

ECOSOC Resolution 2008/24

Strengthening prevention of urban crime: an integrated approach

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 62/175 of 18 December 2007 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices, and recalling also that, in that resolution, the Assembly drew attention to urban crime as an emerging policy issue,

Recalling also its resolution 2007/12 of 25 July 2007 on the strategy for the period 2008-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in which community-centred crime prevention was designated a result area,

Mindful of its resolution 1995/9 of 24 July 1995, in which it adopted guidelines for cooperation and technical assistance in the field of urban crime prevention, as contained in the annex to that resolution, and its resolution 2002/13 of 24 July 2002, in which it accepted the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recalling its resolutions 2005/22 of 22 July 2005 on action to promote effective crime prevention and 2006/20 of 27 July 2006 on United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention, in which it acknowledged the need to achieve a balanced approach between crime prevention and criminal justice responses,

Considering that the fight against crime can effectively reach its objectives through a combination of national policies on criminal justice and crime prevention to address the causes of crime and violence, bearing in mind that allocating resources to crime prevention can greatly reduce the financial and social costs of crime,

Recognizing the importance of the engagement between civil society and law enforcement authorities in the planning and implementation of crime prevention activities,

Recalling the commitments made by the international community in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹ in particular regarding the fight against crime and the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone,

¹ See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

1. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and strengthen, as appropriate, effective urban crime prevention responses, with a view to achieving an appropriate balance with criminal justice actions;

2. *Also encourages* Member States to integrate crime prevention considerations into all relevant social and economic policies and programmes in order to effectively address the conditions in which crime and violence can emerge;

3. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to explicitly address the crime prevention component in its programme of work and reporting, where relevant, including good practices that integrate crime prevention and criminal justice;

4. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support technical assistance activities in this area, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

*42nd plenary meeting
24 July 2008*