Annex I

A. Excerpt from the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on the twenty-eighth session (20–24 May 2019), agenda item 10

Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1, including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

1. At its 9th meeting, on 24 May 2019, the Commission considered agenda item 10, entitled "Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1, including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

2. Introductory statements were made by the Second Vice-Chair of the Commission and a representative of the Secretariat to the Governing Bodies. Two participants in the youth meeting organized on the margins of the session of the Commission also made a statement.

3. Statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Thailand, Algeria and the United States. A statement was also made by the observer for Canada.

Deliberations

4. Several speakers highlighted that the Commission, as the leading policymaking body in the United Nations system in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, played a key role with regard to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 16. The mutually reinforcing and interrelated nature of sustainable development and the rule of law was highlighted in that regard.

5. Support was expressed for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 73/183, entitled "Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

6. The importance of leaving no one behind and of involving all relevant stakeholders in efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals was underscored. Several speakers called for an intersectoral approach and public-private partnerships, including to ensure adequate resources for efforts to implement the Sustainable Development Goals. One speaker underscored the importance of focusing joint efforts on the most vulnerable members of society.

7. Continued efforts by UNODC to contribute to the coherence of the United Nations system were welcomed, and the Office was encouraged to continue to work with other United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, to further enhance coordination and collaboration. One speaker underlined the principle of shared responsibility and called on all States to work towards implementation of the 2030 Agenda within their national policies, noting that the 2030 Agenda was complementary to the Commission's work.

8. Speakers welcomed the statement of the participants in the youth meeting and stressed the importance of the involvement of young people in the work of the Commission, including in the preparations for the upcoming Crime Congress.

9. One speaker noted that implementation of the 2030 Agenda must respect and be without prejudice to the independent mandates of other processes and institutions. The speaker also noted that it was recognized in the 2030 Agenda that each country would work towards implementing the Agenda, in accordance with its own national policies and priorities and in a manner consistent with their rights and obligations under international law.

B. Information on Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, presented to the High-level Political Forum pursuant to A/RES/73/183, as made available to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in conference room paper E/CN.15/2019/CRP.1

Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development **

The resolution entitled "Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", negotiated by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) in May 2018, was adopted by the General Assembly on 17 December 2018 (A/RES/73/183).

The resolution invited Member States and other stakeholders to share with the Commission, through its Secretariat, views on how the CCPCJ can further contribute to the review of the Sustainable Development Goals, for consideration during its twenty-eighth session¹.

The aim is to contribute, within the CCPCJ's mandate, to the advancement of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Goal 16², which will be under in-depth review by the meeting of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in July 2019, which will be followed by the HLPF meeting convened under the auspices of the General Assembly in September 2019.

Further to being considered by the CCPCJ, the information contained in this conference room paper will be brought to the attention of the HLPF at its meeting in July 2019 and the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which will be held in Kyoto/Japan in 2020³.

By the deadline of 15 January 2019, contributions were received from Argentina, Bahrain, Chile, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Japan, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia, which are reflected in this conference room paper. Information provided by the United Nations Environment Programme and by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is also included.

The paper consists of two parts:

- Part 1 includes an overview of suggestions made regarding ways in which the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, within its mandate, can contribute to advancing the

^{**} This document has not been edited.

¹ A/RES/73/183, operative paragraph 6

² SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

³ A/RES/73/183, operative paragraph 6

implementation of the 2030 Agenda, particularly the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16;

- Part 2 includes information provided on action that has been taken towards meeting the targets of Goal 16. The contributing Member States are kindly invited to share this information in the interventions made during the 28th session of the CCPCJ, including during the general debate. Other Member States are encouraged to follow this example and also report on their domestic experiences during the CCPCJ session.

I. Proposals for ways in which the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice can contribute to advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, particularly the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16

1. It was highlighted that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice played a vital role in the attainment of Goal 16. Reference was made to the numerous resolutions adopted by the Commission in the areas of trafficking in persons; violence against women; the rule of law; restorative justice; treatment of prisoners; alternatives to imprisonment; access to measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV in prisons; the incorporation of the gender perspective into criminal justice and crime prevention policies and programmes; and efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime and improve the quality and availability of statistics on crime and criminal justice for the development of policies. It was mentioned that these areas were also linked to and contributed to the achievement of other Sustainable Development Goals.

2. It was also noted that, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda, the Commission had prioritized an intersectoral approach that supports the rule of law, crime prevention, criminal justice and development, and had undertaken constant efforts to develop policies and programmes with a holistic approach that incorporate the perspective of gender and human rights, and broader measures and actions related to social and economic development for poverty eradication, and respect for cultural diversity, peace and social inclusion.

3. It was mentioned that the CCPCJ is a valuable platform for the exchange between Member States, intergovernmental organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders. The sessions of the CCPCJ can be ideally used to present concrete projects that serve the implementation of the SDGs and bring together relevant actors. The CCPCJ can contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by facilitating such contacts and supporting projects of this kind.

- 4. The written contributions received contained a number of proposals:
 - a. Proposals relating to the organization of work of the Commission, the format of its meetings and its cooperation with other intergovernmental bodies,
- b. Proposals relating to specific initiatives by Member States as well as specific thematic areas that the Commission should/could promote,
- c. Proposals addressed to the Secretariat.

On (a) Proposals relating to the organization of work of the Commission, the format of its meetings and its cooperation with other intergovernmental bodies:

(i) During the regular sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, **one session of the Committee of the Whole** could be dedicated to a discussion, with national and international experts, on one of the targets of Goal 16;

(ii) The Commission could, in order to provide input for its discussions, **establish a working group** responsible for monitoring progress in respect of the various commitments/targets established in Goal 16. The working group could give practical guidance to Member States regarding the types of measures that should be implemented and examine best practices in order to generate a multiplier effect. The group could meet annually in order to analyse one target of Goal 16, its indicators and its relationship with other targets of the Goal.

(iii) Presentations in the plenary during the sessions as well as side events on the topic should ideally be conceived as riveting, not consisting only of speeches or panel discussions, but trying to find **new approaches** to conducting such events. Such approaches should **as much as possible draw the audience into the topic concerned** and raise its interest.

(iv) The Commission should be urged to take advantage of States' expertise in the area of sustainable development and **include such expertise** in its programme of work, encouraging other States to draw on that expertise.

(v) The Commission should be encouraged to embrace proposals put forward by States and include such proposals in its programme of work on sustainable development as well as promote them around the world as a source of expertise in order to strengthen cooperation in the field of combating crime.

(vi) The Commission could strengthen its links and synergies with other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other governing bodies of relevant United Nations agencies, such as the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, to lend coherence to the contribution made by counter-narcotics efforts to the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda.

On (b) Proposals relating to specific initiatives by Member States as well as specific thematic areas that the Commission should/could promote:

(i) At the 28th session, Member states could **present results of their voluntary national reviews** and other experience and best practices related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda / SDG 16.

(ii) There is a need to **strengthen cooperation** among the relevant national institutions of the Member States in combating organized crime, terrorism, corruption and human trafficking by providing specific training for officials and facilitating legal cooperation and capacity-building at all levels in order to more effectively combat such crimes.

(iii) The objective of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is to strengthen international action to combat organized crime and improve the efficiency of criminal justice systems. Within the framework of the latter objective, the Commission can contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16 by **strengthening mutual legal assistance mechanisms**. It is proposed that the Commission promote the electronic processing of requests for international legal assistance and that

the central authorities designated under the relevant treaties act as the bodies responsible for executing such requests. This will undoubtedly lead to more timely and effective cooperation in the prosecution of transnational crimes.

(iv) The Commission could work towards establishing **safe** communication channels for exchanging information and experience on persons whose extradition is requested and on criminal methods used by such groups.

(v) The Commission could work towards studying the feasibility of using modern technological methods in areas of investigation of drug related and transnational crimes.

(vi) The Commission could work towards organizing **joint training programmes to raise awareness and understanding** in the area of crime control and mechanisms for handling situations in the field.

(vii) The Commission could work towards organizing joint workshops through which problems and difficulties facing investigators during investigation procedures in difficult cases can be put forward.

(viii) The Commission could work towards holding regular meetings to discuss the **usefulness of organizing joint courses and workshops to identify challenges and difficulties** and devise suitable solutions for them.

(ix) The Commission could work towards **discussing ways of cooperation** in the fields of training, exchange of experiences, studies and research in the security fields, and in the fields of combating cybercrimes and methods of investigation.

(x) The Commission should be invited to **organize criminal justice training programmes** that include a sustainable development component, and it should provide opportunities for States to participate in such programmes under the guidance of experts from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

(xi) As the Commission governs the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and defines the budget for technical assistance, special attention should be paid to **technical assistance in the area of trafficking in persons**, particularly trafficking in the form of forced labour, servitude, slavery and similar practices. This form of trafficking in persons encompasses many of the ills that Sustainable Development Goal 16 seeks to eradicate and is not always given the necessary priority.

(xii) Governments should seek to end or curtail divisions within their societies by **providing equal opportunities for all and applying the rule of law** to all citizens, without discrimination or racism.

(xiii) The Commission could work towards promoting a culture of peace, justice, human development and ethnic and national tolerance by **promoting public education and awareness programs** for all levels of society in education, media and social media programmes.

(xiv) Sustainable development cannot be achieved without peace, stability, respect for human rights and a strong, effective judiciary based on the rule of law, equality among all citizens and the observance of the rule of law by citizens and institutions. Member States should be **urged to further ensure access to justice for all by enacting legislation to achieve this objective**.

(xv) States should be urged – by way of decisions adopted at sessions of the Commission – to strengthen the principles, culture and values of responsibility and partnership among the public sector, the private sector and civil society in order to foster opportunities for cooperation with

a view to promoting a deeper understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals.

(xvi) The Commission could work towards **addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of crime** and to do everything possible to resolve conflicts, eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development, scientific prosperity and the preservation of the principle of human rights for all and the rule of law.

(xvii) Efforts should be made to widely **disseminate a culture of lawfulness and respect for human rights** among and within United Nations Member States. The focus should be on highlighting the judiciary's role in entrenching the rule of law, institutions and sustainable development by combating all forms of organized crime, including the abuse and exploitation of and trafficking in persons; violence against and torture of children; and corruption and bribery, reducing illicit financial and arms flows and strengthening the recovery of stolen assets.

(xviii) States should be urged – by way of decisions adopted at sessions of the Commission – to prepare technical studies on sustainable development.

(xix) The Commission could work towards studying the geographic and social environment of, and types of crime committed in countries with considerable criminal activities.

On (c) Proposals addressed to the Secretariat:

(i) At the 28th session of the CCPCJ in 2019 the UNODC Secretariat could make a **presentation on progress made in the UNCAC reviews**, as the fight against corruption is one of the main elements of the SDG 16. Specific findings on how corruption is being tackled, including best practices and improvements accomplished, could also be presented. The Secretariat could also promote 2030 Agenda / SDG 16 through side events and videos during the session and on the UNODC website. The Secretariat could also involve relevant international as well as national NGOs and civic society (including "influencers" / personalities) in advertising this topic, invite them to participate in the session and present their experience and approaches.

(ii) The UNODC Secretariat could invite Member States to send to the Secretariat by the end of 2019 what they have already done to implement the 2030 Agenda/SDG 16 and what they are planning to undertake in this sense in the future, compile the information received and, on that basis, **compile a set of non-binding recommendations for Member States** on how to implement 2030 Agenda / SDG 16 for the 29th session.

(iii) The UNODC Secretariat could also develop a matrix of 10 basic recommendations/steps/activities Member States are invited to undertake to best implement the 2030 Agenda / SDG 16, invite Member States for yearly updates and post the matrix on a website, showcasing which Member State has implemented which recommendation as an incentive in a game-like manner. In 2030 ideally, all Member States would have collected points for all recommendations.

5. The Commission might wish to further consider the above-mentioned proposals during its upcoming 28th session CCPCJ.

II. Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies: Examples of action taken towards the targets of Goal 16

A. Information submitted by Argentina

6. Information submitted by Argentina related to targets 16.1 (Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere) and 16.2 (End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children).

7. The following information describes the initiatives promoted by the Office of the Under-Secretary for Access to Justice in relation to the fight against drugs and transnational organized crime.

8. The core mandate of the Office, which is part of the Justice Secretariat of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, is to promote and ensure effective access to justice throughout the country. To that end, the Office seeks to make appropriate and effective resources available so that action can be taken whenever fundamental rights are violated.

9. One of the Office's priorities is the development of effective responses to the unique challenges faced by people with disabilities, indigenous communities, the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and victims of different types of violence in their efforts to access justice and obtain the information they need in order to exercise their rights.

10. This report will focus on the National Programme for the Rescue and Support of Victims of Trafficking in Persons and the Support Centre for Victims of Crime – both of which are under the purview of the Office of the Under-Secretary for Access to Justice – given their direct relationship with the fight against drugs and organized crime.

I. National Programme for the Rescue and Support of Victims of Trafficking in Persons

11. The Programme consists of an interdisciplinary team of psychologists, social workers, doctors, lawyers and police officers who are specially trained to protect and assist victims.

12. The main purpose of the Programme is to provide cost-free psychological, medical and legal assistance and support through an interdisciplinary team of professionals from the time a court-ordered raid is carried out to the time the presumed victim of trafficking for sexual or labour exploitation provides a statement. To that end, the Programme has a safe house where comprehensive psychological, medical, legal and social assistance is offered with the aim of ensuring that victims' rights are effectively restored.

13. The approach taken by the team, as from the time victims are rescued and placed under protection, is to inform victims of their rights and ensure they have the tools they need in order to overcome the situation that they have experienced.

14. To prevent the violation of victims' rights and revictimization during the proceedings, and in response to a request by courts dealing with cases of human trafficking and exploitation, a team of psychologists specially trained to take statements using the Gesell chamber system was established in 2014.

15. Assistance and support are provided and statements taken by psychologists in a Gesell chamber in compliance with article 250 quater of the Code of Criminal Procedure of Argentina.

16. In view of the fact that trafficked persons are both victims and key witnesses in court cases, comprehensive support and assistance are provided so that victims, who are the central figures in the process, can take an active part in proceedings and are able to face those who had exploited them.

17. For those reasons, the provision of support, attentive listening by an interdisciplinary team, legal advice and protection measures are essential. In extreme cases that are deemed to involve high-risk situations, victims and their families are offered the possibility of participating in the National Witness Protection Programme of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 25.764.

18. For the purpose of safeguarding the process of administering justice, the activities carried out involve both work with victims, who are provided with support and informed of their rights at each stage of proceedings, and the preparation of technical expert reports, which are requested by the judicial authorities concerned and are an essential tool in securing the conviction of perpetrators.

19. Furthermore, since 2011, the Programme has operated a nationwide free helpline (145), which is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for people to report information relating to trafficking in persons. Such reports may be made anonymously so that the identity of the person making the call is protected.

20. From April 2008 to December 2018, a total of 13,348 victims were rescued and provided with support and assistance.

21. In order to update and redesign the database for the 145 helpline, a special coding system has been developed for different types of information reported, different ways of registering the information, the geographical area from which calls are made, the referral of reports and the channels for which the helpline exists. The purpose of the system is to make it possible to determine the course of action to be taken in response to each report.

22. The opening of regional offices of the Programme is one of the priority projects under the 2020 Justice Programme. Regional offices currently operate in the Provinces of Santa Fe, Chaco, La Pampa, Mendoza, La Rioja and Entre Ríos, and a technical team based in the Provinces of Río Negro and Chubut operates in the Patagonia region.

II. Support Centre for Victims of Crime

23. The Support Centre for Victims of Crime was established pursuant to Act No. 27.372 with the aim of placing victims centre stage and bringing about a paradigm shift in how they are treated through the adoption of a human rights-based approach.

24. Furthermore, in accordance with decree No. 421/18 of May 2018, a National Directorate for Victim Support has been established as part of the Office of the Under-Secretary for Access to Justice and is tasked with operating the Centre. Since its launch in June 2018, the Centre has assisted a total of 1,044 persons, of whom 48 per cent were victims, 12 per cent were victims' family members and 4 per cent were accused persons. Of those interventions, 52.4 per cent consisted in the provision of advice, 23.8 per cent in assistance, 18.3 per cent in the provision of guidance, 5.1 per cent in support, 0.3 per cent in legal assistance and 0.1 per cent in assisted referral.

25. The Centre brings together support services for victims throughout Argentina, providing legal, psychological and social assistance in order to support, guide and advise victims of offences that fall under federal jurisdiction and victims of offences that fall under ordinary jurisdiction in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, including at the request of local courts.

26. Victims of trafficking in persons are provided with assistance by a team of psychologists and social workers under the National Programme for the Rescue and Support of Victims of Trafficking in Persons, while victims of family or sexual violence, whether they are children, adolescents or adults, are provided with assistance by the interdisciplinary team of the Victims against Violence Programme. In cases where the victim's life is in danger or the victim has been killed, family members of the victim are provided with assistance or support by the interdisciplinary team of the National Programme to Combat Impunity.

27. To summarize, the following activities carried out by the National Directorate for Victim Support to ensure compliance with Act No. 27.372 may be highlighted:28. The launch of the nationwide 149 free helpline, which operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The helpline is staffed by mental health professionals who are highly trained in counselling.

28. The implementation of a protocol on the action to be taken in situations of social upheaval that may have a major impact on the general public, including action to ensure that the public feels supported. The National Directorate for Victim Support monitors all print and online media in Argentina on a daily basis in order to promptly identify warning signs of such situations. In addition, victims may call the 149 helpline, which provides advice to callers throughout the country.

- a) Each case is assessed individually by the interdisciplinary Crisis and Emergency Response Team in order to identify the appropriate action to be taken.
- b) Initial contact is then established with the victim(s) of crime and/or their family members, either in person or by telephone. The team listens actively and respectfully in order to identify the needs of those concerned.
- c) Once those needs have been identified, and where necessary, the teams of the National Directorate for Victim Support, namely the Crisis and Emergency Response Team, the Victims against Violence Programme, the National Programme to Combat Impunity and the National Programme for the Rescue and Support of Victims of Trafficking in Persons, are deployed. If the deployment of teams is unnecessary, the Directorate provides guidance and advice, refers the case as appropriate and ensures follow-up.
- d) The Directorate then coordinates with the victim support services to ensure the appropriate referral of cases. To that end, it contacts the institution to which the case is to be referred and provides information about the victim in a report containing the victim's personal information, a brief overview of the case and details of the legal proceedings.
- e) If necessary, follow-up is then carried out by telephone or in person. Priority is given to mental health support and social and legal assistance in order to help victims reclaim their rights and to restore their trust in public institutions.

29. Cooperation on a daily basis with both the courts and prosecutor's offices of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires and with the federal courts elsewhere in the country in order to comprehensively assist victims of crime so that they are informed of the rights established in Act No. 27.372 and given legal advice with regard to the stage of execution of the sentence.31. Working meetings with the participation of members of the judiciary. In order to ensure the correct implementation of the Act on the Rights of and Guarantees for Victims of Crime, working meetings are held with judges and prosecutors with a view to forging consensus with respect to good practices in the comprehensive assistance of victims.32. The holding of information exchange meetings with non-governmental organizations working in the area of victim support. Such meetings have been held with Asociación Madres del Dolor (San Isidro), Usina de la Justicia (Buenos Aires), Estrellas Amarillas (La Pampa), Justicia Comarca (El Bolsón) and Red Nacional de Víctimas de Tránsito (Ushuaia).33. The raising of public awareness of Act No. 27.372. These efforts have included the participation of the National Directorate for Victim Support in local and regional activities through the "The State in Your Neighbourhood" programme in Quilmes, El Talar, San Miguel, Pilar, La Boca, Almirante Brown and San Isidro, as part of which contact has been established with the public and with organizations that work with victims of crime.

30. Furthermore, visits have been conducted throughout Argentina to raise awareness of Act No. 27.372 and the activities of the Support Centre for Victims of Crime; meetings have been held with local victims' associations; and information has been collected about cases warranting the Directorate's intervention.

31. With regard to justice, the Under-Secretary for Justice and Criminal Policy wishes to draw attention to the recent implementation of a new accusatory system as part of the Justice Plan 2020, which was established by the Ministry of Justice with the objective of making justice a key part of the lives of Argentineans and enable conflicts to be resolved in an independent, prompt and safe manner through the comprehensive strengthening of the judicial system. In that context, various initiatives have been implemented in order to modernize the current criminal procedure system and equip it with new tools that maximize the resources available for the investigation and prosecution of more complex crimes.

32. In particular, it should be highlighted that the process of implementing the reformed Federal Code of Criminal Procedure has begun, for the purposes of which a plan, proposals and a programme of work have been drawn up. Implementation of the Code is the responsibility, by law, of the congressional Bicameral Commission on the Implementation and Monitoring of the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure (article 7 of Act No. 27.063), which is also responsible for establishing the timetable for the Code's step-by-step implementation. However, the Office of the Under-Secretary for Justice and Criminal Policy is providing assistance in the implementation of the new system through the Unit for the Implementation of the Code of Criminal Procedure, that Unit having been established through resolution No. 794/2011. In that regard, it should be noted that on 25 January 2017, through resolution RESOL-2017-42-APN-MJ, Dr. Ariel García Bordón was appointed as Coordinator of the Unit.

33. Moreover, Act No. 27.272 establishes provisions governing flagrante delicto cases and provides for expedited proceedings in such cases through the introduction of oral hearings at the stage of preliminary investigation and the appearance of the accused before a judge immediately following arrest. The Office of the Under-Secretary for Justice and Criminal Policy has designed an implementation process in collaboration with all the

system's stakeholders, together with a procedure for monitoring and evaluating implementation of the Act. In addition, training has been provided to judges, prosecutors and employees, including in cooperation with the union of staff of the judiciary.

34. Furthermore, Act No. 27.307 was enacted with the aim of optimizing the working capacity of the existing federal oral courts on the basis of the improved distribution of resources and expediting the prosecution of offences related to drug trafficking, organized crime and corruption, to which end it was established that judges of the federal criminal courts of Buenos Aires and the federal courts of the provinces may, sitting alone, consider and rule on applications to suspend proceedings and preside over summary proceedings or proceedings relating to offences that in principle carry a maximum custodial sentence of six (6) years.

35. Lastly, through Act No. 27.401, the liability of legal persons was established for the corruption offences covered by article 258 bis of the Criminal Code. In the draft legislation amending the Code, that provision has been retained and the liability of legal persons has been extended to cover not only offences against public administration (such as national and transnational bribery and trading in influence) but also other offences, including economic and financial offences.

B. Information submitted by Chile

36. Information submitted by Chile related to targets 16.1 (Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere), 16.2 (End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children), 16.3 (Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all) and 16.4 (By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime).

16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere

37. The Public Prosecution Service of Chile, through its specialized Violent Crime Unit, has implemented initiatives relating to the investigation of homicide cases, standardizing relevant procedures and promoting coordination with other institutions. Examples of that work include an inter-institutional protocol for the formal identification of accused persons, a consolidated report on flagrante delicto cases of homicide and the prioritization of procedures in forensic laboratories.

38. An interregional round table on rural violence operates as part of the Public Prosecution Service. Rural violence is a criminal phenomenon that affects some regions of the country, encompassing criminal acts of various kinds relating to the commission of acts of violence that affect or endanger the property and/or the lives and physical integrity of persons, an idiosyncrasy of such violence being the fact that a political background linked to the claiming of land rights underlies such acts. The round table is composed of the regional public prosecutors, the heads of the specialized units and analysts.

39. At the international level, the Public Prosecution Service is playing an important role in addressing the subject as contact point for the Homicide Knowledge Platform of the Organization of American States.

40. Furthermore, in 2018 the Public Prosecution Service identified as an institutional task the establishment of an inter-institutional working mechanism, both national and international, to organize and coordinate the

work of various institutions responsible for the prevention and punishment of crime, in order to identify good practices, challenges, investigation mechanisms and homicide trends and thus to achieve increasingly effective criminal investigation and prosecution.

41. Accordingly, as Vice-President of the Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors (AIAMP) for South America, the Public Prosecution Service convened a regional meeting for the exchange of experiences in the investigation and prosecution of homicide in its various forms as established under criminal law, as a key step towards achieving those objectives and, in particular, laying the foundations for the creation of a future regional working network on the subject.

42. For 2018, the Attorney General added to the offences to be analysed under the Special Investigation and Crime Analysis System the offence of possessing, having in one's possession and/or carrying weapons or other controlled or prohibited items and the offence of trafficking in weapons or other controlled or prohibited items.

43. The importance of investigating this type of criminal phenomenon using the methodology of the aforementioned system is underscored by the fact that the problem of violence associated with the use of firearms is manifested in various illicit acts that until now have not been dealt with systematically. Such offences should be analysed and prosecuted within the framework of a crime policy aimed at improving the institutional approach to the problem.

44. In that regard, it is necessary to consider robbery, drugs and weapons as a triad, drugs and weapons constituting not only the object but also the proceeds of crime. It is very difficult to imagine facing the challenge of the arms market without criminal analysis given that incomplete records, a high number of reports of offences that are not filed, multiple shortcomings with respect to regulation and varying market situations in the different regions of the country make it far from easy to address the phenomenon on a caseby-case basis, particularly when it is unclear where the weapons originate, where they are stored, who is in possession of the weapons and what they are used for.

45. More direct work with the police, relations with the community and coordination with public, private and professional institutions has become a distinctive feature of the Special Investigation and Crime Analysis System, since it has been shown that collaboration with other actors can yield information that is essential for improving the effectiveness of the Criminal Prosecution Plan, the characterization of the offences analysed and the prevention of crime.

46. Accordingly, the focus of analysis is the arms market, in which weapons are sold, bought, exchanged, modified, repaired, stored, transported or manufactured and criminals can acquire a weapon in order to commit other offences or acts.

47. Once a crime problem has been detected, whether through a regional crime assessment, a regional criminal conduct report specifically dealing with the subject of weapons or an analytical report serving as the basis for identification of a special investigation area, various strategies can be identified in order to counter the problem, leading to the identification of several special investigation areas, or different strategies can be combined to create a single special investigation area.

- 48. The strategies identified to date are as follows:
 - 1. Plan for the seizure of weapons through targeted control

2. Detection and prosecution of individuals who steal weapons as their preferred choice of illicit goods

- 3. Detection and prosecution of individuals who trade in or hire out weapons for the commission of illicit acts by others
- 4. Detection and prosecution of gangs that use weapons to achieve dominance in the criminal market
- 5. Detection and prosecution of gangs that acquire and use weapons in order to commit crimes
- 6. Focus on arms trafficking
- 7. Focus of public institutions on arms trafficking
- 8. Focus on weapons caches.

49. It should be noted that there are currently some 16 special investigation areas relating to the problem of weapons.

16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children

50. The Public Prosecution Service works in a coordinated fashion throughout the country and with other public institutions to eradicate trafficking in and exploitation of persons. One of the specific initiatives in which the Service is involved is the Intersectoral Committee on Trafficking in Persons, led by the Ministry of the Interior. In addition, the Public Prosecution Service has launched in Chile the United Nations "Deadly Business" campaign against the smuggling of migrants with the aim of raising awareness among the authorities and the general public of that major criminal trend.

51. In particular, the Public Prosecution Service has specialized prosecutors working in the area of sexual exploitation of minors, and those prosecutors are assigned preferentially to some major cases. The Public Prosecution Service also contributes to the Third Framework for Action against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, which is coordinated by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, in the areas of training and the development of protocols.

52. With regard to torture and cruel treatment of children and adolescents, progress has recently been made following the enactment of Act No. 20.968, which criminalizes acts of torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. In April 2018, a committee was established for the purpose of developing a protocol of action aimed at standardizing coordinated procedures and actions in cases of death of persons in the custody or care of, or under the control of, the State or private bodies that carry out public functions of that nature, so as to ensure proper investigation of the cause of death and the determination of criminal liability in such cases.

53. Training courses and workshops on recently adopted Act No. 21.013, which establishes abuse as a new offence and strengthens protection for persons in vulnerable situations, have been conducted for prosecutors and officials. The Act covers acts that do not cause physical injury but jeopardize the physical and mental integrity of children or adolescents, elderly persons or persons with disabilities, whether such acts are carried out by individuals within or outside the victim's household (private domestic workers, staff of nursery schools and carers of elderly persons and persons with disabilities in the context of domestic violence).

54. Lastly, attention is drawn to the implementation within the Public Prosecution Service of the Act on Video-Recorded Interviews for Child and

Adolescent Victims of Sexual and Other Serious Offences, which represents a significant milestone with respect to the participation of children and adolescents in the investigation and trial phases, with the aim of reducing secondary victimization. Those phases are guided by the principles and rights established in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and on the related protocols, general comments and guidelines.

16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

55. The Public Prosecution Service has a role to play as promoter and guarantor of justice systems and of protection of the rights of individuals. In that regard, it has earned recognition at the international level for its defence of the autonomy and independence of public prosecution services as a fundamental element of the rule of law. Thus, in inter-institutional forums, namely the Specialized Meeting of Public Prosecutors of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) and AIAMP, the Public Prosecution Service of Chile has made proposals aimed at deepening the reform of criminal procedure in the member and associated States of MERCOSUR through the establishment in all of those States of adversarial, oral and public proceedings with a view to ensuring that the public prosecution service is an autonomous body, which will ensure its due independence and thus the effectiveness of its criminal prosecution work.⁴ The autonomy of the public prosecution service vis-à-vis the executive and legislative branches serves to guarantee the equality of citizens before the law, the independence of the courts and the credibility of the justice system.⁵

56. In order to make steady progress in ensuring access to justice, the Public Prosecution Service, which constantly looks to the needs of its users – the vast majority of whom are victims – has established as one of the four "strategic areas" of its Strategic Plan an area that is directly linked to that subject, namely user relations and support. The initiatives planned in that strategic area are directly linked to relevant work carried out by the Public Prosecution Service, as indicated.

57. It should be noted that since 2008, the Public Prosecution Service has made progress in the design and implementation of a general model for user support that provides for:

1. A victim and witness support model based on the provision of three basic services, namely guidance, protection and support for all victims and witnesses who seek the assistance of any of the public prosecutor's offices or support offices of the Public Prosecution Service. It also provides the same basic services tailored to the specific individual needs of certain victims or witnesses, such as victims of offences in the context of domestic violence, child or adolescent victims, victims of trafficking in persons, illegally smuggled migrants, victims and witnesses in serious cases and victims of offences constituting torture. The victim and witness support model also provides for financial aid in cases in which the victim or witness requires financial support, which is provided during the course of criminal proceedings. The objective of the model is to provide standardized support of quality to victims and witnesses throughout the country on the basis of an assessment of risk or of intimidation, or an assessment of their needs in relation to their participation in

⁴ MERCOSUR/REMPM/ACTA [record of proceedings] No. 1/13, conclusion 4.8.

⁵ Buenos Aires Declaration, sixth special session of the General Assembly of the Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors, July 2017.

criminal proceedings, according to which the protection measures and/or assistance to be granted to the victim or witness are determined.

2. A user support and information system, the purpose of which is to coordinate existing channels of support offered by the Public Prosecution Service – in person, by telephone and online – with the aim of facilitating users' access to the institution's services through the provision of information, the receipt of user requests and the timely management of the responses provided.

58. The implementation of the system was carried out gradually throughout the country, beginning in 2012 and ending in 2015. An assessment of its operation has been carried out annually, on the basis of which improvements have been made in order to optimize the support provided to users.

59. Within the framework of this system, which ensures timely and highquality support founded on the dignity and equality of those who seek assistance through any of the three aforementioned support channels, the Public Prosecution Service has been developing and implementing various initiatives in order to improve access for victims, witnesses and users in general with needs that hinder their access to the services offered by the institution, those initiatives including the following:

a. Introduction of a sign language interpretation service. Access to justice for deaf persons who seek the assistance of any of the local prosecutor's offices of the Public Prosecution Service has been facilitated through the implementation in all of those offices, since 2015, of the sign language interpretation service via videoconference, which is provided by an external company according to the conditions specified by the Public Prosecution Service.

b. Intercultural justice. A further challenge taken on by the Public Prosecution Service is the development of an intercultural justice system that makes it possible to assist foreign migrants who do not speak Spanish and who participate in criminal proceedings. To that end, the Public Prosecution Service will soon implement a support programme aimed at providing an online interpretation service in English and Creole, through a videoconferencing system, at 150 locations throughout the country, that is, at the regional and local prosecutor's offices, where that service will facilitate the access of such users - at different stages of proceedings - to the services provided by the Public Prosecution Service, ranging from the provision of general information or information on the status of their case, or requests for copies of documents, dossiers or scheduling documents, to the recording of formal complaints and the taking of statements.

16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.

60. Chile has a national strategy for combating money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, and the Public Prosecution Service participates in the implementation of the plan of action that forms a part of that strategy. Specifically, the Public Prosecution Service has been developing a guide on the investigation of assets for prosecutors and specialized police forces and conducting related training for police and prosecutors.

61. Work to counter organized crime is coordinated with prosecutors throughout the country in order to ensure more efficient prosecution in relation to criminal gangs or organizations, which has resulted in a considerable increase in the number of cases involving illicit groups that have been investigated and in which the Public Prosecution Service has secured convictions. In recent years, intensive efforts have been invested in training for prosecutors and police officers to prioritize the prosecution of organized crime over crime committed by individuals. Prosecution offices for crime analysis and special investigation have been established throughout the country and will focus on the prosecution of criminal phenomena, including organized crime.

Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms (Anti-Corruption Unit)

Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels (Legal Advice Unit)

Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime

62. The Public Prosecution Service, in its Institutional Strategic Plan 2016–2022, establishes a course of action consisting in the development and implementation of a technical assistance plan in collaboration with national and international bodies. Accordingly, since 2016, on the basis of the annual identification of needs, and in concordance with all other institutional strategic objectives, various technical assistance activities covering a range of topics relating to this target have been carried out. These efforts are aimed at strengthening the Public Prosecution Service's capacity to prosecute offences, manage operations and respond to user demand. The Public Prosecution Service also works with other States to provide advice, carrying out training and organizing study visits to other public prosecution services in the region.

C. Information submitted by the Dominican Republic

63. Information submitted by the Dominican Republic on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/15, entitled "Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and information regarding progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

64. The clear commitment of the Government of the Dominican Republic is demonstrated by the plans and targets it has established with a view to achieving a more just and inclusive society in which the State effectively ensures that all citizens are able to exercise their rights in all areas, in a comprehensive and sustainable manner. In addition to those plans and projects within the country, policies and guidelines are in place for building and strengthening regional and international relations, in accordance with article 26 of the Constitution, which establishes that the Dominican Republic is a "State member of the international community, open to cooperation and committed to the rules of international law".

65. Accordingly, the Government welcomes and acknowledges the importance of the Commission's work, which, in terms of both design and implementation, goes hand in hand with integration, indivisibility and crosscutting impact in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly – with respect to the Ministry's area of competence – Goal 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels. 66. Similarly, the Government places great value on the promotion of information transparency, reporting and continued efforts to encourage States and other actors to provide and share information voluntarily. That information exchange, together with the sharing of good practices and lessons learned, is contributing to the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

67. With regard to the actions taken by the Ministry of the Interior and Police to reinforce the comprehensive policy on citizen security and peaceful coexistence, in order to respond effectively to the crime and violence problems facing the country, and in accordance with the guidelines established by the Government of President Danilo Medina, the Ministry is implementing extensive and ongoing measures to improve citizen security and the quality of life of all citizens as part of a "culture of peace". According to the President, "security is a critical issue for everyone, regardless of their age or social class; we want peace and security for ourselves and our families, which is why these measures have a single goal: the safety, peace and tranquillity of our people".

68. The legal framework has been strengthened in order to achieve that goal. It should be noted, in particular, that new legislation has been enacted, notably Organic Act No. 590-16 of 15 July 2016 on the National Police, which has enabled, inter alia, the reform, modernization and professionalization of the National Police, the procurement of more vehicles, clothing, weapons and communications equipment and an increase in salaries, and Act No. 631-16 of 2 August 2016 on the control and regulation of arms, ammunition and related materials, which establishes an up-to-date regulatory framework for arms control that is adapted to the current context and, most importantly, brings together the rules on the control of weapons in the possession of members of the general public, those rules having previously been set out in different pieces of legislation. In addition, the Act establishes new offences and more stringent requirements for obtaining a firearms licence and creates a system of harsher penalties and a broader range of aggravating circumstances applicable where a person reoffends or commits a weapons offence associated with another offence, such as drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, migrant smuggling or gender-based violence.

69. With regard to technology, a new advanced technology platform known as the National Weapons System has been created in order to apply new controls and improve all processes related to, among other things, the carrying and possession of, and trade in, firearms, ammunition and related items; to enable ballistic and biometric fingerprinting, thus linking natural persons or users to the firearms used to commit offences; and to enhance the connectivity of government databases and the exchange of information with the institutions responsible for crime control and prosecution. It is important to highlight that the implementation of the National Weapons System and the operation of the Ballistic and Biometric Laboratory as part of that system have significantly enhanced and strengthened measures against arms trafficking and have optimized capacities in all areas relating to citizen security, which is a vital element in sustainable human, social and political development.

70. Joint crime prevention operations are conducted regularly by the Ministry of the Interior and Police, the Ministry of Defence and the Attorney General's Office in both strategic and randomly selected areas, and appropriate action is taken where necessary, for example, if persons are found to be carrying arms in contravention of the law or minors are found in places in which alcoholic beverages are consumed.

71. In order to build and reinforce national and international capacity, the Dominican Republic has signed inter-agency agreements and agreements with international control bodies, including the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and on the basis of those agreements has been able, inter alia, to undertake new and strengthen existing commitments in relation to the Arms Trade Treaty, enhance training and develop analytical tools.

72. With regard to information transparency and reporting, the Ministry of the Interior and Police complies strictly with Act No. 200-04 on public access to information and has an office responsible for free access to information, from which interested persons may request information, either in person or online, subject to the conditions established by law. Furthermore, the Ministry has submitted country reports to the control bodies and has a policy of ensuring that those reports are publicly available, as well as providing additional information in its submissions.

73. The Ministry takes this opportunity to reaffirm both its own commitment and that of the Dominican Republic and its willingness to work collaboratively in order to achieve the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

D. Information submitted by Guatemala

74. Information submitted by Guatemala regarding the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/15, "Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

75. The title of Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/15, "Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", implies that the resolution relates to the manner in which States Members of the United Nations might consider reporting, including in their national voluntary reviews, information on how they are implementing Sustainable Development Goal 16 within their justice systems in line with the work of the Commission.

76. In that regard, the United Nations has invited Member States to submit to the Commission, through its secretariat, views on how the Commission can contribute to the review of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in particular, Sustainable Development Goal 16, for the Commission's consideration at its twenty-eighth session.

77. The Commission implements projects and provides assistance in the areas of juvenile justice; criminal law reform; criminal justice reform; restorative justice; alternatives to imprisonment; victim support; gender-based violence; and monitoring of the criminal justice system's performance.

78. On the basis of the analysis conducted, the following activities carried out by the judiciary in 2018 to address the issues dealt with by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 16 may be highlighted:

✓ Signature of a State agreement on implementation of the 2017–2020 National Plan of Action for Children and Adolescents. A dialogue was organized in order to identify the needs of children and adolescents and find collaborative solutions to the problems currently facing society with a view to the three branches of government signing an agreement intended to address those problems as a matter of urgency. The agreement was signed on 20 November 2017.

✓ Launch of a programme to prevent violence and crime against women, children and adolescents. Following a thorough analysis of the situation nationwide as well as in the most-affected regions of the country, and with the significant and invaluable support of the Delegation of the European Union to Guatemala and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, a programme was launched on 21 September 2018 containing measures to prevent violence against women, children and adolescents and to ensure the effective prosecution of crimes against that vulnerable group of society. The programme will be implemented in Escuintla, Suchitepéquez and Retalhuleu Departments, which have seen high levels of violence and outmigration.

The programme, which will run for two years, will be coordinated by and implemented with support from the Executive Secretariat of the Coordinating Body for the Modernization of the Justice Sector and the Centre for Legal Action on Human Rights.

✓ Signature of an agreement on the use of videoconferencing in the context of protection of children and adolescents and an addendum to a previously signed letter of understanding on inter-institutional support for the provision of essential services. The agreement and addendum were signed with the aim of protecting and ensuring the safety of children and adolescents through the use of videoconferencing in specific cases, such as in hearings to review protective measures that had been ordered or in cases in which they have been threatened or their rights have been violated, or in order to expedite proceedings, provide greater security or reduce the risk of cost or physical harm to members of the child's or adolescent's family or others responsible for them.

The videoconferences will take place in the competent juvenile court and the Attorney General's Office will provide the appropriate support through its local office nearest to the location of the child or adolescent.

✓ Implementation of a national training programme on environmental crime. The programme, which provides academic training on how to protect the environment through appropriate law enforcement, is run with the participation of the Judicial Council for Central America and the Caribbean, the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System and the Judicial Training Centre for Central America and the Caribbean. The programme seeks to enhance the operation of the prosecution services, the criminal investigation police and the judiciary by strengthening judicial officials' knowledge of environmental law, the environment and proper environmental protection and through the adoption of regional good practices vis-à-vis the threats posed to the ecosystem by the unlawful activities of organized criminal groups. The application of legislation on environmental crime is examined through specific case studies.

The programme was developed with invaluable technical and financial support from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, which sponsors the Support Programme for the Central American Security Strategy, and the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System.

- ✓ Holding of workshops for the adoption of an institutional policy on gender equality and the promotion of women's human rights. This activity was organized by the Supreme Court's Commission on Women.
- ✓ Implementation of a continuous learning programme for members of the judiciary. This programme is designed for judges, magistrates and support staff of the judiciary. As the branch responsible for administering justice, the judiciary must provide its personnel with training in order to update and enhance their knowledge of criminal law, gender and human rights issues, family law and juvenile law, as well as the important role of the amparo constitutional remedy in court proceedings.
- ✓ Introduction, within the framework of the implementation of the State's Democratic Crime Policy, of a training programme on violations of customs regulations. The Criminal Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice, in coordination with the Public Prosecution Service and the Office of the Superintendent of Tax Administration and with technical and financial support from the United States Agency for International Development, launched the programme on 11 July 2018 with the aim of providing training in relation to the Central American Tariffs and Customs Agreement; the Central American Uniform Customs Code and the regulations implementing that Code; the Customs Regulations Governing International Overland Transit, including authorized routes and time frames for transit; international treaties and conventions; and the Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.
- ✓ Introduction of a module on electronic freezing orders and a module for recording security measures in relation to domestic violence. The Supreme Court of Justice has established the Court Administration System as a single mandatory system for recording and processing all actions taken by all courts. In coordination with the Centre for Judicial Information, Development and Statistics and the Centre for Information Technology and Telecommunications, a meeting was held to familiarize judges with the administrative procedure for obtaining electronic signature certificates and the use of electronic freezing orders. In this connection, two projects were implemented creating integrated modules within the Court Administration System: one for the sending of electronically signed freezing orders to banks nationwide and the other for the recording of security measures.
- ✓ Establishment of a prison for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer prisoners. At a plenary session of the Supreme Court of Justice on 16 May 2018, in the context of discussion of the commitments undertaken by Guatemala and the recommendations of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, it was proposed that a prison for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer prisoners be built. The prison was inaugurated on 2 August 2018.

79. The above-listed activities are just some of the priority actions taken by the judiciary of Guatemala in 2018 in relation to Sustainable Development Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda and the issues dealt with by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Many other actions have been taken in respect of the administration of justice more generally; however, it was not considered appropriate to include them in this report as they are not directly related to the subject of the request.

E. Information submitted by Japan

80. Information submitted by Japan on the linkages between the topics of the Kyoto Crime Congress and the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular goal 16.

81. In the Doha declaration, the Member States emphasized the linkage between sustainable development and the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice, and there is a growing consensus that the rule of law (the Goal 16 of the SDGs) is the bedrock for sustainable development.

82. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (hereinafter "CCPCJ") is a key driver in achieving Goal 16 as it is the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and offers the Member States a forum to bring together practitioners, policy makers and experts in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice from around the world to exchange expertise, experience and information. Conveyed every year, the CCPCJ is able to promptly react to new and emerging challenges and provide guidance to the international community based not just on theories but also practices.

83. The CCPCJ is also mandated to provide substantive and organizational direction for the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to consider the outcome of the Congress and to take decisions on appropriate follow-up measures, which provides guidance to the Member States.

84. The Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (hereinafter "Kyoto Congress") which will be hosted by the Government of Japan has as its overall theme, "Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda". Under this overall theme, the Kyoto Congress will provide a unique opportunity for the international community to undertake a comprehensive stocktaking exercise, with a view to chart the way forward towards the role that the criminal justice system and the institutions comprising it can play as part of the infrastructure for the achievement of the SDGs especially Goal 16. In this context, the role of the various criminal justice practitioners who are the cornerstone of those institutions should be highlighted and particular emphasis should be placed on taking inclusive, multi-stakeholder approach. The participants from around the globe including, inter alia, policy makers, law enforcement, judiciary, correction services, defense lawyers and civil society will provide inputs based not only on theories but also on practical experience.

85. The SDG that Kyoto Congress is most linked to is Goal 16, while the Congress also contributes to other Goals of the 2030 Agenda. That is obvious in light of the agenda of Kyoto Congress. The first agenda item is "Comprehensive strategies for crime prevention towards social and economic development". This agenda is strongly linked to Goal 16, as under this agenda, topics such as, inter alia, prevention of corruption, illicit financial flows, violent extremism and radicalization can be discussed. But the scope of this agenda could be further extended to other Goals. as strengthening criminal justice institutions and responses is not sufficient for promoting crime prevention, other social economical responses should also be considered. In this regard, crime prevention and criminal justice initiatives to advance Goal 3 (good health and well-being), Goal 4 (quality education) and Goal 8 (creating work and economic growth) can be discussed. In addition, depending on the background of crime, Goal 5 (gender equality) should also be considered, including through the prism of

gender mainstreaming in the criminal justice system. Also topics such as community policing can be discussed along with Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities).

86. The second agenda item is "Integrated approaches to challenges facing the criminal justice system". In this agenda item, topics closely linked to Goal 16 such as, inter alia, ensuring right to a fair trial without undue delay, access to justice, right to legal representation, sentencing policies, and new investigative techniques can be discussed. The scope of this agenda item is also not limited to Goal 16:topics such as women's empowerment in criminal justice and gender-specific treatment of offenders are linked to Goal 5; minority representation and overrepresentation of minority groups in the criminal justice system are linked to Goal 10 (reduced inequalities); social reintegration of offenders is linked to Goal 4.

87. The third agenda item is "Multidimensional approaches by Governments to promoting the rule of law by, inter alia, providing access to justice for all; building effective, accountable, impartial and inclusive institutions; and considering social, educational and other relevant measures including fostering a culture of lawfulness while respecting cultural identities, in line with the Doha Declaration". As noted above, in this agenda item, topics intrinsically linked to Goal 16 such as accountability and integrity of the criminal justice system, as well as fostering a culture of lawfulness will be discussed. In this context, it should also be noted that, in recent years, Member States have been paying closer attention to the notion of "fostering a culture of lawfulness" as a government's approach to the general public in promoting trust and respect for the law and its enforcement. Promoting such trust and respect of the general public is critically important to permeate the rule of law throughout the society, and to take inclusive, multi-stakeholder approach. The Kyoto Congress will also be an opportunity for the international community to acknowledge the importance of fostering a culture of lawfulness. In addition, law-related education, linked to Goal 5, is imperative to foster a culture of lawfulness, and the CCPCJ considers this topic in the implementation of the Doha declaration (Doha initiative).

88. The fourth agenda item is "International cooperation and technical assistance to prevent and address all forms of crime: a) Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations; b) New and emerging forms of crime". While many of the topics discussed in this agenda item are strongly linked to Goal 16, it is not confined to it. For example, topics such as gender related killings, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants are also linked to Goal 5. Crimes such as wildlife crime, trafficking in precious metals and illegal mining are linked to Goal 15 (life on land) as well as Goal 14 (life below water). Prevention of terrorism and new forms of crime are also linked to Goal 8.

89. In the lead-up to the Kyoto Congress, the CCPCJ should bring the criminal justice practitioners to the center-stage of its deliberation and provide guidance to Member States for developing an inclusive, multi-stakeholder approach in their crime prevention and criminal justice policies towards achieving the SDGs. In this regard, the CCPCJ plays a vital function to develop a long-term strategy in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice from short-term as well as long-term perspectives.

90. Given the theme and the agenda of the Kyoto Congress, which heavily rests on the guidance of the CCPCJ, it is natural that the CCPCJ covers a broad area of SDGs, while the interactive discussions at the CCPCJ should be based not only on theories, but also on practical experience. In particular,

practical experience brought in by various participants could create new visions and opportunities for the CCPCJ.

F. Information submitted by Liechtenstein

91. Information submitted by Liechtenstein related to target 16.2 (End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children). In order to also help achieve SDG16, Liechtenstein has initiated such a concrete project, the "Liechtenstein Initiative for a Financial Sector Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking". The Commission will make a concrete contribution to implement SDG target 16.2 - in addition to SDG 5.2 and 8.7 - and to end these horrendous crimes with over 40 million victims worldwide.

92. The public private partnership was developed jointly by Liechtenstein, Australia, and in partnership with the LGT Group Foundation, the Liechtenstein Banking Association as well as three Liechtenstein philanthropic foundations: Hilti, Medicor and Tarom. It responds to calls from the UN Security Council for States and the financial sector to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking, as well as a commitment by the G-20 in July 2017 to do the same, including through ensuring effective corporate due diligence over global value chains. 193 States made a similar commitment in September 2015, when they pledged to take effective measures to end modern slavery and human trafficking by 2030, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Over 60 States have already renewed this commitment by signing up to a Call to Action, which includes a focus on addressing risks in global supply chains. The Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and several FATF-Style Regional Bodies (FSRB) have also begun to focus heavily on this issue, which can only be tackled if the major stakeholders collaborate effectively. There is also growing attention to these issues in the context of discussions on Business and Human Rights, responsible investment and corporate social responsibility.

93. Efforts to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking are at the heart of initiatives to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Notably, in Target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals, States pledge to take immediate and effective measures to end modern slavery and human trafficking by 2030. In many places, modern slavery and human trafficking go hand in hand with a lack of access to formal financial services and credit, and poor supply-chain regulation. New financial sector innovations in areas such as human rights due diligence, microcredit, supply-chain credit, social impact bonds and pooled public-private funding mechanisms hold powerful promise for transforming and rapidly accelerating global efforts to end modern slavery, and for placing the financial sector at the forefront of global sustainability and corporate social responsibility. And new uses of financial technology, from mobile money to distributed ledger technologies to AIbased quant investment strategies may offer new possibilities for accelerating the fight against modern slavery and human trafficking. Financial institutions that lend to, invest in or are otherwise linked to businesses whose supply-chains are exposed to modern slavery and human trafficking have both due diligence obligations and obligations to use their leverage over their business partners to address these concerns. These obligations are set out in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and are now giving rise to a variety of national regulatory efforts, from the UK Modern Slavery Act to the French loi de vigilance, and from the Dutch Banking Sector Agreement to the Warren-Rubio bill in the US Congress. At the same time, some banks, pension funds, sovereign wealth funds and export-credit agencies are developing powerful operational innovations to promote responsible business practice across their client base. All actors in the sector will benefit from global discussions of these innovations and, as G-20 leaders declared in July 2017, from States and industry working together to establish adequate policy frameworks that ensure a level playing field.

94. Handling the proceeds of modern slavery and human trafficking can raise anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terrorist financing (CFT) concerns. The UN Security Council recently drew attention to these concerns, and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) will shortly publish a new typologies report on this topic. In some countries, private institutions, civil society, public regulators and law enforcement are working together to enable responsible and equitable information sharing and risk management, but there is more to be done to scale and harmonize such arrangements and ensure equitable burden sharing. The global, multi-stakeholder Financial Sector Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking ("Liechtenstein Initiative") will serve as a time-bound forum for a wide range of financial sector stakeholders to discuss the sector's role in tackling modern slavery and human trafficking, and to develop a coordinated strategic response plan, to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. This will build on ideas developed in collaboration with financial sector actors and regulators in the report "25 Keys to Unlock the Financial Chains of Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery". The Commission will meet four times for consultations with relevant global experts, and to develop and release a final report detailing an action plan for coordinated, evidencebased initiatives to strengthen the sector's role in tackling the financing of modern slavery and human trafficking. The Commission will meet in four formal 1-day sessions and in mid-2019 release its final report and action plan at the UN General Assembly.

95. Liechtenstein will continue to inform the CCPCJ and Member States of the United Nations about the Financial Sector Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.

G. Information submitted by Tunisia

96. Information submitted by Tunisia regarding the enhancement of the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 16.

97. Tunisia is working, through its institutions, to incorporate the Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 in its development plans and to fully support the achievement of these goals regionally and internationally, including Goal 16, by taking legislative as well as institutional and procedural measures in collaboration with all stakeholders, including the Ministry of the Interior, to achieve the desired objectives, in particular with regard to crime prevention and criminal justice.

Legislative measures

98. The Ministry of the Interior has made an effective contribution to the ratification of instruments and the development of legislation and regulations in pursuit of the targets set under Goal 16, in particular with regard to crime prevention and criminal justice. The following instruments and legislation are some examples:

- International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, adopted by the General Assembly in New York on 20 December 2006 and signed by Tunisia on 6 February 2007,
- Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by the General Assembly in New York on 18 December 2002,
- Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted by the General Assembly in New York on 16 December 1966,
- Ratification of the accession of Tunisia to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, adopted in Rome on 17 July 1998, and to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court, adopted in New York on 9 September 2002,
- Organic Act No. 58 of 11 August 2017 on the elimination of violence against women,
- Organic Act No. 59 of 24 August 2017 on the Good Governance and Anti-Corruption Commission,
- Organic Act No. 10 of 7 March 2017 on reporting corruption and protecting informants,
- Organic Act No. 77 of 6 December 2016 on the Judicial Financial and Economic Unit.

Institutional and procedural measures

- The Centre for Countering Terrorism and Organized Crime was established pursuant to an order amending the order regulating the bodies of the internal security forces under the Ministry of the Interior. The Centre is intended to more tightly coordinate work in this area between the units of the internal security forces and the departments and bodies of the Ministry of Justice. It engages primarily in collecting, analysing and studying information, reviewing plans and recommendations for the future and liaising with ministries, departments and bodies involved in the collection and analysis of information on terrorism and organized crime.
- Pursuant to Act No. 58 of 11 August 2017 on the elimination of violence against women and children, the Ministry of the Interior has created two specialized central units, called the Central Divisions for the Investigation of Violent Crimes against Women and Children. This measure is in line with international standards on the protection of women from all forms of physical and psychological violence and abuse. Furthermore, it safeguards the rights of women and shows appreciation for their effective role in society. One of the units is located under the Criminal Investigation Police Department in the National Security Public Directorate; the other falls under the Judicial Affairs Department in the General Directorate of the National Guard. The Ministry of the Interior has created similar units in each security region and National Guard region. These units are concerned primarily with investigating crimes involving violence (physical, psychological, sexual and economic) against women, children and the family in general.
- The Ministry of the Interior has established a General Directorate for Human Rights pursuant to Government Order No. 737 of 9 June 2017 amending Order No. 543 of 1 April 1991 on the organizational structure

of the Ministry of the Interior. The General Directorate receives complaints from citizens concerning violations of human rights and general freedoms. It responds to and provides guidance on citizens' inquiries. It also receives and addresses petitions and complaints concerning human rights violations in coordination with the relevant entities in the Ministry. The order also amends a number of provisions concerning the Central Inspection Office, which monitors the departments of the Ministry and is directly responsible for investigating complaints, petitions and reports submitted to the Ministry concerning allegations of corruption, abuse of power or severe misconduct by staff or units of the Ministry. The Office submits reports on the findings of its audits, inspections and investigations to the Minister; and it refers violations for administrative and judicial prosecution pursuant to the law.

- In the area of criminal justice, the police custody regime has been reformed by reducing the maximum period allowed for pre-charge detention to 48 hours; lawyers are authorized to be present during questioning; and lawyers and families of detainees are allowed access to arrest records and information on the legal grounds for the arrest (in accordance with article 29 of the Constitution).
- With regard to State authorization for access to places of detention by national non-governmental organizations, the National Commission for the Prevention of Torture was established as an independent public entity pursuant to Organic Law No. 43 of 21 October 2013. The Commission regularly visits places of detention where persons are deprived or may be deprived of their liberty. It also conducts unannounced visits to places of detention without prior notice at any time of its choosing. The Commission receives reports and alerts about alleged cases of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in places of detention. It investigates such cases and refers them to the competent administrative or judicial authorities, depending on the case. In addition, the Ministry of the Interior maintains an official list of registered detention cells. Copies of the list have been provided to international and national organizations so that they may conduct visits to monitor and submit reports on the conditions of persons deprived of their freedom.

H. Information provided by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

99. The contribution focuses on efforts geared towards addressing crimes that have serious impacts on the environment. The United Nations Environment Assembly in its resolution 2/14 requested UNEP to ascertain and document the current state of knowledge of crimes that have serious impact on the environment. To achieve this, UNEP convened a process which brought together experts nominated by governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to develop a report on the current state of knowledge. The report is an update on the action implemented at the national, regional and international levels to tackle these crimes. It further seeks to increase the capacity of governments in preventing, combating and ultimately reducing these crimes. Implementing the outcomes of the report would significantly contribute to attaining Sustainable Development Goal 16. The full report is available at: http://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/25713/knowledge_ crime envImpacts.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

100. The recommendations contained in the report are as follows:

Recognizing that environmental crimes are widespread and serious crimes interlinked with other forms of transnational organized crimes undermining peace, development and security and acknowledging the particularly serious effects that environmental crimes have on the ecosystems, livelihoods and legitimate sustainable business development - there is need to:

- i. Strengthen the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in facilitating awareness, communication and outreach with civil society and the private sector on the role and implications of environmental crimes in sustainable development.
- ii. Strengthen reporting on environmental crimes in peace, conflict and development countries.
- iii. Support further capacity building in enforcement, investigation and prosecution of environmental crimes and interlinked and associated serious crimes.
- iv. Strengthen awareness in conventions and protocols on the risks posed by environmental crimes to the success and outcomes of the Sustainable Development Goals and environmental agreements. Raise awareness of the availability of legal tools in protocols and conventions to help combat and reduce environmental crimes.
- v. Identify, review and report for all international environmental protocols, conventions and agreements opportunities for action, including legal, against environmental crimes under their authority and mandate.
- vi. Aggregate and disseminate success stories, including developing a publicly available multi-lingual court case database, on enforcement, investigation, and successful prosecution of environmental crimes.
- vii. Support with information the investigation, prosecution or sanctioning of companies, entities and individuals involved in serious transnational organized environmental crimes, as provided for by the sanctions committees under the Security Council.

I. Information provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

101. Relevant information on the work undertaken by UNODC to support member States with the implementation of the SDGs, including SDG 16 (Promote Peaceful and Inclusive Societies for Sustainable Development, Provide Access to Justice for All and Build Effective, Accountable and Inclusive Institutions at All Levels) is contained in the following document: "UNODC and the sustainable development goals", available at: https://www.unodc.org/documents/SDGs/UNODC-SDG brochure LORES.pdf:

UNODC provides normative, analytical and operational assistance to Member States for strengthening the effectiveness, fairness and accountability of their criminal justice institutions to tackle crime, corruption and terrorism. UNODC's work therefore supports all the Targets included under SDG 16, and in particular the following:

a) Target 16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere

Access to justice for all is a focus area in UNODC's work on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. UNODC supports the establishment of effective, fair and humane criminal justice systems. Recognizing that poor prison conditions and prison overcrowding point towards systemic deficiencies in States' justice systems, UNODC promotes penal and prison reform, as well as access to justice. These areas include a lack of: access to legal aid; alternatives to imprisonment; youth crime prevention programmes; offenders' rehabilitation; social reintegration measures; as well as the overuse of pre-trial detention.

b) Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children and Target 16.3: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

The UNODC-UNICEF Global Programme on Violence against Children supports countries to ensure that children are better served and protected by justice systems, and that measures are put in place to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children, supporting the achievement of Targets 16.2 and 16.3.

Through its data collection for the biennial Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, UNODC supports the monitoring of the exploitation and trafficking of children. UNODC is also well placed to monitor Target 16.3 through its annual United Nations Survey on Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS) and its annual report on 'World crime trends and emerging issues and responses in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice' to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

c) Target 16.4: By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime

UNODC offers Member States a full spectrum of tools to strengthen anti-money laundering legal frameworks and develop capacities of national agencies to investigate money laundering and terrorism financing, disrupt illicit financial flows and support the recovery of stolen assets. Asset recovery is the most innovative chapter of the United Nations Convention against Corruption on which UNODC's work in the domain rests. In the framework of the second cycle of the UNCAC review mechanism the States' efforts to adopt asset recovery measures will be reviewed over the next five years.

Through various global programmes on money laundering, counterterrorism and organized crime, UNODC and its partners at international and regional levels have been supporting the establishment and activities of various regional cooperation structures in prosecution, law enforcement, financial intelligence and asset recovery. In particular, since 2007 UNODC and the World Bank have cooperated through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative, a joint programme working with developing countries and financial centres to prevent the laundering of the proceeds of corruption and to facilitate more systematic and timely return of stolen assets.

Further, UNODC carries out research and data collection in several areas connected to organized crime including firearms, drugs and

other illicit markets, wildlife crime and trafficking in persons. UNODC has also assessed the impact of organized crime particularly in its Transnational Organized Crime Threat Assessments.

d) Target 16.5: Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms

The United Nations Convention against Corruption contains the most comprehensive set of legal commitments by Governments to tackle corruption, including bribery. Under the auspices of UNODC, the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention met in November 2015 in St. Petersburg and identified a number of avenues for UNODC to further strengthen capacity and cooperation against corruption and bribery in all its forms - an explicit Target of the SDG's. The effective implementation of the Convention is being assessed under the framework of the Implementation Review Mechanism through a peer review exercise with each of the 178 States parties being reviewed for their compliance by two other States parties with the support of the Secretariat provided by UNODC. Based on the requirements of the Convention and the findings of the country reviews, UNODC assists Member States in preventing, detecting, investigating and sanctioning corruption and in promoting international cooperation against corruption, as well as the recovery of proceeds of corruption, both domestically and internationally.

UNODC is at the forefront of developing standard surveys measuring the experience of corruption and setting standards for measuring various aspects of corruption. As such the results of the country reviews carried out within the framework of the Implementation Review Mechanism provide an objective basis to assess the efforts made by countries in preventing and combatting corruption.

e) Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

UNODC supports efforts by States to develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions through the comprehensive implementation of chapter II of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. This work includes policies, legislation and mechanisms to strengthen the prevention of corruption at all levels, Through its role as Secretariat to the Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption - a body established by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention - UNODC facilitates the sharing of information on lessons learned and the adaptability of good practices on the prevention of corruption in public and private sector institutions. including accountability measures. strengthening professionalism and integrity, and promoting public access to information and the transparency of institutional functions and services.

In advance of the forthcoming review of the effective implementation of chapter II under the framework of the Implementation Review Mechanism, UNODC has promoted and supported early reporting by States of progress in the implementation of chapter II. In addition, UNODC has produced guidance materials and provided technical assistance to support States in such areas as the development and implementation of comprehensive anti-corruption strategies, strengthening judicial and prosecutorial integrity and accountability, developing asset and interest disclosure procedures to avoid conflicts of interest, promoting transparency in public procurement, and measures to protect witnesses and whistle-blowers.

In addition, UNODC promotes transparency and the prevention of corruption in the private sector, in partnership with the United Nations Global Compact. This work includes the development of tools and training materials to further integrity and transparent business practices across the private sector as well as engagement with other bodies, such as the G20 and its Business-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group as well as the World Economic Forum.

f) Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

In designing and delivering its programmes, as well as in the international policy debate around its mandates, UNODC encourages and facilitates the participation of a wide range of civil society organizations, contributing to an open, responsive and accountable decision-making process on crime- and drug-related matters at the international level. Examples of this work include multi-stakeholder workshops on the United Nations Convention against Corruption to allow civil society to be equipped and participate in the Implementation Review Mechanism of the Convention.

UNODC is scaling up its regular data collection and analysis system to make it fit to the needs of monitoring SDG 16. Furthermore, UNODC is consolidating its long-time global series related to homicide, trafficking in persons and criminal justice efficiency, among others, as well as refining the indicators to address new needs, while at the same assisting countries to strengthen their capacity to monitor SDG 16.

g) Target 16.a.1: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.

For each of these Targets, the international community has agreed on specific indicators that are based either on data collected from administrative sources or on data derived from sample surveys and UNODC offers its experience in monitoring the relevant indicators to assess progress towards the SDG's.

In addition, UNODC's global collection of administrative and survey data on crime and criminal justice and the promotion of crime victimization surveys, provide the statistical evidence base for monitoring patterns and trends of crime and the criminal justice response to crime, and for evaluating policy interventions and crime prevention measures. Under SDG 16, UNODC is the international lead organizations for compiling statistical indicators for a number of SDG Targets and plays an important part in measuring other Targets as well.