



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
8 September 2009

Original: English

## Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Salvador, Brazil, 12-19 April 2010

### Report of the Asian and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Bangkok from 1 to 3 July 2009

#### Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction . . . . .	2
II. Conclusions and recommendations . . . . .	2
A. Substantive items . . . . .	4
B. Workshops . . . . .	8
C. Other issues . . . . .	12
III. Attendance and organization of work . . . . .	12
A. Date and venue of the Meeting . . . . .	12
B. Attendance . . . . .	12
C. Opening of the Meeting . . . . .	12
D. Election of officers . . . . .	14
E. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work . . . . .	15
IV. Adoption of the report and closure of the Meeting . . . . .	16
<b>Annexes</b>	
I. List of participants . . . . .	17
II. List of documents . . . . .	20



## **I. Introduction**

1. In its resolution 56/119, on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, the General Assembly decided that each congress should be preceded by regional preparatory meetings; and also decided to call future congresses United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice.

2. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which had met in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006, stressed the importance of regional preparatory meetings as a key preparatory tool for the congresses and as a conduit to incorporate regional concerns and perspectives into their preparation. The Group noted that despite globalization and the increasingly transboundary nature of criminality, different regions of the world continued to harbour different concerns, which they wanted to see properly reflected in the consideration of various topics by the congresses (E/CN.15/2007/6, para. 23).

3. In its resolution 62/173, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; and also requested him to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in those meetings and in the Congress itself, in accordance with past practice.

4. In its resolution 63/193, the General Assembly reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth Congress; and urged participants in the meetings to examine the substantive items on the agenda and the topics of the workshops of the Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations.

5. Also in its resolution 63/193, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth Congress in a timely manner in order to enable the meetings to commence early in 2009, and invited Member States to be actively involved in that process. Following the approval by the Assembly, in its resolution 63/193, of the theme, agenda items and workshop topics for the Twelfth Congress, a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings (A/CONF.213/PM.1) was prepared and made available to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighteenth session, in 2009. The discussion guide was used as the basis for the Commission's deliberations on item 5 of its agenda, entitled "Preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice".

## **II. Conclusions and recommendations**

6. The Asian and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice acknowledged the efforts undertaken by individual States, regional bodies and international organizations, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(UNODC), in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice. In that regard, it was stated that effective and humane criminal justice systems should be established or strengthened in order to prevent and curb all forms of crime. Emerging forms of serious and sophisticated crime posed a particular challenge to criminal justice systems.

7. The Meeting thus felt there was a need for a new approach to the role of the criminal justice system as a crucial pillar of the rule of law in order to ensure that adequate responses to the needs of all countries, regardless of level of development, were in place. In that regard, the Meeting acknowledged the need to strengthen the added value of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in terms of the development and application of criminal justice policies, and recommended that those standards and norms be made integral components of a model criminal justice system.

8. The representative of Thailand, the host country of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, introduced a proposal on the draft United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders and a project based on those draft Rules, called “Enhancing Lives of Female Inmates”. The project was an initiative of Princess Bajrakitiyabha of Thailand, who had played a key role in providing support for disadvantaged female inmates in Thailand. Accordingly, the Ministry of Justice of Thailand was named as the implementing agency for the project.

9. It was noted that the project was based on the realization that the applicable international standards on prison regimes, namely the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners,<sup>1</sup> which had been in existence for more than 50 years, might require an updated and supplementary set of rules specifically for women prisoners. It was thus deemed appropriate that the project be promoted and further discussed at the international level.

10. The project included the general application of custodial and non-custodial measures; the consideration of specific categories of vulnerable women; and research, evaluation and awareness-raising for better treatment of women prisoners in line with international human rights standards and norms. Benchmarks were to be developed to encourage progress and prepare women for release.

11. The draft Rules were the result of the work of an expert round-table meeting held in Bangkok from 2 to 6 February 2009. That work had been brought to the attention of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighteenth session, in 2009, in a draft resolution submitted by Thailand. In its resolution 18/1, the Commission requested the Executive Director of UNODC to convene in 2009 an open-ended intergovernmental expert group meeting to develop, consistent with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules) (General Assembly resolution 45/110, annex), supplementary rules specific to the treatment of women in detention and in custodial and non-custodial settings.

---

<sup>1</sup> *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, Volume I (First Part): *Universal Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIV.4 (Vol. I, Part 1)), sect. J, No. 34.

## **A. Substantive items**

### **1. Children, youth and crime**

12. The Meeting emphasized the need to take into account the specific needs of children and youth in crime prevention and criminal justice systems with a view both to protection and to the situation of children in conflict with the law. Speakers noted certain contexts as being particularly dangerous, such as the situation of internally displaced persons and the situation in post-conflict societies. It was necessary to implement the relevant international instruments and standards such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>2</sup> and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules) (General Assembly resolution 40/33, annex). The Meeting recommended that, when implementing such standards, emphasis be placed on creating and sustaining the capacity to collect sufficient data and information on the resources available to protect children and youth.

13. The Meeting recommended giving careful consideration to new and emerging threats and forms of crime that particularly targeted children and youth, such as online child pornography and child prostitution or exploitation. It was recommended that States adopt adequate legal frameworks and build capacity at the national level to combat such forms of crime and to cooperate at the regional and global levels. It was also recommended to reinforce mechanisms for the exchange of information and databases accessible to law enforcement agencies to effectively combat crime committed against children.

14. The Meeting felt that juvenile delinquency could be prevented inter alia by raising awareness in primary and middle education and, more generally, by addressing the root causes of crime affecting in particular children and youth as vulnerable segments of society. Those causes might include poverty, social and economic exclusion and lack of educational opportunities. The role of the international community and of national and international non-governmental organizations was stressed in this respect.

### **2. Provision of technical assistance to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the international instruments related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism**

15. The Meeting concluded that technical assistance was a key requirement for strengthening legal frameworks and building capacity in developing countries to enable them to effectively prevent and suppress not only terrorism but also other forms of crime, including organized crime, corruption and money-laundering. The Meeting recommended that different forms of technical assistance, including legal advisory services and advice on how to enforce legislation and ensure adequate training of relevant personnel, be fostered in order to address more optimally the links between terrorism and other forms of crime and thus enhance synergy and learn from the provision of technical assistance in other areas. The objective was to strengthen the overall capacity of criminal justice systems to combat transnational forms of serious and sophisticated crime.

---

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

16. The Meeting viewed the ratification and implementation of the 16 universal instruments against terrorism as a priority, along with the implementation of procedures enabling States to cooperate regionally and globally. Action was to be taken to improve national, subregional and regional expertise for tackling terrorism, especially complex issues such as the financing of terrorism. Emphasis was placed on strengthening capacity to prevent and control terrorism by training and modernizing relevant law enforcement, border management and other agencies.

17. The Meeting recommended that consideration be given to the proper ways and means of identifying and communicating technical assistance needs, the necessity of having in place needs assessment processes and mechanisms, the kind of benchmarks and requirements that should be in place for evaluating the need for assistance, and whether such benchmarks and requirements were objective and whether they reflected the national priorities, concerns and values of technical assistance recipients. The Meeting also recommended that special attention be paid to the predictability and sustainability of technical assistance. The Meeting further recommended that technical assistance programmes take into careful account the fact that strengthening criminal justice systems was a long-term endeavour. Lastly, the Meeting recommended that strategies be developed to engage the relevant parties in identifying and prioritizing key issues in overall technical assistance packages.

### **3. Making the United Nations guidelines on crime prevention work**

18. The Meeting highlighted the need to study thoroughly the factors contributing to or conducive to crime and the need to build overall strategies and national action plans on crime prevention measures in such a way as to address those factors, thereby enhancing crime prevention capacity in the context of developing and upgrading criminal justice systems. Crime prevention policies should therefore be an integral part of poverty eradication strategies and efforts geared towards social and economic development.

19. The Meeting recommended the involvement of communities and society at large in crime prevention programmes. Efforts to adopt an inclusive approach to crime prevention and the work carried out by civil society and non-governmental organizations should be encouraged and supported. Community involvement had contributed to preventing crime but had also proved to be useful when seeking to curb forms of crime that were difficult for law enforcement agencies to investigate in the absence of early warning and detection mechanisms built into society at large. Speakers described specific crime prevention measures taken in their countries, such as installing closed-circuit television cameras, imposing curfews for minors and considering tax exemptions for goods produced in the context of drug-related alternative development projects. One example given was the work carried out by the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation and its activities related to the preparations for the Twelfth Congress, including the Ulaanbaatar Declaration (E/CN.15/2009/NGO/2) and the thorough examination and development of materials for the substantive items of the Congress. The Foundation was using the extensive alumni network of the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for that purpose, thus tapping broad and specialized expertise from throughout the region.

20. The Meeting recommended building capacity to collect and disseminate information on crime and crime trends as a necessary step towards developing prevention strategies and cooperating and exchanging such information at the national, regional and global levels. Speakers reported on their Governments' efforts to build such databases and make them available online, and expressed interest in learning about similar processes in other countries. The Meeting stressed in particular the importance of exchanging information at the national level among law enforcement and other relevant agencies, for instance through central computer systems and databases. More information was also needed on how different forms of crime impacted certain vulnerable segments of society.

21. The Meeting noted the need to evaluate crime prevention responses and to use resources effectively, specifically through the consideration of appropriate evaluation methodologies, a determination of whether crime prevention policies were to be evaluated as a whole or in their different individual components, and the establishment of a standard performance monitoring framework for those responsible for managing crime prevention programmes.

**4. Criminal justice responses to the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, and links to transnational organized crime**

22. The Meeting underlined the need to promote universal adherence to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,<sup>3</sup> and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,<sup>4</sup> both supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.<sup>5</sup> It acknowledged that greater effort was needed in that direction, especially with a view to addressing misperceptions in a number of Member States regarding the conceptual and substantive differences between the offences covered by those instruments. Speakers reported on their Governments' efforts to address the link between the smuggling of migrants and organized criminal activity.

**5. International cooperation to address money-laundering based on relevant United Nations and other instruments**

23. The Meeting noted that in an increasing number of international instruments States parties were being called on to afford one another, through international cooperation, the widest measure of assistance in investigations, prosecutions and judicial proceedings related to money-laundering. It also considered the links between money-laundering, on the one hand, and transnational organized crime and corruption, on the other, and recommended that Member States be encouraged to fully implement the money-laundering provisions of the Organized Crime Convention and the United Nations Convention against Corruption<sup>6</sup> with a view to including in their national legislation the widest possible range of criminal offences as predicate offences to money-laundering. The Meeting recalled the recommendations of the Asian and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the

---

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

Eleventh Congress with regard to the consideration of a new international instrument against money-laundering (A/CONF.203/RPM.1/1, para. 27).

24. The Meeting recommended strengthening the capacity of competent national authorities involved in the countering of money-laundering and the financing of terrorism to exchange information, especially at the operational level. In particular, it was crucial to build trust among the different national authorities and thus foster informal cooperation to exchange information and intelligence before the stage of formal proceedings. In that connection, the Meeting recognized the practical usefulness of mechanisms such as the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units, the regional bodies modelled on the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering and other financial regional task groups. It was recommended that best practices and lessons learned from successful international cooperation in this area be identified and collected.

25. The Meeting recommended that specific challenges relating to cash-based, or “non-documented”, economies be taken into account, including informal networks and means of transferring funds across borders, together with the increasing sophistication of money-laundering methods and the correspondingly low national capacity to deal with such challenges.

**6. Recent developments in the use of science and technology by offenders and by competent authorities in fighting crime, including the case of cybercrime**

26. The Meeting stressed the growing threat to national and international security posed by the use of science and technology, in particular computer-based methods, by criminals and criminal groups. The complexity and pervasiveness of the phenomenon required joint efforts by Governments, civil society and the private sector. National authorities needed to adapt to the fact that the physical presence of criminals or criminal groups was not a factor in the commission of cybercrime. All States needed adequate legal and operative frameworks in order to be able to fully cooperate with each other as required by the inherent transnationality of cybercrime offences.

27. The Meeting recommended that effective mechanisms be put in place to combat online child pornography through the adoption of adequate legislation and of registering and reporting requirements for Internet service providers and through the building of capacity for law enforcement agencies to respond rapidly to threats and exchange information and intelligence. This point was reinforced by the observer for the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children, who outlined specific measures that had been adopted at the national level in several countries and had proved to be effective in combating online child pornography and in fostering international cooperation for that purpose.

28. The Meeting recommended that opportunities be explored for national authorities, including law enforcement agencies, to use modern technology and that such opportunities be offered in order to strengthen the capacity of those authorities to effectively combat both cybercrime and traditional forms of crime. The establishment of centralized databases on cybercrime and training programmes to enhance the operational skills of law enforcement and other relevant agencies was to be encouraged. The Meeting recognized the efforts of UNODC and the Korean Institute of Criminology in the fight against cybercrime and the development of the

Virtual Forum against Cybercrime. The Virtual Forum aimed to provide online training to law enforcement personnel in Asia and to build information networks for researchers and practitioners in the area of cybercrime. The Meeting noted that the Virtual Forum would provide a model for regional and international cooperation between UNODC and competent agencies in the prevention and control of cybercrime.

29. The Meeting recommended that the development of an international convention on cybercrime be considered,<sup>7</sup> as that would foster international cooperation in the area. It would also promote the priority of enacting efficient national legislation and building the skills of law enforcement personnel to address effectively the complex issues of cybercrime investigations, especially those of a cross-border nature. The recommendation stemmed from a recognition of the fact that traditional legislation and avenues of international cooperation were not effective in the highly complex, rapidly evolving area of cybercrime.

**7. Practical approaches to strengthening international cooperation in fighting crime-related problems**

30. The Meeting recommended strengthening legal frameworks and the capacity of competent national authorities to cooperate regionally and globally. In particular, mechanisms were envisaged for operational exchanges of information and intelligence and for the conduct of joint operations. The Meeting recommended that States seek to build trust among different national authorities with a view to both informal and formal cooperation even in the absence of prior agreements.

**8. Crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families**

31. The Meeting recommended full ratification and implementation of the Migrants Protocol as a matter of necessity to protect migrants, migrant workers and their families, particularly in view of the negative perceptions prevailing in host countries. It was recommended that national authorities and law enforcement agencies adopt adequate, humane responses and forms of treatment of migrants.

**B. Workshops**

**Workshop 1. International criminal justice education for the rule of law**

32. The Meeting underscored the critical role of criminal justice education in general and its importance for the promotion of the rule of law in particular. The need for such education was stressed in conjunction with the highly technical and specialized nature of the topics addressed in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice. Speakers noted the efforts undertaken by international organizations and other relevant organizations, such as the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, in promoting research and education, including in particular the role of the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

---

<sup>7</sup> The representative of one Member State expressed the view that this matter required more thorough consideration in the context of the deliberations of the Twelfth Congress.

33. The Meeting noted that the issue of criminal justice education could be approached from at least two angles. The first focused on the issue of capacity-building and training per se for institutions involved in the criminal justice system, while the second took a broader view of education as a form of crime prevention and awareness-raising for other stakeholders. The Meeting recommended that a multidisciplinary approach be adopted and that the development and delivery of criminal justice education involve both educational specialists and criminal justice practitioners.

34. The Meeting recommended the development of curricula tailored to the specific needs of crime prevention and criminal justice education. It also recommended that UNODC consider expanding its computer-based crime prevention and criminal justice training and capacity-building tools by building on in-house expertise, such as the experience of the Virtual Forum against Cybercrime developed in cooperation with the Korean Institute of Criminology. The experience gained with such online tools could be useful in developing countries as a model for online training or distance learning.

35. The Meeting further recommended promoting a comprehensive approach to the issue through the development and application of programmes involving or based on crime prevention and criminal justice matters at all levels of education. The programmes could also raise awareness on specific issues, such as violence against women, and thus yield a broader and more immediate benefit to society at large.

#### **Workshop 2. Survey of United Nations and other best practices in the treatment of prisoners in the criminal justice system**

36. The Meeting recommended that Congress participants be prepared to share best practices and experiences in the treatment of prisoners in their national criminal justice systems and that ancillary meetings be held to allow in-depth discussion of related technical issues. The Meeting concluded that access to correctional facilities by competent authorities and institutions would help to enhance survey conditions and treatment standards.

37. The Meeting recommended that the relevant authorities involved in the treatment of prisoners, such as the judiciary, prosecutors and law enforcement agents as well as personnel of correctional facilities, be provided with regular training and awareness-raising opportunities. An example cited was that of a programme to bring itinerant judges and prosecutors to correctional facilities in rural areas where resources are lacking locally, in order to speed up proceedings.

38. The Meeting also recommended that consideration be given to the treatment of vulnerable segments of the prison population, namely women and youth. It was stressed that these segments should have their special needs taken into account, including access to separate quarters and health care. As women were particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse in prison contexts, proper and confidential mechanisms for receiving complaints should be established. The Meeting expressed support for the proposal by the Government of Thailand to further develop the draft United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders.

### **Workshop 3. Practical approaches to preventing urban crime**

39. The Meeting stressed the need to approach the issue of urban crime from a broader perspective, taking into account the socio-economic factors behind urbanization and strengthening infrastructure in rural and urban areas accordingly. Prevention was viewed as the key element in tackling propensity to urban crime and its root causes, and integrated policies addressing all relevant issues were required. A specific challenge was the vulnerability – both as victims and as perpetrators of urban crime – of the “shifting” population, i.e. those commuting from rural to urban areas for employment or engaging in itinerant trade.

40. The Meeting recommended that studies be carried out to fully describe the phenomenon of urban crime and how best to respond to it. It was noted that specific groups, such as women and youth, were particularly vulnerable. The Meeting also recommended, as the other regional preparatory meetings had done, that special attention be devoted to the impact on women of urban crime, including sexual violence. The proliferation of small arms and light weapons was cited as an area requiring further study, together with the development of appropriate measures to address the phenomenon.

41. The Meeting further recommended that States engage all relevant stakeholders, and in particular civil society and the private sector, in the fight against urban crime. It was highlighted that businesses and the economy in general were victims of urban crime, which created an environment highly unfavourable to their operation. The all-round and proactive involvement of communities was crucial to the prevention of urban crime. An example of community involvement was the establishment of mediation mechanisms to prevent conflicts or solve them at an early stage.

### **Workshop 4. International coordinated response to links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime**

42. The Meeting recommended promoting and facilitating cooperation among the relevant law enforcement and other agencies tasked with preventing and combating drug trafficking. Such cooperation enhanced Governments’ capacity to deal with drug trafficking and in some cases also served to reduce the financial and material costs involved in doing so.

43. The Meeting recommended the ratification and implementation of the Organized Crime Convention as it would provide States with a strong and comprehensive legal framework for international cooperation to combat the operations of organized criminal groups, including drug trafficking. This would also shift the focus from the type of crime committed to the perpetrator, namely organized criminal groups, and thus broaden the range of criminal activity covered. Related forms of crime, such as piracy of digital media, were also to be considered as they generated increasingly substantial profits for organized criminal groups, while the risk of punishment for such crimes was low. The Meeting noted with concern the use of women as couriers in drug trafficking by organized criminal syndicates.

44. The Meeting recommended that joint operations and close cooperation be encouraged, based on the successful experiences mentioned by speakers. The cited measures had enabled speedy detection and repression of drug trafficking, in

particular in border management, as well as the safety of couriers. Cooperation with international organizations, in particular the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), was highlighted.

45. The Meeting recommended that the Twelfth Congress discuss and put in place relevant mechanisms for the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and General Assembly resolution 63/197 on international cooperation against the world drug problem, including drug trafficking.

46. The Meeting called upon Member States to ensure implementation of Security Council resolution 1817 (2008) on international cooperation, in particular in curbing the smuggling of precursors for the production of heroin in Afghanistan, for example by introducing chemical tagging of precursors. The Meeting also called upon Member States to improve the effectiveness of information exchanges between States on questions relating to action to counter trafficking in narcotic drugs and their precursors, and recommended that UNODC conduct a comprehensive analysis and assessment of the whole spectrum of crime-related challenges and threats emanating from Afghanistan.

#### **Workshop 5. Strategies and best practices against overcrowding in correctional facilities**

47. The observer for the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders gave a presentation on the preparation of the workshop and welcomed suggestions on the organization and content of the workshop.

48. The Meeting addressed numerous factors contributing to overcrowding in prison facilities, such factors being found at the various stages of criminal proceedings. It was noted that prison overcrowding was a direct result of penal policy and the approach adopted by States to crime prevention and criminal justice. The example was given of legislative amendments that had increased the range of offences and penalties with regard to drug abuse and had led to a significant increase in the prison population over a short span of time.

49. The Meeting recommended that measures be taken at the pretrial, trial and conviction stages to reduce the number of incarcerated persons. Speakers noted efforts undertaken in that direction at the national level, including through the imposition of time limits for concluding investigations and carrying out trials, as well as the consideration of alternatives to imprisonment and non-custodial measures. Emphasis was placed on the importance of preparing prisoners for release and the fact that measures such as community service were conducive to rehabilitation.

50. The Meeting recommended that particular attention be given to the issue of foreign prisoners, who were seen as a significant problem in many countries in terms both of the overcrowding of correctional facilities and of the treatment of foreign detainees outside their countries of origin. The Meeting recommended adopting measures to alleviate this problem, including the practice of split sentences and programmes for the exchange of foreign prisoners.

### **C. Other issues**

51. The observer for the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council delivered a presentation on the arrangements to be made, and the facilities to be available, for the organization of the ancillary meetings during the Twelfth Congress.

52. The observer for Brazil, the host country of the Twelfth Congress, gave a presentation on the substantive and administrative arrangements under way in that country and on the state of progress of all actions required for the timely and efficient preparations for the Congress.

## **III. Attendance and organization of work**

### **A. Date and venue of the Meeting**

53. The Asian and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was held in Bangkok from 1 to 3 July 2009.

### **B. Attendance**

54. The following member States of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific were represented at the Meeting: Australia, Azerbaijan, Brunei Darussalam, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Thailand and Vanuatu.

55. Brazil was represented by an observer at the Meeting.

56. The following entities of the United Nations system were represented by observers: UNODC and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

57. The following institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network were represented by observers: United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Korean Institute of Criminology, International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council.

58. The following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were represented by observers: Asia Crime Prevention Foundation, International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children and International Corrections and Prisons Association.

### **C. Opening of the Meeting**

59. The Asian and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was opened on 1 July 2009 by the representative of Thailand. He recalled the experience of Thailand in

hosting the Eleventh Congress and stressed that regional preparatory meetings were the most effective way to stimulate discussion on substantive items and workshop topics with a view to integrating a regional perspective. He reflected on the overall theme of the Twelfth Congress as a call upon the international community to galvanize efforts in responding to crime in all its forms, including new and more sophisticated ones, by reforming criminal justice systems. Current challenges such as the financial crisis were particularly problematic and fuelled criminal activity. Greater attention to crime prevention was needed as a way of tackling the root causes of crime. The speaker urged the promotion of comprehensive strategies for integrated and multidisciplinary approaches to capacity-building in criminal justice system institutions. Such approaches needed to include respect for human rights and the rule of law and the promotion of sustainable development.

60. The speaker noted that the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto, the Convention against Corruption, the universal instruments against terrorism and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988<sup>8</sup> had proved to be cornerstones of the global regime for crime prevention and criminal justice. Their implementation had provided both useful lessons and best practices. The Twelfth Congress would offer an opportunity to reflect on the current international legal regime and identify possible gaps. The United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice also provided guidance but needed to be re-evaluated in the light of new developments. The speaker concluded by summarizing five issues of particular interest to his Government: the draft United Nations Rules for Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders; the elimination of violence against women through crime prevention and criminal justice; the promotion of successful development models for the prevention of crime at its root causes; the development of a new convention on cybercrime that would address online child pornography; and the link between counterfeiting and organized crime.

61. The observer for UNODC stressed that the importance of carefully structuring at the regional level the preparations for the Twelfth Congress stemmed from the political significance and importance of the Congress in the area of international standard-setting and policymaking in crime prevention and criminal justice. As the Twelfth Congress would mark the fifty-fifth anniversary of the holding of United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, it could serve as a platform for setting in motion a process to firmly establish the central role of the criminal justice system in the rule of law and development. In addition, the Twelfth Congress would be held at a propitious time as new challenges and trends were emerging, thus providing both an opportunity to build on previous work and a responsibility not to lag behind and jeopardize achievements. Such a focus could be conducive to establishing the criminal justice system as a central pillar in the rule of law architecture and to developing, to that effect, a coherent corpus of guiding principles in the form of a model criminal justice system, based on the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. The speaker underlined the role of development assistance in strengthening criminal justice systems.

---

<sup>8</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

62. The observer for UNODC provided the Meeting with an update on the preparations for the Twelfth Congress, which included ongoing consultations with the Government of Brazil for the finalization and signature of the host country agreement.

63. The provisional agenda of the Meeting (A/CONF.213/RPM.3/L.1) was introduced by the observer for UNODC, who stated that it reflected the provisional agenda of the Twelfth Congress as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/193.

64. The observer for UNODC stated that the comprehensive nature of the agenda of the Meeting was in line with the overall theme of the Twelfth Congress, “Comprehensive strategies for global challenges: crime prevention and criminal justice systems and their development in a changing world”. In that regard, two options were available for the discussion of agenda items 4 and 5. The first was to examine each of the thematic areas separately. The second was to group the substantive items into clusters for joint consideration in order to make the best use of the limited time available to the Meeting. The regional preparatory meetings in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Western Asia had adopted the second option. The Asian and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting similarly adopted the second option and organized its discussion as follows:

(a) Substantive item 1 (“Children, youth and crime”) was discussed together with substantive item 3 (“Making the United Nations guidelines on crime prevention work”);

(b) Substantive item 2 (“Provision of technical assistance to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the international instruments related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism”);

(c) Substantive item 5 (“International cooperation to address money-laundering based on relevant United Nations and other instruments”) was discussed together with substantive item 7 (“Practical approaches to strengthening international cooperation in fighting crime-related problems”);

(d) Substantive item 6 (“Recent developments in the use of science and technology by offenders and by competent authorities in fighting crime, including the case of cybercrime”);

(e) Substantive item 4 (“Criminal justice responses to the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, and links to transnational organized crime”) was discussed together with substantive item 8 (“Crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families”).

65. It was also proposed to address simultaneously the discussion on workshop 2 (“Survey of United Nations and other best practices in the treatment of prisoners in the criminal justice system”) and workshop 5 (“Strategies and best practices against overcrowding in correctional facilities”).

#### **D. Election of officers**

66. At its 1st meeting, on 1 July 2009, the Meeting elected, by acclamation, the following officers:

---

<i>Chairman:</i>	Wisit Wisitsora-At (Thailand)
<i>Vice-Chairman:</i>	Habil Alishanov (Azerbaijan)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Eric B. Kalotiti (Vanuatu)

## **E. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

67. Also at its 1st meeting, the Meeting adopted its provisional agenda (A/CONF.213/RPM.3/L.1), which read as follows:

1. Opening of the Meeting.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
4. Substantive items on the agenda of the Twelfth Congress:
  - (a) Children, youth and crime;
  - (b) Provision of technical assistance to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the international instruments related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism;
  - (c) Making the United Nations guidelines on crime prevention work;
  - (d) Criminal justice responses to the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, and links to transnational organized crime;
  - (e) International cooperation to address money-laundering based on relevant United Nations and other instruments;
  - (f) Recent developments in the use of science and technology by offenders and by competent authorities in fighting crime, including the case of cybercrime;
  - (g) Practical approaches to strengthening international cooperation in fighting crime-related problems;
  - (h) Crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families.
5. Topics to be considered by workshops within the framework of the Twelfth Congress:
  - (a) International criminal justice education for the rule of law;
  - (b) Survey of United Nations and other best practices in the treatment of prisoners in the criminal justice system;
  - (c) Practical approaches to preventing urban crime;
  - (d) International coordinated response to links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime;
  - (e) Strategies and best practices against overcrowding in correctional facilities.

6. Recommendations for the draft declaration of the Twelfth Congress.
7. Adoption of the report of the Meeting.
68. At the same meeting, the Meeting approved its organization of work.

#### **IV. Adoption of the report and closure of the Meeting**

69. At its 6th meeting, on 3 July 2009, the Meeting considered and adopted its report (A/CONF.213/RPM.3/L.2), as orally amended.

## Annex I

### List of participants

#### Member States of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Australia	Kate Chamley
Azerbaijan	Habil Alishanov
Brunei Darussalam	Mohammad Zulhilmi bin Haji Omar Ali
China	Yu Kang
	Yan Zhang
India	Prem Narain Saxena
Indonesia	Mohammad Hatta
	Fachrudin
	Andhika Chrisnayudhanto
	Desy Andriani
	Rachmadi
Japan	Junko Irie
	Takahiro Inagaki
	Takashi Yamashita
	Ryuji Kawahara
	Junichiro Otani
	Keiichi Aizawa
	Junichi Watanabe
	Hideo Takahashi
Kiribati	Bamaere Tiira
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Viloun Silapranay
Malaysia	Encik Muhd Khair Razman bin Mohamed Annuar
	Jamaludin Saad
	Amar Singh
Nepal	Bam Bahadur Bhandari
Pakistan	Inam Ghani
Philippines	Dionisio Reyes Santiago
	Lyndon Pimentel Aspacio
	Leilani R. Fajardo
	Analiza C. Ite
	Diony D. Mamaril
Republic of Korea	Lee Jun-Hyeong

Russian Federation	Mikhail V. Baranov Sergei P. Bulavin Sergei V. Kudeneev Alexander A. Skoryukov Oleg A. Lytikov Igor A. Voblikov Igor V. Matrosov Irina V. Silkina Anna Y. Klyukhina Taras A. Pronin
Samoa	Keti Talaimanu
Singapore	Mee Lin Hee
Thailand	Wisit Wisitsora-At Vitaya Suriyawong Vongthep Arthakaivalvatee Metaporn Jessadachat Suparasi Niyomvanich Rangsunvigitt Vorayanee Vudthithornnatirak Pinthip Leelakriangsak Srisanit Ruenvadee Suwanmongkol Kobgoon Chantavaro Chaiyuth Sivalux Wuttikorn Chuwattananurak Wutthipong Panichsuay Pattariya Choatpatsumol Pattarawan Thongyai Wiroj Panjakhajornsak Thongchai Sangsiri Ratthawoot Nanthaikuakool Kattiya Ratanadilok Napanang Ek-Akara Kittipong Kittayarak Nuntarath Tepdolchai Vitchavud Soppipat Phuratch Nanthakhetwong Nutthanun Kittiteanpeng Peeraya Theragul Phupong Koonchanumcham Premrat Wijanayarn Nilobon Sumalai Patthamawadee Saikaew
Vanuatu	Eric B. Kalotiti

**States Members of the United Nations represented by observers**

Brazil

Sonja Valle Pio Corrêa  
Adélio Claudio Basile Martins  
Rafael Thomaz Favetti  
Osvaldo Ferreira Filho

**United Nations Secretariat**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

**Institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network**

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Korean Institute of Criminology, International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council

**Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council**

Asia Crime Prevention Foundation, International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children, International Corrections and Prisons Association

## Annex II

### List of documents

A/CONF.213/PM.1

A/CONF.213/RPM.2/L.1

A/CONF.213/RPM.2/L.2

Discussion guide

Provisional agenda and proposed organization of work

Draft report

---