

Resolution

2006/21

Implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹ in which Heads of State and Government pledged to support the consolidation of democracy in Africa and to assist Africans in their struggle for lasting peace, poverty eradication and sustainable human development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 59/159 of 20 December 2004 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005 on the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in particular paragraph 68 on meeting the special needs of Africa,

Recalling its resolution 2004/32 of 21 July 2004 on the implementation of technical assistance projects in Africa by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and decision 2005/248 of 22 July 2005, in which it requested the Office to organize a special event among interested Member States, relevant agencies and institutes providing technical assistance to Africa, as well as those promoting South-South cooperation,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 60/175 of 16 December 2005, in which the Assembly took note of the comprehensive Programme of Action, 2006-2010, that emanated from the Round Table for Africa held in Abuja, Nigeria, on 5 and 6 September 2005 pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2005/248,

Recalling further decision EX.CL/Dec.169 (VI), adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union at its sixth ordinary session and endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its fourth ordinary session, held in Abuja in January 2005,

Recognizing the important role of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,² the African Peer Review Mechanism and its implementation process,

Welcoming the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, adopted at the Paris High-level Forum, held from 28 February to 2 March 2005, by the attending ministers of developed and developing countries, together with heads of bilateral and multilateral development institutions,

¹ General Assembly resolution 55/2.

² A/57/304, annex.

Welcoming also the adoption by the European Council of the European Union Strategy for Africa: towards a Euro-African pact to accelerate Africa's development,³

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all",⁴

1. *Welcomes* the publication in June 2005 of the study by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled "Crime and Development in Africa";

2. *Welcomes also* the outcome of the Round Table for Africa on Crime and Drugs as Impediments to Security and Development in Africa: Strengthening the Rule of Law, hosted by the Government of Nigeria in Abuja on 5 and 6 September 2005, embodied in the comprehensive Programme of Action, 2006-2010, aimed at strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Nigeria for hosting the Round Table for Africa, to the Governments of France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and other development partners for their financial and related support for the meeting, as well as to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for organizing the event;

4. *Invites* all African States and regional and subregional institutions to mainstream crime and drug control measures in their national and regional development strategies, to mobilize all national stakeholders and to make every effort to allocate national resources for the implementation of the Programme of Action;

5. *Invites* the Chairman of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to notify the Commission of the African Union of the need for its member States to endorse the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, to support its implementation and to review regularly the progress made;

6. *Invites* the Commission of the African Union to present the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, to the next Summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union for its endorsement;

7. *Invites* bilateral and multilateral aid agencies and financial institutions to review as appropriate their funding policies for development assistance and to consider including a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within available extrabudgetary resources, not excluding the use of existing resources from the regular budget of the Office,⁵ to support the implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, in cooperation with all African States, the African Union and other

³ SEC (2005) 1255.

⁴ A/59/2005.

⁵ This language does not provide a basis for an increase in the regular budget or requests for supplemental increases.

regional organizations, in particular in the context of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;²

9. *Invites* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other international funding agencies, to increase further their interaction with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in supporting the implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, and to integrate crime prevention and drug control measures into their development programmes;

10. *Invites* Member States to make adequate voluntary contributions for the implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within available extrabudgetary resources, not excluding the use of existing resources from the regular budget of the Office,⁵ to devote high priority to the implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, and to present a progress report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventeenth session, in 2008.

*41st plenary meeting
27 July 2006*