

## **Resolution 21/3**

### **Strengthening international cooperation to address the links that in some cases may exist between transnational organized criminal activities and terrorist activities**

*The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,*

*Emphasizing* that the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Salvador, Brazil, in 2010, acknowledged the increasing links between transnational organized crime and drug trafficking in the context of the world drug problem and in that regard stressed the urgent need for all States to enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation to effectively counter the challenges posed by those links,<sup>1</sup>

*Taking into account* the commitments entered into by the parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted in 2000, and the Protocols thereto,<sup>2</sup> the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>3</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>4</sup> the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988<sup>5</sup> and the existing international counter-terrorism instruments,

*Taking into account also* all relevant United Nations resolutions regarding terrorism, in particular the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,<sup>6</sup>

*Considering* that the 1988 Convention urges all States concerned to incorporate the offence of drug-related transactions into their national legislation and provides that all States parties shall adopt such measures as may be necessary in order to establish money-laundering as a criminal offence when committed internationally,

*Recalling* the provisions of the 1988 Convention relating to the links between illicit trafficking and other organized criminal activities,

*Emphasizing* the need to strengthen international, including regional and national, measures to improve cooperation, as set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter

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<sup>1</sup> *Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World*, General Assembly resolution 65/230, annex, para. 47.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

<sup>6</sup> General Assembly resolution 60/288.

the World Drug Problem,<sup>7</sup> adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 65/169 of 20 December 2010, entitled “Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption”,

*Taking into account* General Assembly resolution 64/179 of 18 December 2009, entitled “Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity”,

*Mindful* that the proceeds of transnational organized crime may in some cases be used to finance terrorism and other forms of criminal activity, which have negative effects on States,<sup>8</sup>

*Greatly concerned* by the negative impact of organized crime on human rights, the rule of law, security and development, as well as by the sophistication, diversity and transnational aspects of organized crime and its links with other criminal and, in some cases, terrorist activities,

1. *Expresses* its concern at the links that in some cases may exist between transnational organized crime including drug trafficking, money-laundering and terrorist activities, and in particular those activities that sustain organized criminal and terrorist groups;

2. *Calls upon* States to strengthen international cooperation in order to address the serious challenges presented by various forms and manifestations of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking and the illicit production of narcotic drugs, money-laundering and terrorist activities, and the links that in some cases may exist between them;

3. *Also calls upon* States to increase their efforts, in conformity with their national legislation, to put in place or strengthen appropriate regimes and institutional mechanisms, in order to promote international cooperation, and to foster cooperation among national law enforcement agencies and those entities in charge of the identification and recovery of assets in combating transnational criminal activities and terrorist activities and to address the links that in some cases may exist between them;

4. *Encourages* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>9</sup> the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>10</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>11</sup> the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in

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<sup>7</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>8</sup> Some countries have identified links in some cases between organized criminal groups and terrorist activities.

<sup>9</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988<sup>12</sup> and relevant international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,<sup>13</sup> to utilize the significant potential of those international legal instruments, with a view to strengthening international cooperation, including mutual legal assistance and extradition, where applicable, aimed at tackling transnational organized crime and in some cases its links with terrorist activities and drug trafficking;

5. *Invites* States to share experiences and good practices in addressing the links that in some cases may exist between the various forms and manifestations of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, terrorist activities and money-laundering, including identifying new schemes used to commit transnational organized crime and their consequences.

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<sup>12</sup> Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., vol. 2178, No. 38349.