

ECOSOC Resolution 2004/33

Strengthening the technical cooperation capacity of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which heads of State and Government resolved to take concerted action against international terrorism and to accede as soon as possible to all the relevant international conventions, as well as to intensify efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions, including trafficking as well as smuggling of migrants and money-laundering,¹

Reaffirming the values and principles enshrined in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, thereby emphasizing the importance of international cooperation and coordination among Member States in the fight against crime, in order to achieve sustainable development, improved quality of life, democracy and human rights,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,² adopted by the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000, as well as the plans of action for its implementation,³

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 58/140 of 22 December 2003, on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Recalling further its resolution 2003/25 of 23 July 2003, on international cooperation, technical assistance and advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Welcoming the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁴ as well as the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime⁵ and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁶

Recognizing the importance of the entry into force of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their

¹ General Assembly resolution 55/2, para. 9.

² General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex.

³ General Assembly resolution 56/261, annex.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.

⁵ *Ibid.*, annex II.

⁶ *Ibid.*, annex III.

Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁷

Welcoming the adoption and opening for signature of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,⁸

Recognizing that these important new instruments of international cooperation require the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to respond to an increasing number of requests for technical assistance in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice reform,

Expressing its appreciation to those Member States which have provided extrabudgetary funds in 2003, thus allowing the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to carry out a large number of advisory services and technical assistance activities in least developed countries, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries in post-conflict situations,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for assisting Member States by responding to an increasing number of requests for advisory services and technical assistance in the implementation of projects, including with respect to the strengthening of institutional capacity, training in drafting of legislation and of law enforcement and criminal justice personnel and awareness-raising activities, in particular for parliamentarians, as well as in the development of national policies and promotion of legislative reform;

2. *Recognizes* the expansion of the technical assistance activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including additional interregional advisory services, and encourages international, regional and national funding agencies, as well as international financial institutions, to support the technical cooperation activities and interregional advisory services of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

3. *Encourages* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, as well as other international and regional organizations, to strengthen their cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in order to ensure that, as appropriate, technical assistance activities in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular to combat organized crime, corruption, trafficking in persons and terrorism and its financing, are properly brought into the mainstream of their respective programmes, so as to ensure that expertise available at the Office relating to crime prevention and criminal justice is fully utilized and that duplication of efforts is avoided;

4. *Reiterates* the need to have adequate resources available to further operationalize the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, taking into account the recently adopted integrated approach to drugs and crime;

5. *Invites* Member States to cooperate at the bilateral level with the least developed and developing countries and at the multilateral

⁷ General Assembly resolution 55/255, annex.

⁸ General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

level with the United Nations and other international organizations within the framework of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;⁹

6. *Also invites* Member States to make or increase voluntary contributions, as appropriate, to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, as well as contributions in direct support of activities and projects of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in order to strengthen further the capacity of the Office to provide advisory services and technical assistance;

7. *Encourages* recipient Member States that are in a position to do so to contribute to the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by providing the necessary infrastructure, as well as human and financial resources, for projects to be implemented in partnership with the Office;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance further the resources available within the existing overall budgetary framework of the United Nations for operational activities and, in particular, the interregional advisory services of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime under section 23, Regular programme of technical cooperation,¹⁰ of the regular budget of the United Nations;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make all possible efforts, including appeals to donors in the private sector, mobilization of resources and fund-raising, to increase extrabudgetary resources, including general-purpose funds, bearing in mind the need to safeguard the independence and international character of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

*47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004*

⁹ General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.

¹⁰ A/58/6 (sect. 23).