United Nations General Assembly Sixty-first session Third Committee Agenda item 98 'Crime prevention and criminal justice'

4 October 2006, New York

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On behalf of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tadzhikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan - States Participants of the Commonwealth of Independent States

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the following delegations – participants of the Commonwealth of Independent States (Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tadzhikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan).

The United Nations made several important steps towards extermination of transnational crime and terrorism.

Adoption by the General Assembly by consensus of the United Nations Global Strategy and Plan of actions against terrorism was the key step at the last session. We welcome this important step. For the first time in the history of the United Nations all 192 Member States managed to agree on common approaches in combating terrorism at global level.

With great satisfaction we note that the Strategy has significant potential for intensifying efforts of international community in combating terrorism. It sets practical tasks for consolidating dialog among civilizations and promoting religious tolerance.

We support the Strategy's focus on the establishment of an effective system of strengthening the potential of antiterrorist capacities of Member States.

Strengthening the potential of cooperation against terrorism is the issue of high priority in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). A number of documents were adopted to regulate cooperation in CIS on countering terrorism and to provide for concrete joint actions. The annual manoeuvres are conducted to train joint actions of CIS law-enforcement agencies in case of a threat of terrorist acts. The coordinated actions for prevention of emergency situations at the nuclear power stations were worked out at the last CIS manoeuvres which took place in Armenia on 26-29 September 2006.

We support the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on extending number of parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and three supplemental protocols to it, as well as the UNODC assistance to

Member States for full implementation of these international instruments on national level. We hope that the forthcoming third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention will facilitate the transformation of the international standards to concrete effective measures against transnational organized crime.

Our countries support basic provisions of the UNODC report 'Trafficking in persons: Global patterns'. We believe that UNODC should continue the practice of preparation of periodic global reports and should strengthen its cooperation with other international and regional organisations on countering trafficking in persons. We invite all delegations to support the draft resolution of the General Assembly 'Improving coordination of efforts against slavery and trafficking in persons' which will be introduced by delegation of Belarus in the Third Committee on 6 October 2006.

States Participants of the CIS focus a serious attention both on national and regional level on trafficking in persons as a form of modern slavery. The draft Program of actions of CIS for 2007-2010 should facilitate the implementation of the Agreement signed in 2005 on cooperation against trafficking in persons, human organs and tissues. The Program should also facilitate the efficient cooperation on regional level for prevention and suppression of trafficking in persons and rehabilitation of its victims.

Taking in account the results of the High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development I cannot omit the topic of illegal migration. In spite of differences in migratory processes and approaches to their regulation in the region of the CIS there are common problems which determine the interest of the States Participants of the CIS in cooperation against illegal migration. The Program of actions of States Participants of the CIS on combating illegal migration for 2006-2008 provides for joint measures in countering this phenomenon.

The entering into force of the United Nations Convention against Corruption is an important step. We hope that the first session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention will serve as a good catalyst for advancing cooperation on prevention and suppression of corruption. We are particularly interested in encouraging international cooperation on such issues as extradition, mutual legal assistance, joint investigations, restitution of illegally exported assets and sharing confiscated criminal incomes.

At the time of financial globalization and internalization of criminality it is impossible to fight corruption without coordination of efforts against money-laundering. As an important step to that end we consider the finalization of the draft Agreement of CIS against money-laundering and financing terrorism which is expected to be signed during the CIS Summit.

Escalation of terrorism and organised crime threaten to ruin even the best development plans and lead to the mass violations of human rights. UNODC Global Programs on prevention and suppression of organised crimes, trafficking in persons, money-laundering, corruption and terrorism assist Member States, including in the CIS, in combating different forms of transnational crimes and terrorism. Thereupon we consistently call to strengthen UNODC, including its capacities for providing technical assistance to States in order to expand the area of application of the UN standards on crime prevention and criminal justice.

Mr. Chairman,

We welcome the efforts of UNODC in establishing constructive cooperation with international and regional organisations. Such interaction provides for more efficient use of existing resources, avoidance of duplication and maintenance of useful linkages between mandates and strategic priorities of the United Nations in sphere of crime prevention.

Finally I would like to assure all delegations of the readiness and intention of States Participants of the CIS to make significant and practical contribution to the collective efforts of international community in combating transnational crime and terrorism.