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COMMITTEE ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Ninth session

Vienna, 5-14 March 1986

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda*

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Review of the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders.
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6. Crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development.
7. Consideration of the provisional agenda for the tenth session of the Committee.
8. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

* As approved by the Economic and Social Council (decision 1984/153). See also the annotations to item 2.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

It has been the practice of the Committee to elect five officers, namely, a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. The Committee may wish to do likewise at the ninth session.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda and documentation for the ninth session of the Committee were approved by the Economic and Social Council in decision 1984/153.

It should be recalled that the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders was held at Milan, Italy, from 26 August to 6 September 1985. The General Assembly, at its fortieth session, expressed its satisfaction with the report of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/CONF.121/22); approved the Milan Plan of Action adopted by consensus by the Congress as a useful and effective means of strengthening international co-operation in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice; and endorsed the other resolutions that had been unanimously adopted by the Congress (resolution 40/32). The attention of the Committee is drawn to paragraph 8 of resolution 40/32, in which the Assembly invited the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, at its ninth session, to review the Milan Plan of Action, the resolutions and recommendations unanimously adopted by the Seventh Congress and their implications for the programmes of the United Nations system and to make specific recommendations on the implementation thereof in its report to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1986. In paragraph 13 of resolution 40/32, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in his report to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, to initiate a review, as a matter of urgency, of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including the United Nations regional and interregional institutes, paying special attention to improving the co-ordination of relevant activities within the United Nations in all related areas in order to establish priorities and ensure the continuing relevance and responsiveness of the United Nations to emerging needs, and to submit the final report to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1987.

In view of the requests made by the General Assembly, the Committee may wish to include in the provisional agenda as approved by the Council in its decision 1984/153 a supplementary item entitled "Review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice". The Committee will have before it a 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. The report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the conclusions of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/40/751) will also be made available to the Committee.

At its thirty-seventh session, the General Assembly adopted the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (resolution 37/234, annex). Regulation 3.11 reads as follows:

"The medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes; revisions to the plan shall be considered by the General Assembly one year before the submission of the proposed programme budget providing for implementation of the changes. The proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan."

By resolution 37/234 the General Assembly also adopted the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. The Secretariat has prepared a note on the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan, which will be before the Committee, taking into account the recommendations of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. A note on the programme budget for 1986-1987 will also be before the Committee.

With regard to the programme of work, the attention of the Committee is drawn to relevant Council resolutions on the control and limitation of documentation. In this connection, the annotations to item 7 are relevant.

Documentation

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)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the conclusions of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/40/751)

Note by the Secretariat on proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 (E/AC.57/1986/7)

Note by the Secretariat on the programme budget for 1986-1987 (E/AC.57/1986/8)

3. Review of the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders

The provisional rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders were approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decisions 1979/25 and 1980/105 and amended by Council decision 1985/134. Rule 62 provides that "after the completion of each Congress, the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control shall make appropriate recommendations to the Economic and Social Council for such amendments to these rules as it may deem necessary". The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on the subject.

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Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the review of the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders (E/AC.57/1986/2)

4. Progress report on United Nations activities in crime prevention and control

The Committee will have before it a report of the Secretary-General providing information on the status of implementation of activities relating to crime prevention and criminal justice, including dissemination of information, national correspondence, technical co-operation and the network of regional and interregional institutes, for the period September 1983-September 1985.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations activities in crime prevention and control (E/AC.57/1986/3)

5. Preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly, in resolution 32/60, and the Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1979/19, entrusted the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control with the preparation of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders and the submission of appropriate proposals to the Council.

The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Eighth Congress containing, inter alia, information relevant to the formulation of substantive topics to be included in the agenda for the Eighth Congress, in addition to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the conclusions of the Seventh Congress.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the conclusions of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/40/751)

Note by the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (E/AC.57/1986/5)

6. Crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development

Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/48, the Committee will have before it a report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice in relation to socio-economic change and development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice in relation to socio-economic change and development (E/AC.57/1986/6)

7. Consideration of the provisional agenda for the tenth session of the Committee

At its fifty-seventh session, in 1974, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to submit at each session of a subsidiary body of the Council a draft provisional agenda for its following session, together with information relating to documentation (resolution 1894 (LVII)). The attention of the Committee is drawn to Council resolutions 1979/41 and 1981/83 on the control and limitation of documentation and, in particular, resolution 1982/50 on the revitalization of the Council. In paragraph 1 (j) of resolution 1982/50, the Council urged all its subsidiary bodies to exercise the utmost restraint in making requests of the Secretary-General for new reports and studies and to implement fully the decisions of the Council and of the General Assembly with respect to the control and limitation of documentation.

The attention of the Committee is particularly drawn to paragraph 4 of the annex to Council resolution 1982/50, in which it is stated that the documentation and programme of work of the subsidiary bodies of the Council and the Assembly should be streamlined in order to enable them to perform effectively the functions entrusted to them; that the Council and the Assembly should continue to review the provisional agenda for their subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation, in order, inter alia, to establish greater consistency in the overall request for documentation and its orderly consideration at the intergovernmental level, taking fully into account the medium-term plan and the programme budget; and that in doing so, the Council and the Assembly should also take into account the need for the consolidation of items and documentation for their subsidiary machinery.

Further, the Council, in resolution 1981/83, instructed its subsidiary bodies to take urgent measures to streamline their agenda and programmes of work and to bring about a substantial reduction in their requests for documents, bearing in mind the duration and cycles of their meetings, and to report to the Council on measures adopted, taking strictly into account the guidelines set forth in the pertinent resolutions and decisions of the Council and the General Assembly.

By decision 1983/163, the Council decided to request the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions are adopted, any request for documentation that exceeds the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources; and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation is likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that deal with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda and documentation for the tenth session of the Committee

8. Adoption of the report of the Committee

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/25, the Committee reports to the Council and sends its report to the Commission for Social Development and, where appropriate, to other relevant United Nations organs.

The attention of the Committee is drawn to General Assembly resolution 37/14 C, in which the Assembly reiterated that, in preparing their reports, subsidiary organs, particularly those receiving written meeting records, should strive to keep such reports within the desirable limit of 32 pages and requested all subsidiary organs whose reports exceed 32 pages to submit to the Committee on Conferences, prior to its next session, reasons for non-compliance.
