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COOPERATION AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY IN THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST ORGANIZED CRIME, IN PARTICULAR DRUG TRAFFICKING, ILLEGAL ARMS SALES, HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND CROSS-BORDER TERRORISM

***Revised preliminary draft resolution submitted by the co-Rapporteurs
Ms. Maria Teresa Ortuño (Mexico) and Mr. Apiwan Wiriyachai (Thailand)***

The 122nd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Cognizant* of the fact that while globalization fosters many positive advancements, interdependence between States and the opening of borders, it also facilitates transnational organized crime, in particular drug trafficking, illegal arms sales, human trafficking, cross-border terrorism and money laundering, involving an increasing number of stakeholders, actors and agencies and requiring global, regional, subregional and national responses, including the implementation of related conventions,
- (2) *Recalling* that the year 2010 marks the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,
- (3) *Also recalling* the resolution of the First Standing Committee on Peace and International Security adopted by the 118th IPU Assembly, held in Cape Town in April 2008, *on The role of parliaments in striking a balance between national security, human security and individual freedoms, and in averting the threat to democracy,*
- (4) *Aware* that drug trafficking is one of the principal illicit activities worldwide, that it constitutes a serious threat to the global community, and that, compounded by drug abuse, it is not only harmful to the stability and integrity of the world, but also adversely affects the health of human beings and the security of families, communities, and society at large, as well as hinders development plans and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in different countries,
- (5) *Also aware* that trafficking in persons is a modern form of slavery and a human rights violation affecting men, women, children and adolescents worldwide, that certain practices, negative attitudes and maltreatment of trafficked victims persist and that the well-being of these vulnerable groups is threatened by the global financial and economic downturn and new forms of transnational organized crime,
- (6) *Recognizing* the links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime, cross-border terrorism and money laundering, including money laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism,

(7) *Considering* that illegal arms sales and in particular, the illegal import, export and transfer of arms and ammunition across borders, contributes to conflict, the displacement of persons, crime and terrorism, thereby undermining global peace, safety and security,

(8) *Mindful* that the phenomenon of cross-border terrorism continues to represent a substantial threat to both domestic and international peace and security, and continues to endanger political institutions, economic stability and the welfare of nations, despite the vigorous international and domestic efforts that have been and continue to be made to suppress, investigate and incapacitate terrorist activities,

(9) *Recognizing* the significant challenges faced by law enforcement and judicial authorities in responding to the ever changing means used by transnational criminal organizations, including the increasing use of the Internet, global positioning system (GPS) techniques and other geographical information systems, to avoid detection and prosecution,

(10) *Appreciating* the positive roles of the IPU, governments, non-governmental organizations and international organizations in joint parliamentary activities to combat transnational organized crime, such as drafting stringent legislative measures, combating the root causes and financing of terrorism and cross-border terrorism, and implementing the parliamentary measures set forth in the joint IPU-United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) Handbook for Parliamentarians on *Combating Trafficking in Persons* to address the problem of trafficking in persons,

(11) *Recalling* the resolutions on combating terrorism adopted by the IPU at its 108th Conference (Santiago de Chile, 2003) and its 111th (Geneva, 2004), 115th (Geneva, 2006) and 116th Assemblies (Bali, 2007),

1. *Fully affirms* the strong determination and clear commitment of IPU Member Parliaments to strengthening and harmonizing drug-related laws, regulations and additional measures, pursuing strong regional cooperation to combat drug trafficking within the framework of international cooperation with international legal instruments on drugs, and to enhancing the technical capability of law enforcement and judicial authorities;
2. *Reaffirms* its unwavering determination and commitment to intensify efforts to counter the illicit cultivation, production, manufacture, sale, abuse, transit, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, especially heroin, cocaine, amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), the diversion of precursor chemicals, misuse of pharmaceutical medicines and preparations as well as drug-related criminal activities, through a balanced, comprehensive and sustainable approach;
3. *Agrees* to develop and strengthen partnerships and cooperation mechanisms in the area of combating drug trafficking on the international, regional and bilateral levels, and to ensure that these mechanisms are effective and achieve their goals;
4. *Decides* to intensify joint parliamentary efforts to share best practices and experiences in combating drug trafficking and developing national laws to comply with international standards and the rule of law;

5. *Invites* IPU Member Parliaments to ensure that international cooperation actions and measures are enhanced and strengthened by way of technical assistance to agents in charge of combating organized crime;
6. *Calls on* IPU Member Parliaments to pursue dialogue and cooperation with a view to developing and harmonizing efforts to combat the production, abuse and trafficking of illicit drugs and counterfeit medicines, noting that enhanced technological capabilities enable counterfeiters to produce drugs and packaging that can barely be distinguished from the original product;
7. *Urges* IPU Member Parliaments to support tax exemption for products grown or produced by alternative development projects on lands formerly devoted to the production of illicit drugs, and for individuals and private-sector companies that contribute to such projects or other drug control activities, in compliance with World Trade Organization rules and regulations, as incentives to combat the drug menace;
8. *Encourages* IPU Member Parliaments to continue their integrated and collaborative efforts to better review policies and measures related to their arms stockpiles, evaluate the efficiency of their existing legal framework, as well as their national capacity and financial and technical ability to take action against illegal arms sales;
9. *Also encourages* IPU Member Parliaments to support and participate in the development of a comprehensive, legally binding instrument establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms, building on arms transfer principles already established in existing regional and multilateral arms control agreements;
10. *Invites* the IPU to seriously discuss the possibility of harmonizing laws on trafficking in persons in each country to ensure compatibility and seamless cooperation in order to combat trafficking in persons;
11. *Also invites* IPU Member Parliaments to be more proactive in combating trafficking in persons by drawing up and implementing a comprehensive work plan and laws consistent with international standards, which criminalize trafficking and include prevention, protection and assistance measures;
12. *Calls on* IPU Member Parliaments to heighten public awareness and promote cooperation in the fight against trafficking in persons, tackle the root causes of the problem such as poverty, oppression, lack of human rights protection, and lack of social or economic opportunities, and enhance awareness by the competent authorities of the need to preserve the human rights of trafficked victims;
13. *Also calls on* the IPU to provide its Member Parliaments with recommendations and best practices for the establishment of a special parliamentary committee on combating trafficking in persons, and appointment of a national rapporteur or equivalent mechanism to monitor the development and implementation of national measures to combat human trafficking and to monitor and evaluate the implementation of relevant national action plans once they have been put in place;

14. *Urges* IPU Member Parliaments to ensure that all measures taken to combat terrorism are in line with their respective State's international obligations, in particular international human rights standards, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, especially as they relate to protection of the rights of victims of terrorism;
15. *Calls on* IPU Member Parliaments to affirm that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality or ethnic group, and hence profiling based on any of these factors should not be used by national agencies in their efforts to combat terrorism;
16. *Invites* IPU Member Parliaments to strengthen their respective legal systems in accordance with the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism with a view to combating money laundering and financing of terrorist activities and ensure that all measures taken are in line with their respective State's international obligations;
17. *Calls on* States to adhere to all relevant United Nations resolutions, conventions and international agreements and to initiate measures to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its manifestations and forms;
18. *Invites* the United Nations to consider convening an international conference on the fight against terrorism, with a view to evaluating progress in meeting international commitments, analysing the impact of new forms of terrorism, and determining whether existing national legislation does indeed meet international humanitarian and human rights standards;
19. *Urges* the IPU to promote international cooperation to combat financial safe havens in the form of extradition agreements, confiscation and forfeiture of assets, social sanctions, mutual legal assistance, and good governance in order to combat money laundering;
20. *Also urges* national parliaments to consider adopting clear and strict legislation providing inter alia more stringent penalties for perpetrators of corruption and individuals who assist networks of organized crime; as well as to apply standards of good governance, accountability and transparency in public institutions with a view to combating corruption;
21. *Invites* IPU Member States to undertake a thorough evaluation and screening of officials in charge of public institutions with a view to preventing their involvement in activities related to transnational organized crime;
22. *Recommends* the establishment of enhanced mechanisms for international cooperation, particularly among intelligence services and systems, in the fight against organized crime, while, at the same time, affirming that information shared in the course of these cooperative efforts should be used only for the purpose for which it was originally provided;
23. *Also recommends* that the fight against transnational organized crime be strengthened and intensified so as to foster lasting solutions through the promotion of human rights and fairer socioeconomic conditions.