

Chapter IX

Social policy, crime prevention and human resources development

In 2001, the United Nations continued to promote the advancement of social, cultural and human resources development, and to strengthen its crime prevention and criminal justice programme.

In February, the Commission for Social Development considered measures for implementing the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth (2000) special session to review and appraise implementation of the outcome of the 1995 World Summit for Social Development. The Assembly, in 2001, addressed follow-up to the World Summit and the special session and took action regarding other social issues, including the implementation of the 1982 World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and preparations for the tenth anniversary of the 1994 International Year of the Family.

The Assembly devoted two plenary meetings to the observance of the International Year of Dialogue among Civilizations (2001), at the close of which it proclaimed the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations. The Assembly also proclaimed 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage and addressed the question of the return or restitution of cultural properties. As part of UN efforts to enhance respect for cultural diversity, the Assembly adopted resolutions on the protection of religious sites, the destruction of relics and monuments in Afghanistan and the building of a better world through sports and the Olympic ideal.

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice finalized draft plans of action for the implementation of the 2000 Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice, which the Economic and Social Council endorsed and recommended to the Assembly for adoption. An inter-governmental expert group commenced work on drafting an international legal instrument against corruption. In May, the Assembly adopted and opened for signature the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition to the 2000 United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime. In December, the Assembly called for the early

ratification of the Convention and related protocols.

In continuing efforts to achieve the global goal of education for all, the Assembly, in December, proclaimed the 10-year period beginning 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade. In its resolution on the University for Peace, it invited all peoples to celebrate One Day in Peace on 1 January 2002 and every year thereafter.

Social policy and cultural issues

Social development

Follow-up to 1995 World Summit and to General Assembly special session

In July [A/56/140], the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/46 [YUN 2000, p. 1034], reported on follow-up to the Assembly's twenty-fourth (2000) special session [YUN 2000, p. 1012], which reviewed and appraised implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action adopted at the 1995 World Summit for Social Development [YUN 1995, p. 1113]. The report focused on follow-up activities undertaken by relevant intergovernmental bodies within the UN system to implement the further initiatives for social development adopted at the special session by resolution S/24-2 [YUN 2000, p. 1013]. Following the special session, the Secretariat initiated efforts to improve coordination of UN system activities for implementing the outcomes of the World Summit and the further initiatives for social development. Subsequent progress reports from the heads of UN agencies, funds and programmes indicated that nearly all UN system bodies had initiated follow-up activities. Given that many of the activities reported were in existence prior to the adoption of the further initiatives, the special session provided an important political endorsement of the UN system's ongoing efforts to promote social development for all.

The principal themes and main areas for follow-up action included: reducing the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by one half by 2015; monitoring the social impact of macroeconomic policies; strengthening the international financial architecture and reducing the negative social and economic impacts of international financial turbulence; supporting developing countries' integration into the multilateral trading system; promoting efforts to mobilize additional resources for social development; sharing best practices in the field of social protection; minimizing undesirable humanitarian consequences of sanctions; strengthening mechanisms for conflict prevention and peace-building; elaborating a coordinated international strategy on employment; promoting initiatives on education for all; employing health policy as a proactive instrument for poverty reduction and economic and social development; strengthening the fight against money-laundering and corruption; promoting efforts to stop the HIV/AIDS pandemic; and finding durable solutions to the problems of refugees and returnees.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 88], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee [A/56/585], adopted **resolution 56/177** without vote [agenda item 27].

Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Recalling also and reaffirming the commitments made at major United Nations conferences, special sessions, summit conferences and their follow-up processes, and the principles expressed in relevant United Nations declarations,

Recalling further its resolution 55/46 of 29 November 2000 on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments made by heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Social Development, contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action, which established a new consensus to place people at the centre of the concerns for sustainable development and pledged to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration so as to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

2. *Also reaffirms* the decisions on further action and initiatives to accelerate social development for all, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session and contained in the further initiatives for social development;

3. *Stresses* the vital importance of placing the goals of social development, as contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the further initiatives for social development, at the centre of economic policy-making, including in policies that influence domestic and global market forces and the global economy;

4. *Encourages* coordinated and mutually reinforcing follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, the further initiatives for social development and the United Nations Millennium Declaration, emphasizing the strong interrelatedness in respect of social development issues;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission for Social Development, the regional commissions, the relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to take on a priority basis and in a coordinated manner all steps necessary to ensure the effective implementation of all commitments and undertakings contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the further initiatives for social development, and to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up;

6. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly calls for the strengthening of cooperation at the regional level through, inter alia, the promotion of dialogue among regional and subregional groups and organizations, encouragement of the implementation of regional social development agendas where they exist, and encouragement of recipient countries, donor Governments and agencies and multilateral financial institutions to take greater account of the regional social development agendas of the regional commissions and of regional and subregional organizations, inter alia, in their funding policies and programmes;

7. *Reaffirms* that a strong political commitment by the international community is needed to implement strengthened and effective international cooperation and assistance for development, including social development, and that the mobilization of domestic and international resources for development from all sources is an essential component of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and of the further initiatives for social development;

8. *Welcomes* the convening of the International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held at

Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, which will consider the mobilization of national and international resources for social development, and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 2 to 11 September 2002, and encourages their preparatory committees and other relevant intergovernmental bodies involved in the preparations for and follow-up to those conferences to give consideration to the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

9. *Reaffirms* that the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly will be undertaken on the basis of an integrated approach to social development and within the framework of a coordinated follow-up to major international and summit conferences in the economic, social and related fields, and in this regard takes note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/21 of 26 July 2001 on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits;

10. *Also reaffirms* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and the further initiatives for social development, and the need for ensuring their involvement in the planning, elaboration, implementation and evaluation of social policies at the national level;

11. *Further reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, will continue to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the further implementation of the commitments made at Copenhagen and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

12. *Invites* Governments to support the work of the Commission for Social Development, inter alia, through the participation of high-level representatives on social development issues and policies, and to continue to assess on a regular basis the progress made at the national level towards the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, and to submit such information on a voluntary basis to the Commission;

13. *Takes into account* the fact that the Commission for Social Development will consider the priority theme "Integration of social and economic policy" at its fortieth session, in 2002, and emphasizes the importance of the active participation in and contribution to the work of the Commission by the relevant funds and programmes and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system;

14. *Takes note* of the *Report on the World Social Situation, 2001*, and requests the Secretary-General to submit future reports on a biennial basis;

15. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social De-

velopment and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

An overview of the *Report on the World Social Situation, 2001* [Sales No. E.01.IV.5], noted by the Assembly above, had been presented by the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council the previous year [YUN 2000, p. 1034].

Commission for Social Development

The Commission for Social Development, at its thirty-ninth session (New York, 13-23 February) [E/2001/26 & Corr.1], recommended a multi-year work programme for 2002-2006 (see p. 1006) built around follow-up to the 1995 World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth (2000) special session of the General Assembly, and considered preparations for the observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (1994) (see p. 1008). The Commission convened expert panels and adopted resolutions on the priority theme "Enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world" and on the sub-theme "The role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development".

The Commission considered an analytical report of the Secretary-General [E/CN.5/2001/2] on the priority theme, which drew on the deliberations of two expert group meetings, held in 2000 [YUN 2000, p. 1034], that explored ways to develop social protection systems and mechanisms to ensure their sustainability. The report defined the terrain of social protection policy in terms of: its objectives and functions; its relation to human rights and the political economy; the role of Government, the private sector, the community and the family; and multilateral efforts, including those of the UN system and the European Union (EU). It reviewed the challenges to social protection in the face of globalization; outlined key elements in a broad policy and institutional framework; and made recommendations for national and international action to promote human development and effective social protection systems, to be considered as part of the broader strategies adopted to achieve that goal.

Having discussed the foregoing report, the Commission decided to consider ways of further examining the issue at a future session [E/2001/26 (res. 39/1)].

The Commission also considered the Secretary-General's note [E/CN.5/2001/6] on the sub-theme of the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development, which discussed the spirit of volunteering to recapture its human and commu-

nity dimension, as well as its constituent and irreducible diversity; dealt with the crucial challenge of linking voluntary action with social development strategies; and explored possible avenues for government support of volunteering in the context of the unprecedented opportunities offered by the International Year of Volunteers (2001) (see p. 814). The Commission welcomed the Secretary-General's note and requested him to report to the General Assembly's fifty-sixth (2001) session on ways for Governments and the UN system to support volunteering (see p. 815) and to propose recommendations for discussion at that session [E/2001/26 (dec. 39/2)].

In preparation for the Commission's 2002 session, the Secretariat organized three expert group meetings (San José, Costa Rica, 11-13 June; Sofia, Bulgaria, 30 October-1 November; and New York, 5-7 November) on the social aspects of macroeconomic policies, expenditures in the social sector as a productive factor and social assessment as a policy tool. On the basis of the meetings' outcomes, the Secretary-General prepared a December report [E/CN.5/2002/3], which reviewed the framework for the integration of economic and social policy—the priority theme for the 2002 session—provided an overview of the major challenges facing that policy, highlighted the major conclusions of the expert meetings and presented recommendations for action at the national and international levels.

On 24 July, the Economic and Social Council took note of the Commission's report [E/2001/26 & Corr.1], endorsed its resolutions and decisions, and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for its fortieth (2002) session (**decision 2001/235**). On the same date, the Council took note of the report of the Commission acting as the Preparatory Committee for the Second World Assembly on Ageing on its first and resumed sessions and approved the provisional agenda for its second session (**decision 2001/239**) (see p. 1102).

Work programme

On 24 July [meeting 40], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development [E/2001/26 & Corr.1], adopted **resolution 2001/7** without vote [agenda item 14(b)].

Proposals for a multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development for 2002-2006

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1996/7 of 22 July 1996 by which it decided on the structure of the agenda and work programme of the Commission for Social Development,

Decides that the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for the period 2002-2006 shall be the following:

2002: Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

(a) Priority theme: "Integration of social and economic policy". Under this theme, the following specific topics will be considered:

- (i) Social aspects of macroeconomic policies;
- (ii) Social assessment as a policy tool;
- (iii) Expenditures in the social sector as a productive factor;
- (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

- (i) Preparatory Committee for the Second World Assembly on Ageing (second session);
- (ii) Report of the Third Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Disability.

2003: Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

(a) Priority theme: "National and international cooperation for social development". Under this theme, the following specific topics will be considered:

- (i) Sharing of experiences and practices in social development;
- (ii) Forging partnerships for social development;
- (iii) Social responsibility of the private sector;
- (iv) Impact of employment strategies on social development;
- (v) Policies and role of international financial institutions and their effect on national social development strategies;
- (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

Review of the global situation of youth.

2004: Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

(a) Priority theme: "Improving public sector effectiveness";

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

Comprehensive review on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family.

2005: Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

(a) Priority theme: "Review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly";

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups.

2006: Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

(a) Priority theme: "Review of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)";

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the social groups.

Role of cooperatives

In response to General Assembly resolution 54/123 [YUN 1999, p. 1039], the Secretary-General submitted a May report with a later addendum [A/56/83-E/2001/68 & Add.1] summarizing information received from 18 Governments and 21 specialized agencies, international organizations, and national and international cooperative organizations on their activities in utilizing and developing cooperatives, as well as their views on the draft guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives, previously sent to them for comment.

In general, the Governments reported their continuing support for and recognition of the cooperative movement's potential for and contribution to the attainment of social development goals. On the basis of the information received, in particular the specific comments on and suggested revisions to the draft guidelines, the Secretary-General made a series of recommendations and annexed a revised draft text of the guidelines for the Assembly's consideration.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 88], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/56/572], adopted **resolution 56/114** without vote [agenda item 108].

Cooperatives in social development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/90 of 16 December 1992, 49/155 of 23 December 1994 and 51/58 of 12 December 1996 and its resolution 54/123 of 17 December 1999, in which it requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Governments on the draft guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives and to provide, if necessary, a revised version for adoption,

Recognizing that cooperatives, in their various forms, promote the fullest possible participation in the economic and social development of all people, including women, youth, older persons and people with disabilities, and are becoming a major factor of economic and social development,

Recognizing also the important contribution and potential of all forms of cooperatives to the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held at Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 14 June 1996, and their five-year reviews, as well as the World Food Summit, held at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Draws the attention* of Member States to the draft guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives, to be considered by them in developing or revising their national policies on cooperatives;

3. *Encourages* Governments to keep under review, as appropriate, the legal and administrative provisions governing the activities of cooperatives, with a view to ensuring a supportive environment for them and to protecting and advancing the potential of cooperatives to help them to achieve their goals;

4. *Urges* Governments, relevant international organizations and specialized agencies, in collaboration with national and international cooperative organizations, to give due consideration to the role and contribution of cooperatives in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and their five-year reviews, as well as the World Food Summit, by, inter alia:

(a) Utilizing and developing fully the potential and contribution of cooperatives for the attainment of social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the generation of full and productive employment and the enhancement of social integration;

(b) Encouraging and facilitating the establishment and development of cooperatives, including taking measures aimed at enabling people living in poverty or belonging to vulnerable groups to engage on a voluntary basis in the creation and development of cooperatives;

(c) Taking appropriate measures aimed at creating a supportive and enabling environment for the development of cooperatives by, inter alia, developing an effective partnership between Governments and the cooperative movement;

5. *Invites* Governments, in collaboration with the cooperative movement, to develop programmes to promote and strengthen the education of members, the elected leadership and professional cooperative management, where appropriate, and to create or improve statistical databases on the development of cooperatives and on their contribution to national economies;

6. *Invites* Governments, relevant international organizations, specialized agencies and local, national and international cooperative organizations to continue to observe the International Day of Cooperatives annually, on the first Saturday of July, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/90;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations and other international organizations and national, regional and international cooperative organizations, to render support to Member States, as appropriate, in their efforts to create a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives and to promote an exchange of experience and best practices, through, inter alia, conferences, workshops and seminars at the national and regional levels;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

UN Research Institute for Social Development

During 2001, the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) contin-

ued to conduct research into the social dimensions of development issues. The report of the UNRISD Board [E/CN.5/2003/2] detailing the year's activities noted that, in September, the Institute contributed to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (see p. 615) and jointly organized a conference with the Ford Foundation on reviving development economics as a discipline that could improve the understanding of the acute problems facing developing countries. It also noted the commissioning of four papers on globalization and equity, in preparation for a meeting of high-level UN officials in 2002 on that theme. The report described the range of projects that were ongoing, completed or initiated under the UNRISD research programmes on social policy and development; democracy, governance and human rights; civil society and social movements; and technology, business and society.

UNRISD continued to carry out advisory activities for UN agencies, multilateral and bilateral organizations, Governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), other research institutes and universities. In addition, it maintained a steady output of publications, which were made available at many relevant events worldwide, and focused attention on a comprehensive redevelopment of its web site.

In February [E/2001/26 (dec. 39/105)], the Commission for Social Development took note of the report of the UNRISD Board for 1999 and 2000 [YUN 1999, p. 1040, & YUN 2000, p. 1035]. Following consideration of a January note by the Secretary-General with a later addendum [E/CN.5/2001/8 & Add.1], the Commission renominated three Board members, whose terms would expire on 30 June, for a further two-year term and nominated six new replacement members for four years, to be confirmed by the Economic and Social Council [dec. 39/101]. The Commission also took note of the Secretary-General's note [dec. 39/105].

On 24 July, the Council confirmed the three renominations and six new nominations to the UNRISD Board (**decision 2001/236**).

Follow-up to International Year of the Family

In response to General Assembly resolution 54/124 [YUN 1999, p. 1041] and decision 54/437 [ibid., p. 1346], the Secretary-General, by an August note [A/56/57-E/2001/5], transmitted to the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council the fourth biennial report [E/CN.5/2001/4] on follow-up activities during 1995-1999 to the International Year of the Family (1994), proclaimed by

Assembly resolution 44/82 [YUN 1989, p. 612]. According to the report, those activities resulted in significant accomplishments at all levels, among them a greater awareness of the role of families and family issues, new initiatives and long-term activities in support of families worldwide, strengthening and development of mechanisms devoted to family policy and research, and mobilization of a global network of partners, particularly NGOs.

Nonetheless, some crucial issues were left unresolved and gaps in policies remained. In particular, consensus was not achieved on definitions and terminology related to the family, family policies and family-sensitive considerations. Partly for that reason, a long-term global action plan on families, similar to those on the advancement of women, ageing, youth or disability, had not been developed.

The report also suggested appropriate ways to observe the Year's tenth anniversary in 2004, as well as national and international preparatory activities to be undertaken, and made a number of recommendations in that context. As the lead entity for the anniversary, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) would stimulate and coordinate activities on five main themes: approaches to family policy development; technology and its impact on the family; parental roles and intra-familial support systems; statistics and indicators for family well-being; and HIV/AIDS and its impact on families.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 24 July [meeting 40], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development [E/2001/26 & Corr.1], adopted **resolution 2001/6** without vote [agenda item 14 (b)].

Preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[For text, see General Assembly resolution 56/113 below.]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 88], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/56/572], adopted **resolution 56/113** without vote [agenda item 108].

Preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 47/237 of 20 September 1993, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997 and 54/124 of 17 De-

ember 1999 concerning the proclamation, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family,

Recognizing that the preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family provides a useful opportunity for drawing further attention to the objectives of the Year for increasing cooperation at all levels on family issues and for undertaking concerted actions to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Recognizing also that the follow-up to the International Year of the Family is an integral part of the agenda and of the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development until 2004,

Recognizing further that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the world conferences of the 1990s continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Noting with concern the devastating effects of difficult social and economic conditions, armed conflicts, natural disasters and infectious diseases such as tuberculosis and malaria and of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic on family life,

Emphasizing that equality between women and men and respect for the human rights of all family members is essential to family well-being and to society at large,

Noting the active role of the United Nations in enhancing international cooperation in family-related issues, in particular in the area of research and information,

Emphasizing that it is necessary to intensify and improve coordination of the activities of the United Nations system on family-related issues so as to contribute fully to the effective preparation for and celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family and the preparations for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Urges* Governments to view 2004 as a target year by which concrete achievements should be made to identify and elaborate issues of direct concern to families and also to set up and strengthen, where appropriate, mechanisms to plan and coordinate activities of governmental bodies and non-governmental organizations;

3. *Encourages* the regional commissions, within their respective mandates and resources, to participate in the preparatory process of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and to play an active role in facilitating regional cooperation in this regard;

4. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to review annually the preparations for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family as part of its agenda and of its multi-year programme of work until 2004;

5. *Invites* Member States to consider organizing activities in preparation for the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at the national level;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to facilitate contributions by Governments, to include the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities, on an annual basis, among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council on the implementation of the present resolution, including a description of the state of preparation for the observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at all levels.

Report of Secretary-General. In an interim report [E/CN.5/2002/2] covering the period from February to December, the Secretary-General described initiatives undertaken in preparation for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004.

DESA convened a consultative meeting on regional and global coordination in the promotion of social integration (New York, 1-5 October) to develop a focused approach to preparations for the observance, and initiated collaborative links with other UN organizations and consultations with intergovernmental organizations on family issues. The Secretariat organized the third consultative meeting of regional and international NGOs on the family (New York, 9 February) in conjunction with the February session of the Commission for Social Development to share information on planned activities. The United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities provided financial assistance to Governments and NGOs for projects on the well-being of families. The UN family programme web site provided, in addition to other information, the bimonthly newsletter, *Family Matters*. The Secretariat prepared background information for use by Governments, the UN system and NGOs in the observance of the International Day of Families (15 May).

The report suggested that Governments might set up national coordinating committees, promote public information on the anniversary's objectives and encourage grass-roots involvement in related activities. It called on the Department of Public Information to develop an information strategy, on the UN regional commissions and intergovernmental organizations to participate in the preparations, and for contributions to the Trust Fund.

Persons with disabilities

Follow-up to World Programme of Action

In response to General Assembly resolution 54/121 [YUN 1999, p. 1043], the Secretary-General

issued two reports on the implementation of the 1982 World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, adopted by Assembly resolution 37/52 [YUN 1982, p. 981]. The first was an interim report [E/CN.5/2001/7], which reviewed progress in implementing equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities in the light of the priorities for action identified in resolution 54/121, described selected experiences in regional cooperation and presented a perspective framework for the fourth review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action in 2002. In February, the Commission for Social Development took note of the interim report [E/2001/26 (dec. 39/104)].

The second report, issued in July [A/56/169 & Corr.1], described recent policy and programme initiatives related to persons with disabilities, based on information received from Governments, UN system organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Activities of the 27 reporting Governments concerned accessibility, health and social services, employment and sustainable livelihoods, national efforts to promote more inclusive societies, and national awareness campaigns on disability issues. Within the UN system, the International Labour Organization focused on promoting decent work for persons with disabilities; the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations organized discussions on the integration of such persons in its field projects; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) directed attention to inclusive education as a strategy to achieve the goal of education for all; the International Initiative against Avoidable Disablement, jointly sponsored by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund, had 13 foundations in Asia and East Africa and funded a disability programme of the Palestinian Authority; and the World Bank introduced disability concerns into its poverty reduction projects.

The report examined progress in equalization of opportunities in terms of the establishment of international norms and standards to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, the improvement of accessibility of the United Nations for such persons and the compilation of global statistics and indicators on disability. In addition, the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability provided \$159,676 in grants to six disability-related projects in Africa and in Central and Eastern Europe between November 2000 and June 2001.

The report further considered substantive aspects of a framework for the fourth review and

appraisal of the World Programme of Action to be submitted to the Assembly in 2002. Five critical aspects were identified for review: the extent to which countries had specific policies and programmes designed to facilitate both community-based rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities; inclusion of the disability perspective in policies and programmes to foster social and economic development; elaboration of specific criteria for evaluation of progress towards full participation and equality; periodic data gathering based on those evaluation criteria; and monitoring systems to obtain indicators for measuring progress.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 88], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/56/572], adopted **resolution 56/115** without vote [agenda item 108].

Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the obligations contained in relevant human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

Recalling also its resolutions 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, 49/153 of 23 December 1994, 50/144 of 21 December 1995, 52/82 of 12 December 1997 and 54/121 of 17 December 1999,

Recalling further all of its relevant resolutions on the equalization of opportunities for and the human rights of persons with disabilities, and those of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000 by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, and recognizing the need to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of people with disabilities,

Noting with appreciation the actions of Governments to implement relevant sections of the Standard Rules and of relevant resolutions that give special attention to accessible environments and information and communications technologies, health, education and social services, employment and sustainable livelihoods, including the relevant activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Reaffirming the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their respective follow-up reviews,

Noting with appreciation the assessment by the Secretary-General of the implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and sum-

mits to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities, ensuring their full participation and equality, as well as the measures undertaken by the United Nations system aimed at preventing disabling conditions,

Noting the invitation made to the General Assembly by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to consider elaborating an integral and comprehensive international convention to protect and promote the rights and dignity of disabled people, including, in particular, provisions that address the discriminatory practices and treatment affecting them,

Acknowledging the important role of non-governmental organizations in the promotion and protection of the human rights of persons with disabilities, and noting in this regard their work in promoting the elaboration of an international convention on the rights of disabled persons,

Noting with appreciation the valuable work of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability in supporting the building of national capacities to promote the Standard Rules in order to create opportunities for sustainable livelihoods by, for and with persons with disabilities,

Noting with appreciation also the important contributions of subregional, regional and international seminars and conferences related to persons with disabilities,

Mindful of the need to adopt and implement effective policies and strategies to promote the rights and the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in economic, social, cultural and political life, on the basis of equality, to achieve a society for all,

Welcoming initiatives to hold international conferences relating to persons with disabilities, including the Sixth World Assembly of Disabled Peoples' International, to be held in Japan in 2002,

Concerned that improvement of awareness of and sensitivity to disability issues and respect for the human rights of disabled persons has not been significant enough to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities worldwide,

Expressing grave concern that situations of armed conflict continue to have especially devastating consequences for the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Recognizing the importance of timely and reliable data on disability-sensitive topics, programme planning and evaluation and the need for further development of practical statistical methodology for the collection and compilation of data on populations with disabilities,

Reiterating that technology, in particular information and communications technology, provides new possibilities for improving accessibility and employment for persons with disabilities and for facilitating their full and effective participation and equality, and welcoming the initiatives of the United Nations in promoting information and communications technology as a means of achieving the universal goal of a society for all,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;

2. *Welcomes* the many initiatives and actions of Governments and relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, including relevant Bretton Woods institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations, to enhance the rights of persons with disabilities and the further equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities in all sectors of society;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the valuable work undertaken by the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development in monitoring the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities under his third mandate for the period 2000-2002, and also notes with appreciation the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in supporting the work of the Special Rapporteur;

4. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to continue to take concrete measures to promote the implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions and agreed international standards concerning persons with disabilities, in particular the Standard Rules, and for the further equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities by focusing on accessibility, health, education, social services, including training and rehabilitation, safety nets, employment and sustainable livelihoods, in the design and implementation of strategies, policies and programmes to promote a more inclusive society;

5. *Calls upon* Governments to undertake all necessary measures to advance beyond the adoption of national plans for people with disabilities through, inter alia, the creation or reinforcement of arrangements for the promotion and awareness of disability issues and the allocation of sufficient resources for the full implementation of existing plans and initiatives, and emphasizes in this regard the importance of supporting national efforts through international cooperation;

6. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to take practical actions, including public information campaigns, by, for and with persons with disabilities, with a view to increasing awareness of and sensitivity to disability issues, combating and overcoming discrimination against persons with disabilities and furthering their full and effective participation in society;

7. *Encourages* Governments to continue their support to non-governmental organizations contributing to the fulfilment of the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;

8. *Also encourages* Governments to involve persons with disabilities in the formulation of strategies and plans aimed at eradicating poverty, promoting education and enhancing employment;

9. *Urges* relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions, to continue to work closely with the programme on disability of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Secretariat in the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, including activities at the field level, by sharing experiences, findings and recommendations on persons with disabilities;

10. *Urges* Governments to cooperate with the Statistics Division of the Secretariat in the continued development of global statistics and indicators on disability, and encourages them to avail themselves of the technical assistance of the Division to build national capacities for national data collection systems, including the compilation and dissemination of data on disabled persons, as well as the development of methods for data collection and disability statistics, as appropriate;

11. *Urges* Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide special protection to girls and women with disabilities, elderly people with disabilities and persons with developmental and psychiatric disabilities, with special emphasis on integrating them into society and protecting and promoting their human rights;

12. *Urges* Governments, in collaboration with the United Nations system, to give special attention to the rights, needs and well-being of children with disabilities and their families in the development of policies and programmes, including the implementation of the Standard Rules;

13. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, concerned non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue to support the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability with a view to strengthening its capacity to support catalytic and innovative activities to implement fully the World Programme of Action and the Standard Rules, including the work of the Special Rapporteur, and to support activities to build national capacities, with emphasis on priorities for action identified in the present resolution;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to support initiatives of relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as those of regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions, for the promotion of all human rights of, and non-discrimination in respect of, persons with disabilities and the further implementation of the World Programme of Action, as well as their efforts to integrate persons with disabilities in technical cooperation activities, both as beneficiaries and as decision makers;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his efforts in improving the accessibility of the United Nations for persons with disabilities, and urges him to continue to implement plans to provide a barrier-free environment;

16. *Welcomes* the preparations proposed by the Secretary-General in his current report for the fourth quinquennial review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action in 2002, including the proposed framework for that review, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, a report on the findings and recommendations based on the review and appraisal, including a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Also on 19 December [meeting 88], the Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/56/583/Add.2], adopted **resolution 56/168** without vote [agenda item 119 (b)].

Comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the obligations contained in the relevant human rights instruments,

Reaffirming also that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Recalling its resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, its resolution 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, and its resolution 54/121 of 17 December 1999,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/10 of 27 July 2000 on further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the functional commissions of the Council,

Reaffirming the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their respective follow-up reviews, in particular as they pertain to the promotion of the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities on an equal and participatory basis,

Noting with satisfaction that the Standard Rules play an important role in influencing the promotion, formulation and evaluation of policies, plans, programmes and actions at the national, regional and international levels to further the equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities,

Recognizing that, despite different efforts made to increase cooperation and integration and increasing awareness of and sensitivity to disability issues since the adoption of the World Programme of Action by Governments, bodies and relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, these efforts have not been sufficient to promote full and effective participation by and opportunities for persons with disabilities in economic, social, cultural and political life,

Encouraged by the increasing interest of the international community in the promotion and protection of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities in the world under a comprehensive and integral approach,

Deeply concerned about the disadvantaged and vulnerable situation faced by 600 million persons with disabilities around the world, and conscious of the need to advance in the elaboration of an international instrument,

Looking forward to the final reports of the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development to be presented to that Commission, and also the outcome of the study currently being undertaken pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/51 of 25 April 2000 on the adequacy of instruments in respect of the protection and monitoring of the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Taking into account the recommendation of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to the General Assembly to consider elaborating a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, including special provisions that address the discriminatory practices and treatment that affect them,

1. *Decides* to establish an Ad Hoc Committee, open to the participation of all Member States and observers of the United Nations, to consider proposals for a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, based on the holistic approach in the work done in the fields of social development, human rights and non-discrimination and taking into account the recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission for Social Development;

2. *Also decides* that, prior to the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly the Ad Hoc Committee shall hold at least one meeting of a duration of ten working days;

3. *Invites* States, relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights treaty bodies, the regional commissions, the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations with an interest in the matter to make contributions to the work entrusted to the Ad Hoc Committee, based on the practice of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, to submit to the Ad Hoc Committee prior to its first session a compilation of existing international legal instruments, documents and programmes which directly or indirectly address the situation of persons with disabilities, including, inter alia, those of conferences, summits, meetings or international or regional seminars convened by the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the outcome of the study undertaken pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/51 and the final reports that will be presented by the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development to that Commission;

6. *Calls upon* States, in cooperation with regional commissions, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Division for Social Policy and Development and the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development, to hold regional meetings or seminars to contribute to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee by making recommendations regarding the content and practical measures that should be considered in the international convention;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made by the Ad Hoc Committee.

Cultural development

United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

General Assembly action. By resolution 56/3 of 30 October, the General Assembly decided to convene its plenary meetings devoted to the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations (2001) not on the dates designated by resolution 55/23 [YUN 2000, p. 1039], but on 8 and 9 November. Accordingly, the Assembly devoted its meetings on those dates to the observance of the Year, aimed at promoting tolerance, trust, understanding and respect for cultural diversity. Proclaimed by resolution 53/22 [YUN 1998, p. 1031], the Year was intended to encourage initiatives by Governments, the UN system and other relevant international and non-governmental organizations to celebrate mutual respect, defuse the fear of diversity and underline the importance of inclusion.

Report of Secretary-General. Pursuant to Assembly resolution 55/23, the Secretary-General reported in November on activities pertaining to the Year [A/56/523]. A dialogue among civilizations had engendered wide interest among academic and international institutions and NGOs. UNESCO, instrumental in fostering that interest, carried out a broad range of activities in cooperation with Member States, intergovernmental organizations and NGOs, including the holding of conferences and seminars, together with Governments, civil society and other UN organizations. The United Nations University also organized conferences, workshops and other events, such as an essay contest for children entitled "Dialogue beyond Borders". A substantive contribution to the dialogue was the publication of a book entitled *Crossing the Divide, Dialogue among Civilizations*, the result of collaboration among the Secretary-General's Personal Representative for the Year, the UNESCO Director-General and the Group of Eminent Persons established by the Secretary-General.

Among major events launched in celebration and support of the Year were the Salzburg Dialogue among Civilizations: a New Paradigm of International Relations, hosted by Austria in Schloss Fuschl (28 August), which issued a document entitled "Salzburg Reflections" [A/56/419]; a UNESCO-sponsored international conference in Vilnius, Lithuania (24-26 April); and another

conference in Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan (31 July–3 August). The Secretary-General remarked that the conferences and activities had shown that the United Nations remained the natural home of dialogue among civilizations, essential for achieving one of the main UN objectives, namely, conflict prevention.

Communications. Several other countries addressed communications to the Secretary-General reporting their activities in observance of the Year. The Czech Republic transmitted the text of the Prague Declaration adopted by the Fifth Forum 2000 Conference (14–17 October 2001) [A/56/498]; Iran forwarded the Tehran Declaration, adopted by the International Seminar on Environment, Religion and Culture (18–20 June) [A/56/458]; and China submitted a summary of the Twenty-first Century Forum—Symposium on Dialogue among Civilizations (Beijing, 11–12 September) [A/56/471].

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 9 November [meeting 43], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 56/6** [draft: A/56/L.3 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 25].

Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/22 of 4 November 1998, 54/113 of 10 December 1999 and 55/23 of 13 November 2000 entitled “United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations”,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, which are, inter alia, to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, and to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Underlining the fact that all Members have undertaken to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

Reaffirming their commitment to the fulfilment of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations and as a source of inspiration for the further promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms—political, social, economic, civil and cultural—including the right to development,

Underlining the fact that all civilizations celebrate the unity and diversity of humankind and are enriched and have evolved through dialogue with other civilizations and that, despite obstacles of intolerance and aggression, there has been constructive interaction throughout history among various civilizations,

Emphasizing that a common humanity unites all civilizations and allows for the celebration of the variegated splendour of the highest attainments of this civilizational diversity, and reaffirming that the civilizational achievements constitute the collective heritage of humankind,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000, which considers, inter alia, that tolerance is one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century and should include the active promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations, with human beings respecting one another, in all their diversity of belief, culture and language, neither fearing nor repressing differences within and between societies but cherishing them as a precious asset of humanity,

Noting that globalization brings greater interrelatedness among people and increased interaction among cultures and civilizations, and encouraged by the fact that the celebration of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, at the beginning of the twenty-first century, has underscored that globalization is not only an economic, financial and technological process which could offer great benefit but that it also presents the challenge of preserving and celebrating the rich intellectual and cultural diversity of humankind and of civilization,

Bearing in mind the valuable contribution that dialogue among civilizations can make to an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

Recognizing that human rights and fundamental freedoms derive from the dignity and worth inherent in the human person and are thus universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and that the human person is the central subject of human rights and fundamental freedoms and, consequently, should be the principal beneficiary and should participate actively in the realization of these rights and freedoms,

Reaffirming that all peoples have the right of self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Emphasizing that promotion and protection of freedom of opinion and expression and a collective commitment to listen to and learn from each other and to respect cultural heritage and diversity are essential for dialogue, progress and human advancement,

Underlining the fact that tolerance and respect for diversity and universal promotion and protection of human rights are mutually supportive, and recognizing that tolerance and respect for diversity effectively promote and are supported by, inter alia, the empowerment of women,

Recalling its resolution 55/254 of 31 May 2001, which calls upon all States to exert their utmost efforts to ensure that religious sites are fully respected and protected,

Emphasizing the need to acknowledge and respect the richness of all civilizations and to seek common ground among civilizations in order to address comprehensively common challenges facing humanity,

Welcoming the endeavours of Governments, international organizations, civil society organizations and countless individuals to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue among civilizations,

Welcoming also the efforts of the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and of the Group of Eminent Persons established by the Secretary-General,

Expressing its firm determination to facilitate and promote dialogue among civilizations,

Proclaims the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations:

A. Objectives, principles and participants

Article 1

Dialogue among civilizations is a process between and within civilizations, founded on inclusion, and a collective desire to learn, uncover and examine assumptions, unfold shared meaning and core values and integrate multiple perspectives through dialogue.

Article 2

Dialogue among civilizations constitutes a process to attain, inter alia, the following objectives:

Promotion of inclusion, equity, equality, justice and tolerance in human interactions;

Enhancement of mutual understanding and respect through interaction among civilizations;

Mutual enrichment and advancement of knowledge and appreciation of the richness and wisdom found in all civilizations;

Identification and promotion of common ground among civilizations in order to address common challenges threatening shared values, universal human rights and achievements of human society in various fields;

Promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and enrichment of common understanding of human rights;

Development of a better understanding of common ethical standards and universal human values;

Enhancement of respect for cultural diversity and cultural heritage.

Article 3

Pursuit of the above-mentioned objectives will be enhanced by collective commitment to the following principles:

Faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small;

Fulfilment in good faith of the obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

Respect for fundamental principles of justice and international law;

Recognition of diversified sources of knowledge and cultural diversity as fundamental features of human society and as indispensable and cherished assets for the advancement and material and spiritual welfare of humanity at large;

Recognition of the right of members of all civilizations to preserve and develop their cultural heritage within their own societies;

Commitment to inclusion, cooperation and the search for understanding as the mechanisms for the promotion of common values;

Enhancement of participation by all individuals, peoples and nations in local, national and international decision-making processes.

Article 4

Dialogue among civilizations provides important contributions to progress in the following areas:

Promotion of confidence-building at local, national, regional and international levels;

Enhancing mutual understanding and knowledge among different social groups, cultures and civilizations in various areas, including culture, religion, education, information, science and technology;

Addressing threats to peace and security;

Promotion and protection of human rights;

Elaboration of common ethical standards.

Article 5

Participation in dialogue among civilizations shall be global in scope and shall be open to all, including:

People from all civilizations;

Scholars, thinkers, intellectuals, writers, scientists, people of arts, culture and media and the youth, who play an instrumental role in initiation and sustainment of dialogue among civilizations;

Individuals from civil society and representatives of non-governmental organizations, as instrumental partners in promoting dialogue among civilizations.

Article 6

Governments shall promote, encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations.

Article 7

Regional and international organizations should take appropriate steps and initiatives to promote, facilitate and sustain dialogue among civilizations.

Article 8

The media has an indispensable and instrumental role in the promotion of dialogue among civilizations and in the fostering of greater understanding among various civilizations and cultures.

Article 9

The United Nations should continue to promote and strengthen the culture of dialogue among civilizations.

B. Programme of Action

1. States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, are invited to consider the following as a means of promoting dialogue among civilizations in all domains, within existing resources and also drawing upon voluntary contributions:

Facilitating and encouraging interaction and exchange among all individuals, inter alia, intellectuals, thinkers and artists of various societies and civilizations;

Promoting of mutual visits and meetings of experts in various fields from different civilizations, cultures and backgrounds, which provide an opportunity for discovering commonalities among various civilizations and cultures;

Exchange of visits among representatives of the arts and culture and the organization of cultural

festivals through which people will have a chance of getting acquainted with other cultures;
Sponsorship of conferences, symposiums and workshops to enhance mutual understanding, tolerance and dialogue among civilizations;
Planning sports competitions, Olympiads and scientific competitions, with a view to encouraging positive interaction among youth from different backgrounds and cultures;

Reinvigorating and encouraging translation and dissemination of basic manuscripts and books and studies representing different cultures and civilizations;

Promotion of historical and cultural tourism;

Incorporation of programmes to study various cultures and civilizations in educational curriculums, including the teaching of languages, history and socio-political thoughts of various civilizations, as well as the exchange of knowledge, information and scholarship among academia;

Advancement of research and scholarship to achieve an objective understanding of the characteristics of each civilization and the differences, as well as ways and means to enhance constructive interaction and understanding among them;

Utilization of communication technologies, including audio, video, printed press, multimedia and the Internet, to disseminate the message of dialogue and understanding throughout the globe and depict and publicize historical instances of constructive interaction among different civilizations;

Provision of equitable opportunities for participation in the dissemination of information, with a view to achieving an objective understanding of all civilizations and enhancing constructive interaction and cooperative engagement among civilizations;

Implementation of programmes to enhance the spirit of dialogue, understanding and rejection of intolerance, violence and racism among people, particularly the youth;

Utilizing the existence of migrants in various societies in bridging the gap of understanding between cultures;

Consultation to articulate effective mechanisms to protect the rights of all people to maintain their cultural identity, while facilitating their integration into their social environment.

2. States should encourage and support initiatives taken by civil society and non-governmental organizations for the promotion of dialogue among civilizations.

3. States, international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, are invited to develop appropriate ways and means at the local, national, regional and international levels to further promote dialogue and mutual understanding among civilizations, and to report their activities to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

4. Governments, funding institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector are invited to mobilize the necessary resources to promote dialogue among civilizations, including by contributing to the Trust Fund established by the Secretary-General in 1999 for that purpose.

5. The United Nations system, including, in particular, the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, are invited to continue to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and formulate ways and means to promote dialogue among civilizations in the activities of the United Nations in various fields.

6. The Secretary-General is requested to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of this Global Agenda and Programme of Action.

Human rights and cultural diversity

In December, by **resolution 56/156**, the General Assembly asked the Secretary-General to prepare a report on human rights and cultural diversity, taking into account the views of Member States, relevant UN agencies and NGOs regarding the recognition and importance of cultural diversity among all peoples and nations of the world, and to submit it to the Assembly at its fifty-seventh (2002) session.

(For further information on human rights and cultural diversity, see p. 621.)

United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002

By a letter of 20 September [A/56/231], 11 States requested the inclusion in the agenda of the General Assembly's fifty-sixth (2001) session of an additional item entitled "United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002". Annexed to the letter was an explanatory memorandum.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 21 November [meeting 61], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 56/8** [draft: A/56/L.13 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 177].

United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002

The General Assembly,

Recalling the international conventions dealing with the protection of cultural and natural heritage, including the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict adopted at The Hague in 1954 and the two Protocols thereto, the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, and the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, and recalling also the 1989 Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore,

Welcoming the ratification of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage by one hundred and sixty-seven States parties, and noting the inscription of more than six hundred and ninety sites on the World Heritage List,

Mindful of the importance of protecting the world cultural tangible and intangible heritage as a common ground for the promotion of mutual under-

standing and enrichment among cultures and civilizations,

Noting the work already undertaken to protect the world cultural and natural heritage by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, including international campaigns,

Welcoming the decisions adopted at the twenty-ninth and thirty-first sessions of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the one hundred and sixty-first session of the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization envisaging and calling for the proclamation of a United Nations year for cultural heritage,

Taking into consideration the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 2002,

1. *Proclaims* 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage;

2. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to serve as the lead agency for the year;

3. *Also invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in collaboration with States, observers, relevant United Nations bodies, within their respective mandates, other international organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, to intensify the implementation of programmes, activities and projects aimed at the promotion and protection of the world cultural heritage;

4. *Invites* Member States and observers to promote education and raise public awareness to foster respect for the national and world cultural heritage;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, observers, national and international organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to make voluntary contributions to finance and support activities aimed at the promotion and protection of the national and world cultural heritage, including relevant activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

6. *Decides* to devote one day of plenary meetings at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, on 4 December 2002, to mark the end of the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, and encourages Member States and observers to be represented in those meetings at the highest level possible;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the activities carried out during the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage".

Cultural property

The Secretary-General, in September [A/56/413], transmitted the UNESCO Director-General's report on action taken by the organization to implement the 1999 recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appro-

priation [YUN 1999, p. 1045]. Submitted in response to General Assembly resolution 54/190 [ibid.], the report also contained 10 recommendations adopted by the Committee at its eleventh session (Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 6-9 March 2001).

Addressed mainly to UNESCO and its Director-General, the recommendations called for: initiatives to promote ongoing bilateral discussions on the question of restitution of works of art and for steps to search for illicitly exported cultural and archaeological objects for return to their countries of origin; technical and financial support for the prohibition of the sale of illegally acquired artifacts and protection of archaeological sites; measures to promote the adoption and dissemination of the International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property [YUN 2000, p. 1417] and Object-ID, the international standard for recording data on movable cultural property and identifying cultural objects; a strategy to promote the Committee's voluntary international fund for the return and restitution of cultural property [ibid.]; and support to Member States for the inventory of their cultural heritage so as to guarantee better national conservation and information dissemination on cultural property in the event of theft. Member States were asked to prevent trade in forged cultural objects not identified as replicas and to ensure that customs and border officials were fully trained to apply the rules of the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 14 December [meeting 86], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 56/97** [draft: A/56/L.41/Rev.1 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 33].

Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 3026 A (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 3187 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3391 (XXX) of 19 November 1975, 31/40 of 30 November 1976, 32/18 of 11 November 1977, 33/50 of 14 December 1978, 34/64 of 29 November 1979, 35/127 and 35/128 of 11 December 1980, 36/64 of 27 November 1981, 38/34 of 25 November 1983, 40/19 of 21 November 1985, 42/7 of 22 October 1987, 44/18 of 6 November 1989, 46/10 of 22 October 1991, 48/15 of 2 November 1993, 50/56 of 11 December 1995, 52/24 of 25 November 1997 and 54/190 of 17 December 1999,

Bearing in mind its resolution 56/8 of 21 November 2001 on the proclamation of 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage,

Recalling the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, adopted at The Hague on 14 May 1954,

Recalling also the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, adopted on 14 November 1970 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Recalling further the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted on 16 November 1972 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Recalling the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects, adopted in Rome on 24 June 1995 by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law,

Recalling also the Medellin Declaration for Cultural Diversity and Tolerance and the Plan of Action on Cultural Cooperation, adopted at the first Meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Medellin, Colombia, on 4 and 5 September 1997,

Noting the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and the Action Plan for its implementation, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 2 November 2001,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General submitted in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Aware of the importance attached by some countries of origin to the return of cultural property that is of fundamental spiritual and cultural value to them, so that they may constitute collections representative of their cultural heritage,

Expressing concern at the illicit traffic in cultural property and its damage to the cultural heritage of nations,

Expressing concern also at the loss, destruction, removal, theft, pillage, illicit movement or misappropriation of and any acts of vandalism or damage directed against cultural property in areas of armed conflict and territories that are occupied, whether such conflicts are international or internal,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation on the work they have accomplished, in particular through the promotion of bilateral negotiations, for the return or restitution of cultural property, the preparation of inventories of movable cultural property and the implementation of the Object-ID standard related thereto, as well as for the reduction of illicit traffic in cultural property and the dissemination of information to the public;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the provisions of the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, and invites Member States that have not already done so to become parties to the Convention and to promote its implementation;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Second Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, adopted at The Hague on 26 March 1999, and invites all States Parties to the Convention to consider becoming parties to the Second Protocol;

4. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting and implementing the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of the provisions of the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects, and invites Member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to it;

6. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat the illicit trafficking in cultural property;

7. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to work in coordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, within their mandates and in cooperation with Member States, in order to continue to address the issue of return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin, and to provide appropriate support accordingly;

8. *Invites* Member States to continue drawing up, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, systematic inventories of their cultural property;

9. *Reaffirms* the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to promote the use of identification systems, in particular the application of the Object-ID standard, and to encourage the linking of identification systems and existing databases, including the one developed by the International Criminal Police Organization, to allow for the electronic transmission of information in order to reduce the illicit trafficking in cultural property, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make further efforts in this regard in cooperation with Member States, where appropriate;

10. *Welcomes* the adoption of the International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 16 November 1999, and takes note of the creation by the General Conference at the same session of the International Fund for the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, which was launched in November 2000 on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property;

11. *Encourages* the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to define and implement a strategy for the effective promotion of the International Fund, and invites Member States, intergovernmental bodies, the private sector and other interested donors of the international community to make voluntary contributions to the Fund;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in its efforts to develop all possibilities, including any further initiatives, for bringing about the attainment of the objectives of the present resolution;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin".

Protection of cultural sites

Destruction of relics and monuments in Afghanistan

The Security Council, at its 6 March meeting held in private [meeting 4286], was briefed by the Secretariat on the destruction of statues, including the colossal Buddhas at Bamian, and other non-Islamic shrines and artifacts in Afghanistan. The Council condemned the 26 February Taliban edict ordering the wanton acts of violence on Afghanistan's cultural heritage and joined calls by States, the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, UNESCO, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and others urging the Taliban to halt the destruction [S/2001/730] (see also p. 256).

Communications. Sweden forwarded a 1 March statement [A/55/831] by the EU Presidency expressing the EU's dismay at the Taliban edict. Qatar, on 4 March [A/55/822-S/2001/192], appealed to those concerned to reconsider the edict. The Republic of Korea, on 6 March [A/55/824], called on the Taliban leadership to put an immediate end to the destruction.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 9 March [meeting 94], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 55/243** [draft: A/55/L.79 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 46].

The destruction of relics and monuments in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/203 A of 18 December 1998, 54/189 A of 17 December 1999 and 55/174 A of 19 December 2000,

Bearing in mind the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the need to respect the common heritage of humankind,

Respecting the multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage of Afghanistan,

Deeply concerned and appalled by the Taliban edict of 26 February 2001, ordering the destruction of all statues and non-Islamic shrines in Afghanistan, and by the deliberate ongoing destruction of these relics and

monuments which belong to the common heritage of humankind,

Recalling the several appeals made by the General Assembly to all Afghan parties to protect the cultural and historic relics and monuments in Afghanistan, and welcoming recent calls by the Security Council, the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and others, urging the Taliban to halt their destruction,

Noting that the destruction of the statues in Afghanistan, in particular of the unique Buddhist sculptures in Bamiyan, would be an irreparable loss for humanity as a whole,

1. *Strongly calls upon* the Taliban to abide by their previous commitments to protect the cultural heritage of Afghanistan from all acts of vandalism, damage and theft;

2. *Strongly urges* the Taliban to review their edict of 26 February 2001 and to stop its implementation;

3. *Also strongly urges* the Taliban to take immediate action to prevent the further destruction of the irreplaceable relics, monuments or artefacts of the cultural heritage of Afghanistan;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to help, through appropriate technical measures, to safeguard the sculptures, including, if necessary, their temporary relocation or removal from public view.

Protection of religious sites

On 31 May [meeting 101], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 55/254** [draft: A/55/L.81 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 32].

Protection of religious sites

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/22 of 4 November 1998, 54/113 of 10 December 1999 and 55/23 of 18 November 2000, entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations",

Recalling also its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, and its resolution 55/97 of 4 December 2000 on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance,

Recalling further its resolutions 47/124 of 18 December 1992, 48/126 of 20 December 1993, 49/213 of 23 December 1994 and 51/95 of 12 December 1996, on the United Nations Year for Tolerance,

Bearing in mind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as the pertinent universal and regional human rights instruments,

Bearing in mind also the relevant provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977, as well as the relevant provisions of the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict of 1954,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, which emphasizes the need to

counter intolerance and related violence based on religion or belief, including the desecration of religious sites,

Recalling also the appeal of the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000 to respect the diversity of belief, culture and language, to cherish differences within and between societies as a precious asset of humanity and to promote a culture of peace and dialogue among all civilizations,

1. *Condemns* all acts or threats of violence, destruction, damage or endangerment, directed against religious sites as such, that continue to occur in the world;

2. *Calls upon* all States to exert their utmost efforts to ensure that religious sites are fully respected and protected in conformity with international standards and in accordance with their national legislation and to adopt adequate measures aimed at preventing such acts or threats of violence, and invites relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to those efforts by developing appropriate initiatives in this field;

3. *Encourages* all States, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the media to promote, inter alia, through education, a culture of tolerance and respect for the diversity of religions and for religious sites, which represent an important aspect of the collective heritage of humankind;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to devote, in consultation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, attention to the issue of protection of religious sites in his forthcoming reports related to the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations;

5. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question of the protection of religious sites under the item entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations".

Olympic truce

On 11 December [meeting 83], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 56/75** [draft: A/56/L.47 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 23].

Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and to consider this item every two years in advance of each Summer and Winter Olympic Games,

Recalling also its resolution 48/11 of 25 October 1993, which, inter alia, revived the ancient Greek tradition of *ekecheiria* or "Olympic Truce" with the aim of ensuring the safe passage and participation of athletes and others at the Games,

Taking into account the inclusion in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of an appeal for the observance of the Olympic Truce now and in the future and support for the International Olympic Committee in its efforts to promote peace and human understanding through sport and the Olympic ideal,

Recognizing that the goal of the Olympic movement is to build a peaceful and better world by educating the youth of the world through sport, practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit,

which requires mutual understanding, promoted by friendship, solidarity and fair play,

Recognizing also the valuable contribution that the appeal launched by the International Olympic Committee for an Olympic Truce, with which the National Olympic Committees of the Member States are associated, could make towards advancing the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting with satisfaction the flying of the United Nations flag at all competition sites of the Olympic Games, and the joint endeavours of the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations system in fields such as development, humanitarian assistance, health promotion, education, women, the eradication of poverty, the fight against the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), drug abuse and juvenile delinquency,

Noting also with satisfaction the organization by the International Olympic Committee, with the cooperation of the Secretary-General, of round tables on sport for a culture of peace on different continents for countries that have been or are still in a conflict situation, in the framework of the International Year for the Culture of Peace and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/13 of 20 November 1997,

Welcoming the setting up by the International Olympic Committee, with the adherence of Member States and intergovernmental organizations, of a World Anti-Doping Agency,

1. *Requests* Member States to observe, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations, the Olympic Truce during the XIX Olympic Winter Games to be held in Salt Lake City, United States of America, from 8 to 24 February 2002, by ensuring the safe passage and participation of athletes at the Games;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the International Olympic Committee to mobilize all international sports organizations and that of the National Olympic Committees of the Member States to undertake concrete action at the local, national, regional and world levels to promote and strengthen a culture of peace based on the spirit of the Olympic Truce;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote the observance of the Olympic Truce among Member States, drawing the attention of world public opinion to the contribution such a truce would make to the promotion of international understanding, peace and goodwill, and to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee in the realization of this objective;

4. *Welcomes* the participation of the President in office of the General Assembly and also the representatives of the Secretary-General and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the International Olympic Truce Foundation;

5. *Urges* the International Olympic Committee to devise a special programme of assistance for the development of physical education and sport for countries affected by conflicts and poverty;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and to consider this item before the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad, to be held in Athens in 2004.

On 24 December, the Assembly decided that the agenda item on building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal would remain for consideration during its resumed fifty-sixth (2002) session (**decision 56/464**).

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its tenth session (Vienna, 8-17 May and 6-7 September) [E/2001/30/Rev.1], recommended to the Economic and Social Council approval of four draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly and three draft resolutions and one draft decision for adoption by the Council. The draft texts included action against illicit trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna (see p. 968). In accordance with a 2000 Commission resolution [YUN 2000, p. 1044], a thematic discussion was held on progress made in global action against corruption, with particular focus on government initiatives and asset recovery (see p. 1042).

On 24 July, the Council took note of the Commission's report on its tenth session and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the eleventh (2002) session (**decision 2001/240**). On 3 May, it had elected Chad and Zimbabwe to fill postponed vacancies on the Commission for a term expiring on 31 December 2003 (**decision 2001/201 B**).

On the question of capital punishment, the Secretary-General, in March, issued his sixth quinquennial report on the subject [E/CN.15/2001/10 & Corr.1], which reviewed trends in the application of the death penalty during 1994-2000. The report was considered by the Commission on Human Rights (see p. 638).

Follow-up to Tenth UN Crime Congress

As a follow-up to the Tenth (2000) United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders [YUN 2000, p. 1040], the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in May, considered the Secretary-General's March report [E/CN.15/2001/5] on draft plans of action for implementation during 2001-2005 of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by General Assembly resolution 55/59 [YUN 2000, p. 1041]. The plans out-

lined actions to be undertaken by Member States and the UN system in 11 areas: transnational organized crime; corruption; trafficking in persons; smuggling of migrants; illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms; money-laundering; terrorism; crime prevention; witnesses and victims of crime; treatment of offenders; and criminal misuse of information technologies. Each draft plan was divided into national and international actions, with emphasis on the former.

Consideration of the draft plans continued at the Commission's intersessional meeting (Vienna, 3-5 September) on the basis of revised draft plans transmitted by a Secretariat note [E/CN.15/2001/14/Rev.2], which took account of the May discussions on the first six plans above and contained four additional draft plans of action submitted by Finland and Canada, covering juvenile justice; the special needs of women in the criminal justice system; standards and norms in crime prevention; and restorative justice.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 20 December [meeting 46], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2001/30/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2001/47** without vote [agenda item 14 (c)].

Plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000, in which it endorsed the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

"Noting that, in paragraph 29 of the Vienna Declaration, the Tenth Congress invited the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to design specific measures for the implementation of and follow-up to the commitments undertaken in the Declaration,

"Recalling that, in its resolution 55/60 of 4 December 2000, it urged Governments, in their efforts to prevent and combat crime, to be guided by the results of the Tenth Congress, and requested the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States, draft plans of action for the implementation of and follow-up to the commitments undertaken in the Vienna Declaration for consideration and action by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its tenth session,

"1. Takes note with appreciation of the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, which are contained in the annex to the present resolution;

“2. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its ninth and tenth sessions on the preparation of the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration;

“3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the widest possible circulation of the plans of action;

“4. *Invites* Governments to consider carefully and use, as appropriate, the plans of action as a guide in their efforts to formulate legislation, policies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, for the purpose of implementing and following up on the commitments undertaken in the Vienna Declaration;

“5. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, to consider carefully and implement, as appropriate, the plans of action as a guide in developing policies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in accordance with the medium-term plans and the programme budgets and subject to available resources;

“6. *Invites* the Secretariat to discuss with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network their possible contribution to the implementation of the plans of action, under the coordination of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

“7. *Invites* Member States and regional and international institutions, including financial institutions, to strengthen the Programme through sustained funding and other technical support activities in order to assist interested States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, as appropriate;

“8. *Invites* the Commission to follow up the implementation of the plans of action and to make any recommendations, as appropriate.

“Annex

“Plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century

“I. Action against transnational organized crime

“1. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 10 of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century and to facilitate the signature, ratification, entry into force and progressive implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the specific measures set out below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“2. States that have not signed the Convention and the protocols thereto should do so as soon as possible, and States that have signed those legal instruments should make every effort to ratify them as soon as possible. Each State will set priorities for the effective implementation of the Convention and the protocols thereto and will proceed as appropriate and as expeditiously as possible until all the provisions of all of those legal instruments are in full force and operation. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) The development of legislation creating or strengthening sanctions, investigative powers, criminal procedures and other matters;

“(b) Capacity-building, including for the purpose of cooperation, through the strengthening of crime prevention and criminal justice systems, and the establishment or expansion of agencies responsible for the prevention, detection and control of transnational organized crime;

“(c) The establishment or improvement of training programmes for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement personnel and other individuals or agencies responsible for the prevention, detection and control of transnational organized crime;

“(d) The development and sharing of information and analytical expertise on methods and activities and general trends in organized crime and on the identities, whereabouts and activities of specific individuals or groups suspected of involvement in organized crime, to the extent consistent with national laws and international agreements and arrangements;

“(e) The general promotion of effective crime control strategies.

“3. States will also endeavour, as appropriate:

“(a) To support the efforts of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat to promote ratification of the Convention and the protocols thereto through regional seminars and provide pre- and post-ratification assistance to signatory States by providing financial contributions, expertise and/or other forms of assistance;

“(b) To increase in a sustained manner their overall level of extrabudgetary contributions and strengthen and broaden the donor base of the Centre in order to ensure the availability of adequate material and technical resources for projects in support of the Convention and the protocols thereto, as well as other projects and programmes;

“(c) To strengthen international cooperation in order to create a conducive environment for the fight against organized crime, promoting growth and sustainable development and eradicating poverty and unemployment.

“B. International actions

“4. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Organize high-level seminars to increase awareness of the Convention and the protocols thereto on the part of States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other key groups or individuals;

“(b) Assist States in the development of legislation and regulations and provide other expertise or technical cooperation to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the legal instruments, on request;

“(c) Assist States in the establishment or intensification of bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the areas covered by the Convention, in particular those involving the use of modern communication technologies, on request;

“(d) Carry out the regular collection and analysis of data on transnational organized crime, in consultation with interested States;

“(e) Maintain a database to permit a more comprehensive in-depth analysis of patterns and trends and geographical mapping of the strategies and activities carried out by organized criminal groups, and of best practices to combat transnational organized crime, in consultation with interested States;

“(f) Maintain a database of relevant national legislation;

“(g) Support the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in the development of rules and procedures for the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

“(h) Provide secretariat and general support to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.

“II. Action against corruption

“5. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraph 16 of the Vienna Declaration to develop an effective international legal instrument against corruption and to develop and implement other measures and programmes to prevent and combat corruption, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“6. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Full participation in sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/61 of 4 December 2000;

“(b) Promoting the full and effective participation of developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Committee; this may be done through the provision of extra-budgetary resources to the Centre for International Crime Prevention;

“(c) Making efforts to finalize the future United Nations convention against corruption by the end of 2003, taking into consideration existing legal instruments against corruption and, whenever relevant, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

“(d) Commencing, when appropriate, the development of domestic legislative, administrative and other measures to facilitate the ratification and effective implementation of the future United Nations convention against corruption, including both domestic measures against corruption and measures to support effective cooperation with other States.

“7. States will endeavour, as appropriate, to address domestic corruption through the following measures:

“(a) The assessment of domestic types, causes, effects and costs of corruption;

“(b) The development of national strategies and action plans against corruption, based on the broad participation of stakeholders from government and civil society;

“(c) The maintenance or establishment of adequate domestic offences, investigative powers and criminal procedures to deal with corruption and related problems;

“(d) The strengthening of national governance systems and institutions, in particular criminal justice in-

stitutions, to create and/or ensure greater independence from and resistance to corrupt influences;

“(e) The maintenance or establishment of institutions and structures to achieve transparency and public accountability in government, business and other key social and economic sectors;

“(f) The development of expertise in anti-corruption measures and the education and training of officials about the nature and consequences of corruption and how to combat it effectively.

“8. States will endeavour, as appropriate, to address transnational corruption with the following measures:

“(a) The signature, ratification and implementation of existing international instruments against corruption, as appropriate;

“(b) Proper follow-up to international anti-corruption measures and recommendations at the national level, in conformity with national law;

“(c) The development and enhancement of domestic capacity to provide international cooperation in anti-corruption matters, including addressing the question of the repatriation of proceeds of corruption;

“(d) Awareness-raising on the part of relevant government departments or ministries such as ministries of justice, the interior, foreign affairs and development cooperation as to the seriousness of the problems posed by transnational corruption and the need to support effective measures against it;

“(e) The provision of material, technical or other support to other States in anti-corruption programmes, both directly and through financial support to the global programme against corruption;

“(f) The reduction of opportunities for the transfer and concealment of proceeds of corruption and measures to address the question of returning such proceeds to their countries of origin; actions may include ensuring the implementation of measures against money-laundering, pursuant to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and other international legal instruments, and the development and implementation of new measures.

“B. International actions

“9. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Provide substantive expertise and full secretariat services to the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption in the course of its work;

“(b) Ensure, with the assistance of Member States, the full and effective participation of developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, including by covering travel and local expenses;

“(c) Provide to States, on request, technical cooperation to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the future United Nations convention against corruption;

“(d) Assist States in the establishment or intensification of bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the areas to be covered by the future United Nations convention against corruption;

“(e) Maintain a database of existing national assessments of corruption in a standardized format and a kit of best practices against corruption;

“(f) Facilitate the sharing of experience and expertise among States;

“(g) Revise and update the manual on practical measures against corruption;

“(h) Develop technical cooperation projects to prevent and combat corruption in order to assist States, upon request, in implementing such projects under the global programme against corruption.

“III. Action against trafficking in persons

“10. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraph 14 of the Vienna Declaration to take immediate and effective measures to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and to promote cooperation between States in this respect, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“11. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Developing and sharing information and analytical expertise on the nature and extent of domestic and regional trafficking activities and on the identities, means and methods of known traffickers or trafficking organizations, to the extent consistent with national laws and international agreements and arrangements;

“(b) Adopting or strengthening, as necessary, effective laws and procedures for the prevention and punishment of trafficking in persons and effective measures for the support and protection of victims and witnesses of such trafficking;

“(c) Considering implementing measures to provide for the protection and physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking in persons;

“(d) Supporting and cooperating with national and international non-governmental and other organizations and elements of civil society, as appropriate, in matters relating to trafficking in persons;

“(e) Reviewing and assessing the effectiveness of domestic measures against trafficking in persons, and considering making that information available for comparison and research into the development of more effective measures against such trafficking;

“(f) Developing and disseminating public information about trafficking in persons, to educate potential victims of such trafficking;

“(g) Strengthening capacity for international cooperation to develop and implement measures against trafficking in persons;

“(h) Considering providing voluntary contributions to support the implementation of the global programme against trafficking in human beings;

“(i) Providing increased resources to support the development and implementation of national and regional strategies against trafficking in persons.

“B. International actions

“12. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Develop technical cooperation projects to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and to protect the victims and witnesses of such trafficking, in order

to assist States, upon request, in implementing such projects under the global programme against trafficking in human beings;

“(b) Maintain a global database containing information about the nature and extent of trafficking in persons and best practices for preventing and controlling it, in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute;

“(c) Develop tools to assess the effectiveness of measures against trafficking in persons.

“IV. Action against smuggling of migrants

“13. In order to implement and follow up the commitments undertaken in paragraph 14 of the Vienna Declaration and to take immediate and effective measures to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants, and to promote cooperation between States in this respect, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“14. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Developing and sharing information and analytical expertise on the nature and extent of domestic and regional activities relating to the smuggling of migrants and on the identities, means and methods of known smugglers or smuggling organizations, to the extent consistent with national laws and international agreements and arrangements;

“(b) Enacting and strengthening, as necessary, effective laws for the prevention and punishment of the smuggling of migrants, and measures for the support and protection of the rights of smuggled migrants and of witnesses in smuggling cases, in conformity with the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

“(c) Implementing measures to protect the basic rights of smuggled migrants and, within their means, of witnesses in smuggling cases, to protect them from violence and take appropriate measures in cases where, in the course of being smuggled, the lives, safety or human dignity of migrants are placed in jeopardy;

“(d) Supporting and cooperating with national and international non-governmental and other organizations and elements of civil society, as appropriate, in matters relating to the smuggling of migrants;

“(e) Reviewing and assessing the effectiveness of domestic measures against the smuggling of migrants, and considering making that information available for comparison and research into the development of more effective measures;

“(f) Developing and disseminating public information about the smuggling of migrants, to educate officials, the general public and potential migrants about the true nature of such smuggling, including the involvement of organized criminal groups and the risks posed to smuggled migrants;

“(g) Strengthening capacity for international cooperation to develop and implement measures against the smuggling of migrants.

“B. International actions

“15. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution, develop

technical cooperation projects to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants, in order to assist States, upon request, in implementing such projects.

“V. Action against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition

“16. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraph 15 of the Vienna Declaration and to take such immediate and effective measures as are appropriate to reduce the incidence of the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and related criminal activities, in accordance with the terms of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“17. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Adopting and strengthening, as necessary, national legislation and procedures, and in particular procedures regarding criminal offences and procedures for the confiscation, seizure, forfeiture and disposal of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition;

“(b) Implementing requirements to keep records regarding firearms, the marking of firearms and the deactivation of firearms;

“(c) Establishing or maintaining effective systems for the licensing or authorization of the import, export and transit of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition;

“(d) Establishing appropriate legal and administrative measures with a view to preventing the loss, theft or diversion of firearms, for the exchange of relevant information relating to firearms and for bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including by means of information exchange and technical assistance;

“(e) Considering the establishment of an effective regulatory framework for the activities of those engaged in the brokering of transactions involving the import, export or transit of firearms.

“B. International actions

“18. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Develop technical cooperation projects to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and related activities, in order to assist requesting States, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in implementing such projects;

“(b) Establish and maintain a global database of existing national and regional firearms regulations and related law enforcement practices, as well as best practices relating to firearms control measures.

“VI. Action against money-laundering

“19. In order to implement and follow up the commitments undertaken in paragraph 17 of the Vienna Declaration and to develop, adopt and implement effective domestic legislation, regulations and administrative measures to prevent, detect and combat, in cooperation with other States, domestic and transnational money-laundering, in accordance with the relevant international instruments, in particular the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and using as a guideline the relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations against money-laundering, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“20. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Adopting comprehensive measures to deal effectively with the problem of money-laundering in all its aspects, with the participation of all relevant ministries, departments and agencies and in consultation with representatives of the financial sector;

“(b) Making efforts to ensure that domestic legislation adequately criminalizes activities and methods used to conceal, convert or transfer the proceeds of crime in order to disguise the nature or origin of the proceeds, in accordance with article 6 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

“(c) Making efforts to ensure that adequate regulatory, inspection and investigative powers exist to detect and identify money-laundering activities;

“(d) Making efforts to ensure that adequate investigative and judicial powers exist to permit the identification, tracing, seizure, confiscation and disposal of proceeds of crime;

“(e) Making efforts to ensure that adequate legal powers exist and administrative resources are available to permit timely and effective responses to be made to requests from other States in cases involving money-laundering;

“(f) Supporting and participating in domestic and international research efforts to monitor and analyse trends in money-laundering and international policy responses;

“(g) Consistent with existing multilateral arrangements, developing projects or programmes to assist other States in developing, drafting or upgrading legislation, regulations and administrative procedures against money-laundering, including the Global Programme against Money-Laundering and other activities or projects that support the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

“(h) Activities or programmes to train officials or share expertise in combating money-laundering, such as training workshops and seminars.

“B. International actions

“21. The Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution, develop technical cooperation activities to prevent and combat

money-laundering and assist requesting States in implementing those activities.

“VII. Action against terrorism

“22. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraph 19 of the Vienna Declaration and to take effective, resolute and speedy measures to prevent and combat criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“23. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Signing and ratifying the international instruments dealing with terrorism;

“(b) Conducting research and gathering information about criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the identities, whereabouts and activities of specific individuals or groups involved in such activities, and supporting similar work at the international level, to the extent consistent with national laws and international agreements and arrangements;

“(c) Reviewing their relevant domestic laws and procedures with a view to achieving effective domestic measures against terrorism and related crime, an enhanced ability to cooperate in appropriate cases with other States and the effective implementation of relevant international instruments;

“(d) Fostering cooperation between anti-terrorism agencies and agencies fighting crimes; this may include the establishment of liaison offices or other channels of communication between anti-terrorism agencies and agencies fighting crime in order to enhance information exchange;

“(e) Considering voluntary contributions to support the implementation of the terrorism-prevention activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention.

“B. International actions

“24. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, in coordination with the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Take steps to raise awareness of the relevant international instruments, encourage States to sign and ratify such instruments and, where feasible, provide assistance in implementing such instruments to States, upon request;

“(b) In cooperation with Member States, take measures to raise public awareness of the nature and scope of international terrorism and its relationship to crime, including organized crime, where appropriate;

“(c) Continue to maintain existing databases on terrorism;

“(d) Offer analytical support to Member States by collecting and disseminating information on the relationship between terrorism and related criminal activities;

“(e) If further developments so require, draw up concrete proposals for consideration by Member States to strengthen the capacity of the Centre to develop,

within its mandate, and administer the terrorism prevention component of its activities.

“VIII. Action on crime prevention

“25. In order to implement and follow up on the commitment undertaken in paragraph 25 of the Vienna Declaration to develop comprehensive international, regional, national and local crime prevention strategies, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“26. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Promotion of close cooperation between the various sectors of society, including justice, health, education, social services and housing, which are necessary to support effective community-based crime prevention;

“(b) Close cooperation with and assistance to elements of civil society in the development, adoption and promotion of crime prevention initiatives, taking into account the importance of proceeding on the basis of proven practices wherever possible and of selecting the appropriate balance between various approaches to community-based crime prevention;

“(c) Encouragement of assessment of the effectiveness of crime prevention programmes;

“(d) Development of practices that seek to prevent crime victims from being victimized once again;

“(e) Development and implementation of situational and other crime prevention programmes, bearing in mind the need to avoid any infringement of civil liberties;

“(f) Collaboration with other Governments and non-governmental organizations in the development and dissemination of successful and innovative crime prevention initiatives and specialized knowledge and expertise in crime prevention practices, including public awareness and education campaigns about effective crime prevention and the contributions that individuals, families, communities and all levels of government may make to contribute to safer and more peaceful communities;

“(g) Consideration of how to contribute to the collective efforts of countries to develop a comprehensive international strategy to advance community-based crime prevention;

“(h) Take steps to incorporate into their national crime prevention strategies measures to prevent and combat crime associated with racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance.

“B. International actions

“27. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Develop and promote crime prevention expertise that has been carefully adapted from proven practices to the conditions in the countries where those practices are to be implemented, using seminars, training programmes and other means;

“(b) Where requested to do so by the State or States involved, conduct public awareness and education campaigns about effective crime prevention and the respective contributions that individuals, families,

communities and all levels of government may make towards safer and more peaceful communities;

“(c) Endeavour to contribute to the exchange of information and experience in crime prevention, for the purpose of encouraging new forms of collaboration between countries involving government, the community and non-governmental organizations;

“(d) Assess the evolution and globalization of crime and prepare responses to it through innovative and effective crime prevention initiatives that take account of the impact of new technologies on crime and crime prevention;

“(e) Continue to coordinate studies on crime in urban areas and measures for its effective prevention, including on the possible cultural and institutional differences in effective crime prevention;

“(f) Encourage Member States to incorporate into international crime prevention strategies and norms measures to prevent and combat crime associated with racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, taking into account measures already taken by Member States;

“(g) Develop technical cooperation projects in the area of crime prevention for requesting States and assist in their implementation;

“(h) Develop a guide for policy makers and a handbook on proven practices in the area of crime prevention.

“IX. Action on witnesses and victims of crime

“28. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraph 27 of the Vienna Declaration to review relevant practices by 2002 where possible, to develop action plans, support services and awareness campaigns for victims, to consider the establishment of funds for victims and to develop and implement witness protection policies, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“29. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) The conduct of national and regional studies on victims of crime in national justice systems;

“(b) The use and application of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, subject to the domestic legal systems of each State, taking into account the Handbook on Justice for Victims on the use and application of the Declaration and the Guide for Policy Makers on the implementation of the Declaration.

“B. International actions

“30. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) In its projects and programmes, take into account measures for the assistance and support of victims and witnesses, including those who are women, children or victims of trafficking in persons;

“(b) Promote the establishment of funds for victims of crime;

“(c) Promote proven practices in providing support and services for victims and witnesses using, for example, the International Victimology web site;

“(d) Translate into the official languages of the United Nations and widely disseminate the Guide for Policy Makers and the Handbook on Justice for Victims and assist requesting States in using those documents;

“(e) Upon request, assist States in the development of new legislation on victims, using, inter alia, the international database established by the Government of the Netherlands;

“(f) Where necessary, promote demonstration or pilot projects for the development, further development or establishment of victim services and other related operational activities.

“X. Action on prison overcrowding and alternatives to incarceration

“31. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraph 26 of the Vienna Declaration to promote safe and effective alternatives to incarceration, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“32. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) The development of specific actions and time-bound targets to address prison overcrowding, recognizing that conditions in overcrowded prisons may affect the human rights of prisoners, including such actions as adopting effective measures to reduce pre-trial detention as far as possible; the introduction of appropriate alternatives to imprisonment; preferring non-custodial measures to imprisonment where possible; dealing with minor offences using options such as customary practice, mediation between concerned parties or the payment of civil reparations or compensation; and conducting public awareness and education campaigns on alternatives to imprisonment and how they work;

“(b) Encouraging international and regional institutions, including financial institutions, to incorporate into their relevant technical cooperation programmes measures to reduce prison overcrowding, in accordance with national laws;

“(c) Promoting and implementing good prison practice, taking into account international standards;

“(d) Ensuring that national and international actions on prison overcrowding and alternatives to incarceration take into account and address any disparate impact that such actions may have on women and men.

“B. International actions

“33. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Encourage international and regional institutions, including financial institutions, to incorporate into their relevant technical cooperation programmes measures to reduce prison overcrowding, in accordance with national laws;

“(b) Promote national and international actions on prison overcrowding and alternatives to incarceration that take into account any disparate impact on women and men, as well as any special needs;

“(c) Upon request, provide assistance in the form of advisory services, needs assessment, capacity-building,

training or other assistance to States to enable them to improve prison conditions.

“XI. Action against high-technology and computer-related crime

“34. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraph 18 of the Vienna Declaration to develop action-oriented policy recommendations for the prevention and control of high-technology and computer-related crime, taking into account the ongoing work in other forums and to enhance abilities to detect, prevent, investigate and prosecute such crimes, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“35. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Criminalization of the misuse of information technologies, as appropriate and in accordance with national law, including, if necessary, reviewing crimes such as fraud, in order to ensure that they apply to offences in which computer and telecommunication media and networks are used;

“(b) The development and implementation of rules and procedures, including on the exercise of jurisdiction, that would ensure that computer- and telecommunication-related crimes can be effectively detected and investigated at the national level and that effective cooperation can be obtained in multinational cases, taking into account national sovereignty, the need for effective law enforcement and the need to maintain effective protections for privacy and other related basic rights;

“(c) Ensuring that law enforcement personnel are trained and equipped to be able to respond effectively and expeditiously to requests for assistance in the tracing of communications and other measures necessary for the detection and investigation of transnational high-technology and computer-related crimes;

“(d) Engaging in domestic and international discussions on actions against high-technology and computer-related crime and the effects of technological change with industries involved in the development and deployment of computers, telecommunication equipment, network software and hardware and other relevant products and services. These discussions could include such key areas as:

“(i) Issues relating to domestic and international regulation of the technologies and networks;

“(ii) Issues relating to the incorporation of elements into new technologies, which are intended to prevent crime or facilitate the detection, investigation or prosecution of crime;

“(e) Making voluntary contributions, both bilaterally and through international and regional organizations, as appropriate, including in cooperation with the private sector, inter alia, in the form of technical expertise to assist other States in developing and implementing effective measures against high-technology and computer-related crime, including the measures referred to in subparagraphs (c) and (d) above.

“B. International actions

“36. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant interna-

tional and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Support national and international research activities to identify new forms of computer-related criminality and to assess the effects of such criminality in key areas such as sustainable development, the protection of privacy and electronic commerce, and the measures taken in response;

“(b) Disseminate internationally agreed materials such as guidelines, legal and technical manuals, minimum standards, proven practices and model legislation to assist legislators and law enforcement and other authorities in the development, adoption and application of effective measures against high-technology and computer-related crime and offenders both in general and in specific cases;

“(c) Promote, support and implement, as appropriate, technical cooperation and assistance projects. Such projects would bring together experts in crime prevention, computer security, criminal legislation and procedures, prosecution, investigative techniques and related matters with States seeking information or assistance in those areas.

“XII. Action on juvenile justice

“37. In order to implement and follow up the commitments, undertaken in paragraph 24 of the Vienna Declaration, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“38. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Giving timely assistance to juveniles in difficult circumstances in order to prevent them from resorting to crime;

“(b) Supporting the development of crime prevention practices that are focused on juveniles who are at risk of becoming delinquent or who are easy candidates for recruitment by criminal groups, bearing in mind the rights of such juveniles;

“(c) Strengthening juvenile justice systems;

“(d) Incorporating an integrated strategy for the prevention of youth crime and for juvenile justice in their national development plans;

“(e) Promoting the re-education and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders;

“(f) Encouraging, and where necessary, supporting the participation of civil society in the implementation of practices for the prevention of juvenile crime.

“B. International actions

“39. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Upon request, develop technical cooperation projects to prevent youth crime, to strengthen juvenile justice systems and to improve the rehabilitation and treatment of juvenile offenders and assist States in implementing those projects;

“(b) Ensure effective cooperation among the relevant United Nations entities and the other organizations mentioned in the Guidelines for Action on Children in the Criminal Justice System.

“XIII. Action on the special needs of women in the criminal justice system

“40. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraphs 11 and 12 of the Vienna Declaration, and to review crime prevention and criminal justice strategies in order to identify and address any disparate impact of programmes and policies on women and men, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“41. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Reviewing, evaluating and, if necessary, modifying their legislation, policies, procedures and practices relating to criminal matters, in a manner consistent with their legal systems, in order to ensure that women are treated fairly by the criminal justice system;

“(b) Developing national and international crime prevention and criminal justice strategies that take into account the special needs of women as criminal justice practitioners, victims, witnesses, prisoners and offenders;

“(c) Considering sharing with other States, via web sites or other media or forums, any proven practices concerning women as criminal justice practitioners, victims, witnesses, prisoners and offenders that take into account the special needs of women.

“B. International actions

“42. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Collect and disseminate information and materials on violence against women in all of its forms and manifestations, as referred to in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, for the purpose of implementing its crime prevention and criminal justice programme, including technical assistance at the request of States;

“(b) Work on issues relating to violence against women and to the removal of gender bias in the administration of criminal justice;

“(c) Cooperate with all other relevant entities of the United Nations system regarding activities on issues relating to violence against women and to the removal of gender bias in the administration of criminal justice, and coordinate work on such issues;

“(d) Consolidate and disseminate information on successful intervention models and preventive programmes at the national level;

“(e) Continue to improve training concerning criminal justice and crime-prevention aspects of the human rights of women and issues of gender bias and violence against women for relevant United Nations staff members;

“(f) Assist Member States, upon request, in utilizing the Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

“XIV. Action on standards and norms

“43. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraph 22 of the Vienna Declaration and to promote the use and application, as appropriate, of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in

national law and practice, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“44. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to use and apply in national law and practice the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and to publish the *Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice* in the languages of their countries.

“B. International actions

“45. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Update the *Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice*;

“(b) Promote the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, inter alia, by providing advisory services and technical cooperation to Member States upon request, including assistance to Member States in criminal justice and law reform, organization of training for law enforcement and criminal justice personnel and support to the administration and management of penal and penitentiary systems, thus contributing to the upgrading of their efficiency and capabilities;

“(c) Coordinate activities relating to the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice between the Centre for International Crime Prevention and other relevant United Nations entities, taking into account bilateral and regional assistance programmes.

“XV. Action on restorative justice

“46. In order to implement and follow up on the commitments undertaken in paragraph 28 of the Vienna Declaration and to encourage the development of restorative justice policies, procedures and programmes, the specific measures below are recommended.

“A. National actions

“47. Individually and collectively, States will endeavour, as appropriate, to support the following actions:

“(a) Taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/14 of 27 July 2000, entitled “Basic principles on the use of restorative justice programmes in criminal matters”, when considering the desirability and the means of establishing common principles;

“(b) Dealing with offences, especially minor offences, according to customary practice in respect of restorative justice, where available and appropriate, provided that this meets human rights requirements and that those involved so agree;

“(c) Using amicable means as provided by national law to deal with offences, especially minor offences, for example by using mediation, reparation or agreements whereby the offender compensates the victim;

“(d) Promoting a culture favourable to mediation and restorative justice among law enforcement, judicial and social authorities and local communities;

“(e) Providing appropriate training for those involved in the development and implementation of restorative justice policies and programmes;

“(f) Promoting the re-education and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders by encouraging, where appropriate, the use of mediation, conflict resolution, conciliation and other methods of restorative justice as alternatives to judicial proceedings and custodial-based sanctions;

“(g) Developing and implementing restorative justice policies and programmes, taking into account existing international commitments with respect to victims, in particular the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power;

“(h) Promoting cooperation between government and civil society, including relevant non-governmental organizations, to implement restorative justice programmes and to ensure public support for the use of restorative justice principles.

“B. International actions

“48. The Centre for International Crime Prevention will, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with the present resolution:

“(a) Exchange information on experiences and proven practices in the implementation and evaluation of programmes for restorative justice;

“(b) Assist the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in considering the desirability and the means of establishing common principles on the use of restorative justice programmes in criminal matters;

“(c) Convene a meeting of experts to examine proposals for further action in relation to restorative justice, including mediation.”

Crime congresses

In response to General Assembly resolution 53/110 [YUN 1998, p. 1032], the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice reviewed the role, function, periodicity and duration of the UN congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, including the issue of regional preparatory meetings, on the basis of a Secretariat note [E/CN.15/2001/6] prepared for the review.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 24 July [meeting 40], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2001/30/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2001/9** without vote [agenda item 14 (c)].

Role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[For text, see General Assembly resolution 56/119 below.]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 88], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third

Committee [A/56/574], adopted **resolution 56/119** without vote [agenda item 110].

Role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in its resolution 53/110 of 9 December 1998, it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to review the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, including the issue of regional preparatory meetings for the congresses,

Taking note with appreciation of the results of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Bearing in mind that the congresses are a consultative body of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in accordance with paragraph 29 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the Programme, annexed to General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991,

Recognizing the significant contributions of the congresses to the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recognizing also that the congresses have been a forum for promoting the exchange of experiences in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Recognizing further the role played by the congresses in preparing suggestions, for consideration by the Commission, on possible subjects for its programme of work,

Aware of the need to review the functioning and method of work of the congresses in order to improve their effectiveness,

Noting with appreciation the offers made by the Governments of Mexico and Thailand to host the next congress,

1. *Decides* to continue holding the United Nations congresses in accordance with paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, following a dynamic, interactive and cost-effective method of work and a focused programme of work, and to call them the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;

2. *Also decides* that, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the Programme, shall be held in accordance with the following guidelines:

(a) Each congress shall discuss specific topics, including, where appropriate, a main topic, all of which shall be determined by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

(b) Each congress shall include one session of pre-congress consultations;

(c) Each congress shall include a high-level segment in which States will be represented at the highest possi-

ble level and will be given an opportunity to make statements on the topics of the congress;

(d) As part of the high-level segment, the heads of delegations or their representatives shall participate in a number of thematic interactive round tables in order to further the discussion on the topics of the congress through open dialogue;

(e) Panels of experts, to be selected by the Commission with due regard for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, shall hold workshops dealing with the topics of the congress, maintaining an open dialogue with the participants and avoiding the reading of statements;

(f) Institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network shall be invited to assist in the preparations for the workshops;

(g) The Secretary-General shall facilitate, within existing resources, the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental organizations and professional organizations at each congress;

(h) Each congress shall adopt a single declaration containing recommendations derived from the deliberations of the high-level segment, the round tables and the workshops, to be submitted to the Commission for its consideration;

(i) Any action suggested to the Commission regarding its programme of work, contained in the declaration of the congress, shall be undertaken through individual resolutions of the Commission;

(j) The Commission, as the preparatory body for the congress, shall request the Secretary-General to prepare only those background documents which are absolutely necessary for implementing the programme of work of the congress;

(k) Each congress shall be preceded by regional preparatory meetings, when necessary, and the costs of the regional preparatory meetings for each congress shall be streamlined by holding them in conjunction with other regional meetings, shortening their duration and limiting the preparation of background documents;

3. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to continue to act as the preparatory body for the congresses and to follow the guidelines contained in paragraph 2 above in organizing future congresses;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the staff required to serve as secretariat for the congresses and the regional preparatory meetings for the congresses;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat with the necessary resources, within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, for the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to ensure that adequate resources are provided in the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 to support the holding of the Eleventh Congress;

6. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to formulate, at its eleventh session, recommendations regarding the Eleventh Congress, including recommendations on the main topic, the organization of round tables and workshops to be held by panels of experts and the venue and duration

of the Eleventh Congress, and to submit those recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Also requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to formulate, at its eleventh session, appropriate recommendations to enable the Economic and Social Council to introduce the necessary amendments to the rules of procedure for the congresses to reflect the guidelines contained in paragraph 2 above;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eleventh session.

UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme

Commission consideration. In May, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered the Secretariat's April note [E/CN.15/2001/11] on the proposed programme of work in crime prevention and criminal justice for the 2002-2003 biennium. The note set out the overall objective of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, namely, to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Governments in tackling crime problems, such as those posed by transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering and corruption, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms and terrorism in all its forms, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems. The note also outlined the expected accomplishments, together with performance indicators, and the outputs to be delivered.

The Centre for International Crime Prevention (CICP) of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention was responsible for the programme of work.

Report of Secretary-General. In a July report [A/56/155], the Secretary-General provided an overview of progress made in implementing General Assembly resolution 55/64 [YUN 2000, p. 1045] on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme. It identified three basic requirements for sustaining and building upon the progress of the past years: action to reinforce the focus of the Programme's activities on achievable priority areas of engagement; continued efforts to provide resources to match existing mandates; and increased voluntary contributions for technical cooperation services.

The report described the status of work on a third protocol on illicit firearms (see p. 1036) to

the 2000 United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by Assembly resolution 55/25 [YUN 2000, p. 1048], and on the elaboration of an international legal instrument against corruption (see p. 1041); it identified the main challenges relating to the criminal misuse of information technologies (see p. 1045) and noted the outcome of the first meeting of the expert group (Vienna, 12-16 March) charged with preparing a study on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives and their use for criminal purposes. In addition, the report provided an overview of CICP's technical cooperation activities as at 30 June, as well as information on the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund. Contributions and pledges to the Fund in 2000 totalled \$3.1 million; in 2001, as at 31 May, they totalled \$446,000.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 88], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/56/574], adopted **resolution 56/123** without vote [agenda item 110].

Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Recognizing that action against global criminal activity is a common and shared responsibility,

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime, including the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, drug-related crimes such as money-laundering, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Recognizing the urgent need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with their efforts in translating United Nations policy guidelines into practice,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Per-

sons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition,

Welcoming the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto as a milestone to fight and prevent organized crime, one of the most serious contemporary threats to democracy and peace,

Emphasizing the importance of the expeditious entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

Recognizing the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat between the immediate priority of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and other priorities identified by the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandate, in conformity with the high priority attached to the Programme,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000, and the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration proposed by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Welcoming the report of the Meeting of the Intergovernmental Open-ended Expert Group to Prepare Draft Terms of Reference for the Negotiation of an International Legal Instrument against Corruption, held at Vienna from 30 July to 3 August 2001,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 55/64 of 4 December 2000;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality, and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat in providing to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime and terrorism;

4. *Welcomes* the programme of work of the Centre, including the three global programmes addressing, respectively, the trafficking in human beings, corruption and organized crime, formulated on the basis of close consultations with Member States and review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal

Justice, and calls upon the Secretary-General further to strengthen the Centre by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandate;

5. *Supports* the high priority given to technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and stresses the need to enhance the operational activities of the Centre to assist, in particular, developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

6. *Urges* States and relevant international organizations to develop national, regional and international strategies and other necessary measures which complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in addressing effectively the significant problems posed by the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and related activities;

7. *Welcomes* the increased number of technical assistance projects in the field of juvenile justice, reflecting an increased awareness among Member States of the importance of juvenile justice reform in establishing and maintaining stable societies and the rule of law;

8. *Invites* all States to support, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

9. *Encourages* relevant programmes, funds and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and regional and national funding agencies, to support the technical operational activities of the Centre;

10. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

13. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to enhance the synergies between the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the Centre for International Crime Prevention, in conformity with the reform proposals of the Secretary-General;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with other relevant bodies;

15. *Invites* States to make adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund in order to strengthen the capacity of the Centre to provide technical assistance to

requesting States for the implementation of the commitments entered into at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, including the measures outlined in the plans of action to implement the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century;

16. *Urges* all States and regional economic organizations that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto as soon as possible in order to ensure the speedy entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

17. *Welcomes* the voluntary contributions already made, and encourages States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures and provide adequate support to the Centre during the biennium 2002-2003 so as to enable it to promote the speedy entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

19. *Invites* the Secretary-General to consider, in consultation with Member States and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the ways in which the Centre could contribute to the efforts of the United Nations system against terrorism, in accordance with relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions;

20. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to mainstream a gender perspective into its activities and its request to the Secretariat that a gender perspective be integrated into all activities of the Centre;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

On 24 December, the Assembly decided that the agenda item on crime prevention and criminal justice would remain for consideration during its resumed fifty-sixth (2002) session (**decision 56/464**).

Coordination

In May, the Commission considered the Secretary-General's March report [E/CN.15/2001/8], prepared in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/23 [YUN 1999, p. 1054]. The report highlighted the research and technical assistance activities carried out in 1999 and 2000 by the UN interregional crime and justice research institutes, the affiliated regional institutes and associate institutes, and centres comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network. It underscored efforts to coordinate and integrate those activities. In addition, it provided information on the activities of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council.

The Commission also considered the Secretary-General's related report [E/CN.15/2001/7] containing information received from Member States and relevant international organizations and other entities on their projects involving international technical assistance and training in crime prevention and criminal justice. Submitted in response to Council resolution 1999/24 [YUN 1999, p. 1055], the report addressed the viability and usefulness of expanding globally a centralized database of international training and technical assistance projects in crime prevention and criminal justice. The Secretary-General concluded that the establishment of a centralized clearing house for such projects would not achieve the desired coordination objective, as the level of responses and usage would prove too low.

UN African crime prevention institute

In October, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/62 [YUN 2000, p. 1047], the Secretary-General updated information on the activities, operations and funding of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) [A/56/151].

UNAFRI implemented a regional survey on illicit firearms trafficking involving the participation of 24 African countries, which culminated in the convening of the African Regional Workshop on Illicit Trafficking in Firearms in Africa (Kampala, Uganda, 11-13 June). Project proposals, for which the Institute was seeking sponsors, had been developed on the themes of trafficking in women and children, cult and crime, prison conditions and human rights, crime and AIDS, juvenile justice, conflict resolution, mob justice, a databank on crime and UNAFRI institutional capacity-building.

In spite of continued political support, the Institute's financial situation remained precarious, limiting its capacity to deliver fully on its mandate to provide effective and comprehensive services to African countries. However, within its limited resources, the Institute executed some major programmes in crime prevention and control.

The Institute's total resources for the 2000-2001 period amounted to \$593,530, which came from Member States' assessed contributions, a UN grant, specific project grants, income received from the rental of UNAFRI premises and facilities, and interest on deposits.

A later report of the Secretary-General [A/57/135] stated that the UNAFRI Governing Board, at its seventh session (Kampala, 5-6 December), approved the Institute's budget and work programme for 2002-2003, stressing that successful implementation of the work programme was intertwined with future funding. The Board en-

dorsed the recommendations of the Meeting of African Heads of Missions resident in Kampala on resource mobilization for the Institute, convened by UNAFRI on 25 October.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 88], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/56/574], adopted **resolution 56/122** without vote [agenda item 110].

United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/62 of 4 December 2000 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,

Bearing in mind the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Noting that the financial situation of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Also commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to provide the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States and non-governmental organizations to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to deploy his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to work closely with the Institute;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and

collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make concrete proposals, including the provision of additional core professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Transnational crime

International convention

In 2001, UN efforts to combat transnational crime focused on promoting the early entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its two supplementary protocols: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, all adopted in 2000 by General Assembly resolution 55/25 [YUN 2000, p. 1048]. In May, a third supplementary protocol, the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, was adopted by the Assembly and opened for signature (see p. 1036). As requested by the Assembly in resolution 55/25, the Secretary-General transmitted in September [A/56/380] the report of the High-level Political Signing Conference for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto [YUN 2000, p. 1048].

To help facilitate the Convention's ratification and early entry into force, regional and sub-regional meetings were convened in Hanoi, Viet Nam (8-10 August), Tehran, Iran (3-4 October), Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (28-30 November), and Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago (20 November-1 December).

As at 31 December, the Convention had 140 signatories and 6 parties; the Protocol on illegal trafficking in persons had 101 signatories and 4 parties; the Protocol against smuggling migrants had 97 signatories and 4 parties; and the Protocol on the illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms had 21 signatories. The Convention would enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Each Protocol required the same number of parties for entry into force.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 24 July [meeting 40], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Jus-

tice [E/2001/30/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2001/10** without vote [agenda item 14 (c)].

Action against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

[For text, see General Assembly resolution 56/120 below.]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 88], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/56/574], adopted **resolution 56/120** without vote [agenda item 110].

Action against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned at the impact of transnational organized crime on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

Bearing in mind that the fight against transnational organized crime is a common and shared responsibility of the international community, necessitating cooperation at the bilateral and multilateral levels,

Reaffirming its support and commitment to the goals of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular the objectives set forth in the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, in which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and urged all States and regional economic organizations to sign and ratify those international legal instruments,

Noting with appreciation the initiative of those States which have pledged financial contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund in order to enable developing countries and countries with economies in transition to initiate measures to implement the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

1. *Welcomes* the signing of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the offers of a number of Governments to host regional conferences at the ministerial level and for the financial contributions of a number of States for the purpose of holding pre-ratification seminars on facilitating the entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and their future implementation;

3. *Encourages* Member States to make adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund for the provision to developing countries and countries with economies in

transition of the technical assistance they may require for implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, including assistance for the preparatory measures needed for that implementation, taking into account article 30 of the Convention;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, inter alia, through the provision of assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for building capacity in the areas covered by the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eleventh session.

Protocol on illicit firearms

In March, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, at its twelfth session (Vienna, 26 February–2 March) [A/55/383/Add.2,3], finalized the text of the draft Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, and recommended it to the General Assembly for adoption. The draft Protocol was supplementary to the Convention, which, together with two other supplementary protocols, had been finalized by the Ad Hoc Committee at its tenth and eleventh sessions in 2000 [YUN 2000, p. 1048] and adopted by General Assembly resolution 55/25 [ibid.].

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 31 May [meeting 101], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime [A/55/383/Add.2], adopted **resolution 55/255** without vote [agenda item 105].

Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, in which it decided to establish an open-ended inter-governmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration, as appropriate, of international instruments addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea,

Recalling also its resolution 54/126 of 17 December 1999, in which it requested the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to continue its work, in accordance with resolutions 53/111 and 53/114 of 9 December 1998, and to intensify that work in order to complete it in 2000,

Recalling further its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

Reaffirming the inherent right to individual or collective self-defence recognized in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, which implies that States also have the right to acquire arms with which to defend themselves, as well as the right of self-determination of all peoples, in particular peoples under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, and the importance of the effective realization of that right,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime on its twelfth session, and commends the Ad Hoc Committee for its work;

2. *Adopts* the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, annexed to the present resolution, and opens it for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

3. *Urges* all States and regional economic organizations to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto as soon as possible in order to ensure the speedy entry into force of the Convention and the protocols thereto.

ANNEX

Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

Preamble

The States Parties to this Protocol,

Aware of the urgent need to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, owing to the harmful effects of those activities on the security of each State, region and the world as a whole, endangering the well-being of peoples, their social and economic development and their right to live in peace,

Convinced, therefore, of the necessity for all States to take all appropriate measures to this end, including international cooperation and other measures at the regional and global levels,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, in which the Assembly decided to es-

tablish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration of, inter alia, an international instrument combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition,

Bearing in mind the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Convinced that supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime with an international instrument against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition will be useful in preventing and combating those crimes,

Have agreed as follows:

I. General provisions

Article 1

Relation with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

1. This Protocol supplements the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. It shall be interpreted together with the Convention.

2. The provisions of the Convention shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to this Protocol unless otherwise provided herein.

3. The offences established in accordance with article 5 of this Protocol shall be regarded as offences established in accordance with the Convention.

Article 2

Statement of purpose

The purpose of this Protocol is to promote, facilitate and strengthen cooperation among States Parties in order to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition.

Article 3

Use of terms

For the purposes of this Protocol:

(a) "Firearm" shall mean any portable barrelled weapon that expels, is designed to expel or may be readily converted to expel a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of an explosive, excluding antique firearms or their replicas. Antique firearms and their replicas shall be defined in accordance with domestic law. In no case, however, shall antique firearms include firearms manufactured after 1899;

(b) "Parts and components" shall mean any element or replacement element specifically designed for a firearm and essential to its operation, including a barrel, frame or receiver, slide or cylinder, bolt or breech block, and any device designed or adapted to diminish the sound caused by firing a firearm;

(c) "Ammunition" shall mean the complete round or its components, including cartridge cases, primers, propellant powder, bullets or projectiles, that are used in a firearm, provided that those components are themselves subject to authorization in the respective State Party;

(d) "Illicit manufacturing" shall mean the manufacturing or assembly of firearms, their parts and components or ammunition:

(i) From parts and components illicitly trafficked;

(ii) Without a licence or authorization from a competent authority of the State Party where the manufacture or assembly takes place; or

(iii) Without marking the firearms at the time of manufacture, in accordance with article 8 of this Protocol;

Licensing or authorization of the manufacture of parts and components shall be in accordance with domestic law;

(e) "Illicit trafficking" shall mean the import, export, acquisition, sale, delivery, movement or transfer of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition from or across the territory of one State Party to that of another State Party if any one of the States Parties concerned does not authorize it in accordance with the terms of this Protocol or if the firearms are not marked in accordance with article 8 of this Protocol;

(f) "Tracing" shall mean the systematic tracking of firearms and, where possible, their parts and components and ammunition from manufacturer to purchaser for the purpose of assisting the competent authorities of States Parties in detecting, investigating and analysing illicit manufacturing and illicit trafficking.

Article 4

Scope of application

1. This Protocol shall apply, except as otherwise stated herein, to the prevention of illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and to the investigation and prosecution of offences established in accordance with article 5 of this Protocol where those offences are transnational in nature and involve an organized criminal group.

2. This Protocol shall not apply to state-to-state transactions or to state transfers in cases where the application of the Protocol would prejudice the right of a State Party to take action in the interest of national security consistent with the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 5

Criminalization

1. Each State Party shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences the following conduct, when committed intentionally:

(a) Illicit manufacturing of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition;

(b) Illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition;

(c) Falsifying or illicitly obliterating, removing or altering the marking(s) on firearms required by article 8 of this Protocol.

2. Each State Party shall also adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences the following conduct:

(a) Subject to the basic concepts of its legal system, attempting to commit or participating as an accomplice in an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article; and

(b) Organizing, directing, aiding, abetting, facilitating or counselling the commission of an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 6

Confiscation, seizure and disposal

1. Without prejudice to article 12 of the Convention, States Parties shall adopt, to the greatest extent possible within their domestic legal systems, such measures as may be necessary to enable confiscation of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition that have been illicitly manufactured or trafficked.

2. States Parties shall adopt, within their domestic legal systems, such measures as may be necessary to prevent illicitly manufactured and trafficked firearms, parts and components and ammunition from falling into the hands of unauthorized persons by seizing and destroying such firearms, their parts and components and ammunition unless other disposal has been officially authorized, provided that the firearms have been marked and the methods of disposal of those firearms and ammunition have been recorded.

II. Prevention

Article 7

Record-keeping

Each State Party shall ensure the maintenance, for not less than ten years, of information in relation to firearms and, where appropriate and feasible, their parts and components and ammunition that is necessary to trace and identify those firearms and, where appropriate and feasible, their parts and components and ammunition which are illicitly manufactured or trafficked and to prevent and detect such activities. Such information shall include:

(a) The appropriate markings required by article 8 of this Protocol;

(b) In cases involving international transactions in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, the issuance and expiration dates of the appropriate licences or authorizations, the country of export, the country of import, the transit countries, where appropriate, and the final recipient and the description and quantity of the articles.

Article 8

Marking of firearms

1. For the purpose of identifying and tracing each firearm, States Parties shall:

(a) At the time of manufacture of each firearm, either require unique marking providing the name of the manufacturer, the country or place of manufacture and the serial number, or maintain any alternative unique user-friendly marking with simple geometric symbols in combination with a numeric and/or alphanumeric code, permitting ready identification by all States of the country of manufacture;

(b) Require appropriate simple marking on each imported firearm, permitting identification of the country of import and, where possible, the year of import and enabling the competent authorities of that country to trace the firearm, and a unique marking, if the firearm does not bear such a marking. The requirements of this subparagraph need not be applied to temporary imports of firearms for verifiable lawful purposes;

(c) Ensure, at the time of transfer of a firearm from government stocks to permanent civilian use, the appropriate unique marking permitting identification by all States Parties of the transferring country.

2. States Parties shall encourage the firearms manufacturing industry to develop measures against the removal or alteration of markings.

Article 9

Deactivation of firearms

A State Party that does not recognize a deactivated firearm as a firearm in accordance with its domestic law shall take the necessary measures, including the establishment of specific offences if appropriate, to prevent the illicit reactivation of deactivated firearms, consistent with the following general principles of deactivation:

(a) All essential parts of a deactivated firearm are to be rendered permanently inoperable and incapable of removal, replacement or modification in a manner that would permit the firearm to be reactivated in any way;

(b) Arrangements are to be made for deactivation measures to be verified, where appropriate, by a competent authority to ensure that the modifications made to a firearm render it permanently inoperable;

(c) Verification by a competent authority is to include a certificate or record attesting to the deactivation of the firearm or a clearly visible mark to that effect stamped on the firearm.

Article 10

General requirements for export, import and transit licensing or authorization systems

1. Each State Party shall establish or maintain an effective system of export and import licensing or authorization, as well as of measures on international transit, for the transfer of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition.

2. Before issuing export licences or authorizations for shipments of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, each State Party shall verify:

(a) That the importing States have issued import licences or authorizations; and

(b) That, without prejudice to bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements favouring landlocked States, the transit States have, at a minimum, given notice in writing, prior to shipment, that they have no objection to the transit.

3. The export and import licence or authorization and accompanying documentation together shall contain information that, at a minimum, shall include the place and the date of issuance, the date of expiration, the country of export, the country of import, the final recipient, a description and the quantity of the firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and, whenever there is transit, the countries of transit. The information contained in the import licence must be provided in advance to the transit States.

4. The importing State Party shall, upon request, inform the exporting State Party of the receipt of the dispatched shipment of firearms, their parts and components or ammunition.

5. Each State Party shall, within available means, take such measures as may be necessary to ensure that licensing or authorization procedures are secure and that the authenticity of licensing or authorization documents can be verified or validated.

6. States Parties may adopt simplified procedures for the temporary import and export and the transit of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition for verifiable lawful purposes such as hunting, sport shooting, evaluation, exhibitions or repairs.

Article 11

Security and preventive measures

In an effort to detect, prevent and eliminate the theft, loss or diversion of, as well as the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in, firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, each State Party shall take appropriate measures:

(a) To require the security of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition at the time of manufacture, import, export and transit through its territory; and

(b) To increase the effectiveness of import, export and transit controls, including, where appropriate, border controls, and of police and customs transborder cooperation.

Article 12

Information

1. Without prejudice to articles 27 and 28 of the Convention, States Parties shall exchange among themselves, consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative systems, relevant case-specific information on matters such as authorized producers, dealers, importers, exporters and, whenever possible, carriers of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition.

2. Without prejudice to articles 27 and 28 of the Convention, States Parties shall exchange among themselves, consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative systems, relevant information on matters such as:

(a) Organized criminal groups known to take part or suspected of taking part in the illicit manufacturing of or trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition;

(b) The means of concealment used in the illicit manufacturing of or trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and ways of detecting them;

(c) Methods and means, points of dispatch and destination and routes customarily used by organized criminal groups engaged in illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition; and

(d) Legislative experiences and practices and measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition.

3. States Parties shall provide to or share with each other, as appropriate, relevant scientific and technological information useful to law enforcement authorities in order to enhance each other's abilities to prevent, detect and investigate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and to prosecute the persons involved in those illicit activities.

4. States Parties shall cooperate in the tracing of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition that may have been illicitly manufactured or trafficked. Such cooperation shall include the provision of prompt responses to requests for assistance in tracing such fire-

arms, their parts and components and ammunition, within available means.

5. Subject to the basic concepts of its legal system or any international agreements, each State Party shall guarantee the confidentiality of and comply with any restrictions on the use of information that it receives from another State Party pursuant to this article, including proprietary information pertaining to commercial transactions, if requested to do so by the State Party providing the information. If such confidentiality cannot be maintained, the State Party that provided the information shall be notified prior to its disclosure.

Article 13

Cooperation

1. States Parties shall cooperate at the bilateral, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition.

2. Without prejudice to article 18, paragraph 13, of the Convention, each State Party shall identify a national body or a single point of contact to act as liaison between it and other States Parties on matters relating to this Protocol.

3. States Parties shall seek the support and cooperation of manufacturers, dealers, importers, exporters, brokers and commercial carriers of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition to prevent and detect the illicit activities referred to in paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 14

Training and technical assistance

States Parties shall cooperate with each other and with relevant international organizations, as appropriate, so that States Parties may receive, upon request, the training and technical assistance necessary to enhance their ability to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, including technical, financial and material assistance in those matters identified in articles 29 and 30 of the Convention.

Article 15

Brokers and brokering

1. With a view to preventing and combating illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, States Parties that have not yet done so shall consider establishing a system for regulating the activities of those who engage in brokering. Such a system could include one or more measures such as:

(a) Requiring registration of brokers operating within their territory;

(b) Requiring licensing or authorization of brokering; or

(c) Requiring disclosure on import and export licences or authorizations, or accompanying documents, of the names and locations of brokers involved in the transaction.

2. States Parties that have established a system of authorization regarding brokering as set forth in paragraph 1 of this article are encouraged to include information on brokers and brokering in their exchanges of information under article 12 of this Protocol and to retain records regarding brokers and brokering in accordance with article 7 of this Protocol.

III. Final provisions

Article 16

Settlement of disputes

1. States Parties shall endeavour to settle disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Protocol through negotiation.

2. Any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Protocol that cannot be settled through negotiation within a reasonable time shall, at the request of one of those States Parties, be submitted to arbitration. If, six months after the date of the request for arbitration, those States Parties are unable to agree on the organization of the arbitration, any one of those States Parties may refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice by request in accordance with the Statute of the Court.

3. Each State Party may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Protocol, declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 2 of this article. The other States Parties shall not be bound by paragraph 2 of this article with respect to any State Party that has made such a reservation.

4. Any State Party that has made a reservation in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 17

Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval and accession

1. This Protocol shall be open to all States for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York from the thirtieth day after its adoption by the General Assembly until 12 December 2002.

2. This Protocol shall also be open for signature by regional economic integration organizations provided that at least one member State of such organization has signed this Protocol in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article.

3. This Protocol is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. A regional economic integration organization may deposit its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval if at least one of its member States has done likewise. In that instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, such organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to the matters governed by this Protocol. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.

4. This Protocol is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one member State is a Party to this Protocol. Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. At the time of its accession, a regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by this Protocol. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.

Article 18

Entry into force

1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession,

except that it shall not enter into force before the entry into force of the Convention. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of such organization.

2. For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Protocol after the deposit of the fortieth instrument of such action, this Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument or on the date this Protocol enters into force pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is the later.

Article 19

Amendment

1. After the expiry of five years from the entry into force of this Protocol, a State Party to the Protocol may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall thereupon communicate the proposed amendment to the States Parties and to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention for the purpose of considering and deciding on the proposal. The States Parties to this Protocol meeting at the Conference of the Parties shall make every effort to achieve consensus on each amendment. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, the amendment shall, as a last resort, require for its adoption a two-thirds majority vote of the States Parties to this Protocol present and voting at the meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

2. Regional economic integration organizations, in matters within their competence, shall exercise their right to vote under this article with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States that are Parties to this Protocol. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs and vice versa.

3. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States Parties.

4. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall enter into force in respect of a State Party ninety days after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of such amendment.

5. When an amendment enters into force, it shall be binding on those States Parties which have expressed their consent to be bound by it. Other States Parties shall still be bound by the provisions of this Protocol and any earlier amendments that they have ratified, accepted or approved.

Article 20

Denunciation

1. A State Party may denounce this Protocol by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.

2. A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to this Protocol when all of its member States have denounced it.

*Article 21**Depositary and languages*

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is designated depositary of this Protocol.

2. The original of this Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Protocol.

Strategies for crime prevention

Corruption

In 2001, the United Nations commenced elaboration of an international convention against corruption and continued activities to prevent corrupt practices, including the illegal transfer of funds and the criminal misuse of information technologies. In May, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice discussed progress made in global action against corruption as the theme of its tenth session [E/2001/30/Rev.1].

Communications. Communications transmitted to the Secretary-General on corruption issues included: from the Netherlands, the Final Declaration of the Global Forum on Fighting Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity II (The Hague, 28-31 May) [A/56/493]; from the Republic of Korea, the summary of the Seoul Anti-Corruption Symposium (30-31 August) [A/C.3/56/6]; and from the United Arab Emirates, a description of a newly approved law on money-laundering [A/56/468].

International instrument against corruption

In response to General Assembly resolution 55/61 [YUN 2000, p. 1072], the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice an April report [E/CN.15/2001/3 & Corr.1], in which he analysed all relevant international instruments, other documents and recommendations addressing corruption, to serve as the basis for recommendations on the development of a legal instrument against corruption. The Secretary-General observed that all existing legal instruments against corruption, with the exception of the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions, negotiated under the auspices of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, were regional rather than international in scope. He concluded that the mandate given by the Assembly in resolutions 55/61 and 55/188 [YUN 2000, p. 1073] represented a unique opportunity to develop a global legal instrument against corruption that fully addressed the concerns of the in-

ternational community as a whole and could include provisions and mechanisms applicable at the global level.

Intergovernmental Expert Group. The Intergovernmental Open-Ended Expert Group to Prepare Draft Terms of Reference for the Negotiation of an International Legal Instrument against Corruption, established in accordance with Assembly resolution 55/61, held its first meeting in Vienna from 30 July to 3 August [A/AC.260/2 & Corr.1]. In accordance with Assembly resolution 55/188, the Expert Group also examined the question of illegally transferred funds and their repatriation to the countries of origin. Having considered the Expert Group's report at its resumed tenth session in September, the Commission approved it and the draft resolution contained therein. The Commission decided to transmit the report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the Assembly for consideration and adoption. By a September note [A/56/402-E/2001/105], the Secretariat transmitted the report to the Council and the Assembly. The Council took action in December (below) and the Assembly was expected to take action in 2002.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 20 December [meeting 46], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2001/30/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2001/46** without vote [agenda item 14 (c)].

Terms of reference for the negotiation of an international legal instrument against corruption

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"The General Assembly,

Concerned at the seriousness of the problems posed by corruption, which may endanger the stability and security of societies, undermine the values of democracy and morality and jeopardize social, economic and political development,

Recalling its resolution 51/59 of 12 December 1996, by which it adopted the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials and recommended the Code to Member States as a tool to guide their efforts against corruption,

Recalling also its resolution 51/191 of 12 December 1996, by which it adopted the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions,

Recalling further its resolution 55/61 of 4 December 2000, in which it established an ad hoc committee for the negotiation of an effective international legal instrument against corruption, and requested the Secretary-General to convene an intergovernmental open-ended expert group to examine and prepare draft terms of reference for the negotiation of such an instrument,

“*Recalling* its resolution 55/188 of 20 December 2000, in which it invited the Intergovernmental Open-Ended Expert Group to Prepare Draft Terms of Reference for the Negotiation of an International Legal Instrument against Corruption, convened pursuant to resolution 55/61, to examine the question of illegally transferred funds and the return of such funds to the country of origin,

“*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/13 of 24 July 2001, entitled “Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin, derived from acts of corruption, including the laundering of funds, and in returning such funds”,

“*Reiterating* the need to prepare a broad and effective international legal instrument against corruption,

“*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on existing international legal instruments, recommendations and other documents addressing corruption, submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its tenth session and before the meeting of the Intergovernmental Open-Ended Expert Group,

“1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Intergovernmental Open-Ended Expert Group to Prepare Draft Terms of Reference for the Negotiation of an International Legal Instrument against Corruption, which met in Vienna from 30 July to 3 August 2001, as endorsed by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its resumed tenth session and by the Economic and Social Council;

“2. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/61, shall negotiate a broad and effective convention, which, subject to the final determination of its title, shall be referred to as the “United Nations Convention against Corruption”;

“3. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee, in developing the draft convention, to adopt a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach and to consider, inter alia, the following indicative elements: definitions; scope; protection of sovereignty; preventive measures; criminalization; sanctions and remedies; confiscation and seizure; jurisdiction; liability of legal persons; protection of witnesses and victims; promoting and strengthening international cooperation; preventing and combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin derived from acts of corruption, including the laundering of funds, and returning such funds; technical assistance; collection, exchange and analysis of information; and mechanisms for monitoring implementation;

“4. *Invites* the Ad Hoc Committee to draw on the report of the Intergovernmental Open-Ended Expert Group, the report of the Secretary-General, and the relevant parts of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its tenth session, as well as in particular on paragraph 1 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/13, as resource materials in the accomplishment of its tasks;

“5. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to take into consideration existing international legal instruments against corruption and, whenever relevant, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

“6. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall be convened in Vienna in 2002 and 2003, as required, and shall hold no fewer than three sessions of two weeks each per year, within the overall approved appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, according to a schedule to be drawn up by its bureau, and requests the Committee to complete its work by the end of 2003;

“7. *Also decides* that the bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee shall be elected by the Committee itself and shall consist of two representatives from each of the five regional groups;

“8. *Invites* donor countries to assist the United Nations in ensuring the full and effective participation of developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, including by covering travel and local expenses;

“9. *Urges* States to be fully involved in the negotiation of the convention and to endeavour to ensure continuity in their representation;

“10. *Invites* the Ad Hoc Committee to take into consideration the contributions of non-governmental organizations and civil society, in accordance with United Nations rules and following the practice established by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

“11. *Accepts with gratitude* the offer of the Government of Argentina to host an informal preparatory meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee prior to its first session;

“12. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to submit progress reports on its work to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eleventh and twelfth sessions, in 2002 and 2003, respectively;

“13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities and resources to support its work.”

Corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds

In May, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered asset recovery as a sub-theme of its discussion on global action against corruption [E/2001/30/Rev.1]. Discussions highlighted the fact that strengthened international cooperation in asset recovery deserved urgent attention and that the issue could be addressed most effectively by an international legal instrument to provide a common basis for sharing information, conducting investigations, tracing assets, overcoming bank secrecy, confiscating and returning funds and extraditing offenders.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 24 July [meeting 40], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2001/30/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2001/13** without vote [agenda item 14 (c)].

Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin, derived from acts of corruption, including the laundering of funds, and in returning such funds

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 51/191 of 16 December 1996 on the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions, 53/176 of 15 December 1998 on action against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions, 54/205 of 22 December 1999 on the prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds, 55/25 of 15 November 2000 on the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 55/61 of 4 December 2000 on an effective international legal instrument against corruption and 55/188 of 20 December 2000 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds and repatriation of such funds to the countries of origin,

Concerned about the seriousness of problems posed by corruption, which may endanger the stability and security of societies, undermine the values of democracy and morality and jeopardize social, economic and political development,

Concerned also that funds of illicit origin derived from acts of corruption include public funds, whose diversion may seriously threaten economic and political progress, in particular in developing countries,

Alarmed at the fact that such funds are often being transferred from their countries of origin to international banking centres and financial havens,

Recognizing that the authorities of those countries wishing to recover funds of illicit origin, including funds obtained through acts of corruption and financial fraud, have a legitimate wish to obtain information on the whereabouts of those funds and that confidentiality, the right to privacy and bank secrecy cannot guarantee impunity,

Recognizing also the importance of strengthening international cooperation in combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin and in returning such funds,

Viewing with deep concern the increasing link between money-laundering and corruption, making it essential to promote national and international efforts in areas such as preventing and combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds,

1. *Requests* the intergovernmental open-ended expert group referred to in General Assembly resolution 55/61 to consider, within the context of its mandates, the following issues, inter alia, as possible items of work to be included in the draft terms of reference for the negotiation of a future legal instrument against corruption:

(a) Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin, including the laundering of funds derived from acts of corruption, and promoting ways and means of enabling the return of such funds;

(b) Developing the measures necessary to ensure that those working in banking systems and other financial institutions contribute to the prevention of the transfer of funds of illicit origin derived from acts of corruption, for example, by recording transactions in a

transparent manner, and to facilitate the return of those funds;

(c) Defining funds derived from acts of corruption as proceeds of crime and establishing that an act of corruption may be a predicate offence in relation to money-laundering;

(d) Establishing criteria for the determination of countries to which funds, referred to above, should be returned and the appropriate procedures for such return;

2. *Requests* the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat to support Governments that request technical assistance in combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin and in returning such funds, including by providing the names of experts to assist such Governments;

3. *Urges* Governments, through voluntary contributions, and invites multilateral financial institutions and regional development banks, as appropriate, to support the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention in its efforts to assist Governments that request technical cooperation in combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin and in returning such funds, including by providing the names of the experts available to assist the Office;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, further to his analytical report on progress made in the implementation of resolution 55/188, to prepare, within existing resources or drawing upon through extrabudgetary contributions, for the ad hoc committee referred to in resolution 55/61, a global study on the transfer of funds of illicit origin, especially funds derived from acts of corruption, and its impact on economic, social and political progress, in particular in developing countries, and to include in his study innovative ideas regarding appropriate ways and means of enabling the States concerned to obtain access to information on the whereabouts of funds belonging to them and to recover such funds.

Report of the Secretary-General. In response to General Assembly resolution 55/188 [YUN 2000, p. 1073], the Secretary-General submitted a September report [A/56/403 & Add.1], prepared by CICP, on the prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds. The report summarized information received from 29 States and two UN organizations on measures taken to prevent and combat the transfer of funds of illicit origin and on the issue of returning such funds. It also reviewed the outcomes of the tenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (see p. 1021) and the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Open-Ended Expert Group to Prepare Draft Terms of Reference for the Negotiation of an International Legal Instrument against Corruption (see p. 1041). The report, which included input from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, went on to describe the main problems involved in preventing and combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning them, as well as the technical assistance activities of the UN Of-

office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention in that regard.

The Secretary-General concluded that the dimensions of the problem demanded joint and conclusive action by the international community. An area where the UN system could assist Member States was in capacity-building for case management; such a programme could provide support to requesting States for specific multinational cases. The system could also assist individual countries to coordinate efforts and assemble cases at the national level before other countries became involved. Other recommendations concerned the creation of a civil recovery vehicle, the use of "mentors" in asset-recovery cases, the funding of assistance in asset-recovery cases and the possible long-term role of the United Nations.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 21 December [meeting 90], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee [A/56/559], adopted **resolution 56/186** without vote [agenda item 96 (a)].

Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999 on the prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds, 55/61 of 4 December 2000 on an effective international legal instrument against corruption and 55/188 of 20 December 2000 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds and repatriation of such funds to the countries of origin, as well as the report of the Intergovernmental Open-Ended Expert Group to Prepare Draft Terms of Reference for the Negotiation of an International Legal Instrument against Corruption, which will be considered by the Economic and Social Council at its next session,

Concerned about the seriousness of problems posed by corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin, which may endanger the stability and security of societies, undermine the values of democracy and morality and jeopardize social, economic and political development,

Recognizing the need to create an enabling environment for business at the national and international levels in order to promote economic growth and sustainable development, taking into account the development priorities of Governments,

Recognizing also the responsibilities of Governments to adopt policies at the national and international levels aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin,

Mindful of the catalytic role of the United Nations system in facilitating the constructive participation and orderly interaction of the private sector in the development process by embracing universal principles and

norms, such as honesty, transparency and accountability,

Underlining the fact that preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds is an important element in mobilizing resources for development,

Recognizing the importance of international cooperation and existing international and national laws for combating corruption in international commercial transactions,

Noting that the International Conference on Financing for Development will be held at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002,

Stressing the need to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer of funds of illicit origin and to return such funds so as to enable countries to design and fund development projects, in accordance with their national priorities,

Noting that such corrupt practices include State funds being illegally acquired, transferred and invested abroad,

Noting also that the problem of corrupt practices and the transfer of funds of illicit origin, as well as the need to prevent the transfer of such funds, and to return them, have social, economic and legal implications that require comprehensive, holistic examination at the national and international levels,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds;

2. *Reiterates its condemnation* of corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the transfer of funds of illicit origin, and stresses its belief that those practices need to be prevented and that funds of illicit origin transferred abroad need to be returned after request and due process;

3. *Calls*, while recognizing the importance of national measures, for increased international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of efforts by Governments to prevent and address the transfer of funds of illicit origin as well as to return such funds to the countries of origin;

4. *Requests* the international community to support the efforts of all countries to strengthen institutional capacity and regulatory frameworks for preventing corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the transfer of funds of illicit origin, as well as for returning such funds to the countries of origin;

5. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to finalize its consideration of the draft terms of reference for the negotiation of a United Nations convention against corruption, by which an ad hoc committee would be requested to consider, inter alia, the elements of prevention and combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin derived from acts of corruption, including the laundering and returning of such funds, expeditiously;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General, upon the completion of the work of the ad hoc committee referred to above, to submit recommendations on options for further consideration by the Assembly regarding this question;

7. *Decides* to keep the matter under review and to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session a sub-item entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin" under the item entitled "Sectoral policy questions".

Criminal misuse of information technologies

In response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/23 [YUN 1999, p. 1054], the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice a March report containing the conclusions of a study on effective measures to prevent and control high-technology and computer-related crime [E/CN.15/2001/4]. The report provided a preliminary examination of the problems, including crimes committed against the technologies and their users; conventional crimes committed using computer or communications technologies; and the use of technologies to support criminal organizations and activities. It also described the activities of relevant international and intergovernmental organizations, particularly the Council of Europe, in relation to the prevention and control of computer-related crime.

The Secretary-General proposed that a more detailed study of the problem be presented to the Commission at its eleventh (2002) session and recommended that the Commission consider a series of options for further action, such as the possible drafting of an international instrument against computer-related crime, and options for a shorter-term strategy, including the establishment of a United Nations global programme against high-technology and computer-related crime.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 88], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/56/574], adopted **resolution 56/121** without vote [agenda item 110].

Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which Member States resolved to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies, in conformity with the recommendations contained in the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Economic and Social Council, are available to all, and its resolution 55/63 of 4 December 2000, in which it invited Member States to take into account measures to combat the criminal misuse of information technologies,

Recognizing that the free flow of information can promote economic and social development, education and democratic governance,

Noting the significant advances in the development and application of information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Expressing concern that technological advances have created new possibilities for criminal activity, in particular the criminal misuse of information technologies,

Noting that reliance on information technologies, while it may vary from State to State, has resulted in a substantial increase in global cooperation and coordination, with the result that the criminal misuse of information technologies may have a grave impact on all States,

Recognizing that gaps in the access to and use of information technologies by States can diminish the effectiveness of international cooperation in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies, and recognizing also the need to facilitate the transfer of information technologies, in particular to developing countries,

Noting the necessity of preventing the criminal misuse of information technologies,

Recognizing the need for cooperation between States and the private sector in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies,

Underlining the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation among States in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies, and, in this context, stressing the role that can be played by the United Nations and other international and regional organizations,

Welcoming the work of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Recognizing with appreciation the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its ninth and tenth sessions and the subsequent preparation of a plan of action against high-technology and computer-related crime, which recognizes, inter alia, the need for effective law enforcement and the need to maintain effective protections for privacy and other related basic rights, as well as the need to take into account ongoing work in other forums,

Noting the work of international and regional organizations in combating high-technology crime, including the work of the Council of Europe in elaborating the Convention on Cybercrime, as well as the work of those organizations in promoting dialogue between government and the private sector on safety and confidence in cyberspace,

1. *Invites* Member States, when developing national law, policy and practice to combat the criminal misuse of information technologies, to take into account, as appropriate, the work and achievements of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and of other international and regional organizations;

2. *Takes note* of the value of the measures set forth in its resolution 55/63, and again invites Member States to take them into account in their efforts to combat the criminal misuse of information technologies;

3. *Decides* to defer consideration of this subject, pending work envisioned in the plan of action against high-technology and computer-related crime of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

UN standards and norms

In April, the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice a report on the use and application of UN standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice [E/CN.5/2001/9]. He provided an overview of CICP efforts to promote the use and application of UN standards and norms, and reviewed the process of information-gathering and analysis conducted over two years through 12 surveys on existing international instruments and on standard-setting activities designed to facilitate the drafting of new international instruments. The report recommended that the cost-benefit value of the resources expended in gathering information through surveys be weighed against the output and suggested that attention be focused on consolidating mandated work and reporting obligations, inclusive of surveys, and on keeping them to a minimum. A possible option would be to request consolidated reporting obligations; follow-up activities would be focused on clusters of cross-cutting issues, areas, sectors or professions, rather than on individual instruments.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 24 July [meeting 40], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2001/30/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2001/11** without vote [agenda item 14 (c)].

Action to promote effective community-based crime prevention

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 1996/16 of 23 July 1996, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to promote the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recalling the “Elements of responsible crime prevention: standards and norms”, annexed to its resolution 1997/33 of 21 July 1997, in particular those elements on community involvement in crime prevention contained in paragraphs 14 to 23,

Recalling also the revised draft elements of responsible crime prevention prepared by the Expert Group Meeting on Elements of Responsible Crime Prevention: Addressing Traditional and Emerging Crime Problems, held in Buenos Aires from 8 to 10 September 1999,

Noting that the revised draft elements of responsible crime prevention were annexed to the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on effective crime prevention: keeping pace with new developments, submitted to the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Acknowledging the need to update and finalize the draft elements of responsible crime prevention,

Noting the international colloquium of crime prevention experts held in Montreal, Canada, from 3 to

6 October 1999 in preparation for the Tenth Congress by the Governments of Canada, France and the Netherlands, in collaboration with the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime,

Noting with appreciation the workshop on community involvement in crime prevention, organized during the Tenth Congress by the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime,

Aware of the scope for significant reductions in crime and victimization through research-based approaches and of the contribution that effective crime prevention can make in terms of the safety and security of individuals and communities and their property,

Desirous that the commitments made in the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the Tenth Congress, in relation to crime prevention, especially those made in paragraphs 11, 13, 20, 21, 24 and 25 of the Vienna Declaration, be implemented nationally and internationally,

Convinced of the need to advance a collaborative agenda for action with respect to those commitments made in the Vienna Declaration,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, a meeting of experts selected on the basis of equitable geographical representation for the purposes of further revising the draft elements of responsible crime prevention, with a view to arriving at a version of the draft elements on which the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its eleventh session, will be able to reach consensus, and proposing priority areas for international action, including the identification of technical assistance issues, to promote effective community-based crime prevention;

2. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Canada to host the meeting of the expert group;

3. *Requests* the expert group, within the context of its meeting, to consider the results of the work of the recent United Nations meetings on this subject;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the results of the meeting of the expert group, including its revised version of the draft elements of responsible crime prevention and the priority areas for international action to promote effective community-based crime prevention, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eleventh session for its consideration and action.

Restorative justice

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/14 [YUN 2000, p. 1076], the Secretary-General convened a meeting of the Group of Experts on Restorative Justice (Ottawa, Canada, 29 October–1 November) [E/CN.15/2002/5/Add.1 & Corr.1]. The Group of Experts reviewed comments received from 37 Member States on the preliminary draft elements of a declaration of basic principles on the use of restorative justice programmes in criminal matters and proposed a revised text, which was annexed to its report. The experts suggested that a non-binding international instrument on restorative justice

could provide guidance in the establishment of national programmes and agreed that restorative justice measures should be flexible in their adaptation to established criminal justice practices.

Human resources development

In response to General Assembly resolution 54/211 [YUN 1999, p. 1072], the Secretary-General submitted a July report on advancing human resources development in developing countries [A/56/162]. The report outlined the background and context of UN system activity in human resources development, in the light of the twin challenges of reducing poverty and advancing technology.

The Secretary-General recommended that future UN initiatives for human resources development should take a broader view of the issue, not only equating it with education and training, but also relating it to broader capability development through knowledge acquisition, institutional change and policy reforms. That would allow human resources to respond to new demands associated with the technology revolution, take advantage of emerging opportunities in a globalized world and participate in processes that influenced the lives of the poor.

On 19 July, the Economic and Social Council, by **decision 2001/299**, adopted “The contribution of human resources development, including in the areas of health and education, to the process of development” as the theme for its high-level segment in 2002.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 21 December [meeting 90], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee [A/56/560/Add.2], adopted **resolution 56/189** without vote [agenda item 97 (b)].

Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/191 of 21 December 1990, 46/143 of 17 December 1991, 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 50/105 of 20 December 1995, 52/196 of 18 December 1997 and 54/211 of 22 December 1999, as well as the relevant sections of the Agenda for Development,

Reaffirming also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2001/299 of 19 July 2001, by which the Council adopted “The contribution of human resources development, including in the areas of health and education, to the

process of development” as the theme for the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2002,

Recognizing that human beings are at the centre of concern in sustainable development,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and that there is a need for continuing support from the international community to complement the efforts of developing countries,

Stressing also that there is a need for an enabling national and international environment that will enhance human resources development in developing countries and promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Stressing further that health and education are at the core of human resources development, and the need to ensure that by 2015 children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education, as expressed at the World Education Forum, held at Dakar from 26 to 28 April 2000, and in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Emphasizing that human resources development should be an essential component of international development cooperation and that there is a need to promote continuous training and capacity-building within projects and programmes as a means of advancing such development,

Recognizing that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies that mainstream a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular the needs of women and girls,

Recognizing also the vital role of South-South cooperation in supporting national efforts at human resources development,

Expressing concern at the increasing development gap between developed and developing countries, including the gap in knowledge, information and communication technologies, and the increasing disparity of income in and among nations and its adverse impact on the development of human resources, in particular in the developing countries,

Stressing that developing countries should be assisted in their efforts to develop capacity in and be well equipped with the knowledge of information technologies that would enable them to benefit from the opportunities offered by globalization and to avoid the risk of marginalization in the process of globalization,

Expressing deep concern at the devastating impact of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, and of other major diseases on human resources development, in particular in developing countries,

Emphasizing the continuing need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, to foster the development of their human resources, especially that of the most vulnerable groups, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. *Recognizes* the importance of developing human resources as a means, inter alia, of promoting economic growth and eradicating poverty as well as of participating more effectively in the world economic system and benefiting from globalization;
3. *Urges* increased investments by all countries, the United Nations system, international organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in all aspects of human development, such as health, nutrition, education, training and further capacity-building, with a view to achieving sustainable development and the well-being of all;
4. *Encourages* all countries to accord priority to human resources development in the context of the adoption of national economic and social policies, including their financing, taking into account their financial constraints;
5. *Urges* the adoption of comprehensive approaches to human resources development which combine, among other factors, economic growth, poverty eradication, provision of basic social services, sustainable livelihoods, empowerment of women, involvement of young people, the needs of vulnerable groups of society, the needs of local indigenous communities, political freedom, popular participation and respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;
6. *Encourages* all countries to ensure local and community-level engagement in policy issues of human resources development;
7. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national and local policies to promote human resources development;
8. *Recognizes* the need to direct concerted efforts at enhancing the technical skills and know-how of people living in rural and agricultural areas, with a view to improving their means of livelihood and material well-being, and in this regard encourages the allocation of more resources for that purpose so as to facilitate access to appropriate technology and know-how from within and from other countries, in particular the developed countries, as well as through South-South cooperation;
9. *Encourages* the adoption of policies, approaches and measures that serve to narrow the increasing gap between developed and developing countries in information and communication technologies in particular and in technology in general by, inter alia:
 - (a) Encouraging the private sector, in collaboration with the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to donate voluntarily to designated centres in developing countries literary materials, information and communications technology equipment and training which, together with the enabling policies and institutions both at the national and international levels, will facilitate improved access;
 - (b) Taking advantage of the rapid turnaround in both the educational institutions and corporations in developed countries of literary material and information and communications technology equipment, through coordinated efforts involving the United

Nations system, non-governmental organizations and recipients in interested developing countries;

(c) Promoting transparent, efficient regulatory regimes and other policies that encourage investment;

(d) Supporting targeted investments in infrastructure that would establish the physical foundation for the operation of Internet services and pave the way for commercial and development applications;

(e) Developing training in information technologies for users such as non-governmental organizations, universities and business service organizations, as well as key governmental agencies;

10. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to harmonize further its collective human resources development efforts, in accordance with national policies and priorities;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations system to take a comprehensive view of human resources development in its initiatives, relating it to the acquisition of broader knowledge, with a view to enabling human resources to respond to the new demands associated with the technology revolution and to take advantage of emerging opportunities in a globalized world;

12. *Also encourages* the United Nations system to promote strategies for human resources development that facilitate access by developing countries to new information and communication technologies so as to bridge the digital divide;

13. *Further encourages* the United Nations system to focus in its cooperation activities on building human and institutional capacity, with specific attention given to women, girls and vulnerable groups;

14. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to engage, where appropriate, in partnerships with the private sector, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions, so as to contribute further to the building of human resources development capacity in developing countries;

15. *Invites* international organizations, including international financial institutions, to continue to give priority to supporting the objectives of human resources development and to integrating them into their policies, projects and operations;

16. *Calls upon* developed countries and the United Nations system to increase support to programmes and activities in developing countries for advancing human resources development and capacity-building, in particular those geared towards harnessing information and communication technologies;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

UN research and training institutes

UN Institute for Training and Research

In response to General Assembly resolution 55/208 [YUN 2000, p. 1078], the Secretary-General submitted a November report on the United

Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) [A/56/615]. He noted that the conduct of the various UNITAR programmes was evolving smoothly following a restructuring phase, and activities remained steady and sustained. Each year since 1996, some 120 programmes, seminars and workshops had been organized throughout the world and more than 5,500 participants were benefiting from UNITAR training and capacity-building activities annually. Significant developments included fellowship programmes in preventive diplomacy, international law, international civil service and international affairs management, organized in Europe and the United States, which had largely met the expectations of participants. The Institute had made progress in attracting experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the preparation of training materials and in concentrating its programming on development issues. Almost all UNITAR programmes were being designed and conducted in conjunction with one or more institutions within and outside the UN system and systematic utilization of UNITAR's services had increased.

The Secretary-General stated that UNITAR's financial situation had improved but remained fragile. Although contributions to the Special Purpose Grants Fund were satisfactory, the insufficiency of non-earmarked voluntary contributions made it difficult to maintain training programmes in Nairobi and Vienna and impossible to inaugurate new programmes in cities hosting UN regional commissions, as requested by the Assembly in resolution 55/208. The Secretary-General also discussed continuity in UNITAR management and the question of the classification of rental rates and of maintenance costs charged to the Institute.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 21 December [meeting 90], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee [A/56/567], adopted **resolution 56/208** without vote [agenda item 104].

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/121 of 20 December 1995, 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999 and 55/208 of 20 December 2000,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,

Welcoming the recent progress made by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in its various programmes and activities, including the improved cooperation that has been established with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting that contributions to the General Fund have not increased and that the participation of the developed countries in training programmes in New York and Geneva is increasing,

Noting also that the bulk of the resources contributed to the Institute are directed to the Special Purpose Grants Fund rather than to the General Fund, and stressing the need to address that unbalanced situation,

Noting further that the Institute receives no subsidy from the United Nations regular budget, that it provides training programmes to all Member States free of charge and that similar United Nations institutions based at Geneva are not charged rent or maintenance costs,

Welcoming the decisions taken by the Secretary-General to ensure continuity in the management of the Institute and to establish the proper grade for the post of Executive Director with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

Reiterating that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated, United Nations system-wide approach to research and training based on an effective coherent strategy and an effective division of labour among the relevant institutions and bodies;

2. *Also reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States and the relevance of training-related research activities undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

3. *Stresses* the need for the Institute to strengthen further its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes;

4. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, and in this context underlines the need to develop further and to expand the scope of those partnerships, in particular at the country level;

5. *Requests* the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to continue to ensure fair geographical distribution and transparency in the preparation of the programmes and in the employment of experts, and in this regard stresses that the courses of the Institute should focus primarily on development issues;

6. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute, to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

7. *Calls upon* developed countries, which are increasingly participating in the training programmes conducted in New York and Geneva, to make contributions or consider increasing their contributions to the General Fund;

8. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to continue its efforts to resolve the critical financial situation of the Institute, in particular with a view to broadening its donor base and increasing the contributions made to the General Fund;

9. *Also encourages* the Board of Trustees to consider diversifying further the venues of the events organized by the Institute and to include the cities hosting regional commissions, in order to promote greater participation and reduce costs;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Institute and United Nations funds and programmes, to continue to explore ways and means of systematically utilizing the Institute in the execution of training and capacity-building programmes for the economic and social development of developing countries;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to clarify the reason why the United Nations Institute for Training and Research does not benefit from rental rates and maintenance costs similar to those enjoyed by other organizations affiliated with the United Nations, such as the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, and further requests the Secretary-General to submit proposals on how to waive or reduce the rental rates and maintenance costs charged to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research with a view to alleviating its current financial difficulties, which are aggravated by the current practice of charging commercial rates;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, including details on the status of contributions to, and the financial situation of, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, as well as on the use of its services by Member States.

United Nations University

The report of the United Nations University (UNU) Council [A/57/31], which described activities in 2001, stated that UNU continued to work within two major thematic areas—peace and governance, and environment and sustainable development. Within those areas, UNU undertook research and training and developed networks on a broad range of issues, from the causes of conflict to leadership, debt relief and international environmental governance. The University disseminated the results of its research through high-level panels, conferences, workshops, books, journals, newsletters and the Internet. In 2001, UNU initiated a new programme on science and technology for sustainability with the Republic of Korea and the Kwangja Institute of Science and Technology, and a new research and training programme on fragile ecosystems in wetland areas in Mato Grosso, Brazil, in cooperation with the Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso and

the Mato Grosso government. The University also received endorsement for a new research and training centre on environment and human security in Germany, continued discussions with Qatar regarding a new centre in the Middle East and extended a fisheries training programme in Iceland.

UNU Council

At its annual session (Tokyo, 3-7 December), the UNU Council, the University's governing body, reviewed implementation of UNU activities; considered evaluations of the UNU World Institute for Development Economics Research and the University's capacity development activities; examined proposals for new research and training centres, programmes, networks and initiatives; assessed the University's financial situation; and reviewed and adopted the 2002-2003 academic programme and budget.

University for Peace

In response to General Assembly resolution 54/29 [YUN 1999, p. 1070], the Secretary-General submitted a September report [A/56/314], in which he detailed progress in revitalizing the Costa Rica-based University for Peace, especially concerning a strategy and programme for the development and management of its academic programme and other peace-related activities. The activities of the University, which was established in 1980 [YUN 1980, p. 1004], were being expanded and its academic programme enhanced in order to make it a focus of global efforts in the study of and education for peace. To that end, advisory meetings had been organized in all regions, with the participation of eminent international scholars, to address various aspects of the University's academic programme.

The Secretary-General concluded that the University could serve as a useful tool to support the peace and security objectives of the United Nations.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 October [meeting 29], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 56/2** [draft: A/56/L.4 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 31].

University for Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/29 of 18 November 1999, in which it recalled that, in its resolution 34/111 of 14 December 1979, it had approved the idea of establishing the University for Peace as a specialized international centre for postgraduate studies, research and the dissemination of knowledge specifically aimed at training and education for peace and its universal promotion within the United Nations system,

Recalling also that in its resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980 it approved the establishment of the University for Peace in conformity with the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace,

Recalling further its resolutions 45/8 of 24 October 1990, 46/11 of 24 October 1991 and 48/9 of 25 October 1993,

Recalling that in its resolution 46/11 it decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session and biennially thereafter an item entitled "University for Peace",

Recalling also its resolution 50/41 of 8 December 1995, in which it decided to request the Secretary-General to consider ways of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the University for Peace and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session,

Recalling further its adoption on 13 September 1999 of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace,

Noting that in 1991 the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme, established a Trust Fund for Peace consisting of voluntary contributions in order to provide the University with the means necessary to extend its sphere of activity to the whole world, taking full advantage of its potential capacity for education, research and support of the United Nations and to carry out its mandate of promoting peace in the world,

Noting with appreciation that the Government of Uruguay, by agreement with the University for Peace, established in 1997 a World Centre for Research and Information on Peace as regional subheadquarters of the University for South America,

Noting also with appreciation the vigorous actions taken by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and with the encouragement and support of the Government of Costa Rica, to revitalize the University,

Noting that the University has placed special emphasis on the area of conflict prevention, peace-keeping, peace-building and peaceful settlement of disputes, and that it has launched programmes in the areas of democratic consensus-building and training of academic experts in the techniques of peaceful settlement of conflicts, which is highly relevant to the promotion of universal peace,

Noting also that the University has launched a broad programme for building a culture of peace in Central America and the Caribbean in the context of the efforts being made by the United Nations and by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the development and promotion of a culture of peace,

Noting with appreciation that the University organized a symposium in celebration of the International Year of Older Persons, 1999, at which it emphasized the valuable contribution that older persons can make to the promotion of peace, solidarity, tolerance and the culture of peace,

Recognizing the important and varied activities carried out by the University during the period 1999-2000, within its financial limitations and with the valu-

able assistance and contributions of Governments, foundations and non-governmental organizations,

Considering the importance of promoting education for peace that fosters respect for the values inherent in peace and universal coexistence among persons, including respect for the life, dignity and integrity of human beings, as well as friendship and solidarity among peoples irrespective of their nationality, race, sex, religion or culture,

Considering that, by its resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997, the General Assembly proclaimed the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace and that it should be ushered in with One Day in Peace, 1 January 2000,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 54/29 on ways of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the University for Peace;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider using the services of the University in his conflict-resolution and peace-building efforts and in the promotion of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;

3. *Invites* Member States, intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations and interested individuals to contribute directly to the Trust Fund for Peace or to the budget of the University;

4. *Invites* Member States to accede to the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace, thereby demonstrating their support for an educational institution devoted to the promotion of a universal culture of peace;

5. *Invites* Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and all the peoples of the world to celebrate One Day in Peace, 1 January 2002, and every year thereafter;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "University for Peace".

Education for all

UN Literacy Decade

By a June note [A/56/114-E/2001/93 & Add.1], the Secretary-General transmitted to the General Assembly the report of the UNESCO Director-General containing the draft proposal and plan for a United Nations literacy decade, as envisaged by the Assembly in resolution 54/122 [YUN 1999, p. 1073]. The report noted that UNESCO estimates indicated that, if current trends continued, one in six adults (830 million people) would still be illiterate in 2010. There was, therefore, an urgent need for a major new worldwide initiative that focused on literacy as an integral component of the global commitment to Education for All. The proposed decade would give greater thrust to achieving international development targets and give priority to making opportunities available for the poorest and most marginalized. The decade's outcomes would include a better understanding of the structure of illiteracy; a viable

policy-making framework, with regional and international support for national initiatives; national prioritization of population groups; increased capacity in designing strategies; improved quality of teacher training; the promotion of functional literacy skills in order to reduce poverty; and the use of information technologies.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 88], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/56/572], adopted **resolution 56/116** without vote [agenda item 108].

United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child the right of every individual to education is recognized as inalienable,

Recalling also its resolutions 42/104 of 7 December 1987, by which it proclaimed 1990 as International Literacy Year, and 54/122 of 17 December 1999, in which it requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and Member States and with other relevant organizations and bodies, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a proposal for a United Nations literacy decade, with a draft plan of action and possible time frame for such a decade, on the basis of the outcome of the World Education Forum and the special session of the General Assembly for the five-year review of the World Summit for Social Development,

Reaffirming its resolution 49/184 of 23 December 1994, by which it proclaimed the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 1995 the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education and appealed to all Governments to intensify their efforts to eradicate illiteracy and to direct education towards the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/29 of 20 April 2001 on the right to education,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000 in which Member States resolved to ensure that, by the year 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, would be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys would have equal access to all levels of education, which requires a renewed commitment to promote literacy for all,

Recalling also the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world",

Convinced that literacy is crucial to the acquisition, by every child, youth and adult, of essential life skills that enable them to address the challenges they can face in life, and represents an essential step in basic educa-

tion, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the societies and economies of the twenty-first century,

Affirming that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the eradication of poverty,

Acknowledging the activities undertaken at the national and regional levels for the Education for All 2000 assessment of progress towards achieving the goals of education for all, and stressing further the need to redouble efforts in order to meet the basic needs of people of all age groups, in particular girls and women,

Recognizing that, despite the significant progress in basic education, especially the increase in primary school enrolment coupled with a growing emphasis on the quality of education, major problems, both emerging and continuing, still persist, which require even more forceful and concerted action at the national and international levels so as to achieve the goal of education for all,

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that nearly two thirds of the world's adult illiterates are women,

Urging Member States, in close partnership with international organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, to promote the right to education for all and to create conditions for all for learning throughout life,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "Draft proposal and plan for a United Nations literacy decade";

2. *Proclaims* the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade;

3. *Reaffirms* the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum, in which commitments were made to achieve a 50 per cent improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015 and to improve the quality of education;

4. *Appeals* to all Governments to redouble their efforts to achieve their own goals of education for all by developing national plans in accordance with the Dakar Framework for Action, setting firm targets and timetables, including gender-specific education targets and programmes, to eliminate gender disparities at all levels of education, to combat the illiteracy of women and girls and to ensure that girls and women have full and equal access to education, and by working in active partnership with communities, associations, the media and development agencies to reach those targets;

5. *Also appeals* to all Governments to reinforce political will and develop more inclusive policy-making environments and devise innovative strategies for reaching the poorest and most marginalized groups and for seeking alternative formal and non-formal approaches to learning with a view to achieving the goals of the Decade;

6. *Urges* all Governments to take the lead in the coordination of the Decade activities at the national level, bringing all relevant national actors together in sustained dialogue on policy formulation, implementation and evaluation of literacy efforts;

7. *Reaffirms* that literacy for all is at the heart of basic education for all and that creating literate environments and societies is essential for achieving the goals

of eradicating poverty, reducing child mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy;

8. *Appeals* to all Governments and to economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve the goals of education for all and those of the Decade through, inter alia, the 20/20 initiative, as appropriate;

9. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts to implement effectively the World Declaration on Education for All, the Dakar Framework for Action and the relevant commitments and recommendations to promote literacy made at recent major United Nations conferences and at their five-year reviews with a view to better coordinating their activities and in-

creasing their contribution to development within the framework of the Decade in a manner that is complementary to and coordinated with the ongoing education for all process;

10. *Decides* that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization should take a coordinating role in stimulating and catalysing the activities at the international level within the framework of the Decade;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to seek and take into account comments and proposals from Governments and the relevant international organizations on the draft plan for the Decade in order to develop and finalize a well targeted and action-oriented plan of action to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session a question entitled "United Nations Literacy Decade".