

Budget for the biennium 2020–2021 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Exercising the administrative and financial functions entrusted to it by the General Assembly in its resolution [61/252](#) of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the proposed budget for the biennium 2020–2021 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund¹ and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2020–2021 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,² as well as the additional information provided to the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office for its deliberations,

Expressing concern about the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²

Noting with concern the financial challenges facing the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime due to the shortfall in general-purpose funding and underlying funding trends affecting the ability of the Office to effectively uphold core programmatic functions, such as normative work and research,

Recalling General Assembly resolution [72/266](#) B of 5 July 2018, on shifting the management paradigm of the United Nations, and other relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018, on repositioning of the United Nations development system,

Recognizing and reaffirming the important role played by the oversight bodies in the development of an accountability system that is relevant to the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives,³ which includes an assessment of the state of evaluation across 31 United Nations entities during the biennium 2016–2017 in terms of evaluation functions, resources and practice,

Welcoming the initiative to create a surge capacity, and taking note of its initial results, including those relating to its thematic components and to measures to strengthen the field-based presence,

Recalling that Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations emphasizes the paramount consideration of efficiency, competence and integrity with regard to the recruitment of staff and that due regard must be paid to the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible,

¹ [E/CN.7/2019/14-E/CN.15/2019/16](#).

² [E/CN.7/2019/16-E/CN.15/2019/18](#).

³ [A/74/67](#) and [A/74/67/Corr.1](#).

Recognizing that the principle of equitable geographical distribution and the goal of equal representation of women and men in the staff composition of the Secretariat should not be in conflict with the paramount consideration in the employment of staff, namely, the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, as set out in Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting with concern the continuing lack of diversity, in particular with regard to equitable geographical representation, among the staff of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and emphasizing that the Office, both at headquarters and in the field, should take more effective measures to ensure the recruitment of a diverse pool of candidates, particularly within the Professional and higher categories,⁴

Recalling General Assembly resolution [69/251](#) of 29 December 2014, in which the Assembly noted with disappointment the insufficient progress made with regard to achieving the goal of a 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations common system, especially in the Professional and higher categories, and requested the International Civil Service Commission to encourage the organizations of the common system to fully implement existing gender-balance policies and measures,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/7 of 12 June 2018, Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/3 of 26 May 2017 and Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 59/5 of 22 March 2016, on mainstreaming a gender perspective into the policies and programmes of the United Nations system, including those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Welcoming the development and implementation of the Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (2018–2021) of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including through the establishment of a gender team in the Office of the Executive Director,

Noting the importance of ensuring that gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women are integral parts of all aspects of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Recalling General Assembly resolution [73/346](#), in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, underlined the responsibility of the Secretariat in integrating multilingualism into its activities, from within existing resources, on an equitable basis, reaffirmed the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites, urged the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to develop, maintain and update multilingual United Nations websites in all the official languages of the United Nations, from within existing resources and on an equitable basis, and reiterated its requests that the Secretary-General complete the task of uploading all important older United Nations documents to the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis so that those archives are also made available to Member States through that medium,

Noting with regret that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime did not present to Member States in the second quarter of 2019 the results of the review of its funding model and the way it implements and appropriates funding sources, as urged by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in paragraph 12 of its resolution 61/12, and that the Office did not fully comply with the request to more broadly use programme support costs at headquarters and in the field offices, as appropriate,

⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/73/30)*, annex V.

Noting the assistance provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to Member States, upon request, in their efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the involvement of the Office in the reform of the United Nations development system,

1. *Underlines* that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is mandated by, inter alia, the relevant United Nations conventions, General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions [45/179](#), [46/152](#) and [46/185 C](#), Economic and Social Council resolutions, and declarations, resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to carry out normative work, research and policy support activities, as well as to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request;

2. *Notes* the contribution made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by assisting Member States, upon request, in their efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda and contributing to the reform of the United Nations development system;

3. *Requests* the secretariat of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide regular updates in writing to the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office, with the first update to be provided no later than June 2020, and requests the Executive Director to report, within existing reporting entitlements, to the next reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on the involvement of the Office in the implementation of United Nations development system reform, including in terms of enhanced synergies and effectiveness, achievements, challenges, cost savings and benefits;

4. *Notes* that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has expanded and consolidated its integrated programming approach, through which it aims to provide better and more consistent support to Member States in their responses to drugs and crime;

5. *Also notes* that the budget is based on, inter alia, the strategy detailed under the proposed programme budget for 2020;⁵

6. *Further notes* that the budget is harmonized with sections 16 and 29F of the proposed programme budget of the United Nations for 2020;⁶

7. *Notes* that the budget is focused on general-purpose funds and also includes special-purpose funds and programme support cost income earned from special-purpose contributions, as well as regular budget resources;

8. *Also notes* that the general-purpose resources of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund are presented as a single budget and that general-purpose expenditure will be apportioned between the two funds in accordance with the income that each generates;

9. *Further notes* that the budget clearly distinguishes between general-purpose funds and programme support cost funds and that it harmonizes the use and management of those two fund categories across the two funds of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

⁵ See [A/74/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#).

⁶ [A/74/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#) and [A/74/6 \(Sect. 29F\)](#).

10. *Notes* that the programme support cost resources of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund are presented as a single budget and that programme support cost expenditure will be apportioned between the two funds in accordance with the income that each generates;

11. *Approves* the projected use of general-purpose funds in the biennium 2020–2021, and invites Member States to provide contributions totalling at least 3,604,000 United States dollars;

12. *Endorses* the estimates of special purpose funds for the biennium 2020–2021 and programme support cost funds for 2020, as indicated in the table below, and decides that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs are to review the allocation of programme support costs for 2021 during their reconvened sessions in 2020, on the basis of the information provided by the secretariat pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 23 of the present resolution, taking into account the implementation of the mandates contained in the present resolution;

13. *Requests* the co-chairs of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to establish, in consultation with Member States and with the support of the Secretariat, a workplan with clear time frames to follow up on and review the full implementation by the Office of the mandates contained in the present resolution, taking into account the new cycle structure for programming and budgeting derived from the management reform process, in order to enable the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to effectively discharge their oversight functions, as mandated by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

Resource projections for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

<i>Fund category</i>	<i>Resources</i> <i>(thousands of United States dollars)</i>		<i>Posts</i>	
	<i>2018–2019 (revised)</i>	<i>2020–2021</i>	<i>2018–2019</i>	<i>2020–2021</i>
General-purpose funds				
Post	2 990.2	2 254.2	6	7
Non-post	620.3	1 349.8		
Subtotal	3 610.5	3 604.0	6	7
Special-purpose funds	332 505.9	359 555.4	238	264
Subtotal	332 505.9	359 555.4	238	264
Programme support costs^a				
Post	18 614.9	10 764.3	63	64
Non-post	7 910.8	3 353.7		
Subtotal	26 525.7	14 117.9	63	64
Total	362 642.1	377 277.3	307	335

^a Allocation for 2020.

14. *Notes* that the estimated resource projections presented in the table above are subject to the availability of funding;

15. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in line with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, to enhance its efforts, with a sense of urgency, to ensure the recruitment of staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible across the different divisions of the Office, in particular within the Professional and higher categories, including for field representatives, by, inter alia, intensifying its outreach efforts, and to report on the progress thereon to the Commission at its reconvened twenty-ninth session;

16. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to include in such reporting, as well as in the dialogue within the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office, disaggregated data on the composition of staff by geographical area and gender, including the staff of the Division for Management and locally recruited staff, as well as updates on measures taken to improve the geographical distribution of, and ensure gender parity among, its staff, including a description of its internal and external recruitment processes, such as measures in place to ensure transparency;

17. *Takes note* of the Geography Action Plan of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and requests the Office to continue to develop the Action Plan, with the aim of effectively increasing equitable geographical representation among its staff across the Office, in line with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, including by defining goals and timelines, and to present the Action Plan to Member States at the first meeting of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office to be held in the second half of 2020;

18. *Encourages* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to ensure accountability, evaluation, transparency and learning;

19. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its strategic planning, with a view to improving results-based management in the Office, including by conducting strategic evaluations and fully integrating their results, ensuring coherent programming, promoting synergies and avoiding duplication of effort, and to inform Member States on a regular basis about its management responses to evaluation results;

20. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to ensure the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into the development, implementation and evaluation of its programmes, policies, practices and strategies, and to report on the progress thereon to the Commission at its reconvened twenty-ninth session, in 2020;

21. *Urges* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within existing resources and on an equitable basis, to continue to ensure effective respect for multilingualism in the meetings and activities of intergovernmental governing bodies for which the Office serves as the secretariat, and requests the Executive Director of the Office, within existing resources, to make all decisions and resolutions adopted by those intergovernmental bodies directly available on the website of the Office in all six official languages of the United Nations, on an equitable basis in relation to their English versions;

22. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to dedicate specific attention to the assessment of language

skills in staff recruitment processes, to ensure compliance with the requirement for United Nations staff to have the ability to use the working languages of the Secretariat, to continue the efforts to ensure that training opportunities in the six official languages are equally available to all staff and to further encourage all staff members, both in meetings involving interpretation services and in their interactions with representatives of Member States, other staff members and local populations in the field, to use any of the six official languages of which they have a command and to provide information in their electronic signature on all the languages in which they have mastery, within existing resources;

23. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to present in writing to the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office, before June 2020, and, through the working group, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at their reconvened sessions in 2020, the following:

(a) A comprehensive overview of the current use and allocation of programme support costs, and proposals to more flexibly and effectively use programme support costs at headquarters, in particular for normative and substantive functions in support of programmatic work, and in the field, as appropriate;

(b) Information on its efforts to implement the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution [72/266 B](#), on shifting the management paradigm, and an action plan, including timelines for their continued implementation in 2020;

(c) Proposals on how to address the relevant recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,² as applicable and subject to the provisions of the present resolution and other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

24. *Requests* the Secretariat to provide preliminary summary briefings on the budget and to consult with all Member States represented in the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime prior to the publication of a draft consolidated budget, no later than in June, and to provide future draft consolidated budgets to all Member States no later than one month prior to the date established for submission to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for further consultations within the working group, with the involvement of the Executive Director, before the submission of the reviewed proposal to the Advisory Committee;

25. *Also requests* the Secretariat to distribute the draft agenda and all relevant documents at least 10 days prior to each meeting of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as requested by the Commission in its resolution [26/1 of 26 May 2017](#);

26. *Reaffirms* the importance of ensuring that adequate resources are allocated to promoting the capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to advance research and analysis in its mandate areas, noting that such research and analysis is a core programmatic function and should be funded accordingly;

27. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to engage in a dialogue with Member States, including on the occasion of the annual meeting of field representatives, to assess and discuss the involvement of the Office in the implementation of United

Nations development system reform, including achievements, challenges, costs and benefits, with the involvement of field representatives of the Office and, as feasible, resident coordinators, within existing budget and meeting entitlements;

28. *Also requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to make provisions for allocations of staff and funding to ensure the sustainable delivery of independent evaluation;

29. *Further requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to engage in a dialogue with Member States as of July 2020, in order to present, before the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2020, a revised longer-term vision or strategy for the Office, including its headquarters and a strengthened and sustainable field network, as well as information on the financial implications of that vision or strategy and on potential reallocations to address those implications, taking into account the relevant recommendations emanating from the strategic evaluations carried out by the Independent Evaluation Unit of the Office and from management responses;

30. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to strengthen its efforts to encourage donors to provide general-purpose funding, including by further increasing the transparency and quality of its reporting, and encourages Member States and other donors to consider providing support to the general-purpose funds of the Office.