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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The present report is in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/53. It highlights initial steps taken to implement that resolution in the areas of research and policy development, technical co-operation, and resources and funding, and presents an overview of initial preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. Activities at the regional and international levels are also discussed.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, called for in General Assembly resolutions 40/32 and 41/107, coincided with the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations. Initiated in 1986 and completed by the Economic and Social Council in 1987, the review was conducted in consultation with the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, internationally recognized experts, the United Nations regional and interregional institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. It was comprehensive in nature, covering all substantive, organizational, institutional and structural aspects of the Organization's programme in the field. 1/ Its results were reflected in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1986/11 and 1987/53.

2. Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/53 on the review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice represents a turning point. At a time when Member States have emphasized that the programme should be more responsive to the increasingly complex problems of crime control today, an adequate response on the part of the United Nations becomes more urgent and has to contend with competing programme priorities and the current financial crisis. The Council not only recognized the pivotal role of the United Nations in promoting the exchange of information, experience and expertise and closer regional and international co-operation towards more effective crime prevention and criminal justice strategies and policies, but also considered various proposals for concrete action in different areas of crime prevention and criminal justice. The Council endorsed the recommendations in paragraph 2 of the report of the Secretary-General (E/1987/43), and requested him, as well as the bodies concerned, to implement them. Those recommendations touched upon a number of substantive and organizational aspects of United Nations activities, including present and future work priorities; the crucial role of the quinquennial United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders and that of their preparatory body, namely, the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control; technical co-operation; the vital function of United Nations institutes; the need for revitalization of the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence; the tasks to be accomplished by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, and the need for them to be supported by adequate resources; and modalities of closer co-operation between the Secretariat and non-governmental organizations.

3. The same resolution reaffirmed the fundamental importance of the United Nations congresses and stressed the need for their adequate and cost-effective preparation, including the appropriate scheduling of interregional and regional preparatory meetings and the timely circulation of papers.

4. The present report responds to paragraph 14 of the resolution. It highlights the initial steps undertaken by the Secretary-General to give effect to the resolution, including a preliminary overview of the organizational and substantive preparations for the Eighth Congress.

I. INITIAL PHASE OF IMPLEMENTATION

A. Forty-second session of the General Assembly, 1987

5. The General Assembly, at its forty-second session, considered the action taken by the Council under its agenda item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice". Many representatives of Governments emphasized that, while the United Nations programme in this field had been quite successful in the past, there was a need to implement fully the Council's conclusions and recommendations on the programme review. Council resolution 1987/53 constituted an important step towards the further strengthening of United Nations activities in this field, giving valuable pointers for the future. One assumption underlying Council resolution 1987/53 and the contribution of the programme was that the United Nations should reach beyond the Organization to make use of relevant professional, academic and other networks at the national, regional and international levels. The United Nations should be a catalyst and partner, working with Governments and others to develop practical and effective strategies to deal with crime. Moreover, the whole United Nations system should be mobilized to meet crime prevention and criminal justice objectives. Several representatives recommended that the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the In-depth Study of the United Nations Intergovernmental Structure and Functions in the Economic and Social Fields should take the results of the programme review into account.

6. Particular reference was made to paragraph 3 (f) of Council resolution 1987/53 by which the Secretary-General was requested to take measures, in co-operation with the United Nations institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice and other appropriate bodies, to establish an efficient criminal justice information network, including a mechanism for the centralization of inputs from non-governmental organizations. The importance of computerizing criminal justice information was emphasized. Many representatives stressed the significance of the United Nations congresses and of their achievements. The Sixth and the Seventh Congresses had offered a blueprint for action at the national, regional and international levels, and an effective framework for developing strategies to combat crime. Specific attention was given to a number of programme priorities identified in chapter III of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme review (E/1987/43). These included research and policy development concerning new dimensions and forms of crime of international dimensions, juvenile justice and the prevention of juvenile delinquency, victims of crime, the practical application of United Nations norms and standards, and the strengthening of technical co-operation.

7. The important role of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control was also emphasized in Council resolution 1987/53. The Committee rendered great assistance to Governments in developing guidelines, standards and model legal instruments. The hope was expressed that the Committee, at its tenth session, could further examine some of the recommendations emanating from the programme review, with particular emphasis on its methods of work.

8. On 30 November 1987, in its resolution 42/59, the General Assembly welcomed the results of the comprehensive review, approved the recommendations contained in Council resolutions 1986/11 and 1987/53, and requested the Secretary-General and

other relevant bodies to take appropriate measures for their full and prompt implementation, with particular attention to the elements identified in paragraph 3 of Council resolution 1987/53. The Assembly endorsed the recommendations related to the preparation of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held in 1990, contained in Council resolution 1987/49 and requested the Secretary-General to ensure the successful and cost-effective preparation of the Eighth Congress. The progress report on the implementation of Assembly resolution 42/59 will be submitted to the Assembly at its forty-third session.

B. Activities carried out by the Secretariat

1. Research and policy development

9. In pursuance of paragraphs 3 (b), (d) and (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/53, the Secretariat is carrying out research as a basis for policy-making and planning in crime prevention and criminal justice and the formulation of guidelines and policy options. Priority attention is given to formulating proposals for concerted international action against crimes of international dimensions. These forms of crimes threaten the course of development, security and peace. They draw on new technological developments and complex organizational forms, and profit from gaps and differences in national legislation and shortcomings in effective enforcement modalities. They victimize individuals, groups, entire segments of the population and even States. Terrorism and other forms of violence claim innocent lives and create a climate of constant fear. Organized crime infiltrates national economies and destabilizes public institutions. Corruption and abuse of power and white-collar crime divert funds needed for development programmes into illicit channels, accentuate financial crises and impair growth prospects. In order to contribute to the formulation of responsive policy option to cope with such crimes, the Secretariat has begun research aiming at developing proposals for international action to combat transnational crimes. A report will be submitted to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its tenth session in August 1988.

10. The Secretariat has continued its research and policy development activities in juvenile justice and delinquency prevention. Special attention is being given to the implementation of the Beijing Rules and to further standard setting. Two new draft instruments are being developed: (i) draft principles for the protection of juveniles deprived of their liberty, in accordance with resolution 21 of the Seventh Congress; and (ii) draft guidelines for the prevention of juvenile delinquency, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/35. These will be submitted to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its tenth session, after having been considered by the interregional meeting of experts on topic 4 of the Eighth Congress. In addition, a special issue of the International Review of Criminal Policy is being devoted to juvenile justice.

11. Action-oriented research and analysis necessitate a sound crime-related data base and improved ways and means of data collection. The Third United Nations Survey of Crime Trends, Operations of Criminal Justice Systems and Crime Prevention

Strategies is being carried out. The survey instrument has been simplified and shortened from that used in the Second Survey, in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/12, so as to increase the rate of replies from Member States. To that end, two meetings of expert groups were convened in 1987. One meeting was organized by the Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control affiliated with the United Nations, and the other meeting was held at Washington by the United Nations Secretariat, at the invitation of the Government of the United States of America.

12. In response to paragraph 3 (f) of Council resolution 1987/53, work is under way to establish a global crime and criminal justice information network, in co-operation with the United Nations institutes and relevant bodies and organizations. The full realization of the project, which clearly depends on the availability of adequate funds, would enable the United Nations to assist interested Member States in developing more effective policies and strategies for crime prevention and criminal justice. In spite of limited resources, work has also begun on a technical manual on electronic data processing in criminal justice management, to be published before the Eighth Congress. Drawing on experiences and technological advancements in many Member States, it will advise criminal justice practitioners and experts on the installation and operation of electronic data processing, suitable to domestic conditions. The European seminar on computerization of criminal justice information systems: realities, methods, prospects and effects, organized by the Helsinki Institute and the Government of Poland in May 1987, emphasized the need to facilitate the international exchange of computerized crime-related data, for example, through comparable software data standards. While some countries may see the goal of computerization of their criminal justice systems as remote, others have started to make extensive use of computers.

13. By paragraph 3 (e) of resolution 1987/53, the Council requested the Secretary-General to devise strategies for the practical follow-up by the United Nations system of the decisions of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and to assist Member States in implementing standards and norms adopted by the Organization and in evaluating their impact and effectiveness. To assess the implementation of existing United Nations policies in crime prevention and criminal justice and the application of norms, standards and guidelines, the Secretariat is carrying out surveys on a variety of substantive issues such as the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, the Beijing Rules, the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary, the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power and the Safeguards Guaranteeing the Rights of Those Facing the Death Penalty. The results will be reported to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its forthcoming tenth session.

2. Preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress

14. With reference to paragraphs 8 and 9 of Council resolution 1987/53, it should be recalled that due to the deferment of action by the Council on the approval of the agenda of the Eighth Congress, recommended by the Committee on Crime Prevention

and Control at its ninth session, the preparatory activities have been delayed by one year. Further to Council resolution 1987/49, and with the provision of the necessary funds by the General Assembly at the end of December 1987, the Secretariat has made every effort to regain the time lost, and use the remaining time and limited resources in a cost-effective way. On the basis of the recommendations of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, a discussion guide for the interregional and regional preparatory meetings has been finalized. 2/ Five interregional meetings of experts, invited in their individual capacity with due regard to equitable geographical representation and adequate coverage of different disciplines, are being organized in Vienna, on each of the five substantive topics during the first half of 1988. Their purpose is to discuss the scope, focus and substantive details of each topic and to make specific recommendations for the Congress. Prior to their consideration by the regional preparatory meetings in 1989, the reports of these expert meetings will be submitted to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its tenth session.

15. The Secretary-General has noted with great appreciation the interest shown, and the support given, to the Secretariat by many Governments, as well as non-governmental organizations and the professional community. As a result of these combined efforts, the working documents for the regional meetings will be available well in advance.

3. Technical co-operation

16. By paragraphs 3 (c) and (d) of resolution 1987/53, the Council requested the Secretary-General to strengthen technical co-operation projects on specific crime issues and advisory services through the mobilization of the resources of the United Nations system and relevant networks outside the system. Technical co-operation has proved particularly effective in fostering more viable strategies for crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of overall socio-economic development and the achievement of national goals and objectives. Past experience has shown that even well-defined strategies have little practical value in those countries that lack a responsive institutional capacity, due to a dearth of human and financial resources, including skilled personnel.

17. One effective way of overcoming such problems is to provide technical co-operation to interested countries for the reinforcement of national machineries, the promotion of joint training activities and the development of pilot and demonstration projects. The Secretary-General is ready to intensify the operational aspects of the United Nations programme in this regard. This can only be done if adequate resources are made available which in turn means that higher priority will have to be given to this area, by requesting Governments and funding organizations alike.

18. A fundamental purpose of technical co-operation is the creation of self-reliant capacities in developing countries through human resources development. Strengthened technical co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice should be seen as a contribution to the achievement of this goal. Governments and funding organizations should be sensitized to "crime and development" questions when formulating development assistance projects. A similar

campaign must make developing countries aware of the need to include crime prevention and criminal justice projects in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) country and regional programmes. 3/

19. The United Nations Office at Vienna has advocated strengthening technical co-operation activities in this field. It has also sought to implement joint projects with interested Governments and other funding organizations, including the World Bank, aiming at the formulation of specific projects. However, more deliberate and sustained efforts will be needed to encourage Governments and various funding organizations to develop more extensive technical co-operation activities.

20. Through the efforts of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the Interregional Adviser for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the United Nations institutes, a limited number of projects have been formulated with a view to obtaining funds from donor countries, UNDP, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat and the World Bank. These projects concentrate on areas such as juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, computerization and the establishment of national information systems, alternatives to institutionalization and community participation, critical poverty and crime prevention, law reform and improvements in the administration of justice, assessment of needs for the training of the criminal justice administration officials, and the respect of human rights in criminal justice management. For example, UNDP, in co-operation with the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations Office at Vienna, the Centre for Human Rights and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), is funding a project in Africa on training and legal education facilities for judges, prosecutors, police, law clerks, lawyers and other personnel involved with the administration of justice, with the aim of assisting in the implementation of United Nations norms and standards in criminal justice, crime prevention techniques and respect for human rights.

21. In response to numerous requests from Member States, the Interregional Adviser has undertaken advisory missions to a number of countries during 1987 and the beginning of 1988, exploring also ways and means of obtaining funds for specific projects. The improvement and strengthening of technical co-operation has become imperative. Follow-up of the recommendations of the Interregional Adviser for country-level action is necessary through the development of country projects based on country needs, as well as adequate support and proper monitoring of their execution. 4/ Systematic and sustained efforts in this direction, however, require additional time and resources on the part of the Secretariat which is at present fully engaged in the implementation of existing mandates.

4. United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence

22. By paragraphs 3 (g) and 13 of resolution 1987/53, the Council not only requested the Secretary-General to develop diversified funding strategies, including voluntary and mixed multilateral and bilateral contributions for specific projects but also invited Member States to contribute to the United Nations Trust

Fund for Social Defence in order to increase technical co-operation and exchange of information and experience. Accordingly, in February 1988, the Secretary-General sent a note verbale to Member States concerning the status of the Trust Fund, accompanied by a brief summary of United Nations activities. The note outlined a diversified funding strategy, entailing the further encouragement of contributions for specific projects and advisory services, through the mobilization of additional resources, both within the United Nations and outside the system.

23. To date, the number of Governments contributing to the Trust Fund does not exceed 5 per cent of the membership of the United Nations. While consultations with interested Governments and funding organizations are under way with respect to possible contributions in cash or in kind, the continuous and increased support of those Governments hosting the United Nations institutes deserves particular acknowledgement. In addition, it should also be noted with appreciation that Saudi Arabia expressed its intention to pledge \$US 900,000 to the Trust Fund with the purpose of enhancing the operational activities of the Secretariat in the field of juvenile justice. The funds would be earmarked to finance a five-year technical co-operation project (1988-1992) aiming at the formulation of more effective policies and strategies to prevent juvenile delinquency.

5. Resource constraints

24. By paragraph 3 (a) of Council resolution 1987/53, the Secretary-General was requested to develop the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat as a specialized body and facilitating agent in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, engaging the available resources of the United Nations system as well as relevant networks outside the United Nations. Under paragraph 4 of the same resolution, the Secretary-General was further requested to take appropriate measures to ensure that the United Nations programme of work in crime prevention and criminal justice was supported by adequate resources through, inter alia, appropriate redeployment of staff and funds, and to ensure that the specialized and technical nature of the programme and the high priority attached by Member States to crime prevention and criminal justice were fully reflected in the future management and staffing of the Branch. The Secretary-General is pleased to report that two senior posts that had been vacant for some time have been filled through internal redeployment, namely, the post of Chief of Branch and that of Deputy Chief. In addition, even with the Organization's financial problems, some resources have been made available to the Branch for the organization of the Eighth Congress. None the less, the resources for the preparation of the Eighth Congress are considerably smaller than the funds usually provided for the organization of major conferences for consultants, temporary staff, travel and public information activities.

25. Moreover, the situation might be aggravated by further cuts in resources, as a result of the application of recommendation 15 of the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 41/213. Efforts have been made to minimize, or limit, the potential damage to the

crime prevention and criminal justice programme by the retrenchment measures now being imposed on the Organization as a whole, by means of a three-pronged strategy: first, to fill the outstanding vacancies as soon as feasible through the staff redeployment system; second, to protect the programme against further resource depletion; and third, to explore various approaches to generating additional resources to carry out the programme.

C. Optimal functioning of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control

26. The Committee on Crime Prevention and Control plays an essential role in the development and implementation of the programme. Accordingly, the Council requested the Secretary-General to foster the optimal functioning of the Committee, including its more active intersessional involvement in considering priorities and related recommendations. Furthermore, in accordance with recommendation 7 of the Secretary-General's review report, "a close working relationship and continuous dialogue should be established between the Secretariat and members of the Committee through regular correspondence and other means" (E/1987/43, para. 2).

27. Within the existing possibilities, the Secretariat is making special efforts to keep the Committee members fully involved in the work programme through:

- (a) Regular correspondence and exchange of letters;
- (b) Direct involvement of the Committee on substantive matters through requests for comments and observations;
- (c) Inviting members of the Committee to contribute to expert group meetings organized in co-operation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

In addition, and in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/30 and 1984/49, the Chairman of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control has appointed experts, from among the members, to represent the Committee at the interregional and regional preparatory meetings.

28. Moreover, as suggested by the Committee itself at its sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth sessions, other modalities and sources of funding to follow up the Committee's recommendations should be further explored. These would include special working groups, meetings of the bureau, and the appointment of special rapporteurs for specific studies requiring broader conceptualization, analyses and synthesis of results. These are particularly important in view of the expanded responsibilities of the Committee which require collaborative ties with other bodies, such as the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the Human Rights Committee, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 42/143 on human rights in the administration of justice. 5/

II. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT AT THE REGIONAL, INTERREGIONAL
AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

A. United Nations interregional and regional institutes for the
prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders

29. The United Nations institutes are important components of the United Nations programme in crime prevention and criminal justice. They provide the main infrastructure for technical co-operation required at the regional and interregional levels to advance the implementation of the recommendations of the congresses. The impressive results achieved by the institutes and the services they have rendered underline the need to strengthen them systematically. 6/ Their activities are all supported by extrabudgetary resources directly either from the Governments of the host countries or from voluntary funds provided by interested Governments, UNDP and other sources for the implementation of specific projects.

30. By paragraph 10 of Council resolution 1987/53, the Secretary-General was requested to explore ways and means of supporting and further assisting the United Nations institutes, particularly the newly established African Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, as well as the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, and of strengthening co-ordination between the institutes. UNDP was invited to continue to provide effective support and assistance. The Secretariat has striven to foster the co-ordination of activities and to strengthen the existing contacts between the institutes and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch in order to develop joint activities. Thus, the fourth Annual Joint Meeting on Programme Co-ordination, which was held at the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre at Riyadh in January 1988, was an important occasion for reinforcing the modalities of co-operation, co-ordination and mutual assistance within the United Nations institutional network.

31. The Meeting recommended that, inter alia, intensified collaboration through information exchange, substantive support and support of technical co-operation projects, staff secondment and exchange of research expertise, programming and execution of common projects, as well as joint seminars, workshops and training courses in areas of high priority, should be pursued. New topics for joint activities were identified on the basis of existing mandates. It was also agreed to undertake regularly a joint review of draft work programmes and training activities at each annual co-ordination meeting. As a high priority, it was decided to launch the preliminary phase of a global crime information network with plans for its long-term development, and to explore systematically diversified funding strategies for supporting country and regional projects.

32. The United Nations Social Defence Research Institute (UNSDRI) at Rome has provided most valuable support to the Secretariat's work programme, as well as in the preparation of the Eighth Congress. Its assistance in following up the Seventh United Nations Congress included the implementation of the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary, the preparation of Basic Principles of the Role of Lawyers, the question of extra-legal, arbitrary and summary executions, and juvenile justice. As a contribution to the United Nations International Conference

on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (Vienna, 17-26 June 1987), UNSDRI submitted two action-oriented documents entitled "International survey on drug related penal measures" and "Drug abuse in the context of development: prevention, treatment and rehabilitation". The results of the survey, covering 31 countries, appeared in a new UNSDRI publication entitled Drugs and Punishment.

33. Significant progress was made in 1987 in formulating two major technical co-operation projects: the first focusing on street children in Argentina and Uruguay and the second on developing a model social rehabilitation system for young adult offenders in Egypt. UNDP will provide administrative assistance to both projects. In consultation with the Government of Tunisia, a project on social change and criminality in Tunisia is being formulated for action-oriented research and training of social operators, while another pilot project on crime and development is being jointly implemented with the Government of Yugoslavia. The Institute, in co-operation with the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations Office at Vienna, is also involved in developing a programme of co-operation between the Government of China and the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice.

34. UNSDRI has collaborated with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch in the establishment of an information network. Further to a preliminary report on its conceptualization and organization, the Institute is assisting the Secretariat in a survey on potential user and consumer needs and expectations. It is also the focal point for the research workshop on alternatives to imprisonment, to be held within the framework of the Eighth United Nations Congress. In 1987, UNSDRI provided the African Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) with a special report on Africa, based on surveys of the needs and priorities of developing countries in research and international co-operation. It took part in two seminars organized by UNAFRI.

35. In 1987, the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) at Fuchu, Japan, continued to conduct regional training courses and seminars. These included the advancement of fair and humane treatment of offenders and victims in criminal justice administration; non-institutional treatment of offenders; evaluation of UNAFEI international training courses on prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, and drug problems in Asia; more effective and efficient administration of criminal justice; contemporary achievements and future perspectives in policies for correction and rehabilitation of offenders; protection of human rights in criminal justice; and implementation modalities for the recommendations on drug problems in Asia and the Pacific, as a contribution to the follow-up of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, which was held at Vienna in June 1987. During the 25 years since its establishment, UNAFEI has conducted a total of 76 international training courses and seminars with 1,738 participants representing 59 countries.

36. At its seventy-fifth International Training Course, UNAFEI produced its first draft of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Non-institutional Treatment of Offenders in preparation for the Eighth Congress. The draft was discussed at the regional experts meeting on non-institutional treatment of offenders, in

March 1988, held in co-operation with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch. UNAFEI is conducting field research on development and crime prevention in order to contribute to the implementation of conclusions and recommendations of the Seventh Congress, as well as to the preparations for the Eighth Congress.

37. The United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD) at San José continued its technical co-operation activities through regional and national training courses, workshops and seminars, and the formulation and implementation of technical assistance projects in several countries of the Latin American region. The Institute's objective is to strengthen national and regional institutions connected with the administration of justice, improve the treatment of offenders while promoting human rights in the administration of justice, and foster viable crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies in the region. A computerized documentation centre specialized in criminal science and criminology operated by the Institute is serving Latin America and the Caribbean. Over 20 basic and action-oriented research projects in crime prevention and criminal justice are being implemented, including regional studies on criminal law and environmental protection, the situation of pre-trial detainees, juvenile justice and human rights.

38. Efforts have been made by ILANUD to develop diversified funding strategies for the implementation of specific technical co-operation projects, as called for in paragraph 3 (g) of Council resolution 1987/53. The Institute succeeded in overcoming the uncertainty of stable resources for its programme of work through contributions from private, governmental and international organizations and foundations. A large-scale project entitled "Institutional Development Plan 1988-1992" was approved by the Advisory Board of the Institute in September 1987. The plan covers prison systems and alternatives to imprisonment, delinquency prevention and juvenile justice, due process and equality in the application of the law, judicial organization and administration systems, and crime and development. In co-operation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Defense for Children International (DCI), ILANUD conducted a series of regional training seminars on children's rights in juvenile justice administration in the context of the Beijing Rules. With the financial assistance provided by UNDP, and in co-operation with the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations Office at Vienna, ILANUD is also carrying out a series of activities related to critical poverty and crime prevention.

39. The Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations, continued to organize seminars, collect information and conduct action-oriented research. During 1987, the Institute organized a number of meetings, including, in May 1987, the European Seminar on computerization of criminal justice information systems: realities, methods, prospects and effects, organized jointly by the Institute and the Government of Poland at Popowo, Poland. The seminar considered the effects of computerization on administration and management, on the development of criminal policy, on the gathering of data for research, and on privacy and security, making extensive recommendations. Another seminar on alternatives to custodial sanctions was held at Helsinki in September 1987 in pursuance of resolutions 10 and 16 of the Seventh Congress.

40. During 1987, the internal storage of information of the Institute was computerized to facilitate responses to outside inquiries. Increasing attention has been directed to the evaluation of external sources of information and to the potential contribution of the Institute to the planned global information network to be established by the United Nations. The Institute has continued to broaden the assessment of approaches to policies in regard to victims in the European countries. As a first step in the implementation of the United Nations Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, a study entitled "The role of the victim of crime in European criminal justice systems" was issued in April 1987, covering the rights and obligations of the victim of crime in the criminal justice processes of 15 European countries. The Institute has also provided several scholarships for post-graduate students and junior practitioners in criminal policy.

41. UNAFRI, formally established in January 1987 and temporarily hosted by ECA, has become operational thanks to the financial assistance provided by UNDP. During 1987, two training courses were organized by UNAFRI in co-operation with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch and the United Nations institutes. The first course was on planning for crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development, and the second, on the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency. The reports on these courses have recently been issued and disseminated in the region.

42. Extensive contacts with member States of the African region concerning a host country for UNAFRI took place in 1987. Five countries made definite offers, namely, Djibouti, Morocco, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Consultations are continuing.

43. In order to sustain the momentum and the keen interest of the African States, it is essential that the Institute's activities should not be hampered by lack of resources. In this connection, the crucial role of UNDP in continuing its financial support should be emphasized.

44. The Arab Security Studies and Training Centre at Riyadh has continued its close collaboration with the United Nations. In January 1988, the Centre hosted a United Nations international conference on research and crime prevention, focusing on alternatives to imprisonment. The results of the conference will be considered at the research workshop on the same subject, to be held on the occasion of the Eighth Congress. The Centre also hosted the meeting on programme co-ordination in crime prevention and criminal justice, which considered joint programme planning, implementation and evaluation in areas of common concern to the United Nations and the regional and interregional institutes.

45. In response to General Assembly resolution 40/35, an international meeting of experts on the development of the draft United Nations Standards for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency was convened at Riyadh in March 1988 at the invitation of the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre. The Meeting recommended a new instrument for submission to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its tenth session and to the Eighth Congress.

B. Activities carried out throughout the United Nations system

46. In response to the Council's request in paragraph 14 of resolution 1987/53, the Secretary-General has solicited information from all organizations throughout the United Nations system on their crime prevention and criminal justice activities. On the basis of the results of this inquiry, it is recognized that, in comparison with other areas in which programme implementation is shared by other organizations, the involvement of the United Nations system in crime prevention and criminal justice is rather limited. In fact, most of the organizations and bodies contacted indicated that crime prevention and criminal justice elements were not included in their programme budgets and that no work had been undertaken. This demonstrates both the uniqueness of the work carried out by the Secretariat in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and the absence of any duplication of activities.

47. It also points to the need to foster more interest in this area throughout the system. Indeed, out of 25 organizations, specialized agencies and relevant United Nations bodies, only five positive responses have been received from UNDP, the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat and ECA.

48. UNDP has been involved for many years in funding technical co-operation projects related to crime prevention and criminal justice directly either at the country level or by assisting the institutes. One of the most important, in which UNDP played a key role, was the establishment of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. UNDP has not only provided funds for the initial phase but will also continue to assist UNAFRI during the next five years.

49. WHO is continuing its work on legislation for the care of children for whom parental and family care is lacking. A report on two surveys on this subject will be prepared in 1988. A joint project is also being planned with UNSDRI on the situation of the mentally ill in the criminal justice system.

50. ICAO has taken action to combat unlawful interference with civil aviation. Annex 17, entitled "Security - Safeguarding International Civil Aviation Against Acts of Unlawful Interference", to the Convention on International Civil Aviation sets forth relevant standards and recommends practices for implementation by States. The annex and the related Security Manual for Safeguarding Civil Aviation Against Acts of Unlawful Interference are kept under constant review by the Council of ICAO and its Committee on Unlawful Interference. To help States implement their own security programmes, ICAO convenes informal regional aviation security seminars. An international conference on air law is being organized at Montreal in 1988. It is expected to adopt an instrument for the suppression of unlawful acts of violence at airports serving international civil aviation. ICAO has also given considerable attention during the past two years to countering the illicit transport of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by air, and the ICAO Assembly at its twenty-sixth session in 1986 adopted resolution A26-12 on the role of ICAO in the suppression of such illicit transport in which it called upon member

States to assist airlines to adopt effective means to prevent their aircraft equipment and facilities from being used for drug trafficking purposes. Due account is being taken of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control adopted by the United Nations International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

51. A main activity of IMO has been the preparation of a draft Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and a related Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf. These two instruments are intended to establish a basis of jurisdiction for prosecuting or extraditing persons who commit certain offences against ships, crews or passengers. A related IMO activity has been the development of measures to prevent unlawful acts against passengers and crews on board ships. The Maritime Safety Committee of IMO was directed to develop these measures by the IMO Assembly at its fourteenth session in November 1985. They were adopted by the Committee and circulated to member States for implementation in 1986. At its fifteenth session in November 1987, the IMO Assembly considered a report on the progress of implementation and urged member Governments, which had not already done so, to consider implementing the measures, which called on Governments to prevent unauthorized access to ships and port facilities, prevent unauthorized dangerous devices from being introduced on board ships, ensure that security personnel were adequately trained, conduct security surveys, and encourage the prompt, efficient exchange of information.

52. The Statistical Office of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat has included basic statistics from the Second United Nations Survey of Crime Trends, Operations of Criminal Justice Systems and Crime Prevention Strategies in its social statistics microcomputer data base. Selected indicators were included in a document on the compilation of selected statistics and indicators on social policy and development issues (E/CONF.80/CRP.1) submitted to the Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes, which was held at Vienna from 7 to 15 September 1987. Selected series will also be issued in mid-1988 in the Compendium of Statistics on the Situation of Women and more detailed data in the Compendium of Social Statistics and Indicators. The Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat is advising the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch in carrying out the Third Survey in 1988, through the involvement of national statistical services. It is also co-operating in the establishment of a criminal justice information system, and in the preparation of a manual on electronic data processing in criminal justice.

53. ECA is co-operating with the United Nations Office at Vienna in the establishment and operation of UNAFRI. Due to resource constraints, ECA has programmed only a modest level of activities in crime prevention and criminal justice. In the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989, they include a survey of juvenile delinquency, crime and justice in the light of socio-economic conditions. The survey will analyse case studies from selected African countries. The recent revision of the medium-term plan for ECA took into account issues of crime prevention and criminal justice. ECA expects to expand its activities during the period 1990-1991.

54. In paragraph 12 of Council resolution 1987/53, the regional commissions were invited to integrate appropriate elements of the programme of work of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and to strengthen their co-operation with the United Nations institutes. It is encouraging to note that the regional commissions have pledged their support and willingness to be involved, particularly in the preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress. Some regional commissions, however, are not staffed to administer crime prevention and criminal justice components.

C. Co-operation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

55. By paragraph 7 of resolution 1987/53, the Council requested the Secretary-General to further the already valuable co-operation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including professional associations, taking particular advantage of their research, scientific, organizational and other sources. Collaborative ties already exist with intergovernmental organizations such as the Council of Europe, the Organization of American States (OAS), the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the League of Arab States, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), and they have been recently reinforced, particularly with reference to preparations for the Eighth Congress.

56. Non-governmental organizations are essential to the success of the programme. They are an invaluable resource for the world-wide transmission of information and the exchange of expertise, for advocacy and the furtherance of professional goals. The past few months have witnessed closer collaboration with non-governmental organizations not only in the implementation of the recommendations of the Seventh Congress but also in preparations for the Eighth Congress.

57. In November 1987, under the auspices of the United Nations Office at Vienna and in co-operation with the Alliance of Non-governmental Organizations on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at Vienna, the government of lower Austria and the City of Baden organized an international expert meeting on United Nations and law enforcement: the role of criminal justice and law enforcement agencies in the maintenance of public safety and social peace. The aim was to help implement the conclusions of the Seventh Congress on international co-operation. Special emphasis was placed on the implementation of the United Nations Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, and the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary, as well as the formulation of basic principles on the role of lawyers and model agreements in criminal justice matters.

58. In December 1987, under the auspices of the United Nations, the Centro Nazionale di Prevenzione e Difesa Sociale, in co-operation with the Ministry of Justice of Italy, organized in Milan an international symposium on measures for implementing the United Nations Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, and on topic 2 of the Eighth Congress entitled "Criminal justice policies in relation to problems of imprisonment, other penal sanctions and alternative measures". The meeting was convened on the

recommendation of the International Committee for Co-ordination among the four major non-governmental organizations active in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (the International Association of Penal Law, the International Society for Criminology, the International Society of Social Defense, and the International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation), in co-operation with the United Nations.

59. Also in December 1987, an international seminar on Policies and strategies to combat organized crime was held by the United Nations and the University of New Mexico, United States of America, in co-operation with the International Society of Social Defense and the International Society for Criminology, with financial support provided by the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat. The seminar recommended practical measures to curb the various forms of growing organized criminality at the national, regional and international levels. In January 1988, an *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts on International Co-operation for the Prevention and Control of the Various Manifestations of Crime, including Terrorism was jointly organized at Syracuse, Italy, by the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences and the Centro Nazionale di Prevenzione e Difesa Sociale as a contribution to topics 1 and 2 of the Eighth Congress.

60. While continuous working relationships are maintained with relevant scientific and non-governmental communities through the Alliances of those organizations which meet regularly both at Vienna and at New York, it should also be noted that the relevant non-governmental organizations have provided useful comments and observations to many of the reports prepared by the Secretary-General for the forthcoming tenth session of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control.

III. CONCLUSIONS

61. The present report, requested by the Council in resolution 1987/53, covers the initial implementation of that resolution. The comprehensive review of the work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice and the recommendations emanating therefrom have highlighted the extensive requirements of Member States, as well as the urgent need for intensified international action.

62. The increase in traditional forms of criminality at the domestic level and the alarming growth of criminal acts of international dimensions in many parts of the world threaten the course of development, personal security and internal peace. Adequate policy responses to combat such crimes have to be made nationally, regionally and internationally. The task requires vigorous collaboration between States, as an integral part of global co-operation for economic and social development, together with the search for new and effective joint action. Such collaboration depends largely on the responsiveness of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, on their readiness to strengthen existing co-operation and on the kind of services which the United Nations is able to provide to the relevant law enforcement and criminal justice agencies of Member States.

63. In this respect, the Secretary-General will continue his efforts to reinforce the role of the Secretariat as a central mechanism and as a catalytic factor in the implementation of cost-effective activities and programmes in crime prevention and criminal justice, giving utmost attention to programme priorities identified by the Council in its resolution 1987/53.

64. This programme has been acutely affected by the current severe constraints on the regular budget of the United Nations, at a time when the crucial relevance of crime prevention and criminal justice to national development and the quality of life is increasingly recognized. The call for intensified international co-operation in this field, so clearly voiced in Council resolution 1987/53, has provided a clear objective. However, the problem also remains of how the necessary effort and the minimum tools can be secured to make the available United Nations structure fully operational, so as to maximize its effectiveness and usefulness to Governments.

Notes

1/ See the report of the Secretary-General on the initial review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (E/AC.57/1986/4); and the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (E/1987/43).

2/ Discussion guide for the interregional and regional preparatory meetings for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/CONF.144/PM.1).

3/ Commentary on international technical and scientific co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice, United Nations Social Defence Research Institute (UNSDRI 388), 19 January 1988.

4/ Report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice (A/41/618, para. 54).

5/ In accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1987/33 and 1987/57, close co-operation continues with the Centre for Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in the area of human rights in the administration of justice, including the use of force and firearms by law enforcement officials, prevention and investigation of extra-legal, arbitrary and summary executions, administrative detention without charge or trial, independence of the judiciary, the role of lawyers, capital punishment, and juvenile justice and the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

6/ Report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice (A/41/618, para. 58).
