

Resolution

2005/23

Strengthening reporting on crime

The Economic and Social Council,

Aware that regular collection and analysis of relevant information on crime may prove an invaluable tool for policymaking, technical cooperation and law enforcement,

Noting with appreciation the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the regular collection of information on crime trends and the operations of criminal justice systems in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 3021 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972 on crime prevention and control and Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/48 of 25 May 1984 on crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development, which resulted in the conducting of eight United Nations surveys on crime trends and operations of criminal justice systems, as well as the important contribution of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice as a forum for discussion and presentation of their findings,

Recalling 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, in which the Assembly called upon the Secretary-General to strengthen the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the preparation of an updated publication on world crime trends,

Recalling also its resolution 1997/27 of 21 July 1997 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with regard to the development of crime statistics and the operations of criminal justice systems, in which it urged Member States to take action for the improvement of crime and criminal justice statistics and to provide support to the participation in the international surveys on victims of crime through extrabudgetary resources,

Considering the need to improve responses to crime, as emphasized in the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,¹ adopted at the high-level segment of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Bangkok from 18 to 25 April 2005,

Noting with appreciation the work done by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network in the area of trends in crime and justice,

¹ A/CONF.203/18, chap. I, resolution 1.

1. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General convene an open-ended expert group, within available extrabudgetary resources, not excluding the use of existing resources from the regular budget of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,² to consider ways and means of improving crime data collection, research and analyses with a view to enhancing the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international entities, in particular the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, as appropriate, to enhance international cooperation and law enforcement;
2. *Invites* Member States to make voluntary contributions to support the work of the open-ended expert group;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit the results of the meeting of the open-ended expert group to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session.

*36th plenary meeting
22 July 2005*

² This new language does not provide a basis for an increase in the regular budget or requests for supplemental increases.