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**Use and application of United Nations standards and norms  
in crime prevention and criminal justice**

## Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

### Report of the Secretary-General

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\* E/CN.15/1999/1.

## I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Secretary-General on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice is submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/22 of 30 July 1992 as the question of existing United Nations standards and norms in those areas is a standing item on the agenda of the Commission. The report describes ongoing activities in the area of implementation of standards and norms and outlines a possible programmatic focus aimed at strengthening the work of the Programme in promoting the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.

2. Since its foundation, the United Nations has developed a broad range of international standards, guidelines and model treaties in crime prevention and criminal justice that represent internationally agreed upon principles of desirable practice based on the rule of law. Many of them provide a universally accepted interpretation of provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The areas covered include matters such as the treatment of prisoners, the conduct of law enforcement officials, the use of force and firearms by the police, the rights of victims of crime, the independence of the judiciary and the administration of juvenile justice. This catalogue of more traditional themes has been enlarged by the call of the General Assembly for the development of a convention against transnational organized crime and related legal instruments to address illicit trafficking in firearms and the smuggling of and trafficking in human beings. Other new areas are covered by the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials (General Assembly resolution 51/59, annex) and the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions (resolution 51/191, annex). Responsible crime prevention is yet another area that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice has addressed. A summary of the replies from Governments pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/33 of 21 July 1997 on the subject is contained in the report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention (E/CN.15/1999/3, paras. 38-62).

3. The United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice are more pertinent than ever. There is a growing understanding of the importance of good governance and institution-building, including in the justice sector. It has been understood that fair and effective criminal justice standards, based on human rights, in addition to

having a value in themselves, provide the basis for promoting and preserving the rule of law as a condition for economic development. Such standards, once adopted, must first be disseminated. Awareness must then be raised as to the importance of their practical application. Measures to make the standards more easily accessible and to raise their relevance for law makers and practitioners include manuals, prepared by the United Nations or other institutions and non-governmental organizations, such as those on prison standards, the police response to domestic violence and victims' rights. The application of standards can also be supported by the compilation of best practices, for example, provisions regarding victim assistance (see para. 24).

4. United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice can help Governments assess the fairness and effectiveness of the operation of their systems from an international perspective and offer a basis for international benchmarking in the area of criminal justice. Interesting examples of such statistical benchmarking can be found in a number of recent publications. For instance, the 1998 publication of the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations, entitled "Crime and Criminal Justice Systems in Europe and North America 1990-1994", included comparative indices on law enforcement resources, gender balance among criminal justice practitioners, effectiveness of police recording, productivity of police and prosecutors, citizens' evaluation of police performance and citizens' experiences of police corruption. The World Report on Crime and Justice, to be published by Oxford University Press in March 1999, presents a vast amount of similar data from the five United Nations surveys of crime trends and operation of criminal justice systems, supplemented, *inter alia*, by the International Crime Victim Survey and the United Nations International Study on Firearm Regulation.<sup>1</sup>

## II. Use and application of United Nations standards and norms

### A. Victims of crime and abuse of power

5. In section III, "Victims of crime and abuse of power", of Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21 of 28 July 1998, the Secretary-General was requested to seek the views of Member States on:

(a) The plan of action for the implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of

Crime and Abuse of Power (General Assembly resolution 40/34, annex), as annexed to the resolution;

(b) The desirability and feasibility of establishing an international fund for victims of crime and abuse of power;

(c) The establishment of a coordination panel or other mechanism to ensure concerted action, with an appropriate division of responsibilities, among United Nations entities and other entities concerned in order to promote the implementation of the Declaration.

6. As at 8 February 1999, Argentina, Austria, Croatia, Egypt, Germany, the Netherlands, Panama, Poland, Qatar, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and Zambia had provided their views.

7. Germany, as a sponsor of Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, stated that it remained committed to the conclusions and objectives of the resolution, notably, that it was necessary to maintain a balance between the current main priority issue of combating transnational organized crime and other priority issues of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme. Egypt and Poland provided the Secretary-General with detailed information regarding their efforts to provide assistance to victims of crime.

8. Spain stressed that the Declaration on the Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power served as an important platform for the victimology movement and had strengthened national initiatives developed since the adoption of the Declaration. It would be desirable, in the long term, for the Declaration to be converted into an international legal instrument. Regional agreements also offered examples of what should be addressed on a global scale.

### **1. Draft plan of action**

9. All countries replying supported the draft plan of action. Egypt was keen to include obligatory compensation policies for victims of crime and abuse of power. Sweden was of the view that the plan included useful measures to promote continued international work, but that additional points should be added. In the view of the Slovakia, the action plan contained basic steps necessary for the provision of assistance and care for the victims of crime. The participation of Governments in joint action was inevitable. Turkey, in support of the plan of action, informed the Secretary-General of its draft law on compensation for victims of terrorist acts.

10. The guide for policy makers on implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (E/CN.15/1998/CRP.4) and the handbook on justice for victims on the use and application of the Declaration (E/CN.15/1998/CRP.4/ Add.1) will be translated into the official languages of the United Nations and published, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources. The Governments of the Netherlands and the United States of America have offered their support.

### **2. International fund for victims of crime and abuse of power**

11. While a number of countries in principle supported the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime and abuse of power, others expressed reservations on the matter.

12. Argentina had no substantive observations on the proposal to create a fund. However, the question of funding requirements had to be resolved.

13. Austria considered that finding a common basis for an international fund could be extremely difficult, given the highly diverse legal systems in the different countries. In particular, the aim of reaching a subsidiary settlement of claims from victims in connection with international or transnational crimes would necessitate the development of common standards for resource allocation and adequate financial backing for the fund.

14. Egypt supported the establishment of a fund for victims of crime and abuse of power as part of the ongoing global human rights campaign and relevant international instruments. Compensation under such a fund should be determined immediately rather than being linked with a final decision by competent judicial bodies.

15. Germany saw a need for further discussion and supported the suggestion to establish a working group to be hosted by the Netherlands.

16. The Netherlands reiterated its willingness to support the United Nations in organizing a meeting at which details of the establishment of such a fund could be discussed, in particular in view of the outcome of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, held in Rome from 15 June to 17 July 1998). At that Conference, a trust fund was established for the benefit of victims of crime within the jurisdiction of the Court. One of the goals of that fund was to support eligible victim claims resulting from international and transnational crime. The Government of the

Netherlands therefore proposed a review of the purpose of the fund for victims of crime so as to ensure complementarity between the two initiatives and suggested that the goals of the international fund for victims of crime should be restricted to (a) technical assistance, (b) specific projects and activities, and (c) awareness campaigns about victims' rights and crime prevention. While as a consequence individual victims would not be eligible to claim assistance from the fund, the Netherlands stressed that, in addition to the issue of victims of international crimes, there was also that of international victims of national crimes. Many national compensation programmes did not recognize the victimization of non-residents within their borders. A particularly vulnerable group in that respect were tourists who were victimized while on holiday in a foreign country. Such victims were unable to apply for state compensation in their own country as the victimization took place when they were abroad. Only a few countries had opened their national compensation programmes to non-residents. It was important that that group of victims was recognized and given access to national compensation programmes.

17. Slovakia supported the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime and abuse of power, provided that the conditions that entitled a victim of international or transnational crime to redress by the international fund were restricted to incidents where national compensation and redress were unavailable or insufficient. The fund should also strengthen the services of other support organizations for victims, as well as support the design of projects and awareness-raising campaigns on victims' rights and crime prevention.

18. Spain viewed the creation of an international fund to assist victims as an ambitious project that would extend the national networks of social protection for victims. The initiative appeared laudable, in principle, although subject to budgetary limits. The assistance to be provided to victims of international crime should be limited to international crime and to cases where subsidiary assistance could not be obtained elsewhere.

19. Sweden favoured the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime, provided that special consideration was given to the question of financing. If

such a fund were, *inter alia*, to cover individual claims of victims, there was a need for further deliberations with a view to setting a demarcation line between the national victim support fund and the international one.

20. Switzerland was of the view that victim assistance was primarily the concern of States rather than of the international community. Switzerland expressed reservations on the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime if there were to be a possibility for individual victims of crime to seek redress from such a fund. An international fund for victims of crime should therefore be restricted to persons who became victims of abuse of power. In addition, overlap with existing victim funds, including those established at regional levels, should be avoided.

21. The Syrian Arab Republic supported the establishment of the fund in principle, subject to agreement on details, such as the mechanics for the establishment of such a fund and the obligations for Member States.

22. Turkey believed that the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime needed further consideration, notwithstanding the desirability of establishing an international fund in principle.

### 3. Coordination panel

23. All Member States that sent replies supported the establishment of a coordination panel or other mechanism to ensure concerted action among organizations of the United Nations system and other concerned entities in order to promote the implementation of the Declaration. More particularly, Spain was of the view that it was important to create a group that would promote the coordination of action between the United Nations and governmental or non-governmental bodies interested in the application of the Declaration. That should be done within the resources assigned to the regular United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme. Germany suggested that, for the sake of efficiency and cost effectiveness, an existing United Nations unit, preferably within the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, should be assigned the tasks of coordinating and ensuring concerted action to implement the Declaration. Argentina suggested that such a panel should be responsible for designing concrete activities to implement the declaration at the national level.

#### 4. Database on best practices

24. In response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, the Government of the Netherlands informed the Secretary-General that it had established a database on practical national experiences regarding victim assistance, in particular as regards relevant case law and legislation on the use and application of the Declaration, taking into account different systems and traditions. The database can be accessed on the World Wide Web at the following address: [www.victimology.nl](http://www.victimology.nl). The Government of the Netherlands volunteered to maintain the database for an initial duration of three years. Spain underlined the practical significance of setting up an international database on practical experiences in the matter of assistance for victims at the national and regional levels. The database should serve as a tool to promote agreed upon models of good practice in support of the various groups of victims.

#### B. Administration of juvenile justice

25. Many of the concluding observations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child regularly contain recommendations to State parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex) that they seek assistance from the United Nations in the area of juvenile justice. In order to meet such requests and pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/30 of 21 July 1997, the Secretary-General established a coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice. The panel, which met for the first time on 25 and 26 June 1998 in Vienna, will ensure a coordinated response by the United Nations, including the Centre for International Crime Prevention and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of the Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme, as well as the network of non-governmental organizations concerned with juvenile justice issues. The panel decided that the work of those organizations would initially focus on Bangladesh, Guatemala, Lebanon, the Philippines and Uganda. The Centre, in cooperation with UNICEF, has initiated activities in Bangladesh, Guatemala and Lebanon, which are at various stages of implementation. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights will launch a two-year project on juvenile justice in the Philippines, while UNICEF, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations concerned with juvenile justice, will provide assistance to Uganda. (For further details of technical

cooperation in the area of juvenile justice provided by the Centre, see the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.15/1999/2, paras. 59-67). The next meeting of the coordination panel will be convened by UNICEF in May 1999. These efforts may be regarded as a first step to ensure appropriate assistance to be provided by the United Nations in the area of juvenile justice.

#### C. Prison conditions

26. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/36 of 21 July 1997, entitled "International cooperation for the improvement of prison conditions", in which the Council took note of the Kampala Declaration on Prison Conditions in Africa, annexed to the resolution, the Secretary-General requested Member States to inform him about the prison conditions under their respective jurisdictions and, in particular, on the extent to which they had established alternatives to imprisonment. As at 13 February 1999, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritius, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia and Uzbekistan had provided the Secretary-General with information on those issues.

27. Bolivia noted that the national prison population had gone into exponential growth since the 1980s. That development went in parallel with the worsening crime situation and the expansion of the problem of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs. In January 1998, prison overcrowding was 226 per cent. Closer international cooperation to provide advisory services, evaluate needs, and strengthen capacities and training were regarded as the highest priority for improving prison conditions. Notwithstanding the limitations of the prison infrastructure in Bolivia, mechanisms and legal instruments had been devised to alleviate the problem of overcrowding in the prison compounds, including conditional release after completion of two thirds of the sentence, release on bail, early release after completion of half of the sentence for non-serious offences and suspended sentence for penalties not exceeding three years.

28. Canada also informed the Secretary-General of an initiative to reduce its reliance on incarceration. There was a growing interest in Canada in alternatives to imprisonment that were rooted in the principles of restoration and healing. Canada had also introduced an information system to promote greater integration within the criminal justice system as well as with other social policy sectors. Canada

had reformed its sentencing legislation to encourage judges to consider available sanctions other than imprisonment that were reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances. The Criminal Code of Canada authorized alternative measures for adult offenders and discouraged imprisonment for failure to pay fines. A new conditional sentence of imprisonment option had been introduced for sentences of less than two years. Such a sentence could be served in the community as long as the court was satisfied that the safety of the community was not endangered. Over 13,000 conditional sentence orders had been issued in the first year of availability. Those changes were contributing to reducing the prison population in Canada.

29. Colombia provided detailed information on its current prison situation, including on prison infrastructure, prison overcrowding, health and hygiene and financial resources, and provided an outline of its prison policy. Prison overcrowding was at a rate of 146 per cent. However, if account was also taken of the units that failed to meet basic living standards, the prison overcrowding rate was even higher. During the period from December 1995 to December 1997, the country had experienced an increase in the prison population of 28 per cent. The main cause was identified as the generalized imposition of custodial sentences, which were stipulated for 97 per cent of statutory offences. Deficiencies in criminal and correctional policy had led to serious protests among prisoners and to prison riots. The Government felt, however, that the structural problem of the Colombian prison system could only be solved to the extent that its ambitious policy was actually put into effect. For that it was essential to have the support of organizations such as the Centre for International Crime Prevention.

30. Cyprus informed the Secretary-General that over the past few years the number of prisoners had continued to rise, causing periodic overcrowding. While making use of the conditional release of non-dangerous convicts who had served half of their sentence, Cyprus intended to increase its prison capacity up to 50 per cent within seven years.

31. Germany reported on a variety of measures taken to ensure that prisons were not overcrowded. For example, alternatives to pre-trial detention had been introduced for juveniles by temporarily placing suitable cases in youth welfare service institutions instead of in pre-trial detention centres. In order to avoid pre-trial detention, one state had established a detention avoidance assistance group to ensure suspects' appearances at court hearings. Alternatives to imprisonment included community service, payment of fines, offender-victim mediation and socio-educational

programmes for young offenders. Some German states were considering testing electronically monitored house arrest as an alternative to pre-trial and penal detention as pilot projects.

32. Ghana provided the Secretary-General with information about its alternative measures to imprisonment and its bail system and stated that it aimed to reduce overcrowding in pre-trial detention by creating more courts so as to expedite justice.

33. Greece reported that its efforts to resolve prison overcrowding included the promulgation of laws providing for conditional release or release on bail, as well as community service sentencing dispositions and the building of new and modern prisons to relieve the situation in the existing prisons.

34. Jordan described an experiment it had been implementing in the field of reform and rehabilitation of prisoners since 1989. In the 1980s there had been a qualitative shift in prison welfare, with emphasis on reform, rehabilitation and reintegration. Prison overcrowding had since increased, with the numbers doubling in some centres. Jordan favoured alternatives to imprisonment and to pre-trial detention and called for increased cooperation and international assistance.

35. Kuwait, in implementing Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/36, had taken measures to provide social care, opened a prison hospital and a school, established employment and training workshops, provided cultural, religious and moral care and expanded and offered material care for the families of inmates.

36. Lebanon had developed new regulations for prison administration and, with the support of the United Nations, would soon complete the establishment of a modern institute for the correction of juvenile delinquents, in accordance with modern specifications.

37. Mauritius reported that its conditions for the detention of offenders in prison were in accordance with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.<sup>2</sup>

38. Paraguay faced severe prison overcrowding, which was a problem for the implementation of human rights standards. The authorities had sought to ease the situation by building additional prisons, which had permitted the introduction of educational and vocational programmes and the building of the infrastructure for other activities, including sports. One of the factors affecting the implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules was that in Paraguayan prisons about 95 per cent of detainees were

awaiting trial, while fewer than 5 per cent were actually serving their sentence.

39. In Peru, despite legislative measures and improvements in the prison infrastructure and treatment of prisoners, prison overcrowding was still a problem. Community service, weekend arrests and fines had been introduced as alternatives to custody in the 1991 Penal Code and a new code of criminal procedure, which would, once it entered into force in 1999, introduce the possibility of house arrest.

40. Portugal stated that for some years the increase in its prison population had been a permanent problem with negative effects on prison conditions. Overcrowding created difficulties in the separation of categories of prisoners, which fuelled violence among prisoners and against prison personnel, and both inmates and staff were suffering from higher levels of stress. Portugal was trying to counteract the phenomenon by applying a system of non-custodial sanctions, which had been introduced in the penal code in 1982. A revision of the penal procedure code was before Parliament that aimed at speeding up the process for petty offences. In 1996, Portugal had adopted a programme of action that permitted the introduction of drug-free units in prisons as well as more and better educational and vocational training opportunities within prisons.

41. The Russian Federation reported that a total of about 1 million persons were incarcerated at any given time in 1997. Compared with 1996, there had been a decrease in the total prison population of 40,000 persons. However, the problem of prison overcrowding, especially in pre-trial detention centres, was apparent, as the number of accused persons admitted to custody exceeded capacity by 50 per cent. The speeding up of trials and the building of new premises were regarded as appropriate means to improve the situation. In connection with the admission of the Russian Federation to the Council of Europe, the Federation had introduced a moratorium on the execution of death penalty sentences.

42. Saudi Arabia informed the Secretary-General that there was no prison overcrowding in the country. The period of imprisonment could be reduced and pardon could be granted on the occasion of the month of Ramadan to those prisoners who met certain conditions. The human rights of prisoners were guaranteed according to Muslim law (Shariah). With regard to alternatives to imprisonment, a committee had been formed involving various concerned authorities that would consider that matter.

43. Slovakia described in detail its regulations, including that of pre-trial detention decisions, and its extradition procedures, including arrangements for extradition custody.

44. Spain provided information on its legislative and structural measures to prevent prison overcrowding. Alternatives to imprisonment included suspension of custodial sentences and parole for prisoners who had served three quarters of their sentence under ordinary circumstances or two thirds under exceptional circumstances. Weekend detention or a fine could replace terms of imprisonment of one year or less and in exceptional cases of two years. Weekend detention itself could be replaced by a fine or community service. New prison centres had been established to improve the overall penitentiary structure.

45. Sweden reported on its system of alternatives to imprisonment, including conditional sentences, probation and surrender to special care. Intensive supervision with electronic monitoring and community service was being tried on an experimental basis. Sweden had offered community service since 1990, which included work without payment for a specified time, ranging from 40 to 200 hours. Major changes in the sanction system and in the penal system for juvenile delinquents had been proposed in a report by a government commission.

46. Tunisia outlined the services it provided to prisoners, with special emphasis on the improvement of lodging and living conditions and social and psychological care. Vocational, social and psychological and cultural rehabilitation facilities were provided. A comprehensive reform programme included literacy education, vocational training and an employment programme. As regards alternatives to imprisonment, pardons and conditional releases were in place.

47. In Uzbekistan, a number of alternatives to custody were employed, including fines, deprivation of a particular right, corrective labour, restrictions imposed in the course of military service, stripping of military or special rank, conditional sentence, compulsory medical treatment, compulsory payment of compensation for damages suffered and the placement of juveniles in special correctional institutions. The 1997 Code of Corrections included a list of rights guaranteed to convicted offenders that included, *inter alia*, religious freedom, personal safety and social security, legal assistance, the right to file appeals, statements and proposals, contact with the outside world, education and medical care. Additional privileges were available for female, juvenile or disabled prisoners.

### III. Status report on the information-gathering system

48. It will be recalled that in its resolution 1993/31 of 27 July 1993, the Economic and Social Council established a system of information gathering on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. Since 1994, the following standards and norms have been included in that information-gathering process:

(a) Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners;<sup>2</sup>

(b) Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials (General Assembly resolution 34/169, annex);

(c) Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Fire-arms by Law Enforcement Officials;<sup>3</sup>

(d) Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power;

(e) Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary;<sup>4</sup>

(f) United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (resolution 45/113, annex);

(g) United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules) (resolution 40/33, annex);

(h) United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines) (resolution 45/112, annex).

49. In accordance with section I of Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, the Secretary-General was requested to prepare updated reports where at least 30 additional States had replied in respect of a standard and norm on which a report had already been submitted.

50. At the request of the Council, the Centre will continue to gather information on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. The Centre will report to the Commission at its ninth session on the use and application of:

(a) United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-Custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules) (General Assembly resolution 45/110, annex);

(b) Guidelines on the Role of Prosecutors;<sup>5</sup>

(c) Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers.<sup>6</sup>

51. Related questionnaires have been sent to Governments to assist them in providing the Secretariat with all relevant information. It will be recalled that the draft survey instruments were submitted to the Commission at its seventh session as conference room papers. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, the Centre has prepared survey instruments on:

(a) United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions;

(b) United Nations Declaration on Crime and Public Security (General Assembly resolution 51/60, annex);

(c) International Code of Conduct for Public Officials (resolution 51/59, annex).

52. As in the past, the questionnaires will be available to the Commission as conference room papers.

### IV. Action to be taken by the Commission

53. The Commission may wish to adopt the draft plan of action for the implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, and to request the Secretary-General to establish a coordination panel to ensure concerted action among United Nations entities and other agencies to promote the implementation of the Declaration. The Commission may also wish to discuss the question of the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime and abuse of power, taking into account the suggestions made by Governments, in particular as regards the restricted scope and goals of such a fund.

54. As regards information-gathering on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms, the Commission may wish to review the draft questionnaires, as appropriate.

55. As regards the issue of prison overcrowding and the use of alternatives to imprisonment, the Commission may wish to reiterate its call upon Member States strictly to apply the Kampala Declaration on Prison Conditions in Africa, annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/36.

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.IV.2.

<sup>2</sup> See *First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Geneva, 22 August-3 September 1955: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 1956.IV.4), annex I.A.

<sup>3</sup> *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August-7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.2, annex.

<sup>4</sup> *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. D.2, annex.

<sup>5</sup> *Eighth United Nations Congress ...*, chap. I, sect. C.26, annex.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, sect. B.3, annex.

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