



FACULTY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES

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SUBJECT: PENOLOGY AND VICTIMLOGY

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Lecture-29



43. Plan of action for the implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power*

I. CAPACITY-BUILDING

1. The Secretary-General,¹ Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in victim assistance and redress are requested² further to incorporate victim assistance modules in technical cooperation projects and to assist interested Member States in applying the Guide for Policy Makers on the Implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power³ and the Handbook on Justice for Victims on the use and application of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power,⁴ through training courses, seminars, study tours, fellowships and advisory services, in order to help resolve problems in the implementation of the Declaration.
2. The Secretary-General is requested to develop, in collaboration with relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, criteria for the selection of technical cooperation projects for the establishment or the further development of victim services.
3. Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network are invited to assist the Secretary-General in updating, with an appropriate interval, the Guide and the Handbook, giving special attention to practical national experiences, legislative information and case law concerning special victim groups, such as victims and witnesses of organized crime, terrorism, economic and environmental crime or bias or hate crimes and victims of violence against women and children.
4. The Secretary-General, together with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, is requested to assist interested

*Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, annex.

¹In the present plan of action, references to the Secretary-General are understood as signifying primarily the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network.

²When the Secretary-General is requested to carry out activities, they should be performed with- in existing resources or through extrabudgetary funding.

Member States in the development of reparative and restorative policies for victims of violations of human rights and humanitarian law, as part of national reconstruction and reconciliation, and in the promotion of justice and the rule of law.

II. INFORMATION-GATHERING, INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND RESEARCH

5. The Secretary-General, in cooperation with interested Member States and non-governmental organizations, is requested to support the international database on practical national and regional experiences in providing technical assistance in this field and on bibliographic and legislative information, including case law relevant to this field.

6. Member States and non-governmental organizations are invited to provide information for the database on projects, new programmes, case law and legislation and other relevant guidelines that have been found to be effective and that could serve as models for such developments elsewhere and to help in identifying experts who could assist Member States, upon request, in implementing such projects, programmes and legislation.

7. Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are invited to give consideration to the further development and use of methods of gathering data on victimization, such as standardized victimization surveys, including their extension to cover groups of victims such as victims and witnesses of organized crime, terrorism, economic and environmental crime or bias or hate crimes and victims of violence against women, children and migrants.

8. Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are invited to promote the evaluation of the efficacy of different forms of providing assistance to victims, the evaluation of the extent to which the criminal justice process takes into consideration the legitimate needs and concerns of victims and the evaluation of different forms of ensuring compensation and restitution to victims.