Draft resolution on sustainable urban development through policies for safer cities and urban crime prevention

Note by the secretariat

The annex to the present note sets out a draft resolution on sustainable urban development through policies for safer cities and urban crime prevention. It is presented as submitted by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, without formal editing.
Annex

The Governing Council,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements\(^1\), the Habitat Agenda\(^2\), and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium\(^3\), endorsing the universal goal of ensuring adequate shelter for all and also recognized the need to make human settlements safer, and called for the promotion of determined actions against urban crime and violence,

Recalling also the General Assembly’s resolutions 56/261 of 31 January 2002, 62/175 of 18 December 2007, and 65/230 of 21 December 2010 by which States are called to promote international cooperation aimed at supporting crime prevention,


Recalling further its resolution GC 22/8 of 3 April 2009 which approved the guidelines on access to basic services for all, [France: addition - including access to basic safety as a basic service],

Acknowledging the commitments of the Bangkok Declaration\(^4\), in which Member States agreed to strengthen international cooperation in order to create an environment that is conducive to the fight against crime, promoting growth and sustainable development and eradicating poverty and unemployment through effective and balanced development strategies and crime prevention policies,

Acknowledging further the commitments of the Salvador Declaration\(^5\), in which Member States stress the need to adopt national and local action plans for crime prevention that take into account, inter alia, factors that place certain populations and places at higher risk of victimization and/or offending in a comprehensive, integrated and participatory manner, and for such plans to be based on the best available evidence and good practices,

Expressing its concern on the growing insecurity and rising crime rates [Austria/ France: addition – in many parts of the world,] affecting the quality of life, sustainable livelihoods and human dignity of the inhabitants of cities and towns,

[Uganda: addition - Noting with concern the impact of urban crime and violence on women and vulnerable groups, including street children, youth and others,]

Bearing in mind that crime prevention and urban safety are highly related to institutional, political, economic and socio-cultural contexts and that positive measures contribute not only to diminish violence, but also to strengthening the social fabric in cities,

[Mexico: addition - Mindful of the work of the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, on whose work the United Nations Human

---


\(^2\) Ibidem, annex II.

\(^3\) United Nations General Assembly Resolution S-25/2


Settlements Program could build in the urban context in order to, inter alia, ensure complementarity and enhance the synergies,

1. **Encourages** Member States to consider, adopt, and strengthen, as appropriate, effective urban crime prevention responses, at the local and national level, for sustainable urban development, and to reinforce the coordination between security, safety and social and economic policies in order 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;

[France/Mexico: addition – 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 the deprived neighbourhood in order to ensure social and territorial cohesion:]


[revision: 5] 4. **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;

[revision: 6] 5. **Invites** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to identify the underlying causes explaining crime and violence in cities and to promote urban crime prevention by enabling urban productive economic activities, a sustainable urban livelihood, and enhancement of the quality of life in cities;

[revision: 7] 6. **Calls upon** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to draft Safer Cities Guidelines on access and delivery of urban crime prevention within the context of sustainable urban development, based on consultations [France: alternative – with the Committee of Permanent Representatives] with Member States, relevant United Nations bodies and concerned stakeholders;

[revision: 8] 7. **Requests** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to respond to requests for assistance from [Mexico/France: alternative - local authorities, in accordance to its capacities.] Authorities in their planning and development of policies and local activities, aimed at reducing the impact of crime in the social and economic development of towns and cities;

[revision: 9] 8. **Further requests** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to use its regional and inter-regional programmes as a mechanism to promote South-South, [France – triangular] and city to city cooperation in this area through exchange of experts, best practices and policy options;

regions to assess the impact of urban crime prevention policies and activities in the strengthening of sustainable urban development;

[revision: 11] 10. *Appeals to* Member States to adopt and implement urban civic intercultural programmes, where appropriate, aimed at combating racism and xenophobia, reducing the exclusion of minorities and migrants and thus promoting community cohesion in cities;


[revision: 13] 12. *Requests also* the Executive Director to report on the implementation of the present resolution in its twenty-fourth session in 2013.