

ECOSOC Management Segment 2023

DRAFT SPEAKING NOTES

**H.E. Ms. Laura FAXAS, Second Vice-Chair of the
Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
at its thirty-second session**

25 July 2023

SLIDE 1 – Introduction

Distinguished representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As Second Vice-Chair of the thirty-second session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, it is my pleasure to brief you on the recent work of the Commission, on behalf of the Chair, H.E. Ambassador MUGWANJA of Kenya.

SLIDE 2 – 32nd Regular Session

The Commission recently held its 32nd regular session with a record participation.

SLIDE 3 – The resolutions adopted at the 32nd session (1)

I would like to highlight some key outcomes from the session and how they have contributed to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The Commission adopted by consensus six resolutions, which you have in front of you today:

- Follow-up to the **Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and Preparations for the Fifteenth Congress**
- **Reducing Reoffending** Through Rehabilitation and Reintegration
- Enhancing the Contributions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to the **accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development,**

SLIDE 4 – Resolutions adopted at the 32nd Session CCPCJ

- Technical Assistance provided by UNODC related to **Counter-Terrorism**
- **Achieving Equal Access to Justice For All, and**
- Taking Action Against **Trafficking in Persons** in Business Operations, Public Procurement and Supply Chains for Goods and Services

As you can see on the slide, all these resolutions contribute to a number of sustainable development goals, beyond SDG 16 which is at the core of the Commission’s mandate. I want to specifically mention two resolutions.

SLIDE 5 – Resolution: Enhancing the contributions of CCPCJ to the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda

The Commission has thus recommended to the Council for adoption by the Assembly a resolution for adoption that specifically focuses on the

contributions by the Commission to the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In this resolution, the Assembly would, inter alia,

- *Invite* the Commission to continue developing policy and awareness-raising initiatives at the global level on accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 16
 - *Request* the Commission to encourage Member States presenting VNRs at the HLPF to share their experiences, progress made, challenges and impediments in implementing those aspects of the 2030 Agenda that are related to the work of the Commission;
 - *Encourage* Member States to consider including information related to the work of the Commission, including on the implementation of SDG 16, in their VNRs for 2024.
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SLIDE 6 –15th UN Crime Congress

The Commission also agreed on the **substantive agenda for the 15th United Nations Crime Congress, to be held in the United Arab Emirates in 2026**, under the overarching theme “*Accelerating crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: protecting people and planet and achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the digital age*”.

Through the comprehensive and forward-looking agenda, including further four agenda items and interrelated workshop topics, States will

have an opportunity for thorough discussions on **four overarching elements**:

- Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law;
- Protecting people and planet;
- Achieving the 2030 agenda for sustainable development; and
- Making responsible use of the digital age.

SLIDE 7 – Focus on Access to Justice, in view of SDG 16

At its 32nd session, the Commission consistently focused on **Access to Justice**, in support of the related work of the General Assembly:

- On the opening day of the regular 32nd session in May, the Chair of the Commission held a **Special Event on “Achieving SDG 16: the Contribution by The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”**, with the participation of H.E. Mr. Csaba KÖRÖSI, President of the General Assembly.
- The thematic discussion during the regular session was held under the title **“Enhancing the functioning of the criminal justice system to ensure access to justice and to realize a safe and secure society”**.
- More recently, on 15 June, the Chair participated in the High-Level Debate of the General Assembly on **“Equal Access to Justice for All: Advancing Reforms for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies”** and, in the margins that High-Level Debate, made an intervention in a High-Level Side Event on **“Achieving People-**

Centred Justice: Policy Developments and Emerging Evidence to Reach Goal 16”.

- On 11 July, the Chairs of the Vienna-based Commissions, CCPCJ and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held a **joint side event during the High-Level Political Forum, focusing on “access to justice” and “access to health services”**.
 - Finally, I would now like to draw your attention to an **upcoming event**: As requested by the General Assembly, the CCPCJ holds annual thematic discussions in follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration adopted at the 14th Crime Congress. The **third round of these thematic discussions** will be held on 21-22 September and focus on, inter alia, **access to justice, and effective, accountable, impartial and inclusive institutions**. We hope that many of your delegations will be able to join.
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SLIDE 8 – On the road to the SDG Summit

In the lead-up to the SDG Summit,

- In February this year, the Chair participated in the **ECOSOC coordination segment**, highlighting measures to accelerate recovery from the pandemic and achievement of SDG 16.
- The Commission also provided a **written contribution** to the HLPF.
- In June, Ambassador MUGWANJA shared innovative actions and made concrete recommendations on the cross-cutting issue *“people-centered, resilient institutions and risk-informed policies”*

at a Roundtable Discussion during ECOSOC Management Segment.

- As already mentioned, the CCPCJ held together with the CND a **side event during the HLPF** in July.
- The Chair has also underlined at various occasions throughout the year that **a reference to the impact of “crime prevention and criminal justice” on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, should be added to the SDG Summit Declaration.**

SLIDE 9: Follow-up to the ECOSOC Review of subsidiary bodies

Before I close, I would like to come back to the recommendations from the review of the work of the ECOSOC Subsidiary Bodies carried out in 2022. While the Commission was already implementing a number of recommendations made by ECOSOC, it has **increased its engagement in three particular areas, based on the recommendations of the review:**

First, the Commission has prioritized the principle of “leaving no-one behind” and focused on **disability inclusion**. In a first step, the webpage and the invitations have been updated in an effort to make Commission sessions more accessible. Also, the Commission is making an increased effort to put disability inclusion on the substantive agenda of its meetings (for example, during the thematic discussions on promoting the rule of law and access to justice).

Second, based on the recommendation to consider the impact of **demographic trends**, the Commission has stepped up its youth engagement, for example, during the opening of its thematic discussions where representatives of the “Youth forum on a Culture of Lawfulness” presented their recommendations. The Commission is also exploring further work with older persons in crime prevention and criminal justice.

Third, the Commission has responded to the recommendation to **link its work more actively to the VNRs** in the already-mentioned resolution on the contributions of the CCPCJ to the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

SLIDE 10 - *Thanks*

Thank you for your attention.