevent and combat trafficking in persons in their operations and supply chains for goods and services, and to periodically assess the adequacy of such laws and address any gaps;

7. **Also urges** Member States to develop policies and undertake actions to assist and protect victims of trafficking in persons, in particular victims of gender-based violence, in their national strategies that deal with trafficking in persons in business operations, public procurement and supply chains for goods and services;

8. **Encourages** Member States to provide specialized training and capacity-building to law enforcement, criminal justice practitioners and labour inspection officials on preventing trafficking in persons, identifying potential cases of trafficking in persons in business operations and supply chains for goods and services and acting upon suspected or confirmed illegal practices;

9. **Invites** Member States to promote cooperation and coordination among governmental institutions, civil society and the private sector, including the media, as well as workers’ and employers’ organizations, to foster prevention and awareness-raising campaigns and to prevent trafficking in persons in supply chains from becoming common practice;

10. **Also invites** Member States to implement the recommendations on measures to strengthen procurement policies at the national, regional and international levels adopted at the eleventh meeting of the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons established by the Conference of the Parties to the Organized Crime Convention, in October 2021; 32

11. **Encourages** Member States to develop relevant tools and provide gender-responsive and age-sensitive training to relevant stakeholders, including labour inspectors and law enforcement authorities, in partnership with the private sector, as appropriate, in order to build their capacity to respond to specific risks associated with trafficking in persons in supply chains and strengthen compliance with existing national regulations;

12. **Also encourages** Member States to cooperate with trade unions to establish and monitor prevention plans to mitigate the risks of trafficking in persons in public as well as private sector procurement activities;

13. **Further encourages** Member States to seek to address trafficking in persons in global supply chains, including by developing common public procurement standards, compliance requirements or codes of conduct and by harmonizing frameworks, including those guiding anti-trafficking efforts and sustainable procurement;

14. **Encourages** Member States to cooperate with relevant business enterprises with a view to identifying and addressing trafficking-related risks at all levels in their operations and supply chains for goods and services, including through, where appropriate in accordance with domestic and international law and taking into account

32 CTOC/COP/WG.4/2021/6, sect. II.B.
best practices or other promising measures developed in response to emerging trends in trafficking in persons, awareness-raising initiatives, increased transparency and due diligence in recruitment practices, ethical codes of conduct, grievance mechanisms, risk assessment, product certification and labelling, monitoring, auditing, verification, evaluation, victim protection and support and relevant company-wide strategies, policies and measures, while involving in those efforts, as appropriate, workers’ and employers’ organizations;

15. **Invites** Member States to encourage business enterprises to contribute to the fight against trafficking in persons, including by conducting awareness-raising, training and other relevant measures aimed at preventing trafficking in persons in supply chains;

16. **Welcomes** the humanitarian, legal and financial support provided by Member States, private sector organizations and individual donors through the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and encourages Member States and companies to make further contributions to the fund;

17. **Encourages** Member States to conduct awareness-raising campaigns about trafficking in persons, and in this regard invites Member States to join or support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Blue Heart Campaign against Human Trafficking;

18. **Reaffirms** that trafficking in persons in the context of armed conflict, especially women and girls, cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, or civilization;

19. **Encourages** Member States, when considering the awarding of government procurement contracts for goods and services, to be guided by relevant due diligence practices that assess whether business enterprises take appropriate and effective steps to address the risks of trafficking in persons in their operations and throughout their supply chains for goods and services;

20. **Invites** Member States to share best practices for successful national, regional and international partnerships between the public and private sectors in combating trafficking in persons in business operations and supply chains for goods and services and in promoting evidence-based corporate social responsibility, and to strengthen international cooperation between all relevant actors in the prevention of labour exploitation;

21. **Encourages** Member States to share information on criminal activities, threats, emerging trends and modi operandi pertaining to trafficking in persons for labour exploitation and to make effective use of the experience and tools of the International Criminal Police Organization in combating trafficking in persons, in particular its databases and notices;

22. **Also encourages** Member States to consider cooperating with civil society organizations in preventing and combating trafficking in persons in business operations and supply chains for goods and services through activities such as awareness-raising campaigns, programmes to facilitate the identification of victims of trafficking and the provision of assistance to those victims;

23. **Calls upon** Member States to strengthen cooperation with international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, for the provision of remedies to victims of trafficking in persons identified in business operations and supply chains for goods and services, including through the provision of protective services and access to justice;

24. **Encourages** Member States to consider implementing measures that may provide direct assistance to victims of trafficking in persons and related crimes in
business operations and supply chains for goods and services, to help with their social recovery and provide compensation or restitution for the damage suffered;

25. **Requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to engage in dialogue with members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and other relevant international organizations, in close consultation with Member States, so as to enable the Office to improve the collection and analysis of data on instances of trafficking in persons in business operations and supply chains for goods and services;

26. **Also requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration with other relevant organizations, to continue providing, within its existing mandate, technical assistance and training to Member States, at their request, in order to assist them in strengthening national capacities to effectively prevent and combat trafficking in persons in business operations and supply chains for goods and services;

27. **Urge** the organizations of the United Nations system to ensure that their activities, including procurement contracts for goods and services, do not contribute to any form of trafficking in persons and to request their suppliers to establish and implement counter-trafficking policies and disclose information on measures taken to counter trafficking in persons in their operations and supply chains for goods and services;

28. **Calls upon** the entities of the United Nations system to integrate the components of the policy framework on combating human trafficking and forced labour in United Nations supply chains into their procurement practices;

29. **Invites** Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes of the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

30. **Invites** the Secretary-General to include information on the implementation of the present resolution within the existing reporting obligations to the General Assembly under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice.

**Decision 32/1**

**Report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute**

4. At its 7th meeting, on 24 May 2023, the Commission decided to transmit to the Economic and Social Council the report of United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (E/CN.15/2023/8), which had been prepared pursuant to article IV, paragraph 3 (e), of the statute of the Institute and approved by a decision of the Board of Trustees taken at its online meeting held on 19 and 20 October 2022.