



**EIGHTH
UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS
ON THE PREVENTION OF CRIME
AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS**

Havana, Cuba, 27 August to 7 September 1990

Distr.
GENERAL

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Note by the Secretariat

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 1987/49 of 24 May 1987, the Economic and Social Council approved the provisional agenda for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, which was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 42/59 of 30 November 1987. In its resolution 1990/23 of 24 May 1990, the Economic and Social Council approved the organization of work for the Eighth Congress, as proposed by the Secretary-General in his report to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its eleventh session (E/AC.57/1990/5).

II. PRE-CONGRESS CONSULTATIONS

2. In paragraph 12 of its resolution 1989/69 of 24 May 1989, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Eighth Congress should be held from 27 August to 7 September 1990, with the necessary pre-Congress consultations. Those consultations will be held on Saturday, 25 August, and Sunday, 26 August 1990. The purpose of the consultations, which will be open to all participating States, is to reach agreement on recommendations to be made on all procedural and organizational matters to be dealt with by the Congress at the opening meeting, such as the election of officers and the composition of the General Committee, the distribution of posts in the General Committee among regional groups, the adoption of the rules of procedure, the adoption of the agenda and organization of work, the appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee and arrangements for the preparation of the report of the Congress.

* A/CONF.144/1.

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

3. Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure for the Congress (A/CONF.144/2), as approved by the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 14 of its resolution 1989/69, provides:

"The Congress shall elect from among the representatives of participating States a President, 24 Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chairman for each of the committees provided for in rule 43. These 28 officers shall constitute the General Committee and shall be elected on the basis of ensuring its representative character."

4. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its eleventh session and the practice followed by the Sixth and Seventh Congresses, it is understood that, in accordance with this formulation, 27 of the 28 officers constituting the General Committee would be distributed according to the following geographical pattern: 7 representatives from African States, 6 from Asian States, 3 from Eastern European States, 5 from Latin American and Caribbean States, and 6 from Western European and other States, and that, while the presidency would go to the head of the delegation of the host country in accordance with standard practice, it would not be counted for the purposes of the regional distribution pattern.

5. It is hoped that regional groups will be in a position to make known their nominations for the posts in the General Committee at the pre-Congress consultations. In this context it is relevant to recall that, under rule 41, all elections are to be held by secret ballot, unless the Congress decides otherwise in an election where the number of candidates does not exceed the number of elective places to be filled.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

6. The Congress will have before it the provisional rules of procedure approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1989/69 (A/CONF.144/2).

V. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. Provisional agenda

7. The provisional agenda for the Eighth Congress is contained in document A/CONF.144/1.

B. Allocation of items

8. In its resolution 1990/23, the Economic and Social Council approved the recommendations of the Secretary-General regarding the organization of work of the Eighth Congress (see E/AC.57/1990/5). In accordance with those recommendations,

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items 1, 2, 3 and 8 of the provisional agenda will be considered in plenary meetings, while items 4 and 6 will be allocated to Committee I and items 5 and 7 to Committee II. The draft timetable for the work of the Congress is contained in the annex to the present note. It is understood that each committee will adjust its organization of work as required.

C. Organization of meetings

9. The resources available to the Congress permit the holding of a maximum of three simultaneous meetings in the morning and an equal number in the afternoon, including working groups, informal consultations and regional group meetings held in place of formal meetings.

10. In accordance with the provisions of rule 43 of the provisional rules of procedure, each committee may set up sub-committees and working groups, to the extent permitted by conference service facilities available at the Congress site.

11. Meetings shall normally be scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. In order to ensure the most efficient utilization of available resources, it is recommended that all meetings start promptly at the scheduled times.

VI. CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CONGRESS: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

12. Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that there shall be a Credentials Committee of nine members appointed by the Congress on the proposal of the President, and that its membership shall, as far as possible, be the same as that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its preceding session.

13. At the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly the Credentials Committee was composed of the following States: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, China, Colombia, Malawi, Philippines, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America and Zaire. In accordance with established practice, it is understood that if one of those States is not present, it would be replaced by another State from the same regional group.

VII. REPORT OF THE CONGRESS

14. In accordance with the practice followed by previous congresses, it is recommended that the report of the Congress should consist of the decisions of the Congress, a brief account of the events leading to the convening of the Congress and the proceedings, including a summary of the substantive work conducted by the plenary and by the committees, as well as a reportorial account of the action taken in plenary meeting.

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15. As has also been the practice, it is recommended that each regional group should be requested to designate, before the opening of the Congress, two persons to serve as friends of the Rapporteur-General, as well as a similar number to serve in the same capacity in respect of the rapporteurs of each of the committees, to assist those officials in preparing the draft reports of the Congress.

VIII. OFFICERS OF THE COMMITTEES

16. Rule 44 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that, in addition to a Chairman elected by the Congress pursuant to rule 6, each committee shall itself elect a Vice-Chairman and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of participating States. The same rule also provides that sub-committees and working groups shall each elect a Chairman and no more than two Vice-Chairmen from among the representatives of participating States.

17. It is recommended that agreement should be reached on the slate of candidates for those posts before the opening of the Congress, thus allowing elections by acclamation and dispensing with the requirements of a secret ballot.

Annex

PROPOSED TIMETABLE OF THE WORK OF THE CONGRESS

Saturday, 25 August and
Sunday, 26 August

Pre-Congress consultations

Plenary

First week (27-31 August)

Monday, 27 August

10.30 a.m.

Item 1. Opening of the Congress

Item 2. Organizational matters

(a) Election of the President

(b) Adoption of the rules of procedure

(e) Election of officers other than the President

(c) Adoption of the agenda

(d) Organization of work

(f) Credentials of representatives to the
Congress:

(i) Appointment of the members of the
Credentials Committee

3 p.m.

Item 3. Crime prevention and criminal justice in
the context of development: realities and
perspectives of international co-operation
(topic I) (Introduction and general debate)

Tuesday, 28 August

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 3 (Continuation of general debate)

6 p.m. Closure of the list of speakers on item 3

Wednesday, 29 August

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 3 (Continuation of general debate)

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Thursday, 30 August

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 3 (Continuation of general debate)

Friday, 31 August

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 3 (Continuation of general debate)

Second week (3-7 September)

Monday, 3 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 3. Crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development: realities and perspectives of international co-operation (topic I) (Informal consultations)

6 p.m.

Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 3

Tuesday, 4 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 3. Action on draft recommendations contained in chapter I, section C, of the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on its eleventh session (E/1990/31)

Wednesday, 5 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Consideration of the reports of Committee I and Committee II, as available

Thursday, 6 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 3. Action on draft proposals

Consideration of the reports of Committee I and Committee II, as available

Friday, 7 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 3. Action on all outstanding draft proposals

Consideration of reports of Committee I and Committee II

Item 8. Adoption of the report of the Eighth Congress

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Committee I

First week (27-31 August)

Monday, 27 August

3 p.m.

Election of officers

Organization of work

Item 6. Prevention of delinquency, juvenile justice and the protection of young: policy approaches and directives (topic IV) (Introduction of item and general discussion)

Tuesday, 28 August

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 6 (Continuation and conclusion of general discussion)

1 p.m. Closure of the list of speakers on item 6

Wednesday, 29 August

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Action on draft recommendations contained in chapter I, section C, of the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on its eleventh session (E/1990/31) which are related to item 6

Thursday, 30 August

10 a.m.

Item 4. Criminal justice policies in relation to problems of imprisonment, other penal sanctions and alternative measures (topic II) (Introduction of item and general discussion)

3 p.m.

Item 4 (Continuation of general discussion)

6 p.m. Deadline for the submission of draft proposals under item 6

Closure of the list of speakers on item 4

Friday, 31 August

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Research workshop on alternatives to imprisonment

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Second week (3-7 September)

Monday, 3 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Demonstration workshop on computerization of the administration of criminal justice

Tuesday, 4 September

10 a.m.

Item 4 (Conclusion of general discussion)

3 p.m.

Deadline for the submission of draft proposals under item 4

3 p.m.

Action on draft proposals submitted under item 6

Wednesday, 5 September

10 a.m.

Informal consultations on draft proposals submitted under item 4

3 p.m.

Action on draft recommendations contained in chapter I, section C, of the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control (E/1990/31) and on draft proposals submitted under item 4

Thursday, 6 September

10 a.m.

Action on all outstanding matters

Completion of the work of the Committee

Committee II

First week (27-31 August)

Monday, 27 August

3 p.m.

Election of officers

Organization of work

Item 5. Effective national and international action against: (a) Organized crime; (b) Terrorist criminal activities (topic III) (Introduction of item and general discussion)

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Tuesday, 28 August

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 5 (Continuation of general discussion)

1 p.m. Closure of the list of speakers on item 5

Wednesday, 29 August

10 a.m.

Item 5 (Continuation of general discussion)

3 p.m.

Item 5 (Conclusion of general discussion)

Action on draft recommendations contained in chapter I, section C, of the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on its eleventh session (E/1990/31), which are related to item 5

Thursday, 30 August

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 7. United Nations norms and guidelines in crime prevention and criminal justice; implementation and priorities for further standard-setting (topic V) (Introduction of item and general discussion)

6 p.m. Closure of the list of speakers on item 7

Deadline for the submission of draft proposals under item 5

Friday, 31 August

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 7 (Continuation of general discussion)

Second week (3-7 September)

Monday, 3 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 7 (Continuation and conclusion of general discussion)

6 p.m. Deadline for the submission of draft proposals under item 7

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Tuesday, 4 September

- 10 a.m. Informal consultations on draft proposals submitted under item 5
- 3 p.m. (a) Consideration of and action on draft proposals submitted under item 5
- (b) Action on draft recommendations contained in chapter I, section C, of the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on its eleventh session (E/1990/31) which are related to item 7

Wednesday, 5 September

- 10 a.m. Informal consultations on draft proposals submitted under item 7
- 3 p.m. Consideration of and action on draft proposals submitted under item 7

Thursday, 6 September

- 10 a.m. Action on all outstanding matters
- Completion of the work of the Committee

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 or Emil Wandzilak at emil.wandzilak@unodc.org.