



United Nations

**Commission on Crime
Prevention and Criminal
Justice**

**Report on the reconvened
twenty-fifth session
(1 and 2 December 2016)**

**Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 2016
Supplement No. 10A**

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Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

[14 December 2016]

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decision for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

1. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Draft decision

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-fifth session

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-fifth session.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

2. The attention of the Economic and Social Council is drawn to the following resolution, adopted by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its reconvened twenty-fifth session, and to the action taken pursuant to General Assembly resolution 61/252, in which the Assembly authorized the Commission to approve, on the basis of the proposals of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, bearing in mind the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the budget for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund:

Resolution 25/4

Implementation of the budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Exercising the administrative and financial functions entrusted to it by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,¹

Recalling that Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations emphasizes the paramount consideration of efficiency, competence and integrity with regard to the

¹ [E/CN.7/2016/17-E/CN.15/2016/14](#).

recruitment of staff and that due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible,

Noting with concern the lack of diversity, in particular equitable geographical representation, within the staff of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and emphasizing that the Office, both at headquarters and in the field, should take more effective measures to ensure the recruitment of a diverse pool of candidates,

Recognizing that the principle of equitable geographical distribution and the goal of equal representation of women in the composition of the Secretariat do not conflict with the paramount consideration in the employment of staff, namely the necessity of securing the highest standard of efficiency, competence and integrity as set out in Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/251 of 29 December 2014, in which the Assembly, inter alia, noted with disappointment the insufficient progress made with regard to achieving the goal of a 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations common system, especially in the Professional and higher categories, and requested the International Civil Service Commission to encourage the organizations of the common system to fully implement existing gender balance policies and measures,

Recalling also its resolution 22/9 of 13 December 2013,

1. *Notes* that the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime¹ provides information on the adjustments to the consolidated budget;

2. *Also notes* the continued strong donor confidence in programme delivery by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

3. *Further notes* the progress in the transition towards full cost recovery as set out in the report of the Executive Director;

4. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to brief Member States regularly on the impact of the implementation of Umoja on the delivery of the Office's programmes in the field, as well as on the generation of programme support cost funds and full cost recovery funds, and the Office's efforts to mitigate that impact;

5. *Notes* that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime can allocate programme support cost funds to the field offices, as appropriate, and requests the Office to continue to explore how best to apply programme support cost funds to field offices and to brief Member States regularly on the matter;

6. *Requests* the Secretariat to consult with interested Member States before cancelling funded and mandated programmes;

7. *Notes* the cost-saving measures taken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain general-purpose expenditure at 2,618,400 United States dollars and programme support cost expenditure at 22,387,600 dollars;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to implement cost-saving measures both at headquarters and at field offices, and to brief Member States regularly on the matter;

9. *Endorses* the revised estimates for special-purpose funds as indicated below:

Resource projections for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

	<i>Resources</i> <i>(thousands of United States dollars)</i>		<i>Posts</i>	
	<i>Approved budget,</i> <i>2016-2017</i>	<i>Revised budget,</i> <i>2016-2017</i>	<i>Approved budget,</i> <i>2016-2017</i>	<i>Revised budget,</i> <i>2016-2017</i>
General-purpose funds				
Post	2 394.6	2 394.6	8	8
Non-post	223.8	223.8	-	-
Subtotal	2 618.4	2 618.4	8	8
Special-purpose funds				
	289 369.8	300 097.8	201	201
Subtotal	289 369.8	300 097.8	201	201
Programme support cost funds				
Post	18 753.4	18 557.1	68	68
Non-post	3 755.5	3 830.5	-	-
Subtotal	22 508.9	22 387.6	68	68
Total	314 497.1	325 103.7	277	277

10. *Notes* that the estimated resource projections above are subject to the availability of funding;

11. *Reiterates* that the Commission should continue to assess the provisional implementation by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of full cost recovery in the biennium 2016-2017 with regard to efficiency, feasibility and impact on the integrity and cost of the Office's field offices and projects;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to hold, on an ongoing basis, consultations with Member States on all issues on the budget, including issues related to full cost recovery and programme support costs, including the criteria for their allocation to headquarters and field offices and changes to their applicable rates, and the impact of the new funding model on the Office's ability to deliver technical assistance to Member States upon their request;

13. *Reiterates* that full cost recovery cannot be applied retroactively except through bilateral agreements between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the relevant donors, taking into account, as appropriate, the views of recipient countries;

14. *Requests* the Secretariat to provide budgets for future bienniums to Member States no later than one month prior to their submission to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

15. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 65/247 of 24 December 2010, in which the Assembly reiterated its requests to the Secretary-General to present proposals to effectively increase the representation of developing countries in the Secretariat, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, while upholding Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, to intensify its efforts to ensure the recruitment of staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in

particular in the Professional and higher categories, by, inter alia, intensifying outreach efforts, and to report on the progress thereon to the Commission at its next session;

16. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to intensify the efforts of the Office to achieve the goal of a 50/50 gender balance within the Professional and higher categories, including for field representatives, while upholding Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, by, inter alia, intensifying outreach efforts, and to report on the progress of such measures to the Commission at its twenty-sixth session.

Chapter II

Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions

3. At the 1st meeting of the reconvened twenty-fifth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held jointly with the reconvened fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on 1 December 2016, and at its 2nd meeting, on 2 December 2016, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered agenda item 3, which read as follows:

“Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:

“(a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

“(b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme;

“(c) Working methods of the Commission;

“(d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.”

4. For its consideration of item 3, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2016/3/Add.1-E/CN.15/2016/3/Add.1](#));

(b) Report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2016/17-E/CN.15/2016/14](#));

(c) Report of the Executive Director on gender balance and geographical representation within the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2016/18-E/CN.15/2016/15](#) and Corr.1);

(d) Statement by the co-chairs of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2016/CRP.11-E/CN.15/2016/CRP.6](#));

(e) Working methods of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice ([E/CN.15/2016/CRP.7](#)).

5. The Director of the Division for Management of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) made an introductory statement. The representative of Spain, in his capacity as co-chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, also made an introductory statement.

6. Statements were made by the observers for Uruguay (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), the Philippines (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States) and Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States).

Statements were also made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, South Africa, Guatemala, Sweden, Brazil, the United States of America, Canada, Colombia, Mexico, China, Pakistan, Thailand, Japan, Ecuador and France. The observers for Nigeria, Australia and Spain also made statements.

A. Deliberations

7. Many speakers expressed their appreciation for the work conducted in the framework of the working group. The working group provided an appropriate and important forum for discussions on the governance and financial situation of UNODC that strengthened communication, transparency and trust between Member States and UNODC. Many speakers commended the leadership of the co-chairs and expressed support for the extension of the working group's mandate. It was noted that the sixtieth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the twenty-sixth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would provide an opportunity for a thorough review of the work of the working group in view of a possible extension of its mandate.

8. The report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 ([E/CN.7/2016/17-E/CN.15/2016/14](#)) was welcomed. Several speakers noted the cost savings and efficiency measures and encouraged UNODC to maintain its efforts in that respect. The findings and recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors in its report on UNODC were acknowledged, as was the work of UNODC to maintain reliable financial records that accurately represented its financial situation. It was expected that UNODC would improve its analysis and reporting on budget variances.

9. The continued contribution of special-purpose funding was noted as a sign of confidence on the part of donors in the ability of UNODC to deliver quality programmes in its mandated areas. Several speakers expressed concern regarding the projected decrease in programme funding for Latin America and the Caribbean as reflected in the report of the Executive Director. UNODC was also encouraged to assess the significance of the large decline in the voluntary contributions to the drug programme received in the past year.

10. Several speakers noted with concern the significant decrease in general-purpose funding. The view was expressed that the decrease was not only hampering the delivery of the field activities of UNODC, but was also having a negative impact on the ownership of the core mandates of UNODC and its ability to implement normative work and maintain strategic oversight. The importance of ensuring stable, predictable and adequate resources for UNODC was emphasized. Donors were strongly encouraged to increase their contributions to general-purpose funding and consider less tight earmarking in special-purpose contributions.

11. Some speakers expressed support for the implementation of the full cost recovery initiative. It was noted that the initiative could be a way to ensure the quality of UNODC programmes and a sound financial future. The extension of the transition period was welcomed, especially in field offices with a shortfall in donor contributions. UNODC was asked to share information about the basis used for establishing full cost recovery rates and to further engage in consultations with

Member States on their application. Speakers expressed the view that programme support cost funds should be allocated both to UNODC headquarters and to its field offices, and asked that the criteria for its allocation be further clarified.

12. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the steps taken by the Office to strengthen its results-based management approach and welcomed the intention to conduct an evaluation of the implementation of results-based management in the coming year. UNODC was encouraged to develop strong performance indicators with an emphasis on their practical, real-world impact and was urged to make all programmes and projects subject to evaluation.

13. Some speakers expressed support for the ongoing efforts of the Independent Evaluation Unit of UNODC and encouraged the Office to continue developing a culture of evaluation.

14. Some speakers expressed concern that the implementation of Umoja had posed difficulties and had affected programme delivery. UNODC was encouraged to maintain its efforts to improve the deployment of Umoja and provide continuous training to its staff members. The development of a new reporting tool for Member States within Umoja was welcomed. Speakers expressed support for further improvements by UNODC to ensure that the new tool allowed Member States to follow the status of their contributions.

15. Appreciation was expressed for the report on gender balance and geographical representation within UNODC and for the efforts undertaken by the management of UNODC in improving gender balance and geographical representation. The importance of mainstreaming gender into all UNODC programmes was mentioned.

16. Several speakers noted that, although progress had been made by the Office towards achieving gender parity, enhanced efforts were needed in that area, especially with regard to senior-level positions, in order to ensure that UNODC would achieve the goal of a 50/50 gender balance at all levels by 2030. The importance of the implementation of measures to ensure work-life balance for staff was noted, as was the development of a gender-specific strategy.

17. Concern was expressed regarding the geographical composition of the staff of UNODC. The Office was called upon to make additional efforts, including the drafting of a plan of action recommended by the Joint Inspection Unit, to ensure that staff were recruited on as wide a geographical basis as possible and that special efforts be made to recruit candidates from developing countries and from unrepresented and underrepresented countries.

18. Some speakers expressed the view that, in line with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, the paramount consideration in the employment of staff should be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity.

19. It was noted that equitable geographical distribution and gender parity should be reflected in the composition of the staff of UNODC at all levels and that that would positively influence the effectiveness of the work of the Office.

20. Some speakers noted that both gender balance and geographical representation should be treated as major goals in staffing activities, that UNODC should continue its outreach efforts, including through its field offices and through regional and

international organizations, and that vacancy announcements should be publicized with sufficient time in advance for candidates to apply.

21. Regarding the working methods of the Commission, several speakers reaffirmed their support for the comments contained in the conference room paper entitled “Working methods of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice” (E/CN.15/2016/CRP.7).

22. It was noted that those comments also applied to the working methods of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, especially with regard to the lists of speakers for the Commissions. Proposals were put forward to include a general debate at the beginning of the sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to limit the time participants were given to sign up as speakers and to make speaking arrangements through the extended Bureau in advance of the sessions.

23. A proposal was made to establish lists of speakers in chronological order, with the exception of speakers of ministerial rank. In response, it was clarified that such lists were established on the basis of guidance received from the Protocol office of UNODC and that the matter would receive further consideration in preparation for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission, in May 2017.

24. UNODC was requested to continue to sustain the principle of multilingualism, in particular, respect for all of the official languages of the United Nations.

25. The Commission decided that the extended Bureau should discuss the aforementioned matters relating to the working methods of the Commission at its twenty-sixth session.

B. Action taken by the Commission

26. At its 1st meeting, on 1 December 2016, the Commission took note of the statement of the co-chairs of the working group (see annex).

27. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 December 2016, the Commission adopted resolution 25/4, entitled “Implementation of the budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund” (see chap. I, sect. B).

Chapter III

Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1

28. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 December 2016, the Commission considered agenda item 9, entitled “Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1”.

29. The Chair of the Commission made an introductory statement.

30. Under the item, the Chair informed the Commission that he had briefed the Council at its coordination and management meeting held in July 2016 about the outcome of the twenty-fifth session of the Commission. On that occasion the Council had taken note of the report of that session and, in its decision 2016/243, had approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission. Furthermore, the Chair noted that he had provided the Council with an overview of the written contributions made by the Commission to the integration segment of the 2016 session of the Council and to the theme “Ensuring that no one is left behind” of the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development.

31. On the same occasion the Chair also brought to the attention of the Commission General Assembly resolution 70/299, in which the Assembly, inter alia, decided that the annual themes for the coming years would be as follows: “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world” (2017), “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies” (2018) and “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality” (2019). The Chair recalled that, in the same resolution, the Assembly had decided that Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14 would be reviewed in 2017. The Chair also recalled that a contribution by the Commission was under preparation in response to an invitation from the President of the Council to the Commission to provide substantive inputs to the high-level political forum on sustainable development in July 2017.

Chapter IV

Provisional agenda for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission

32. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 December 2016, the Commission considered agenda item 10, entitled “Provisional agenda for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission”. The Chair introduced the item and brought to the attention of the Commission matters relating to the organization of work for its twenty-sixth session.

33. Statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Colombia, Brazil, Mexico, the Russian Federation, South Africa, China, the United States, India, France, Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

34. Statements were also made by observers for Nigeria (on behalf of the African Group), Egypt, Australia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Turkey.

A. Deliberations

1. Duration of the twenty-sixth session and other arrangements

35. The Chair recalled that the extended Bureau, at its meeting on 27 November 2016, had recommended Monday, 22 May, to Friday, 26 May 2017, as the dates for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission, with pre-session informal consultations to be held on Friday, 19 May 2017. At its meeting, the extended Bureau had also recommended 7 and 8 December 2017 as the dates for the reconvened twenty-sixth session of the Commission.

36. It was brought to the attention of the Commission that, in accordance with its decision 21/1, the firm deadline for the submission of draft resolutions would be one month prior to the commencement of the session. Draft resolutions for the twenty-sixth session would thus have to be submitted by noon on Monday, 24 April 2017.

2. Thematic discussion

37. It was recalled that, in accordance with Council decision 2016/241, the prominent theme and the topic of the thematic discussion at the twenty-sixth session of the Commission would be “Comprehensive and integrated crime prevention strategies: public participation, social policies and education in support of the rule of law”. In that regard, reference was made to the Chair’s proposal on the sub-themes for the thematic discussion, which had been circulated to Member States on 17 November 2016 and which read as follows: “Consultative and participatory processes for effective crime prevention and successful social policies in reducing crime and violence” and “Education for crime prevention and the promotion of a culture of lawfulness in support of the rule of law”.

38. Several speakers noted that, pursuant to Commission decision 18/1, the practice of having sub-themes for the topics of thematic discussions had been established over several years (with the exception of the twenty-fifth session), and

that sub-themes would provide focus to the thematic discussion, assist in the identification of panellists and foster a dynamic and interactive exchange of views.

39. Some speakers made reference to the relevant paragraphs of, and the need to adhere to, the agreed language contained in the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation.

40. Speakers made the following proposals:

(a) To adhere to the prominent theme as contained in Council decision 2016/241, without sub-themes;

(b) To adhere to the prominent theme, with the sub-themes contained in the Chair's proposal;

(c) To clarify the term "culture of lawfulness" as referred to in the title of sub-theme 2 in the Chair's proposal and as described in the Doha Declaration;

(d) To reformulate the sub-themes proposed by the Chair as follows:

(i) "Comprehensive and integrated crime prevention strategies: public participation and social policies in support of the rule of law";

(ii) "Comprehensive and integrated crime prevention strategies: education in support of the rule of law";

(e) To refer directly to paragraphs 7 and 10 of the Doha Declaration in the sub-themes, with the full text of those paragraphs to be included in footnotes.

41. The Commission decided that this matter would be further discussed by the extended Bureau at the twenty-sixth session of the Commission.

3. Workshop of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network

42. The Commission decided to accept a proposal by the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to organize, as it had done in previous years, a workshop to be chaired by a member of the Bureau prior to the consideration of draft resolutions by the Committee of the Whole. The topic of the workshop would be related to the prominent theme of the twenty-sixth session of the Commission. The Chair informed the Commission that the proposed topic for the workshop would be brought to the attention of the extended Bureau of the Commission at its twenty-sixth session in due course.

B. Action taken by the Commission

43. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 December 2016, the Commission endorsed the dates, deadlines and arrangements for its twenty-sixth session referred to in paragraphs 35-42 above.

Chapter V

Other business

44. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 December 2016, the Commission considered the agenda item entitled “Other business”. No issues were raised under the agenda item.

Chapter VI

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its reconvened twenty-fifth session

45. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 December 2016, the Commission adopted the parts of its report on the organization of the session and administrative matters and on item 3 of the agenda ([E/CN.15/2016/L.1/Add.7](#) and 8). The Commission also adopted a draft decision, introduced by the Chair, on the report of the Commission on its reconvened twenty-fifth session, for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A). The Commission also decided to entrust the finalization of the report to the Chair of the Commission, with the assistance of the Rapporteur.

Chapter VII

Organization of the session and administrative matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

46. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held its reconvened twenty-fifth session in Vienna on 1 and 2 December 2016.

47. The Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2011/259, entitled “Joint meetings of the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”, decided that, starting in 2011, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would hold joint meetings during their reconvened sessions for the sole purpose of considering agenda items included in the operational segment of the agendas of both Commissions, with a view to providing integrated policy directives to UNODC on administrative, budgetary and strategic management issues. The Council also decided that the practice of holding back-to-back reconvened sessions of the Commissions would be continued to enable each Commission to consider, in separate meetings, agenda items included in the normative segment of its agenda.

48. In accordance with that decision, one meeting of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was held jointly with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the first day of the reconvened session, on 1 December 2016, in order to consider item 3 of the agenda of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and item 3 of the agenda of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

49. At the joint plenary meeting, on 1 December 2016, the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice made statements.

B. Attendance

50. The reconvened twenty-fifth session was attended by representatives of 28 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations, representatives of entities of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in document [E/CN.15/2016/INF/3/Rev.1](#).

C. Election of officers

51. On 27 September 2016, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States nominated Maite Fernández García (Argentina) for the office of Rapporteur of the Commission at its twenty-fifth session. The Commission elected the Rapporteur at the beginning of its reconvened session, during its consideration of agenda item 2.

D. Documentation

52. The documents before the Commission at its reconvened twenty-fifth session are listed in [E/CN.15/2016/CRP.5/Add.1](#).

E. Closure of the reconvened twenty-fifth session

53. At the 2nd meeting, on 2 December, a closing statement was made by the Chair of the Commission.

Annex

Statement by the co-chairs of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

1. Following the informal meetings of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the co-chairs of that working group submitted the following statement for the consideration of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its reconvened fifty-ninth session and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its reconvened twenty-fifth session.

2. In accordance with the mandate set out in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13, Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 54/10, 54/17, 56/11 and 58/1 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 20/1, 20/9, 22/2 and 24/1, the working group addressed a large number of issues during its recent informal meetings, including: (a) ensuring adequate follow-up to the development of thematic, global and regional programmes; (b) promoting measures to improve the funding situation of UNODC; (c) the consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for UNODC; (d) supporting measures to promote a culture of evaluation throughout UNODC at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation; and (e) strengthening human resources governance to improve gender balance and geographical representation.

3. The mandate of the working group will end in the first half of 2017 in accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2015/234. In the first half of 2017, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its sixtieth session, and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its twenty-sixth session, are expected to carry out a thorough review of the functioning of the working group and consider the extension of its mandate. In order to facilitate consultations during the reconvened sessions of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the twenty-fifth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the working group wishes to bring the following salient issues to the attention of both Commissions for their further consideration, so as to continue drawing on resolution 58/1 of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and resolution 24/1 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice:

(a) **Continuous support for strengthening the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.** The working group has, on several occasions, discussed fundraising issues to ensure adequate, predictable and stable funding, and ways to achieve a sustainable balance between core and non-core funding for UNODC to ensure delivery capacity and the sustainability of the Office's programmes. The working group has also been considering the implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 58/12 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 24/3 and has been briefed on the transition to the full cost recovery funding model and on the

implementation of Umoja. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they might wish to request the working group to continue examining and discussing the funding situation and financial management of UNODC, inter alia by:

- (i) Receiving reports on and facilitating the resource mobilization process to promote global and regional programmes of UNODC along with their resource requirements and to enhance funding predictability in line with the strategic frameworks for the periods 2016-2017 and 2018-2019;
- (ii) Continuing to discuss with UNODC efforts to further encourage donors to provide general purpose funding, including by means of further increasing the transparency and quality of reporting, and to continue to discuss the reasons for the low level of general purpose funding with a view to restoring an adequate balance between general purpose and special purpose funds;
- (iii) Continuing to consider the progress and impact of the implementation of full cost recovery and the application and allocation of programme support costs with a view to increasing the effectiveness and results of the technical assistance programmes of the Office;
- (iv) Receiving reports on the impact of the implementation of Umoja on the delivery of the Office's programmes;

(b) **Continuous support for promoting an integrated programme approach.** The working group has been following progress made by UNODC in implementing an integrated programming approach that seeks to strengthen the links between normative mandates and operational technical assistance, and in improving linkages between policy, strategic planning, evaluation, programmatic work, mobilization of resources, and partnerships with all relevant stakeholders. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they might wish to request the working group to:

- (i) Continue promoting regular dialogue among all Member States as well as with UNODC on the planning and formulation of the operational activities of UNODC, especially with regard to its global and regional programmes, in line with the strategic frameworks for the periods 2016-2017 and 2018-2019;
- (ii) Continue receiving information from UNODC on progress made in the implementation of regional and global programmes carried out within the framework of the related thematic programmes, as well as on progress made with regard to integrating lessons learned and recommendations from evaluations within and across regions, ensuring complementarities among programmes and their alignment with the strategic frameworks for the periods 2016-2017 and 2018-2019;
- (iii) Continue discussing with UNODC the implementation of results-based management and budgeting;

(c) **Continuous support for promoting a culture of evaluation within UNODC at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation.** The working group has been provided with numerous presentations on evaluation findings, at which occasions participants have reiterated the importance of having a sustainable, effective and operationally independent corporate evaluation function at

UNODC that is focused on the implementation, performance and impact of integrated programmes and the consistency with the mandates of the Office. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they might wish to request the working group to invite the Independent Evaluation Unit to:

- (i) Continue providing the working group with evaluation findings of UNODC programmes;
- (ii) Continue promoting a culture of evaluation throughout UNODC at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation;
- (iii) Continue to work with UNODC in monitoring the implementation of recommendations made by relevant oversight bodies;
- (iv) Continue to work with UNODC on increasing coordination between evaluation, audit and other oversight bodies with the aim of building a continuum of oversight of UNODC projects and programmes;

(d) **Continuous support for improved gender balance and geographical representation.** The working group has been discussing the question of geographical representation and gender balance in the staff composition of UNODC as part of its efforts to improve the governance of the Office. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they might wish to request the working group to:

- (i) Continue addressing the issue of gender and geographical representation and its evolution, in order to discuss possible measures for further improvement in this area by, inter alia, intensifying outreach efforts;
- (ii) Continue receiving updated and comprehensive information, including in a disaggregated way, on the composition of the staff and recruitment policies of UNODC;

(e) **Continuous support for gender mainstreaming in UNODC policies and programmes.** The working group has been discussing the question of gender mainstreaming in UNODC policies and programmes as part of its efforts to align its work with the UNODC guidance note on gender mainstreaming. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they might wish to request the working group to:

- (i) Continue addressing the issue of gender mainstreaming in UNODC policies and programmes in order to discuss possible measures for further improvement in this area;
- (ii) Continue receiving updated and comprehensive information on the ways in which gender is mainstreamed in UNODC policies and programmes;

(f) **Extending the mandate and reviewing the format and organization of work of the working group.** The working group has proved its efficiency in supporting the improvement of the governance and financial situation of UNODC by continuing to be the forum for dialogue among Member States and between Member States and the Secretariat on UNODC programme development and implementation, and by continuing to discuss, on a regular basis, financial and governance matters relating to UNODC. By the same token, the working group has continued to provide support to the oversight role played by the two Commissions

as governing bodies. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they might wish to review the current format and organization of work of the working group at their regular sessions in 2017 and, in doing so, consider the concrete proposals contained in the present statement.
