

Position Paper for the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The issues before the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are: Combating Transnational Organized Crime; Prevention of Youth Crime and Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Youth Offenders; and Responding to Violence Against Migrants, Migrant Workers and Their Families. The Russian Federation is looking forward to constructive debates, since a sovereign state's virtue is measured by the degree of its devotion to protect and to serve defenseless groups in its midst.

I. Combating Transnational Organized Crime to Protect Vulnerable Groups and Countries

The Russian Federation, which has always fought at the front-line against Transnational Organized Crime (TOC), is particularly concerned by illegal activities such as drug, firearm and, worst of all, human trafficking. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 90% of worldwide heroin is being produced on Afghan soil, with 25% being exported to the Russian Federation. In 2010, Russia seized three tons of heroin and destroyed 39 drug laboratories. Despite similar national successes, Russia notes with dissatisfaction that uncoordinated international efforts result in global failures, like the mere dislocation of trafficking routes. Russia also highlights the problem of illegal firearms smuggling. Disposing of the world's second largest firearms stockpile, Russia is aware of the responsibility that comes with it and supports measures combating the illicit firearms trade. Russia further notes with grave concern that 2.5 million humans, 80% of them women and 50% children, are trafficked each year by TOC. Fortunately within Russia, widespread media campaigning and aggressive police investigation helped decrease the number of child trafficking victims.

The Russian Federation considers *S/RES/1817* (2008), *E/RES/2003/33* (2003), *E/RES/2008/26* (2008) and *A/RES/55/56* (2000) as crucial in terms of fighting cross-border drug trafficking. Russia appreciates the close cooperation with the UNODC and commends the *Paris Pact Initiative* (2003), which created a broad framework to fight Afghan opiate trade. In 2006 Russia took initiative and hosted the Second Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking Routes from Afghanistan. As for combating illicit firearms trafficking, Russia emphasizes the significance of *A/RES/55/2* (2000) and UNODC's 2010 report mandated under its strategy for 2008-2011, *E/CN.7/2007/14*. Russia also recognizes the importance of the *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime* (2000), its *Additional Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children* as well as *A/RES/63/156* (2009) and *A/RES/64/293* (2010). Furthermore, Russia values the laudable work of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT) launched in 2007.

The Russian Federation deems it essential to cut off drug smuggling routes, thus proposes to create within UNODC a Fight-for-a-Secure-Border (FSB) – task force, mandated to train national law-enforcement to secure borders of vulnerable countries. FSB members would offer training on effective drug detection measures and would be deployed only at the request of the concerned state. Strengthening efforts to counter illicit firearms trade, Russia suggests the elaboration of Good-Practice-Guidelines as laid down in the UNODC's 2010 report and the creation of an international data base on firearms seizures. In order to raise sensitivity towards human trafficking crimes, Russia advocates an extensive public outreach program elaborated under the auspices of UN.GIFT. This program should include announcements on billboards, placards for public transportation and booklets distributed at public places. Besides, Russia supports UN.GIFT as a coordinating point for Member States and nongovernmental organizations (NGO) to enhance the assessment of reliable data. To put an end to negative repercussions caused by border-crossing, Russia puts forward to create supra-national Victim Protection Program Units (VIPPU) for human trafficking victims. VIPPU acts under UNODC, which in turn functions as a coordination center linking prospective partners. Financial assistance shall be provided by a special fund administered by VIPPU.

II. Prevention of Youth Crime and Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Youth Offenders

The Russian Federation considers children to be our future and thus regrets that juvenile crime is prevalent in many parts of the world. Still, great achievements have been made in the fields of preventing youth crime and in the improvement of rehabilitation and reintegration efforts. The international community was able to ease conditions for imprisoned youths worldwide and to give troubled adolescents a second chance in life. Russia is strongly committed to the issue, as shown by the establishment of a juvenile justice system in 2001. The fundamental principles of this system are to treat children with unconditional humanity and to take their individuality into account. Since 2001, constant improvement of the situation of juvenile delinquents has been sought by the Russian government. In cooperation with the UN Development Program (UNDP), Russia created programs such as the *Support of Juvenile Justice in the Russian Federation* (2005). Russia believes sports to be an effective tool to engage adolescents and to diminish harmful idleness and crime, as the initiative *Stadia for Kids* (2005) has proven. To tackle the root causes of juvenile crime, located in children's social and familial background, Russia initiated the campaign *Towards a Russia Without Cruelty Against Children* (2010) and a nation-wide support hotline.

The Russian Federation highlights the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, A/RES/44/25* (1990). Concerning the establishment and design of juvenile justice systems, Russia puts emphasis on Resolution 74(1999) of the Council of Europe on policies for deprived juveniles, on its 2001 revisited Criminal Procedural Code and the 2002 Law on the Establishment of Juvenile Courts. Since gender equality is the basis of juvenile justice, *E/RES/2010/16* (2010), the *Bangkok Rules*, is fundamental. In terms of crime prevention, Russia highlights the *UN Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency A/RES/45/112* (1990), known as the *Riyadh Guidelines*. Considering that rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile offenders begin with detention, the *UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice*, outlined in *A/RES/40/33* (1985), also known as the *Beijing Rules*, are of utmost importance, as are the *UN Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty, A/RES/45/113* (1990). Russia puts strongest emphasis on the UNODC's *Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit* based on *E/RES/2005/21* (2005), as an exemplary method to provide technical assistance for criminal justice reform, covering a wide range of issues such as police service, legal defense or the prison system.

The Russian Federation proposes, as an equivalent to the UN Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit, the creation of an International Toolkit to Preventing Youth Crime (ITOPYC) by cooperation of UNICEF, Member States and relevant NGOs. The ITOPYC would proffer proven technical assistance practices by offering concrete questions to be answered and issues to be tackled, when planning and carrying out national, gender-sensitive preventive policies and campaigns. It shall highlight the possibilities of governmental cooperation with international organizations and the necessity for implementing juvenile justice systems in development strategies. Regarding the rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile offenders into society, Russia maintains that the international conventions listed above provide appropriate measures if properly implemented by Member States. Hence, Russia appeals to the Member States' signing and ratification, along with bringing their national law in line with international standards. Moreover, a reliable international database administered by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) and the CCPCJ is necessary in order to devise appropriate policies and to scale the success of the measures taken.

III. Responding to Violence Against Migrants, Migrant Workers, and their Families

The Russian Federation, a multiethnic Eurasian country, always treated violence against migrants and their families with particular concern. Being the world's second largest immigrant-receiving country, immigrants constitute 8.7% of our population, almost 60% of which are women. Women migrants are evidentially prone to acts of domestic violence, arbitrary work conditions and refused pay. With the aim to ameliorate the situation of migrants, the Duma passed two immigration laws in 2007 which entailed a mechanism to legalize the status of an estimated 4 million illegal immigrants already working on Russian territory. Russia considers xenophobia as a main obstacle to full integration of migrants, bearing in mind that they are often met with ignorance, mistrust and hatred. Russia partners with other states and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in a series of common projects to guarantee migrants the best possible conditions. Taking into account that states have ultimate discretion in the field of immigration, Russia actively supports regional initiatives like the *Budapest Process*, coordinating migration policies in Eastern Europe, to find solutions and strategies tailored to the specific needs of controlled immigration.

The Russian Federation reaffirms its commitment to the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), the *International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination* (1969), the *UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (1979) and the *UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* (2000). Russia accentuates *E/RES/2010/15* (2010) and *A/RES/64/166* (2010), condemning any acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants. The Russian Federation also points to the *Declaration of the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice A/CONF.213/L.6/Rev.2* (2010), known as the *Salvador Declaration*, and *A/RES/64/184* (2010) in regard to the prevention, persecution and punishment of violence against women and migrants, respectively.

The Russian Federation recommends an international Convention on Preventing and Combating Gender and Domestic Violence (CPCGDV). Hence, a working group of the General Assembly shall be established, mandated to devise CPCGDV. Russia urges all Member States to create a Shelter for Women Migrants Initiative (SheWoMIn), based on *E/RES/2010/15* (2010) and *A/RES/64/184* (2010). SheWoMIn, overseen by the IOM, should provide legal, medical and therapeutic assistance to women migrant workers, closely cooperating with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). Additionally, we call on all states to launch a Pro-Tolerance-Anti-Xenophobia Initiative (ProTAX) under the auspices of the IOM and the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women). ProTAX will assist interested Member States in devising anti-xenophobia campaigns. Russia finally suggests regional coordination of migration policies, along the lines of the *Budapest Process*, enabling affected countries to find practical solutions to migration problems.