

14th UN Crime Congress, Kyoto

Germany – Statement by Mrs. Margaretha Sudhof,

State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer protection

Madam President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

on behalf of Germany, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the government of Japan for the organization of this Crime Congress of the United Nations.

I would like to express special thanks and admiration to Ambassador Takeshi Hikihara –only because of your dedicated and thoughtful leadership have these difficult negotiations achieved such positive results.

The adoption of the Kyoto Declaration is of great importance to Germany. Collaboration in crime prevention and criminal justice benefits all participants. We strongly believe that the international community should build on already established standards.

As the world is becoming more interconnected, we must make a joint commitment to protecting our common goods. The Kyoto declaration will address environmental protection with the criminal law, and that is a great step forward.

Our everyday lives are increasingly dependent on the Internet. So we must work against the danger posed by international cybercrime. We must enhance coordination and international cooperation. We encourage the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to maintain the Intergovernmental Expert Group on Cybercrime as a valuable framework for practical exchanges.

Millions of people are confronted with violence every day, and this has been made worse by the pandemic.

The Member States need a common fundamental understanding and close collaboration. Effective measures founded on human rights and the rule of law are essential steps to effectively tackle any danger to justice and peace. This Congress is one example with its discussions and exchanges. I appreciate the effort put in to organise this event by the delegates of the Member States, as well as the participating NGOs and other organizations.

But we also see further multilateral challenges to be addressed in the present and the future. This especially concerns crimes against the environment and cybercrime, as well as human trafficking, crimes involving domestic violence and crimes against children.

Distinguished Delegates, thank you for your attention!