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FIRST UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS  
ON THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND  
THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

held in Geneva, 22 August - 3 September 1955

RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONGRESS

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## INTRODUCTION

1. Since the final report of the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in the three working languages will not be available in print for several months, this document containing the decisions of the Congress is issued for the convenience of the participants.
2. The resolution on the prevention of juvenile delinquency as presented in Part Five is the consolidated text of two resolutions adopted by the Congress. Authorization was given to the General Rapporteur, Mr. Thorsten Sellin, to combine both the text adopting the report of the Section on the prevention of juvenile delinquency and the text relating to specific studies to be made. The final text has been submitted to the General Rapporteur for his approval.
3. The various texts adopted by the Congress are still subject to minor editorial changes before issue in printed form.

PART ONE

STANDARD MINIMUM RULES FOR THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS

Resolution adopted on 30 August 1955:

The First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Having adopted the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Offenders annexed to the present Resolution,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph (d) of the Annex to Resolution 415 (V) of the General Assembly of the United Nations, to submit these Rules to the Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council for approval,
2. Expresses the hope that these Rules be approved by the Economic and Social Council and, if deemed appropriate by the Council, by the General Assembly, and that they be transmitted to governments with the recommendation (a) that favourable consideration be given to their adoption and application in the administration of penal institutions, and (b) that the Secretary-General be informed every three years of the progress made with regard to their application,
3. Expresses the wish that in order to allow governments to keep themselves informed of the progress made in this respect, the Secretary-General be requested to publish in the International Review of Criminal Policy the information sent by governments in pursuance of paragraph 2, and that he be authorized to ask for supplementary information if necessary,
4. Expresses also the wish that the Secretary-General be requested to arrange that the widest possible publicity be given to these Rules.

Annex:

Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners

Preliminary Observations

1. The following Rules are not intended to describe in detail a model system of penal institutions. They seek only, on the basis of the general consensus of contemporary thought and the essential elements of the most adequate systems of today, to set out what is generally accepted as being good principle and practice in the treatment of prisoners and the management of institutions.
2. In view of the great variety of legal, social, economic and geographical conditions of the world, it is evident that not all of the Rules are capable

of application in all places and at all times. They should, however, serve to stimulate a constant endeavour to overcome practical difficulties in the way of their application, in the knowledge that they represent, as a whole, the minimum conditions which are accepted as suitable by the United Nations.

3. On the other hand, the Rules cover a field in which thought is constantly developing. They are not intended to preclude experiment and practices, provided these are in harmony with the principles and seek to further the purposes which derive from the text of the Rules as a whole. It will always be justifiable for the central prison administration to authorize departures from the Rules in this spirit.
4. (1) Part I of the Rules covers the general management of Institutions, and is applicable to all categories of prisoners, criminal or civil, untried or convicted, including prisoners subject to "security measures" or corrective measures ordered by the judge.  
  
(2) Part II contains rules applicable only to the special categories dealt with in the different sections. Nevertheless, the rules under section A, applicable to prisoners under sentence, shall be equally applicable to categories of prisoners dealt with in sections B, C and D, provided they do not conflict with the rules governing those categories and are for their benefit.
5. (1) The Rules do not seek to regulate the management of institutions set aside for young persons such as Borstal institutions or correctional schools, but in general Part I would be equally applicable in such institutions.  
  
(2) The category of young prisoners should include at least all young persons who come within the jurisdiction of juvenile courts. As a rule such young persons should not be sentenced to imprisonment.

#### PART I: RULES OF GENERAL APPLICATION

##### Basic Principle

6. (1) The following rules shall be applied impartially. There shall be no discrimination on grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.  
  
(2) On the other hand, it is necessary to respect the religious beliefs and moral precepts of the group to which a prisoner belongs.

##### Register

7. (1) In every place where persons are imprisoned there shall be kept a bound registration book with numbered pages in which shall be entered in respect of each prisoner received:

- (a) information concerning his identity;
  - (b) the reasons for his commitment and the authority therefore;
  - (c) the day and hour of his admission and release.
- (2) No person shall be received in an institution without a valid commitment order of which the details shall have been previously entered in the register.

#### Separation of Categories

8. The different categories of prisoners shall be kept in separate institutions or parts of institutions taking account of their sex, age, criminal record, the legal reason for their detention and the necessities of their treatment. Thus,
- (a) men and women shall so far as possible be detained in separate institutions; in an institution which receives both men and women the whole of the premises allocated to women shall be entirely separate;
  - (b) untried prisoners shall be kept separate from convicted prisoners;
  - (c) persons imprisoned for debt and other civil prisoners shall be kept separate from convicted prisoners;
  - (d) young prisoners shall be kept separate from adults.

#### Accommodation

9. (1) Where sleeping accommodation is in individual cells or rooms, each prisoner shall occupy by night a cell or room by himself. If for special reasons, such as temporary overcrowding, it becomes necessary for the central prison administration to make an exception to this rule, it is not desirable to have two prisoners in a cell or room.
- (2) Where dormitories are used, they shall be occupied by prisoners carefully selected as being suitable to associate with one another in those conditions. There shall be regular supervision by night, in keeping with the nature of the institution.
10. All accommodation provided for the use of prisoners and in particular all sleeping accommodation shall meet all requirements of health, due regard being paid to climatic conditions and particularly to cubic content of air, minimum floor space, lighting, heating and ventilation.

11. In all places where prisoners are required to live or work,
  - (a) the windows shall be large enough to enable the prisoners to read or work by natural light, and shall be so constructed that they can allow the entrance of fresh air whether or not there is artificial ventilation;
  - (b) artificial light shall be provided sufficient for the prisoners to read or work without injury to eyesight.
12. The sanitary installations shall be adequate to enable every prisoner to comply with the needs of nature when necessary and in a clean and decent manner.
13. Adequate bathing and shower installations shall be provided so that every prisoner may be enabled and required to have a bath or shower, at a temperature suitable to the climate, as frequently as necessary for general hygiene according to season and geographical region, but at least once a week in a temperate climate.
14. All parts of an institution regularly used by prisoners shall be properly maintained and kept scrupulously clean at all times.

#### Personal Hygiene

15. Prisoners shall be required to keep their persons clean, and to this end they shall be provided with water and with such toilet articles as are necessary for health and cleanliness.
16. In order that prisoners may maintain a good appearance compatible with their self-respect, facilities shall be provided for the proper care of the hair and of the beard and to enable men to shave regularly.

#### Clothing and Bedding

17. (1) Every prisoner who is not allowed to wear his own clothing shall be provided with an outfit of clothing suitable for the climate and adequate to keep him in good health. Such clothing shall in no manner be degrading or humiliating.
  - (2) All clothing shall be clean and kept in proper condition. Underclothing shall be changed and washed as often as necessary for the maintenance of hygiene.
  - (3) In exceptional circumstances, whenever a prisoner is removed outside the institution for an authorized purpose, he shall be allowed to wear his own clothing or other inconspicuous clothing.
18. If prisoners are allowed to wear their own clothing, arrangements shall be made on their admission to the institution to ensure that it shall be clean and fit for use.

19. Every prisoner shall, in accordance with local or national standards, be provided with a separate bed, and with separate and sufficient bedding which shall be clean when issued, kept in good order and changed often enough to ensure its cleanliness.

#### Food

20. (1) Every prisoner shall be provided by the administration at the usual hours with food of nutritional value adequate for health and strength, of wholesome quality and well prepared and served.
- (2) Drinking water shall be available to every prisoner whenever he needs it.

#### Exercise and Sport

21. (1) Every prisoner who is not employed in out-door work shall have one hour of suitable exercise in the open air daily if the weather permits.
- (2) Young prisoners, and others of suitable age and physique, shall receive physical and recreational training during the period of exercise. To this end space, installations and equipment should be provided.

#### Medical Services

22. (1) At every institution there shall be available the services of at least one qualified medical officer who should have some knowledge of psychiatry. The medical services should be organized in close relationship to the general health administration of the community or nation. They shall include a psychiatric service for the diagnosis and, in proper cases, the treatment of states of mental abnormality.
- (2) Sick prisoners who require specialist treatment shall be transferred to specialized institutions or to civil hospitals. Where hospital facilities are provided in an institution, their equipment, furnishings and pharmaceutical supplies shall be proper for the medical care and treatment of sick prisoners, and there shall be a staff of suitably trained officers.
- (3) The services of a qualified dental officer shall be available to every prisoner.
23. (1) In women's institutions there shall be special accommodation for all necessary pre-natal and post-natal care and treatment. Arrangements shall be made wherever practicable for children to be born in a hospital outside the institution. If a child is born in prison, this fact shall not be mentioned in the birth certificate.
- (2) Where nursing infants are allowed to remain in the institution with their mothers, provision shall be made for a nursery, staffed by qualified persons, in which the infants shall be placed when they are not in the care of their mothers.

24. The medical officer shall see and examine every prisoner as soon as possible after his admission and thereafter as necessary, with a view particularly to the discovery of physical or mental illness and the taking of all necessary measures; the segregation of prisoners suspected of infectious or contagious conditions; the noting of physical or mental defects which might hamper rehabilitation, and the determination of the physical capacity of every prisoner for work.
25. (1) The medical officer shall have the care of the physical and mental health of the prisoners and should daily see all sick prisoners, all who complain of illness, and any prisoner to whom his attention is specially directed.
- (2) The medical officer shall report to the director whenever he considers that a prisoner's physical or mental health has been or will be injuriously affected by continued imprisonment or by any condition of imprisonment.
26. (1) The medical officer shall regularly inspect and advise the director upon:
- (a) the quantity, quality, preparation and service of food;
  - (b) the hygiene and cleanliness of the institution and the prisoners;
  - (c) the sanitation, heating, lighting and ventilation of the institution;
  - (d) the suitability and cleanliness of the prisoners' clothing and bedding;
  - (e) the observance of the rules concerning physical education and sports, in cases where there is no technical personnel in charge of these activities.
- (2) The director shall take into consideration the reports and advice that the medical officer submits according to rules 25 (2) and 26 and, in case he concurs with the recommendations made, shall take immediate steps to give effect to those recommendations; if they are not within his competence or if he does not concur with them, he shall immediately submit his own report and the advice of the medical officer to higher authority.

#### Discipline and Punishment

27. Discipline and order shall be maintained with firmness, but with no more restriction than is necessary for safe custody and well-ordered community life.



28. (1) No prisoner shall be employed, in the service of the institution, in any disciplinary capacity.
- (2) This rule shall not, however, impede the proper functioning of systems based on self-government, under which specified social, educational or sports activities or responsibilities are entrusted, under supervision, to prisoners who are formed into groups for the purposes of treatment.
29. The following shall always be determined by the law or by the regulation of the competent administrative authority:
- (a) conduct constituting a disciplinary offence;
  - (b) the types and duration of punishment which may be inflicted;
  - (c) the authority competent to impose such punishment.
30. (1) No prisoner shall be punished except in accordance with the terms of such law or regulation, and never twice for the same offence.
- (2) No prisoner shall be punished unless he has been informed of the offence alleged against him and given a proper opportunity of presenting his defence. The competent authority shall conduct a thorough examination of the case.
- (3) Where necessary and practicable the prisoner shall be allowed to make his defence through an interpreter.
31. Corporal punishment, punishment by placing in a dark cell, and all cruel, inhuman or degrading punishments shall be completely prohibited as punishments for disciplinary offences.
32. (1) Punishment by close confinement or reduction of diet shall never be inflicted unless the medical officer has examined the prisoner and certified in writing that he is fit to sustain it.
- (2) The same shall apply to any other punishment that may be prejudicial to the physical or mental health of a prisoner. In no case may such punishment be contrary to or depart from the principle stated in rule 31.
- (3) The medical officer shall visit daily prisoners undergoing such punishments and shall advise the director if he considers the termination or alteration of the punishment necessary on grounds of physical or mental health.

#### Instruments of Restraint

33. Instruments of restraint, such as handcuffs, chains, irons and strait-jackets, shall never be applied as a punishment. Furthermore, chains or irons shall not be used as restraints. Other instruments of restraint shall not be used except in the following circumstances:

(a) as a precaution against escape during a transfer, provided that they shall be removed when the prisoner appears before a judicial or administrative authority;

(b) on medical grounds by direction of the medical officer;

(c) by order of the director, if other methods of control fail, in order to prevent a prisoner from injuring himself or others or from damaging property; in such instances the director shall at once consult the medical officer and report to the higher administrative authority.

34. The patterns and manner of use of instruments of restraint shall be decided by the central prison administration. Such instruments must not be applied for any longer time than is strictly necessary.

#### Information to and Complaints by Prisoners

35. (1) Every prisoner on admission shall be provided with written information about the regulations governing the treatment of prisoners of his category, the disciplinary requirements of the institution, the authorized methods of seeking information and making complaints, and all such other matters as are necessary to enable him to understand both his rights and his obligations and to adapt himself to the life of the institution.

(2) If a prisoner is illiterate, the aforesaid information shall be conveyed to him orally.

36. (1) Every prisoner shall have the opportunity each week day of making requests or complaints to the director of the institution or the officer authorized to represent him.

(2) It shall be possible to make requests or complaints to the inspector of prisons during his inspection. The prisoner shall have the opportunity to talk to the inspector or to any other inspecting officer without the director or other members of the staff being present.

(3) Every prisoner shall be allowed to make a request or complaint, without censorship as to substance but in proper form, to the central prison administration, the judicial authority or other proper authorities, through approved channels.

(4) Unless it is evidently frivolous or groundless, every request or complaint shall be promptly dealt with and replied to without undue delay.

#### Contact with the Outside World

37. Prisoners shall be allowed under necessary supervision to communicate with their family and reputable friends at regular intervals, both by correspondence and by receiving visits.

38. (1) Prisoners who are foreign nationals shall be allowed reasonable facilities to communicate with the diplomatic and consular representatives of the State to which they belong.
- (2) Prisoners who are nationals of States without diplomatic or consular representation in the country and refugees or stateless persons shall be allowed similar facilities to communicate with the diplomatic representative of the State which takes charge of their interests or any national or international authority whose task it is to protect such persons.
39. Prisoners shall be kept informed regularly of the more important items of news by the reading of newspapers, periodicals or special institutional publications, by hearing wireless transmissions, by lectures or by any similar means as authorized or controlled by the administration.

#### Books

40. Every institution shall have a library for the use of all categories of prisoners, adequately stocked with both recreational and instructional books, and prisoners shall be encouraged to make full use of it.

*Religion*  
41. (1) If the institution contains a sufficient number of prisoners of the same religion, a qualified representative of that religion shall be appointed or approved. If the number of prisoners justifies it and conditions permit, the arrangement should be on a full-time basis.

(2) A qualified representative appointed or approved under paragraph (1) shall be allowed to hold regular services and to pay pastoral visits in private to prisoners of his religion at proper times.

(3) Access to a qualified representative of any religion shall not be refused to any prisoner. On the other hand, if any prisoner should object to a visit of any religious representative, his attitude should be fully respected.

42. So far as practicable, every prisoner shall be allowed to satisfy the needs of his religious life by attending the services provided in the institution and having in his possession the books of religious observance and instruction of his religious denomination.

#### Retention of Prisoners' Property

43. (1) All money, valuables, clothing and other effects belonging to a prisoner which under the regulations of the institution he is not allowed to retain shall on his admission to the institution be placed in safe custody. An inventory thereof shall be signed by the prisoner. Steps shall be taken to keep them in good condition.

(2) On the release of the prisoner all such articles and money shall be returned to him except in so far as he has been authorized to spend money or send any such property out of the institution, or it has been found necessary on hygienic grounds to destroy any article of clothing. The prisoner shall sign a receipt for the articles and money returned to him.

(3) Any money or effects received for a prisoner from outside shall be treated in the same way.

(4) If a prisoner brings in any drugs or medicine, the medical officer shall decide what use shall be made of them.

#### Notification of Death, Illness, Transfer, etc.

44. (1) Upon the death or serious illness of, or serious injury to a prisoner, or his removal to an institution for the treatment of mental affections, the director shall at once inform the spouse, if the prisoner is married, or the nearest relative and shall in any event inform any other person previously designated by the prisoner.

(2) A prisoner shall be informed at once of the death or serious illness of any near relative. In case of dangerous illness of a near relative of a prisoner, he should be authorized, whenever circumstances allows it, to go to his bedside either under escort or alone.

(3) Every prisoner shall have the right to inform at once his family of his imprisonment or his transfer to another institution.

#### Removal of Prisoners

45. (1) When prisoners are being removed to or from an institution, they shall be exposed to public view as little as possible, and proper safeguards shall be adopted to protect them from insult, curiosity and publicity in any form.

(2) The transport of prisoners in conveyances with inadequate ventilation or light, or in any way which would subject them to unnecessary physical hardship, shall be prohibited.

(3) The transport of prisoners shall be carried out at the expense of the administration and equal conditions shall obtain for all of them.

#### Institutional Personnel

46. (1) The prison administration shall provide for the careful selection of every grade of the personnel, since it is on their integrity, humanity, professional capacity and personal suitability for the work that the proper administration of the institutions depends.

- (2) The prison administration shall constantly seek to awaken and maintain in the minds both of the personnel and of the public the conviction that this work is a social service of great importance, and to this end all appropriate means of informing the public should be used.
- (3) To secure the foregoing ends, personnel shall be appointed on a full-time basis as professional prison officers and have civil service status with security of tenure subject only to good conduct, efficiency, and physical fitness. Their salaries shall be adequate to attract and retain suitable men and women, and their conditions of service shall be favourable in view of the exacting nature of the work.
47. (1) The personnel shall possess an adequate standard of education and intelligence.
- (2) Before entering on duty, the personnel shall be given a course of training in their general and specific duties and be required to pass theoretical and practical tests.
- (3) After entering on duty and during their career, the personnel shall maintain and improve their knowledge and professional capacity by attending courses of in-service training to be organized at suitable intervals.
48. All members of the personnel shall at all times so conduct themselves and perform their duties as to influence the prisoners for good by their examples and to command their respect.
49. (1) So far as possible, the personnel shall include a sufficient number of specialists such as psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, teachers and trade instructors.
- (2) The services of social workers, teachers and trade instructors shall be secured on a permanent basis, without thereby excluding part-time or voluntary workers.
50. (1) The director of an institution should be adequately qualified for his task by character, administrative ability, suitable training, and experience.
- (2) He shall devote his entire time to his official duties and shall not be appointed on a part-time basis.
- (3) He shall reside on the premises of the institution or in its immediate vicinity.
- (4) When two or more institutions are under the authority of one director, he shall visit each of them at frequent intervals. A responsible resident official shall be in charge of each of these institutions.

51. (1) The director, his deputy, and the majority of the other personnel of the institution shall be able to speak the language of the greatest number of prisoners, or a language understood by the greatest number of them.
- (2) Whenever necessary, the services of an interpreter shall be used.
52. (1) In institutions which are large enough to require the services of one or more full-time medical officers, at least one of them shall reside on the premises of the institution or in its immediate vicinity.
- (2) In other institutions the medical officer shall visit daily and shall reside near enough to be able to attend without delay in cases of urgency.
53. (1) In an institution for both men and women, the part of the institution set aside for women shall be under the authority of a responsible woman officer who shall have the custody of the keys of all that part of the institution.
- (2) No male member of the staff shall enter the part of the institution set aside for women unless accompanied by a woman officer.
- (3) Women prisoners shall be attended and supervised only by women officers. This does not, however, preclude male members of the staff, particularly doctors and teachers, from carrying out their professional duties in institutions or parts of institutions set aside for women.
54. (1) Officers of the institutions shall not, in their relations with the prisoners, use force except in self-defence or in cases of attempted escape, or active or passive physical resistance to an order based on law or regulations. Officers who have recourse to force must use no more than is strictly necessary and must report the incident immediately to the director of the institution.
- (2) Prison officers shall be given special physical training to enable them to restrain aggressive prisoners.
- (3) Except in special circumstances, staff performing duties which bring them into direct contact with prisoners should not be armed. Staff should in no circumstances be provided with arms unless they have been trained in their use.

#### Inspection

55. There shall be a regular inspection of penal institutions and services by qualified and experienced inspectors appointed by a competent authority. Their task shall be in particular to ensure that these institutions are administered in accordance with existing laws and regulations and with a view to bringing about the objectives of correctional services.

PART II: RULES APPLICABLE TO SPECIAL CATEGORIES

A. Prisoners under sentence

Guiding Principles

56. The guiding principles hereafter are intended to show the spirit in which penal institutions should be administered and the purposes at which they should aim, in accordance with the declaration made under Preliminary Observation 1 of the present text.
57. Imprisonment and other measures which result in cutting off an offender from the outside world are afflictive by the very fact of taking from the person the right of self-determination by depriving him of his liberty. Therefore the prison system shall not, except as incidental to justifiable segregation or the maintenance of discipline, aggravate the suffering inherent in such a situation.
58. The purpose and justification of a sentence of imprisonment or a similar measure deprivative of liberty is ultimately to protect society against crime. This end can only be achieved if the period of imprisonment is used to ensure, so far as possible, that upon his return to society the offender is not only willing but able to lead a law-abiding and self-supporting life.
59. To this end, the institution should utilize all the remedial, educational, moral, spiritual and other forces and forms of assistance which are appropriate and available, and should seek to apply them according to the individual treatment needs of the prisoners.
60. (1) The regime of the institution should seek to minimize any differences between prison life and life at liberty which tend to lessen the responsibility of the prisoners or the respect due to their dignity as human beings.
- (2) Before the completion of the sentence, it is desirable that the necessary steps be taken to ensure for the prisoner a gradual return to life in society. This aim may be achieved, depending on the case, by a pre-release regime organized in the same institution or in another appropriate institution, or by release on trial under some kind of supervision which must not be entrusted to the police and which should be combined with effective social aid.
61. The treatment of prisoners should emphasize not their exclusion from the community, but their continuing part in it. Community agencies should, therefore, be enlisted wherever possible to assist the staff of the institution in the task of social rehabilitation of the prisoners. There should be in connexion with every institution social workers charged with the duty of maintaining and improving all desirable relations of a prisoner with his family and with valuable social agencies. Steps should be taken to safeguard, to the maximum extent compatible with the law and the sentence, the rights relating to civil interests, social security rights and other social benefits of prisoners.

62. The medical services of the institution shall seek to detect and shall treat any physical or mental illnesses or defects which may hamper a prisoner's rehabilitation. All necessary medical, surgical and psychiatric services shall be provided to that end.
63. (1) The fulfilment of these principles requires individualization of treatment and for this purpose a flexible system of classifying prisoners in groups; it is therefore desirable that such groups should be distributed in separate institutions suitable for the treatment of each group.
- (2) These institutions need not provide the same degree of security for every group. It is desirable to provide varying degrees of security according to the needs of different groups. Open institutions, by the very fact that they provide no physical security against escape but rely on the self-discipline of the inmates, provide the conditions most favourable to rehabilitation for carefully selected prisoners.
- (3) It is desirable that the number of prisoners in closed institutions should not be so large that the individualization of treatment is hindered. In some countries it is considered that the population of such institutions should not exceed five hundred. In open institutions the population should be as small as possible.
- (4) On the other hand, it is undesirable to maintain prisons which are so small that proper facilities cannot be provided.
64. The duty of society does not end with a prisoner's release. There should, therefore, be governmental or private agencies capable of lending the released prisoner efficient after-care directed towards the lessening of prejudice against him and towards his social rehabilitation.

#### Treatment

65. The treatment of persons sentenced to imprisonment shall have as its purpose, so far as the length of the sentence permits, to establish in them the will to lead law-abiding and self-supporting lives after their release and to fit them to do so. The treatment shall be such as will encourage their self-respect and develop their sense of responsibility.
66. (1) To these ends, all appropriate means shall be used, including religious care in the countries where this is possible, education, vocational guidance and training, social casework, employment counselling, physical development and strengthening of moral character, in accordance with the individual needs of each prisoner, taking account of his social and criminal history, his physical and mental capacities and aptitudes, his personal temperament, the length of his sentence and his prospects after release.



(2) For every prisoner with a sentence of suitable length, the director shall receive, as soon as possible after his admission, full reports on all the matters referred to in the foregoing paragraph, and such reports shall always include reports by a medical officer, wherever possible qualified in psychiatry, on the physical and mental condition of the prisoner.

(3) The reports and other relevant documents shall be placed in an individual file. This file shall be kept up to date and classified in such a way that it can be consulted by the responsible personnel whenever the need arises.

#### Classification and Individualization

67. The purposes of classification shall be:

(a) to separate from others those prisoners who, by reason of their criminal records or bad characters, are likely to exercise a bad influence;

(b) to divide the prisoners into classes in order to facilitate their treatment with a view to their social rehabilitation.

68. So far as possible separate institutions or separate sections of an institution shall be used for the treatment of the different classes of prisoners.

69. As soon as possible after admission and after a study of the personality of a prisoner with a sentence of suitable length, a programme of treatment shall be prepared for him in the light of the knowledge obtained about his individual needs, his capacities and dispositions.

#### Privileges

70. Systems of privileges appropriate for the different classes of prisoners and the different methods of treatment shall be established at every institution, in order to encourage good conduct, develop a sense of responsibility and secure the interest and co-operation of the prisoners in their treatment.

#### Work

71. (1) Prison labour must not be afflictive.

(2) All prisoners under sentence shall be required to work, subject to their physical and mental fitness as determined by the medical officer.

(3) Sufficient work of a useful nature shall be provided to keep prisoners actively employed for a normal working day.

(4) So far as possible the work provided shall be such as will maintain or increase the prisoners' ability to earn an honest living after release.

(5) Vocational training in useful trades shall be provided for prisoners able to profit thereby and especially for young prisoners.

(6) Within the limits compatible with proper vocational selection and with the requirements of institutional administration and discipline, the prisoners shall be able to choose the type of work they wish to perform.

72. (1) The organization and methods of work in the institutions shall resemble as closely as possible those of similar work outside institutions, so as to prepare prisoners for the conditions of normal occupational life.

(2) The interests of the prisoners and of their vocational training, however, shall not be subordinated to the purpose of making a financial profit from an industry in the institution.

73. (1) Preferably institutional industries and farms should be operated directly by the administration and not by private contractors.

(2) Where prisoners are employed in work not controlled by the administration, they shall always be under the supervision of the institution's personnel. Unless the work is for other departments of the Government the full normal wages for such work shall be paid to the administration by the persons to whom the labour is supplied, account being taken of the output of the prisoners.

74. (1) The precautions laid down to protect the safety and health of free workmen shall be equally observed in institutions.

(2) Provision shall be made to indemnify prisoners against industrial injury, including occupational disease, on terms not less favourable than those extended by law to free workmen.

75. (1) The maximum daily and weekly working hours of the prisoners shall be fixed by law or by administrative regulation, taking into account local rules or custom in regard to the employment of free workmen.

(2) The hours so fixed shall leave one rest day a week and sufficient time for education and other activities required as part of the treatment and rehabilitation of the prisoners.

76. (1) There shall be a system of equitable remuneration of the work of prisoners.

(2) Under the system prisoners shall be allowed to spend at least a part of their earnings on approved articles for their own use and to send a part of their earnings to their family.

(3) The system should also provide that a part of the earnings should be set aside by the administration so as to constitute a savings fund to be handed over to the prisoner on his release.

#### Education and Recreation

77. (1) Provision shall be made for the further education of all prisoners capable of profiting thereby, including religious instruction in the countries where this is possible. The education of illiterates and young prisoners shall be compulsory and special attention shall be paid to it by the administration.

(2) So far as practicable, the education of prisoners shall be integrated with the educational system of the country so that after their release they may continue their education without difficulty.

78. Recreational and cultural activities shall be provided in all institutions for the benefit of the mental and physical health of prisoners.

#### Social Relations and After-Care

79. Special attention shall be paid to the maintenance and improvement of such relations between a prisoner and his family as are desirable in the best interests of both.

80. From the beginning of a prisoner's sentence consideration shall be given to his future after release and he shall be encouraged and assisted to maintain or establish such relations with persons or agencies outside the institution as may promote the best interests of his family and his own social rehabilitation.

81. (1) Services and agencies, governmental or otherwise, which assist released prisoners to re-establish themselves in society shall ensure, so far as is possible and necessary, that released prisoners be provided with appropriate documents and identification papers, have suitable homes and work to go to, are suitably and adequately clothed having regard to the climate and season, and have sufficient means to reach their destinations and maintain themselves in the period immediately following their release.

(2) The approved representatives of such agencies shall have all necessary access to the institution and to prisoners and shall be taken into consultation as to the future of a prisoner from the beginning of his sentence.

(3) It is desirable that the activities of such agencies shall be centralized or co-ordinated as far as possible in order to secure the best use of their efforts.

B. Insane and mentally abnormal prisoners

82. (1) Persons who are found to be insane shall not be detained in prisons and arrangements shall be made to remove them to mental institutions as soon as possible.

(2) Prisoners who suffer from other mental diseases or abnormalities shall be observed and treated in specialized institutions under medical management.

(3) During this stay in a prison, such prisoners shall be placed under the special supervision of a medical officer.

(4) The medical or psychiatric service of the penal institutions shall provide for the psychiatric treatment of all other prisoners who are in need of such treatment.

83. It is desirable that steps should be taken, by arrangement with the appropriate agencies, to ensure if necessary the continuation of psychiatric treatment after release and the provision of social-psychiatric after-care.

C. Prisoners under arrest or awaiting trial

84. (1) Persons arrested or imprisoned by reason of a criminal charge against them, who are detained either in police custody or in prison custody (jail) but have not yet been tried and sentenced, will be referred to as "untried prisoners" hereinafter in these rules.

(2) Unconvicted prisoners are presumed to be innocent and shall be treated as such.

(3) Without prejudice to legal rules for the protection of individual liberty or prescribing the procedure to be observed in respect of untried prisoners, these prisoners shall benefit by a special regime which is described in the following rules in its essential requirements only.

85. (1) Untried prisoners shall be segregated from convicted prisoners.

(2) Young untried prisoners shall be segregated from adults and shall in principle be detained in separate institutions.

86. Untried prisoners shall sleep singly in separate rooms, with the reservation of different local custom in respect of the climate.

87. Within the limits compatible with the good order of the institution, untried prisoners may, if they so desire, have their food procured at their own expense from the outside, either through the administration or

through their family or friends. Otherwise, the administration shall provide their food.

88. (1) An untried prisoner shall be allowed to wear his own clothing if it is clean and suitable.
- (2) If he wears prison dress, it shall be different from that supplied to convicted prisoners.
89. An untried prisoner shall always be offered opportunity to work, but shall not be required to work. If he chooses to work, he shall be paid for it.
90. An untried prisoner shall be allowed to procure at his own expense or at the expense of a third party such books, newspapers, writing materials and other means of occupation as are compatible with the interests of the administration of justice and the security and good order of the institution.
91. An untried prisoner shall be allowed to be visited and treated by his own doctor or dentist if there is reasonable ground for his application and he is able to pay any expenses incurred.
92. An untried prisoner shall be allowed to inform immediately his family of his detention and shall be given all reasonable facilities for communicating with his family and friends, and for receiving visits from them, subject only to such restrictions and supervision as are necessary in the interests of the administration of justice and of the security and good order of the institution.
93. For the purposes of his defence, an untried prisoner shall be allowed to apply for free legal aid where such aid is available, and to receive visits from his legal adviser and to prepare and hand to him confidential instructions. For these purposes, he shall if he so desires be supplied with writing material. Interviews between the prisoner and his legal adviser may be within sight but not within the hearing of a police or institution official.

#### D. Civil prisoners

94. In countries where the law permits imprisonment for debt or by order of a court under any other non-criminal process, persons so imprisoned shall not be subjected to any greater restriction or severity than is necessary to ensure safe custody and good order. Their treatment shall be not less favourable than that of untried prisoners, with the reservation, however, that they may possibly be required to work.

PART TWO

SELECTION AND TRAINING OF PERSONNEL FOR  
PENAL AND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Resolution adopted on 1 September 1955:

The First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Having adopted recommendations, annexed to the present resolution, on the question of the selection and training of personnel for penal and correctional institutions,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph (d) of the Annex to Resolution 415 (V) of the General Assembly of the United Nations, to submit these recommendations to the Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council for approval;
2. Expresses the hope that the Economic and Social Council will endorse these recommendations and draw them to the attention of governments, recommending that governments take them as fully as possible into account in their practice and when considering legislative and administrative reforms;
3. Expresses also the wish that the Economic and Social Council request the Secretary-General to give the widest publicity to these recommendations and authorize him to collect periodically information on the matter from the various countries, and to publish such information.

Annex:

Recommendations on the Selection and Training of Personnel  
for Penal and Correctional Institutions

A. Modern conception of prison service

I. Prison service in the nature of a social service

(1) Attention is drawn to the change in the nature of prison staffs which results from the development in the conception of their duty from that of guards to that of members of an important social service demanding ability, appropriate training and good team work on the part of every member.

(2) An effort should be made to arouse and keep alive in the minds both of the public and of the staff an understanding of the nature of modern prison service. For this purpose all appropriate means of informing the public should be used.

## II. Specialization of functions

(1) This new conception is reflected in the tendency to add to the staff an increasing number of specialists, such as doctors, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, teachers, technical instructors.

(2) This is a healthy tendency and it is recommended that it should be favourably considered by governments even though additional expense would be involved.

## III. Co-ordination

(1) The increasing specialization may, however, hamper an integrated approach to the treatment of prisoners and present problems in the co-ordination of the work of the various types of specialized staff.

(2) Consequently, in the treatment of prisoners, it is necessary to ensure that all the specialists concerned work together as a team.

(3) It is also considered necessary to ensure, by the appointment of a co-ordinating committee or otherwise, that all the specialized services follow a uniform approach. In this way the members of the staff will also have the advantage of gaining a clearer insight into the various aspects of the problems involved.

### B. Status of staff and conditions of service

## IV. Civil service status

Full-time prison staff should have the status of civil servants, that is, they should:

(a) Be employed by the government of the country or State and hence be governed by civil service rules;

(b) Be recruited according to certain rules of selection such as competitive examination;

(c) Have security of tenure subject only to good conduct, efficiency and physical fitness;

(d) Have permanent status and be entitled to the advantages of a civil service career in such matters as promotion, social security, allowances, and retirement or pension benefits.

## V. Full-time employment

(1) Prison staff, with the exception of certain professional and technical grades, should devote their entire time to their duties and therefore be appointed on a full-time basis.

(2) In particular, the post of director of an institution must not be a part-time appointment.

(3) The services of social workers, teachers and trade instructors should be secured on a permanent basis, without thereby excluding part-time workers.

VI. Conditions of service in general

(1) The conditions of service of institutional staff should be sufficient to attract and retain the best qualified persons.

(2) Salaries and other employment benefits should not be arbitrarily tied to those of other public servants but should be related to the work to be performed in a modern penitentiary system, which is complex and arduous and is in the nature of an important social service.

(3) Sufficient and suitable living quarters should be provided for the prison staff in the vicinity of the institution.

VII. Non-military organization of the staff

(1) Prison staff should be organized on civilian lines with a division into ranks or grades as this type of administration requires.

(2) Custodial staff should be organized in accordance with the disciplinary rules of the penal institution in order to maintain the necessary grade distinctions and order.

(3) Staff should be specially recruited and not seconded from the armed forces or police or other public services.

VIII. Carrying of arms

(1) Except in special circumstances, staff performing duties which bring them into direct contact with prisoners should not be armed.

(2) Staff should in no circumstances be provided with arms unless they have been trained in their use.

(3) It is desirable that prison staff should be responsible for surveillance outside the institution.

C. Recruitment of staff

IX. Competent authority and general administrative methods

(1) As far as possible recruitment should be centralized, in conformity with the structure of each State, and be under the direction of the superior or central prison administration.



(2) Where other State bodies such as a civil service commission are responsible for recruitment, the prison administration should not be required to accept a candidate whom they do not regard as suitable.

(3) Provision should be made to exclude political influence in appointments to the staff of the prison service.

X. General conditions of recruitment

(1) The prison administration should be particularly careful in the recruitment of staff, selecting only persons having the requisite qualities of integrity, humanitarian approach, competence and physical fitness.

(2) Members of the staff should be able to speak the language of the greatest number of prisoners or a language understood by the greatest number of them.

XI. Custodial staff

(1) The educational standards and intelligence of this staff should be sufficient to enable them to carry out their duties effectively and to profit by whatever in-service training courses are provided.

(2) Suitable intelligence, vocational and physical tests for the scientific evaluation of the candidates' capacities are recommended in addition to the relevant competitive examinations.

(3) Candidates who have been admitted should serve a probationary period to allow the competent authorities to form an opinion of their personality, character and ability.

XII. Higher administration

Special care should be taken in the appointment of persons who are to fill posts in the higher administration of the prison services; only persons who are suitably trained and have sufficient knowledge and experience should be considered.

XIII. Directors or executive staff

(1) The directors or assistant directors of institutions should be adequately qualified for their functions by reason of their character, administrative ability, training and experience.

(2) They should have a good educational background and a vocation for the work. The administration should endeavour to attract persons with specialized training which offers adequate preparation for prison service.

XIV. Specialized and administrative staff

- (1) The staff performing specialized functions, including administrative functions, should possess the professional or technical qualifications required for each of the various functions in question.
- (2) The recruitment of specialized staff should therefore be based on the professional training diplomas or university degrees evidencing their special training.
- (3) It is recommended that preference should be given to candidates who, in addition to such professional qualifications, have a second degree or qualification, or specialized experience in prison work.

XV. Staff of women's institutions

The staff of women's institutions should consist of women. This does not, however, preclude male members of the staff, particularly doctors and teachers, from carrying out their professional duties in institutions or parts of institutions set aside for women. Female staff, whether lay or religious, should, as far as possible, possess the same qualifications as those required for appointment to institutions for men.

D. Professional training

XVI. Training prior to final appointment

Before entering on duty, staff should be given a course of training in their general duties, with a view particularly to social problems, and in their specific duties and be required to pass theoretical and practical examinations.

XVII. Custodial staff

- (1) A programme of intensive professional training for custodial staff is recommended. The following might serve as an example for the organization of such training in three stages:
- (2) The first stage should take place in a penal institution, its aim being to familiarize the candidate with the special problems of the profession and at the same time to ascertain whether he possesses the necessary qualities. During this initial phase, the candidate should not be given any responsibility; and his work should be constantly supervised by a member of the regular staff. The director should arrange an elementary course in practical subjects for the candidates.
- (3) During the second stage, the candidate should attend a school or course organized by the superior or central prison administration, which should be responsible for the theoretical and practical training of officers in professional subjects. Special attention should be paid to

the technique of relations with the prisoners, based on the elementary principles of psychology and criminology. The training courses should moreover comprise lessons on the elements of penology, prison administration, penal law and related matters.

(4) It is desirable that during the first two stages candidates should be admitted and trained in groups, so as to obviate the possibility of their being prematurely employed in the service and to facilitate the organization of courses of training.

(5) The third stage, intended for candidates who have satisfactorily completed the first two and shown the greatest interest and a vocation for the service, should consist of actual service during which they will be expected to show that they possess all the requisite qualifications. They should also be offered an opportunity to attend more advanced training courses in psychology, criminology, penal law, penology and related subjects.

#### XVIII. Directors or executive staff

(1) As methods vary greatly from country to country at the present time, the necessity for adequate training, which directors and assistant directors should have received prior to their appointment in conformity with paragraph XIII above, should be recognized as a general rule.

(2) Where persons from the outside with no previous experience of the work but with proved experience in similar fields are recruited as directors or assistant directors, they should, before taking up their duties, receive theoretical training and gain practical experience of prison work for a reasonable period, it being understood that a diploma granted by a specialized vocational school or a university degree in a relevant subject may be considered as sufficient theoretical training.

#### XIX. Specialized staff

The initial training to be required from specialized staff is determined by the conditions of recruitment, as described in paragraph XIV above.

#### XX. Regional training institutes for prison personnel

The establishment of regional institutes for the training of the staff of penal and correctional institutions should be encouraged.

#### XXI. Physical training and instruction in the use of arms

(1) Prison officers shall be given special physical training to enable them to restrain aggressive prisoners by the means prescribed by the authorities in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations.

- (2) Officers who are provided with arms shall be trained in their use and instructed in the regulations governing their use.

#### XXII. In-service training

- (1) After taking up their duties and during their career, staff should maintain and improve their knowledge and professional capacity by attending advanced courses of in-service training which are to be organized periodically.
- (2) The in-service training of custodial staff should be concerned with questions of principle and technique rather than solely with rules and regulations.
- (3) Whenever any type of special training is required it should be at the expense of the State and those undergoing training should receive the pay and allowances of their grade. Supplementary training to fit the officer for promotion may be at the expense of the officer and in his own time.

#### XXIII. Discussion groups, visits to institutions, seminars for senior personnel

- (1) For senior staff, group discussions are recommended on matters of practical interest rather than on academic subjects, combined with visits to different types of institutions, including those outside the penal system. It would be desirable to invite specialists from other countries to participate in such meetings.
- (2) It is also recommended that exchanges be organized between various countries in order to allow senior personnel to obtain practical experience in institutions of other countries.

#### XXIV. Joint consultation, visits and meetings for all grades of staff

- (1) Methods of joint consultation should be established to enable all grades of prison personnel to express their opinion on the methods used in the treatment of prisoners. Moreover, lectures, visits to other institutions and, if possible, regular seminars should be organized for all categories of staff.
- (2) It is also recommended that meetings should be arranged at which the staff may exchange information and discuss questions of professional interest.

## PART THREE

## OPEN PENAL AND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Resolution adopted on 29 August 1955:

The First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Having adopted recommendations, annexed to the present resolution, on the question of open penal and correctional institutions,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph (d) of the Annex to Resolution 415 (V) of the General Assembly of the United Nations, to submit these recommendations to the Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council for approval;
2. Expresses the hope that the Economic and Social Council will endorse these recommendations and draw them to the attention of governments, recommending that governments take them as fully as possible into account in their practice and when considering legislative and administrative reforms;
3. Expresses also the wish that the Economic and Social Council request the Secretary-General to give the widest publicity to these recommendations and authorize him to collect periodically information on the matter from the various countries, and to publish such information.

Annex:

Recommendations on Open Penal and Correctional Institutions

- I. An open institution is characterized by the absence of material or physical precautions against escape (such as walls, locks, bars, armed or other special security guards), and by a system based on self-discipline and the inmate's sense of responsibility towards the group in which he lives. This system encourages the inmate to use the freedom accorded to him without abusing it. It is these characteristics which distinguish the open institution from other types of institutions, some of which are run on the same principles without, however, realizing them to the full.
- II. The open institution ought, in principle, to be an independent establishment; it may, however, where necessary, form a separate annex to an institution of another type.
- III. In accordance with each country's prison system, prisoners may be sent to such an institution either at the beginning of their sentence or after they have served part of it in an institution of a different type.

IV. The criterion governing the selection of prisoners for admission to an open institution should be, not the particular penal or correctional category to which the offender belongs, nor the length of his sentence, but his suitability for admission to an open institution and the fact that his social readjustment is more likely to be achieved by such a system than by treatment under other forms of detention. The selection should, as far as possible, be made on the basis of a medico-psychological examination and a social investigation.

V. Any inmate found incapable of adapting himself to treatment in an open institution or whose conduct is seriously detrimental to the proper control of the institution or has an unfortunate effect on the behaviour of other inmates should be transferred to an institution of a different type.

VI. The success of an open institution depends on the fulfilment of the following conditions in particular:

(a) If the institution is situated in the country, it should not be so isolated as to obstruct the purpose of the institution or to cause excessive inconvenience to the staff.

(b) With a view to their social rehabilitation, prisoners should be employed in work which will prepare them for useful and remunerative employment after release. While the provision of agricultural work is an advantage, it is desirable also to provide workshops in which the prisoners can receive vocational and industrial training.

(c) If the process of social readjustment is to take place in an atmosphere of trust, it is essential that the members of the staff should be acquainted with and understand the character and special needs of each prisoner and that they should be capable of exerting a wholesome moral influence. The selection of the staff should be governed by these considerations.

(d) For the same reason, the number of inmates should remain within such bounds as to enable the director and senior officers of the staff to become thoroughly acquainted with each prisoner.

(e) It is necessary to obtain the effective co-operation of the public in general and of the surrounding community in particular for the operation of open institutions. For this purpose it is therefore, among other things, necessary to inform the public of the aims and methods of each open institution, and also of the fact that the system applied in it requires a considerable moral effort on the part of the prisoner. In this connexion, local and national media of information may play a valuable part.

VII. In applying the system of open institutions each country, with due regard for its particular social, economic and cultural conditions, should be guided by the following observations:

(a) Countries which are experimenting with the open system for the first time should refrain from laying down rigid and detailed regulations in advance for the operation of open institutions;

(b) During the experimental stage they should be guided by the methods of organization and the procedure already found to be effective in countries which are more advanced in this respect.

VIII. While in the open institution the risk of escape and the danger that the inmate may make improper use of his contacts with the outside world are admittedly greater than in other types of penal institutions, these disadvantages are amply outweighed by the following advantages, which make the open institution superior to the other types of institution:

(a) The open institution is more favourable to the social readjustment of the prisoners and at the same time more conducive to their physical and mental health.

(b) The flexibility inherent in the open system is expressed in a liberalization of the regulations; the tensions of prison life are relieved and discipline consequently improves. Moreover, the absence of material and physical constraint and the relations of greater confidence between prisoners and staff tend to create in the prisoners a genuine desire for social readjustment.

(c) The conditions of life in open institutions resemble more closely those of normal life. Consequently, desirable contacts can more easily be arranged with the outside world and the inmate can thus be brought to realize that he has not severed all links with society; in this connexion it might perhaps be possible to arrange, for instance, group walks, sporting competitions with outside teams, and even individual leave of absence, particularly for the purpose of preserving family ties.

(d) The same measure is less costly if applied in an open institution than in an institution of another type, in particular because of lower building costs and, in the case of an agricultural institution, the higher income obtained from cultivation, if cultivation is organized in a rational manner.

IX. In conclusion, the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders:

(a) Considers that the open institution marks an important step in the development of modern prison systems and represents one of the most successful applications of the principle of the individualization of penalties with a view to social readjustment;

(b) Believes that the system of open institutions could contribute to decreasing the disadvantages of short-term sentences of imprisonment;

(c) Consequently recommends the extension of the open system to the largest possible number of prisoners, subject to the fulfilment of the conditions set forth in the foregoing recommendations;

(d) Recommends the compilation of statistics supplemented by follow-up studies conducted, in so far as possible, with the help of independent scientific authorities, which will make it possible to assess, from the point of view of recidivism and social rehabilitation, the results of treatment in open institutions.



PART FOUR

PRISON LABOUR

Resolution adopted on 2 September 1955:

The First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Having adopted recommendations, annexed to the present resolution, on the question of prison labour,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph (d) of the Annex to Resolution 415 (V) of the General Assembly of the United Nations, to submit these recommendations to the Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council for approval;
2. Expresses the hope that the Economic and Social Council will endorse the general principles contained in these recommendations and recommend to governments that they take them as fully as possible into account in their practice and when considering legislative and administrative reform;
3. Calls attention in particular to the proposals for further study and expresses the hope that the Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council will find it advisable to include these topics in the future work programme of the Regional Consultative Groups organized in accordance with the above-mentioned resolution.

Annex:

Recommendations on Prison Labour

General Principles

- I. All prisoners under sentence should be required to work subject to their physical and mental fitness as determined medically. Work is not to be conceived as additional punishment but as a means of furthering the rehabilitation of the prisoner, his training for work, the forming of better work habits, and of preventing idleness and disorder. Those who cannot legally be compelled to work should nevertheless be allowed and encouraged to do so.
- II. The interests of the prisoners and of their vocational training must not be subordinated to the purpose of making a financial profit from an industry in the institution. It is the duty of the State to ensure that adequate and suitable employment is provided for prisoners. It is preferable that this be done under the State-use system with compulsory government markets. Recourse may be had to private industry when sound reasons exist, provided adequate safeguards are established to ensure that there is no exploitation of prison labour and that the interests of private industry and free labour are protected.

III. Prison labour should be performed under conditions and in an environment which will stimulate industrious habits and interest in work. The management and organization of prison labour, whether industrial or agricultural, should be as much as possible like that of free labour, so as to enable prisoners to adapt themselves to the conditions of normal economic life.

IV. In prison labour programmes special attention should be paid to vocational training for prisoners able to profit thereby and especially to young prisoners, according to methods and standards as generally recognized in the country, so as to enable them to qualify on equal terms with persons outside the institution and to acquire, if appropriate, the same diploma or certificate as under normal circumstances.

The trades should be sufficiently varied to enable them to be adapted to the requirements of the labour market and the educational standards, aptitudes, and inclinations of the prisoners.

Outside his working hours a prisoner should be given the opportunity to improve his skill in the work he is doing already or any kind of suitable work he may be interested in, for example, by attending theoretical or practical classes.

V. It is desirable to give suitable categories of prisoners vocational examination and to take the results into account when they are assigned to a certain type of work in the institution.

Within the limits compatible with proper vocational selection and with the requirements of prison administration and discipline, the preferences of the prisoner should be taken into account in assigning the work most suitable for him. It should be such as will maintain or increase the prisoner's ability to earn an honest living after release.

It is desirable to ascertain what types of work are most suitable for prisons, with a view to the prisoner's rehabilitation.

VI. The precautions laid down to protect the safety and health of free workmen should likewise be observed in institutions. Provision should be made to compensate prisoners for industrial accidents and diseases on terms not less favourable than those granted by law to free workmen. In addition, prisoners should participate to the greatest practicable extent in the social insurance schemes in force in their countries.

VII. Prisoners should receive an equitable remuneration for their work. This remuneration should be at least such as to stimulate keenness and interest in the work.

It is desirable that it should be sufficient to enable prisoners at least in part, to help their families, to indemnify their victims, to further their own interests within the prescribed limits and to set aside a part as savings to be returned to them on discharge, where desirable through an official or agency.

VIII. In planning prison labour programmes, greatest possible reliance should be placed on the use of open institutions, in order not only to provide the variety of occupational opportunities afforded by open institutions but also to enable prison labour to be carried out under conditions approximating those of free labour.

IX. Consideration should be given to the arrangement or extension of schemes under which selected prisoners, especially those serving long sentences, may qualify during the last few months prior to release to go out daily to work for a private employer or a public enterprise, preferably in the trade in which they qualified prior to, or have been trained during, their sentence.

#### Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour

The Congress has noted with satisfaction that the International Labour Organisation has taken preliminary steps towards a review of the Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour.

The Congress wishes to point out that in any revision of this Convention, and particularly of article 2, paragraph 2, it would be desirable to exclude from the definition of Forced Labour the employment of selected prisoners by private employers or public enterprises outside the prison in such ways as are likely to assist their rehabilitation, subject always to such safeguards in respect of wages and conditions of work as are necessary to prevent exploitation, inasmuch as this is a vital element of progressive penal policy.

#### Proposals for Further Study

It is recommended that further study be given, inter alia, by Regional Consultative Groups, to the following:

- (a) The integration of prison labour with the national economy. In this connexion it would be advisable to have the collaboration of persons outside the prison administration and in particular of economists and representatives of workers' and employers' organizations;
- (b) Methods of remuneration with particular reference to the principle that prisoners should be paid for their work on the basis of normal wages paid in the free labour market. Both advantages and disadvantages of that method should be carefully studied, and whether a part of the remuneration should go to indemnify the victim;
- (c) Appropriate prison labour programmes for special categories of offenders such as professional classes, mentally abnormal persons and work-shy individuals;

(d) The special problems encountered with respect to labour programmes for untried prisoners;

(e) The measures which should be taken in order that the sentence of a prisoner should not be an insurmountable obstacle to his finding work after release.

PART FIVE

PREVENTION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Resolution adopted on 3 September 1955:<sup>1/</sup>

The First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Having adopted the report annexed to the present resolution of its Section on the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph (d) of the Annex to Resolution 415 (V) of the General Assembly of the United Nations, to transmit this report to the Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council, calling its attention to the necessity of maintaining the priority already given to the question of juvenile delinquency in the programme of work of the Social Commission;
2. Recommends that, in accordance with the provisions of the Annex mentioned in paragraph 1 above, the Secretary-General of the United Nations inform the Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council of the following suggestions with a view to their being included in the social defence work programme:

(a) That the following studies be made:

- (i) A study of the methods used for the prevention of juvenile delinquency, the first stage of this study to pay particular attention to the possibility of organizing a social and health care or guidance system co-operating closely with the diagnostic services, and assistance to parents, particularly in the task of guidance; the second stage to make an assessment of the practical value of certain direct and indirect measures for the prevention of juvenile delinquency. This task might be undertaken by means of a small number of projects carried out in various regions, both developed and under-developed, with the assistance of governments and organizations which are prepared to collaborate; and,
- (ii) An evaluative study of the methods and techniques used by special police services dealing with juveniles. Certain countries have already introduced such services, but the results deserve careful study before positive conclusions can be drawn from them;

<sup>1/</sup> Consolidated text of draft resolutions A/CONF.6/L.12, L.12/Add.1 and 15, in accordance with authorization given to the General Rapporteur by the Congress.

(b) That the help of the non-governmental organizations with special knowledge in this field be sought in this connexion in accordance with resolution 155 C (VII) of the Economic and Social Council;

(c) That the United Nations Regional Consultative Groups and seminars continue to devote attention to the various aspects of juvenile delinquency; and

(d) That, when organizing forthcoming congresses, conferences or seminars, the organizations concerned, taking into account the problems facing different regions of the world, select clearly defined topics allowing for a thorough study and a useful comparison of the experience acquired in the various countries.

Annex:

Report on the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency

I. SCOPE AND PROCEDURES

The summary of the suggested Scope and Procedures and of the Conclusions and Recommendations presented below is drawn from the following sources:

- (1) The Report by the Secretariat on the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency and papers submitted by the Specialized Agencies;
- (2) Certain mandates from the Steering Committee of the Congress;
- (3) Oral and written statements submitted to the Congress by participants including Non-Governmental Organizations; and
- (4) The work of the Ad Hoc Drafting Committee charged with preparing Conclusions, presided over by the Chairman of the Section. 1/

Section III devoted initially considerable effort to arriving at a universally applicable definition of juvenile delinquency for the purposes of the work of the Congress. Delegates from several countries emphasized, as did the Report by the Secretariat, the importance of defining delinquency precisely and in legal terms, so that children should not unnecessarily be considered delinquent where their conduct had not been defined as a criminal offence by the law of their country. It was concluded, however, that, because of wide variations in custom, law and philosophy in different countries, it was not feasible to formulate a precise and universal definition of the term. Accordingly,

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1/ Under the chairmanship of Mr. John Ross, C.B., this Committee included Mlle. S. Huynen (Belgium), Mr. Justice John Vincent Barry (Australia), Mr. D.V. Kulkarni (India), Mr. I. Drapkin (Chile), Dr. D. Buckle (WHO), and Mr. P.W. Tappan, Rapporteur (USA).

a proposal relating to the scope of the matters to be considered was adopted by the Section to replace paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of "General principles with regard to the prevention of juvenile delinquency" (A/CONF.6/C.3/L.3) by the following:

"The subject for study is the situation of minors in whose interests society should promote measures designed to ensure, as far as possible, that they are enabled to live a law-abiding, well-adjusted and useful life.

"The discussion and study of the Congress should include not only those juveniles who have committed an act regarded as a criminal offence by the law of their country, but also those whose social situation or whose character places them in danger of committing such an act, or who are in need of care and protection.

"Preventive work should cover all three categories."

It was concluded that the attention of the Section should be directed primarily to pre-delinquency: the prevention of juvenile delinquency where no prior law violation had occurred. Further, it was proposed by the Chairman of the Section, and agreed by the delegates, that instead of proceeding on the basis of the Guiding Principles contained in document A/CONF.6/C.3/L.3, participants, taking account of what was being done towards prevention in their own countries, should consider how preventive work might be developed in relation to: (1) the community; (2) the family and school; (3) the social services; and (4) other agencies. It was recognized that there was overlapping within this classification; certain types of measures, for example, governmental and clinical services, might be employed in two or more of these categories.

It was observed that in the prevention of delinquency distinction should be made between those underlying and often highly significant influences that were indirect in their relation to delinquency, and the more direct influences that might encourage or discourage anti-social behaviour. Basic trends of culture in some societies might so promote delinquency as to make it extremely difficult to deal with the situation effectively by the more direct but partial measures of prevention that might be established.

## II. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### A. The Community

The Congress recognizes that the community, considered in its local, regional and national aspects, provides the environment in which social institutions mould the child's behaviour patterns and personality. The neighbourhood in which young people live and form their most important associations is perhaps the most decisive phase of community influence, though it reflects too the broader influences of the society and culture. The factors which shape character derive very largely from these community influences as they operate through the family, the school, religious and other social institutions. Community action to prevent

juvenile delinquency is to a great extent a matter of organizing the variety of community resources so as to provide, on the one hand, an environment in which children may develop without abnormalities of character and in which, on the other, those who are in danger of becoming delinquent may be discovered and guided toward conformity to normal standards. Toward these ends, the following conclusions and recommendations are submitted:

1. Services, both official and unofficial, for young people in the community should be organized and drawn together as closely as possible so as to provide them with a healthy environment for growth and to take appropriate measures of guidance and control when they are in difficulty. These should include constructive activities in the family, school and other social institutions to meet the fundamental needs of youth and, so far as possible, varied agency resources, such as child guidance clinics, educational centres and counselling facilities for parents, leisure time resources, family substitutes, special schools or classes and organizations designed to encourage the mutual aid of youth and others. Consideration should be given to the possible establishment of community committees, co-ordinating councils, or some other sort of specialized agency to plan, organize and develop community resources to aid children with problems and their families.
2. Within the social framework of the country involved, appropriate machinery, whether official or unofficial, should be established to advise in the formulation of policies and to supervise their application for the prevention of delinquency.
3. In developing programmes and policies, due attention should be given to the developments in other countries, with a view to the possible selective adaptation of those features that may be used effectively. In this regard it is desirable especially that the more positive elements of the programmes of other societies be selected and that a country should avoid the adoption of measures that are inappropriate either intrinsically or because of cultural differences.
4. In the effort to prevent delinquency, special attention should be focused upon those "delinquency areas" where there is a large component of anti-social attitudes and behaviour. Where such "delinquency areas" exist, it is desirable to strengthen the work of prevention as well as treatment.
5. Policies and programmes of general social welfare are not sufficient by themselves alone to dispense with the need for more specific policies that focus attention on juvenile delinquency and its prevention.
6. Housing programmes should be developed to provide better living conditions. Urban housing projects should be so organized as to provide for full community living in the area of residence. Where there is a heterogeneous mixture of people living together, agency facilities should be provided to facilitate the interrelationships of those whose cultures are different.



## B. The Family and School

### The Family

It is axiomatic that ordinarily the family provides the most important phase of the child's environment from his earliest years and that it plays a fundamental role in the development of personality, attitudes and behaviour. It is recognized, furthermore, that industrialization and the growth of cities have been accompanied by an increasing measure of social, family and personal disorganization. According to current opinion, delinquency appears to be intimately connected with the social and cultural changes that have operated through the family. It is vital therefore that preventive efforts be designed to produce closer family ties, thus achieving greater affection, emotional security and control through the family. The child needs a sense of belonging. The following conclusions and recommendations are submitted:

7. So far as possible, assistance should be provided to parents where necessary in order that their basic material needs may be met. In particular it is desirable that some form of family or children's allowances be given where necessary to keep the family intact, to avoid the necessity for mothers to work outside the home for economic reasons alone and to protect children where the family is broken or where the mother must work.
8. Information, guidance, and counselling services should be provided for parents and for their children in order that they may not encounter difficulties through lack of knowledge. Adult and family-life education are desirable for this purpose.
9. Counselling in domestic relations, conciliation machinery for estranged parents and psychological assistance of other sorts for parents should be made available, so far as possible, so that individuals with family difficulties may be helped to solve their problems.
10. Emphasis should be placed upon fulfilling children's emotional and social needs and remedying their difficulties in so far as it is feasible through the family rather than through the direct intervention of other agencies or removal from home. Parents may require help in the care or guidance of those children who manifest serious difficulties, but children should not be compulsorily removed from the care of their parents except by order of a court or board containing a judicial element, after hearing and determining the case according to law and in the interests of the welfare of the child.
11. Use should be made of foster homes or boarding homes whenever appropriate, where efforts with the child and/or his parents have failed so seriously that placement is necessary in the interest of his care and protection.

12. Children ought not to be placed in institutions designed specifically for delinquent children unless they have violated the law and all efforts at supervision in their own homes fail. Placement in institutions for neglected or dependent children should be resorted to only when they cannot be cared for in their own homes and when other types of home placement are impossible. Other types of specialized treatment facilities may be employed in appropriate cases, however, to provide particular forms of therapy that cannot be applied effectively in the community. In such cases the rights and interests of both the child and his parents should be given careful consideration.

13. In those societies that are recently becoming industrialized and where the family is still a well-integrated and effective unit of control, serious effort should be directed to maintaining its cohesiveness in order to mitigate so far as possible the disorganizing consequences of industrialization.

#### The School

Besides the family, the school is the social institution in closest and most frequent contact with the child from his early years to adolescence. It broadens his associations beyond the family and enables him to begin to take part in the life of the community. It plays an important role not only in his intellectual development but in his emotional and social growth as well. Very commonly children's behavioural difficulties are associated with poor adjustments in school. Educational institutions are very important, therefore, both in their possible contribution to the healthy social development of children and in the opportunity they provide for teachers to identify in a preliminary way those who appear to display serious adjustment problems that require further investigation. It is not believed, however, that the school should attempt to assume functions which properly belong to the family, religious institutions, the court, or specialized social agencies. The following conclusions and recommendations are submitted:

14. The school should take into account as fully as possible the individual differences in aptitude and in personality generally among children so as to fit the educational programme to their different requirements. Flexible curricula are needed for this purpose.

15. Within the limitations of its ability to do so, the school should endeavour to play a constructive role in the development of character and attitudes among children, with the object of counteracting unhealthy influences in the community.

16. The training of teachers should include sound preparation for understanding children and for identifying those with emotional or behavioural difficulties. Teachers should be of a type with which children can properly identify themselves in the development of their character and goals of living.

17. The educational programme should emphasize the contact and co-operation of school and family so that children's difficulties of adjustment may be avoided or alleviated. Parent/teacher and home/school or other similar associations are desirable for this purpose.

18. Auxiliary psychological and social services attached to the school should be developed so far as possible to help children and to aid and advise parents and teachers. Guidance clinics and psychological testing and treatment facilities are desirable for these purposes.

19. Greater emphasis should be laid upon educational measures, including vocational guidance, designed better to meet the emotional and social difficulties of adolescents who are completing school and to facilitate their entry into working life, and on measures intended to improve the condition of children and youth who are already at work.

20. It is important in the interests of preventing delinquency that the community should prevent the exploitation of children for economic reasons at the sacrifice of their education, their healthy development and their future. Measures should be taken to ensure the school attendance of certain age-groups in a regular and systematic way.

#### C. Social Services, including Health Services

As a consequence of the development of conditions of life in the modern community, the ordinary social institutions, such as the family, school, and religious institutions, have encountered increasing difficulty in the effective performance of their functions. In particular, they have had limited success in maintaining stability, integrity, a sense of independence and responsibility of the individual. The corollary of such a situation is that more and more juveniles are becoming delinquent and it is also responsible for other forms of emotional and social disorders such as psychoneuroses, psychoses, alcoholism, suicide, family breakdown, unemployment. It has been thought that specialized social agencies should be called upon increasingly with a view to solving these problems. Thus have come to be established what have been referred to above as the "direct" services, not only for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency, but also of other difficulties which may, but in a majority of cases do not, produce delinquency. The greater effectiveness in the performance of these services should lead, it is believed, to the diminution both of juvenile delinquency and of the other disorders and better results can be achieved if the action of such services is exercised in complete agreement and close collaboration with traditional social institutions. However, it should be observed that some caution is desirable in the method and extent of providing such services: the individual should be encouraged to retain a sense of personal responsibility to avoid passive dependence. He should be aided to cope with his frustrations and other difficulties rather than led to expect their removal. In accordance with these principles, the following conclusions and recommendations are submitted:

21. So far as may be necessary and feasible, a full network of social and health services should be provided by official and unofficial agencies

in order that children who are in danger of becoming delinquent or who are in need of care and protection may receive the treatment they require. These services include, in particular, welfare agencies, psychiatric clinics, family service agencies, child guidance clinics, centres for observation and testing and other specialized child welfare facilities.

22. It is possible, in many countries, to build on existing services, expanding treatment and control services to include preventive services. This would imply a fundamental reorientation both in the theory and practice of such services.

23. The integration and co-ordination of the varied social services is most desirable to avoid both the overlapping or duplication of facilities and gaps where coverage is needed. Furthermore, by the establishment of co-ordinating councils or referral committees, it will be possible to discover a greater proportion of those children who manifest serious difficulties in adjustment.

24. Referral of cases needing help, guidance or control may be made most effectively by those agencies that have closest contact with children in trouble: the schools, clinics, social agencies, police, courts, religious institutions, in addition to parents. The discovery of children with adjustment problems is not, however, a diagnosis of delinquency or per-delinquency, but a basis for referral for diagnostic purposes, where necessary, in order to ascertain what the special nature of the problem may be. Thus, through the co-ordinating agency and the use of diagnostic facilities, it is possible to refer cases to the treatment resource best suited to the needs of the individual child and his family. The result is not only advantageous to the client but economical in the use of specialized treatment facilities.

25. Where clinical work with the child or his family is involved, whether diagnostic or therapeutic, advanced training of professional staff is required. Because of the special problems involved in dealing with delinquency prevention and juvenile delinquency itself, a specialized (and, in many places, revised) training is required for authorities who handle such cases: psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, probation officers, specialized school teachers and others.

26. There is a need to strengthen the collaboration between the professional experts who deal in delinquency prevention as well as to co-ordinate efforts of the preventive agencies.

27. Specialized facilities are needed for particular types of problems in some countries where provisions are not at present in existence: for unmarried mothers, for adolescents who are in difficult transition to adulthood, for children with special disabilities and disorders, and others.

28. The establishment of agencies independently of State action should be encouraged, providing that the services they supply are technically

competent and that they can form part of a general co-ordinated plan covering the totality of social and health services concerned with the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

29. Accurate knowledge of the fields of delinquency prevention and treatment lags far behind the good intentions of those interested in increasing social action, and so there is need for caution in determining the social action to be taken. It is desirable to make provision for evaluation whenever new social action is undertaken.

#### D. Work

Inability to adapt to work, lack of effective vocational training, assignment to unhealthy, very hard or morally dangerous work are often the fundamental factors contributing to juvenile delinquency.

30. It would therefore be most desirable to recommend:

- (a) the development of professional orientation and placement centres for juveniles;
- (b) the intensification of the control of the conditions of work of juveniles;
- (c) the enactment of laws and measures with a view to developing vocational training, and
- (d) the development of the creation of homes and hostels for juvenile workers.

#### E. Other Agencies

The prevention of delinquency is ordinarily considered to be primarily the concern and responsibility of the agencies and institutions considered in the comments and conclusions above. Certain other agencies, however, may play a part in this field in some countries. These include, among others, juvenile courts and administrative bodies such as the child welfare boards found in the Scandinavian countries, religious bodies, organizations which provide leisure time facilities, police, youth and industrial organizations. The study of the activities of these agencies and of the results obtained by them is still far from being complete and extensive research work would be desirable in order to determine what is being done at present by such agencies and, more particularly, what are the direct and indirect effect of their operations.

Each type of agency referred to here, because of the general nature of its functions, is in a particularly good position to discover those children who

display social or emotional problems, and to make referrals to more specialized agencies for diagnosis and treatment. Such practice is recommended as highly desirable.

The appraisal of the more direct efforts of these agencies towards the prevention of juvenile delinquency can only be tentative, and this should be borne in mind in considering the following conclusions:

31. Whereas the role of religion differs, in several countries it is recognized that religious bodies have an important part to play in the prevention of juvenile delinquency. Religious bodies may play an increasing role not only in the establishment and perpetuation of firm moral standards in the home and community but also in developing services for youth and parents and for helping to counteract the disorganizing influences that may arise as a result of rapid industrial and social changes.

32. The fundamental mission of the police is to ensure the protection of property and persons, and the prevention of delinquency, particularly of minors, is normally one of its duties. In virtue of their functions, police officers are in permanent contact with all classes of society. Being thus well placed to detect dangerous conditions and criminogenic factors, it is for them to take steps within their competence and also to alert the judicial authorities, the social, health and other qualified services. In the general organization of the police, the institution of special police services for juveniles should be officially encouraged. These special services should be composed of specially trained police officers.

33. Without regard to specific effects upon the prevention of delinquency, it is desirable that a wide variety of constructive leisure time activities should be made available to children and youth in the interest of their general healthy development. With the increasing margin of leisure time available in some countries, education and training for the wise use of leisure time becomes increasingly important. Clubs, associations, sports, and other forms of organized recreation should be available, but no single plan of leisure-time pursuit should be considered appropriate or adequate to the individual needs of every youth.

34. More may be gained by a positive emphasis upon the development of constructive and diversified activities, including the mass media of communication (e.g. cinema, radio, television, comic books and other publications), than rigid and negative measures of control and censorship.

35. Efforts should be made to integrate the activities of the agencies noted in this section, and others that might be mentioned, more closely into the services and objectives of the other agencies and social institutions that have been considered in relation to the prevention of delinquency.

F. Research

More important, perhaps, than any of the specific conclusions and recommendations submitted above is the obvious need for the development of more research relating to the definition of the term "juvenile" to delinquency causation, prediction and prevention. Efforts to prevent juvenile delinquency should become more effective and economical as more accurate knowledge is available. Research should be directed both to the identification of the measures that are currently employed in the effort to prevent juvenile delinquency and to objective and critical evaluation of the effectiveness of such measures. Comparative, co-ordinated and interdisciplinary research should be carried out to determine the relative effects of programmes in different countries. Through co-operation between researchers from different countries it may be possible to develop a highly promising new field of comparative criminology, based on research employing standard definitions and techniques. In this way, uniformities and differences in causal influences, in predictive factors and in results of preventive and treatment programmes can be determined and progress made toward a true science of criminology. Research should also be devoted to the causation, diagnosis and treatment of delinquency. The United Nations is urged to continue its support of significant research in these fields.

The Congress wishes to go on record in praise of the programme adopted by the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies as disclosed in the valuable and comprehensive study prepared by the Secretariat of the United Nations in the Report on the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (Document ST/SOA/Ser.M/7-8).

PART SIX

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FIELD OF THE PREVENTION  
OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

Resolution adopted on 3 September 1955:

The First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Having adopted the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Offenders, and the Recommendations concerning the Open Institutions and the Selection and Training of Personnel,

Expresses the hope that in order to facilitate the implementation of the above-mentioned Rules and Recommendations, the United Nations will provide technical assistance to those governments requesting it, either in the form of sending experts needed or by helping in the establishment of institutions for the training of personnel or by the organization of seminars or by the publication of guides or handbooks to facilitate the application of the Standard Minimum Rules and the training of personnel.



PART SEVEN

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

adopted on 3 September 1955:

(1)

The First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Resolves

(1) That the delegates to the Congress are of the opinion that the Congress has been a significant success and that the results achieved hold great promise for contributing to the cause of human progress in the years ahead;

(2) That the officials of the United Nations Secretariat are commended for the courteous and highly effective work which they have so diligently performed in making the Congress a success;

(3) That in addition to the results achieved in the field of prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders the outstanding aspect of the Congress has been the general atmosphere of good will and co-operation which has prevailed among all of the delegates; every proposal offered by a delegate and each comment made during the Congress by any delegate was offered without any purpose of promoting national interests but solely for the purpose of improving the lives of less fortunate human beings and in the cause of progress throughout the world;

(4) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

(2)

The First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Having finished its deliberations and adopted recommendations on standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners, selection and training of personnel for penal and correctional institutions, open penal and correctional institutions, prison labour and prevention of juvenile delinquency,

1. Expresses its pleasure at the fact that the Secretary-General, in conformity with Resolution 415 (V) of the General Assembly, has organized this Congress, thereby preserving the historical continuity of the Congresses held in the past by the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission;

2. Expresses the hope that the policy-making bodies of the United Nations will continue to devote their attention to the problem of the prevention of crime and treatment of offenders as an important part of the programme of work of the United Nations on social questions, an attention fully justified by the social aims of the Charter of the United Nations;

3. Expresses its thanks to the Swiss authorities and to the International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation for the support given to the Congress, as well as for the hospitality extended to all its participants; also thanks the Governments of France and of the United States of America for having generously printed a substantial number of documents submitted to the Congress.

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This archiving project is a collaborative effort between United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and American Society of Criminology, Division of International Criminology. Any comments or questions should be directed to Cindy J. Smith at [CJSmithphd@comcast.net](mailto:CJSmithphd@comcast.net) or Emil Wandzilak at [emil.wandzilak@unodc.org](mailto:emil.wandzilak@unodc.org).