



Concept Note
Special Event at the 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Sunday, 7 March 2021
Kyoto International Conference Centre (KICC)
Kyoto, Japan
Conference Room D
2:00 – 3:30 p.m. (GMT+9)

Promoting the Rule of Law and Justice: Innovative implementation of the Doha Declaration towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Background

Since 1955 thirteen United Nations crime congresses have been held in different regions of the globe bringing together over the years a growing number of policymakers, legislators, practitioners, international organizations, civil society, youth and academia to explore ways and means to enhance the international community's responses to crime, as its modus operandi continues to change and evolve.

The 13th UN Crime Congress held in Doha, Qatar in 2015 was a point of departure in the history of UN Crime Congresses. For the first time in the 60-year history of the Crime Congresses, its political declaration was used as a basis for the development of a unique Global Programme to implement the policy directives as contained in the Doha Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/174.

The Global Programme for the Implementation for the Doha Declaration, established in 2016 by UNODC with the support of the State of Qatar, was set out to transform the policy directives contained in the Doha Declaration into concrete tangible realities, directly contributing to the implementation of SDGs 3,4, 5, 9, 10, 11,16 and 17.

The Global Programme provides support to the development of operational, legislative and policy-related work required by Member States to implement the Doha Declaration in four specific areas contained therein, namely: Judicial Integrity, Prisoner Rehabilitation, Youth Crime Prevention through Sports and Education for Justice (E4J).

The international community has welcomed its components with great enthusiasm and its activities have resulted in impactful stories that have reverberated in different countries around the globe. To

Making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism

date, more than 2.1 million people from over 190 countries have been either directly or indirectly impacted by the Programme.

In March 2021, Member States will gather at the 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice hosted by the Government of Japan in the historic city of Kyoto, to discuss how advancing the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice are critical for achieving sustainable development, while also reflecting on the challenges posed by the breakout of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ongoing negotiations on the Kyoto Declaration, demonstrate that there are key issues that will continue to remain at the heart of the two crime congresses and beyond, mainly: the rule of law and sustainable development. Therefore, it is crucial to discuss and reflect on how to innovatively and sustainably implement programmes and activities that support the implementation of the aspirations of Member States in the area of the rule of law together with the United Nations and other relevant partners.

Objective of the event

This event will explore how Member States, the United Nations system and all relevant stakeholders can actively and innovatively promote the rule of law and justice among partners, children, youth and people from all over the world to pave the way towards the objectives of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Focus will also be placed on reflecting on the achievements of the Global Programme since its inception, while sharing tangible stories and actions, including by beneficiaries of the work undertaken by the Global Programme, which will highlight the results achieved around the world so far on the journey from Doha to Kyoto. This reflection will allow also the sharing of good practices and experiences, as well as the story of the Global Programme as a unique Programme that promotes the rule of law and the implementation of SDGs 4,5,10 and 16 in an innovative forward-looking way.

Panellists will also share their views on how various initiatives and programmes can yield positive results while ensuring sustainability and innovation. Stories on how various stakeholders, including children and youth responded to the pandemic and its challenges to the rule of law will also be shared.

The event will also yield itself as a “Think Tank on Programmatic Implementation Modalities” for the international crime prevention and criminal justice community to connect policy formulation with programme implementation, while discussing how the United Nations can truly become more agile in the way it proactively conducts its work for the benefit of its Member States and all those concerned while leaving no one behind.

Format of the event

Keynote speeches and an interactive panel discussion will be supplemented with short documentary films on the Programme’s key achievements.

Interventions from the floor will be encouraged through questions and comments directly linked to the subject issue of the special event.

Speakers

Welcoming remarks and Moderation:

- Mr. John Brandolino, Director, Division for Treaty Affairs, UNODC

Keynote speakers:

- Ms. Ghada Waly Executive Director, UNODC
- H.E. Ms. Yoko Kamikawa, Minister of Justice of Japan
- H.E. Major General Dr. Abdullah Al-Mal, Advisor to the Prime Minister and Minister of Interior of the State of Qatar
- H. E. Mr. Volkan Bozkır, President of the United Nations General Assembly

Panellists:

- H.E. Mr. Shermatov Sherzod Hotamovich, Minister of Public Education, Republic of Uzbekistan
- Hon. Frans Kapofi, MP. Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security, Republic of Namibia
- Ms. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO
- Hon. Adrian Saunders, President of the Caribbean Court of Justice and member of the Advisory Board of the UNODC Global Judicial Integrity Network
- Youth representatives

Concluding remarks:

- Mr. Marco Teixeira, Senior Programme Officer, Coordinator of the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration, UNODC