



Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

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Report of the pre-Congress consultations held at the Bahia Convention Centre, Salvador, Brazil, on 11 April 2010

1. In conformity with the practice followed at United Nations special conferences and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001, pre-Congress consultations were held at the Bahia Convention Centre in Salvador, Brazil, on 11 April 2010. Participation in the consultations was open to representatives of all States invited to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

2. The matters considered and the recommendations agreed upon in the course of the consultations are set out below.

A. Election of the President of the Twelfth Congress

3. It is recommended that the Twelfth Congress elect by acclamation His Excellency Mr. Luiz Paulo Teles Barreto, Minister of Justice of the Federative Republic of Brazil and head of delegation of the host country, as President of the Congress.

B. Election of other officers

4. The General Committee of the Twelfth Congress will be composed of 28 officers to be elected by the Congress under rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure, according to the geographical pattern set out below. The Presidency will not be counted for the purpose of regional distribution.

5. As at 11 April 2010, the following nominations from the regional groups on the composition of the General Committee have been submitted: Algeria, South Africa and the Sudan (Group of African States); China, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Philippines and Republic of Korea (Group of Asian States); Azerbaijan (Group of Eastern European States); Argentina, Colombia and Mexico (Group of Latin American and Caribbean States); Austria, Canada and Finland (Group of Western European and other States).

6. It was agreed that the remaining nominations (four countries from the Group of African States, two countries from the Group of Eastern European States, two countries from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and three countries from the Group of Western European and other States) needed to be submitted not later than 10 a.m. on 12 April 2010.

7. In the light of announcements made in the course of the pre-Congress consultations and in conformity with rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure, it is recommended that a representative of the Sudan be nominated as Chair of Committee I and a representative of Finland be nominated as Chair of Committee II. It is recommended that the First Vice-President and the Rapporteur-General be nominated by the Group of Asian States and the Group of Eastern European States not later than 10 a.m. on 12 April 2010.

C. Adoption of the rules of procedure

8. It is recommended that the Twelfth Congress adopt the provisional rules of procedure, as contained in document A/CONF.213/2.

D. Adoption of the agenda

9. It is recommended that the Twelfth Congress adopt the provisional agenda, as contained in document A/CONF.213/1.

E. Allocation of items

10. It is recommended that items 1-3, 5, 6, 10 and 11 of the provisional agenda, as well as workshop 3 and the high-level segment of the Twelfth Congress, be allocated to plenary meetings and that items 4, 7 and 9 of the provisional agenda, as well as workshops 1, 4 and 5, be allocated to Committee I for consideration. It is also recommended that item 8 of the provisional agenda, as well as workshop 2, be allocated to Committee II for consideration.

11. It is further recommended that, as reflected in the proposed organization of work of the Twelfth Congress (A/CONF.213/1, annex), the discussions in plenary meetings and of Committee I follow a clustered approach grouping together agenda items 3 and 5; 6 and 10; and 7 and 9. That approach was followed at the regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth Congress.

F. Organization of work

12. It is recommended that the Twelfth Congress approve the proposed organization of work for the Congress, as set out in the annex to document A/CONF.213/1, on the understanding that any adjustments necessary would be made during the course of the proceedings of the Congress.

13. It is recommended that in the high-level segment, each State be limited to one statement of a maximum of seven minutes, in order to provide sufficient time for all States wishing to deliver statements to do so.

14. The list of speakers for the high-level segment was opened in Vienna on 8 March 2010 and has been compiled by the Secretariat, taking into account, to the extent possible, the rank of the head of delegation of each State requesting the floor and special requirements related to the availability of high-level delegates.

15. It is recommended that the list of speakers for the high-level segment be closed at 2 p.m. on 18 April 2010.

G. Credentials of representatives to the Twelfth Congress: appointment of members of the Credentials Committee

16. In accordance with rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure, it is recommended that Brazil, China, Jamaica, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Spain, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Zambia be appointed to the Credentials Committee, on the understanding that any of those States not present would, upon the President's proposal, be replaced by another State from the same regional group.

H. Report of the Twelfth Congress

17. It is recommended that, in accordance with the practice followed by previous United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, the report of the Twelfth Congress should consist of the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World, the conclusions and recommendations of the Congress on the various substantive items of its agenda and the outcome of the workshops. The report should also contain the decisions of the Congress, a brief account of the events leading to the convening of the Congress, the proceedings of the Congress, including a summary of the substantive work conducted by the plenary and by the committees, a summary of the proceedings of the high-level segment and an account of the action taken in plenary meetings. It is also recommended that the reports of Committee I and Committee II be approved at the final meeting of the respective Committee before being adopted by the plenary as part of the report of the Congress.
