

“11. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to pursue an integrated, synergistic approach in the delivery of technical assistance to requesting States, taking into account the links that exist between terrorism and other forms of crime;

“12. *Expresses its appreciation* to donor countries that have supported the Global Programme against Terrorism, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund or the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, and invites all Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Fund in order to allow the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance to requesting Member States;

“13. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen, to the greatest extent possible, international cooperation in order to combat terrorism, including, when necessary, entering into bilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance;

“14. *Recognizes* the need for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide Member States, upon request, and in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee, with technical assistance to strengthen international cooperation, including in international, national, regional and subregional forums, in terrorism-related criminal justice matters in the framework of the universal conventions and protocols and the relevant Security Council resolutions relating to terrorism;

“15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, an expert workshop, taking into account the need for adequate and equitable geographical representation and open to any Member State wishing to participate as an observer, to examine and analyse problems encountered by criminal justice practitioners in affording mutual legal assistance and granting extradition for terrorist offences, with a view to identifying proven and promising practices and possible ways of facilitating international cooperation, taking into account information that Member States may wish to provide;

“16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.”

*47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004*

2004/20

International cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in providing assistance to victims

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

“The General Assembly,

“Concerned at the increase in the practice of kidnapping in various countries of the world and at the harmful effects of that crime on victims and their families, and determined to support measures to assist and protect them and to promote their recovery,

“Reiterating that the kidnapping of persons under any circumstances and for any purpose constitutes a serious crime and a violation of individual freedom and undermines human rights,

“Noting the transnational nature of organized crime and the tendency of organized criminal groups and terrorist groups to expand their illegal operations,

“Concerned at the growing tendency of organized criminal groups and terrorist groups to resort to kidnapping, especially for the purpose of extortion, as a method of accumulating capital with a view to consolidating their criminal operations and undertaking other illegal activities, such as trafficking in firearms and drugs, money-laundering and crimes related to terrorism,

“Convinced that the links between various illegal activities, including terrorism, and organized crime pose an additional threat to security and the quality of life, hindering economic and social development,

“Convinced also that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime⁸⁷ provides the legal framework necessary for international cooperation in the fight against kidnapping,

“Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/28 of 22 July 2003, entitled ‘International cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in providing assistance to victims’, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General, drawing on extrabudgetary funds or voluntary contributions, to provide technical assistance to States, upon request, to enable them to strengthen their capacity to combat kidnapping, and to submit a progress report on that topic to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its thirteenth session,

“1. Vigorously condemns and rejects once again the practice of kidnapping, under any circumstances and for any purpose, especially when it is carried out by organized criminal groups and terrorist groups;

“2. Reiterates that organized criminal groups and terrorist groups, as well as all perpetrators, are responsible for any harm or death that may result from a kidnapping for which they are responsible, and should be punished accordingly;

“3. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in providing assistance to victims⁸⁸ and of the recommendations presented therein, submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/16 of 24 July 2002 and 2003/28;

⁸⁷ General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.

⁸⁸ E/CN.15/2004/7 and Add.1.

“4. *Encourages* Member States to continue to foster international cooperation, especially extradition, mutual legal assistance, collaboration between law enforcement authorities and exchange of information, with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating kidnapping;

“5. *Calls upon* Member States that have not yet done so, in furtherance of the fight against kidnapping, to strengthen their measures against money-laundering and to engage in international cooperation and mutual assistance in, inter alia, the tracing, detection, freezing and confiscation of proceeds of kidnapping in order to combat organized criminal groups and terrorist groups;

“6. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to pay special attention to the considerable psychological, social and economic damage associated with kidnapping by adopting legislative, administrative or any other measures to provide appropriate support and assistance to victims and their families;

“7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to prepare a handbook, for use by competent authorities, of proven and promising practices in the fight against kidnapping, including:

(a) Measures to prevent the crime of kidnapping that are directed at potential victims;

(b) Preventive measures aimed at disbanding organized criminal groups and terrorist groups;

(c) Cooperation or strategic alliances with the private sector;

(d) Response to and management of crises;

(e) Identification of the minimum elements that would help States to make adjustments to their domestic legislation with a view to having a common understanding of the crime of kidnapping, which would also help to ascertain reliable trends from a global perspective;

(f) Development of specialized measures for providing support and assistance to victims and their families;

(g) Information on national authorities responsible for preventing and combating kidnapping;

(h) Reporting procedures, rescue operations, information systems and prosecutions;

“8. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide technical assistance to States, upon request, to enable them to strengthen their capacity to combat kidnapping, including:

(a) Training of judges, prosecutors and other law enforcement officials in mechanisms for disbanding criminal organizations and in the use of special investigative techniques for the rescue of kidnapped persons, bearing in mind the particular need to safeguard and protect the victims;

(b) Review of trends and greater understanding of the problem in order to create a basis for developing policies and strategies against kidnapping.”

*47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004*

2004/21

Action against corruption: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the entry into force and subsequent implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

“The General Assembly,

“Deeply concerned about the impact of corruption on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

“Bearing in mind that the prevention and combating of corruption is a common and shared responsibility of the international community, necessitating cooperation at the bilateral and multilateral levels,

“Bearing in mind also that the prevention and eradication of corruption is a responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, if their efforts to prevent and combat corruption are to be effective,

“Reaffirming its support and commitment to the goals of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular the objectives set forth in the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,⁸⁹

“Recalling its resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003, in which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Corruption and urged all States and competent regional economic organizations to sign and ratify it,

“Noting with appreciation the High-level Political Conference for the Purpose of Signing the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Merida, Mexico, in December 2003,

“Noting also with appreciation the initiative of those States which have pledged financial contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund in order to enable developing countries and countries with economies in transition to initiate measures to implement the Convention,

⁸⁹ General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex.