

1992/23. Organized crime

The Economic and Social Council,

Alarmed by the rapid growth and geographical extension of organized crime in its various forms, both nationally and internationally,

Concerned about the menace that these developments represent to social stability, economic development, democratic institutions and legitimate business,

Aware that the transnational nature of a large portion of the activities of organized crime requires the intensification of technical and scientific cooperation, as indicated on several occasions by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control,

Recognizing the importance of initiatives taken in this area by the Committee,

Recalling that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1989/70 of 24 May 1989, called upon Governments, international organizations and interested non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Committee in promoting international cooperation in combating organized crime,

Recalling also that the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/71 of 8 December 1989, requested the Committee to consider ways of strengthening international cooperation in combating organized crime and to submit its views, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session,

Recalling further that the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/72 of 8 December 1989, requested the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders to propose control measures aimed at eradicating the activities of organized crime,

Noting that the Eighth Congress, in its resolution 24, adopted the Guidelines for the prevention and control of organized crime,⁵⁸

Noting also that the General Assembly, in its resolution 45/121 of 14 December 1990, welcomed the instruments and resolutions adopted by the Eighth Congress and invited Governments to be guided by them in the formulation of appropriate legislation and policy directives,

Noting further that the General Assembly, also in its resolution 45/121, endorsed the decision of the Eighth Congress that priority attention should be given to specific

practical measures to combat international crime over the forthcoming five-year period,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Strategies to Deal with Transnational Crime, held at Smolenice, Czechoslovakia, from 27 to 31 May 1991,⁵⁹ formulated important recommendations in this area,

Noting also that the International Seminar on Organized Crime, held at Suzdal, Russian Federation, from 21 to 25 October 1991,⁶⁰ pursuant to General Assembly resolution 45/123 of 14 December 1990, formulated practical measures against organized crime, aimed at enhancing the struggle against the different manifestations of organized crime,

Reaffirming that priority must be given to the struggle against all activities of organized crime, including money laundering, the infiltration of legitimate business and the corruption of public officials,

1. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Strategies to Deal with Transnational Crime, held at Smolenice, Czechoslovakia, and the practical measures against organized crime, formulated by the International Seminar on Organized Crime, held at Suzdal, Russian Federation, contained in annexes I and II to the present resolution, and offers them for consideration by Governments in their efforts to enhance the struggle against organized crime, both nationally and internationally;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the analysis of information on the impact of organized criminal activities upon society at large, including data on the nature, extent, forms and dimensions of organized crime, on legislative measures and the promotion of international cooperation aimed at controlling organized crime, with special emphasis on economic crimes and the laundering of illicit funds, and on judicial practice as regards cases involving organized crime, with a view to keeping the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice informed;

3. *Invites* Member States to give favourable consideration to the organization of practice-oriented workshops, research projects and training programmes to deal with specific aspects of organized criminal activities, with a view to exchanging ideas concerning law enforcement methods for control of those activities, which have proved to be both effective and consistent with the concept of respect for human rights.

*41st plenary meeting
30 July 1992*