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From:	Presidency
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Subject:	14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Kyoto, Japan, April 2020) - Draft position of the EU and its Member States in view of the governmental expert meeting on 9-11 September 2019 (Kyoto)

The 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice will take place in Kyoto (Japan), from 20 to 27 April 2020. It is intended that at the beginning of the Congress, a declaration will be adopted which will have been prepared in advance.

In order to prepare and reach agreement on the declaration, several steps are foreseen:

- five regional preparatory meetings (Bangkok, Santiago, Beirut, Addis Ababa and Vienna), which took place from January to April 2019;
- a governmental expert meeting, involving representatives of the five regional groups, which will convene on 9-11 September 2019 in Kyoto;

- intersessional meetings organised by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) to prepare the draft declaration;
- pre-Congress consultations scheduled for Sunday 19 April 2020 in Kyoto;
- adoption of the declaration at the Congress (20-27 April 2020, Kyoto).

Further information on the Congress can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

It is intended that the declaration will ultimately be submitted by the CCPCJ, through the UN Economic and Social Council, to the UN General Assembly for consideration at its 75th session.

The main theme of the 14th Congress is ‘Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards achieving the 2030 Agenda’. The Agenda of the Congress consists of four substantive agenda items and four workshops.

With a view to the upcoming negotiations for this declaration, a position of the EU and its Member States has to be prepared, on which, as appropriate, the Commission, the Presidency and/or the Member States can speak at the relevant meetings, while respecting the distinct institutional or national roles and competences of the EU institutions and Member States. This position, by which the relevant matters are looked at from an EU perspective, should leave flexibility to the delegations as regards details and the strategy during the negotiations for the declaration.

The negotiations leading to the Kyoto Congress will be followed by the Council and its preparatory bodies as appropriate. In view of the developments and the progress made on the drafting of the declaration, new positions of the EU and its Member States could be drawn up.

Prior to adoption of the declaration by the 14th UN Congress, the (draft) text as negotiated in the relevant fora will be submitted to Coreper/Council for approval.

Draft position of the EU and its Member States

In view of the governmental expert meeting, which will take place from 9-11 September 2019, the Commission services prepared a 'non-paper' listing the topics that the EU and its Member States would like to have included in the declaration (see the Annex to 10611/19).¹

After a first examination of this paper at the COPEN meeting on 4 July, the JHA Counsellors pursued their examination at meetings on 8, 15 and 22 July. The final revised text of the position of the EU and its Member States is set out in 11431/19.

Coreper on 24 July 2019 approved this position and agreed to use the written procedure in order to obtain the approval by the Council.

The text as agreed will not be submitted to other parties in the negotiations; it will remain an EU document to be used by the EU and the Member States.

¹ When drafting this 'non-paper', the Commission took into account the 'checklist' that was drawn up by the delegations in Vienna.