Resolution 23/14: Sustainable urban development through policies for safer cities and urban crime prevention

1. **Encourages** member States to consider, adopt and strengthen, as appropriate, effective urban crime prevention responses at the local and national levels for sustainable urban development and to reinforce the coordination of security, safety and social and economic policies to build safer cities;

2. **Invites** member States to consider the prevention of crime, the building of urban safety and the fostering of social cohesion as priorities to be incorporated into urban planning, management and governance policies;

3. **Also invites** member States to consider an area-based approach when developing policies on the prevention of crime, including by paying special attention to deprived neighbourhoods to ensure social and territorial cohesion;

4. **Requests** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and specialized international, regional and subregional organizations, to compile best practices on policies, norms and institutional conditions related to urban crime prevention within the context of sustainable human settlements and urban development, focusing on the respective roles and responsibilities of national governments and local authorities on this specific policy area;

5. **Calls upon** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in accordance with the Habitat Agenda, the medium-term strategic and institutional plan and the strategic plan for safer cities 2008–2013 to mainstream the issue of crime prevention, urban safety and social cohesion as a primary component of sustainable urban development;

6. **Invites** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to identify the underlying causes of crime and violence in cities and to promote urban crime prevention by enabling productive economic activities in urban areas and sustainable urban livelihoods, thus enhancing the quality of life in cities;

7. **Calls upon** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to draft, under the auspices of the Safer Cities Programme, guidelines on access to and delivery of urban crime prevention within the context of sustainable urban development, based on consultations with member States, including through the Committee of Permanent Representatives, relevant United Nations bodies and concerned stakeholders;

8. **Encourages** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to respond to requests for assistance from local authorities, in accordance with its capacities, in their planning and development of policies and local activities aimed at reducing the impact of crime on the social and economic development of towns and cities;

9. **Requests** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to use its regional and interregional programmes as mechanisms to promote triangular, South-South, and city-to-city cooperation in this area through exchanges of experts, best practices and policy options;

10. **Invites** member States, key stakeholders and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, where appropriate, to allocate additional regional technical and financial resources to assist the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to support local authorities in the strengthening of urban crime prevention public policies, and to support pilot projects of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme that take into account gender and vulnerable groups in all regions to assess the impact of urban crime prevention policies and activities in the strengthening of sustainable urban development;

11. **Appeals** to member States to adopt and implement urban civic intercultural programmes, where appropriate, aimed at combatting racism and xenophobia, reducing the exclusion of minorities and migrants and thus promoting community cohesion in cities, as set forth in paragraph 46 of the Salvador Declaration;

12. **Invites** member States and other donors, to the extent possible, to provide technical, human and financial resources to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to support the implementation of the present resolution;

13. **Requests** the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twenty-fourth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.