

Committee: UN Office on Drugs and Crime

Main submitter: The United States of America

Co-submitters: Venezuela, Guatemala, Iceland,

Signatories: Israel, Guatemala, Poland, Albania, Canada, Iran, Mexico, Venezuela, Iceland, Japan, South Africa, Burkina Faso, Italy, Finland, Afghanistan, the United Kingdom, Bangladesh, Ukraine, France, New Zealand, Honduras, Suriname, UAE, Argentina, South Sudan, Cyprus, Colombia, Tanzania, Yemen

Topic: Implementing measures to prevent and eradicate juvenile delinquency

Expressing concern about the escalating issue of juvenile delinquency across the globe especially regarding gang-related crimes, which poses a threat the well being and development of our societies,

Recognizing the link between mental health issues, substance abuse, and delinquency,

Acknowledging the importance of addressing the challenges posed by juvenile delinquency to ensure the well-being and future prospects of young individuals,

Aware of the causes of juvenile delinquency, such as family dynamics, peer pressure, socioeconomic causes etc. and the need to tackle them,

Recognizing the need for a multidimensional approach combining prevention, intervention and rehabilitation,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which promotes the rehabilitative and constructive approach to juvenile justice, the Beijing Rules, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as other instruments and norms relating to the rights, interests, and well-being of all children and young persons,

Referring to data showing that prisons including rehabilitation programs and educational courses and workshops such as those in Norway reduce the risk of recidivism by 29% and that the use of Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) programs,

Underlining the importance of mass media's role when informing youths, and their responsibility to disseminate information that is not harmful or negatively influencing youths regarding topics such as youthful drug and alcohol abuse,

Emphasizing the importance of collaboration between government agencies, non-governmental organizations, communities, and other stakeholders in implementing comprehensive measures for juvenile delinquency,

1. Designates a separate justice system for juveniles recognizing the developmental differences between juveniles and adults and aiming to provide more rehabilitative approaches for younger offenders;
2. Calls for the funding of studies and data gathering on adolescent delinquency in order to comprehend its dynamic nature and the reallocation of resources from punitive measures to preventive and rehabilitative efforts;
3. Urges all member states to establish and support community-based prevention programs aimed at addressing risk factors contributing to juvenile delinquency, including but not limited to poverty, substance abuse, and lack of educational opportunities, such as:
 - a. community engagement and participation programs,
 - b. mentorship programs,
 - c. educational campaigns;
4. Requests all member states to provide training programs for professionals working with juveniles, including law enforcement officers, educators, and social workers and strengthen the capacity of schools, social services, and law enforcement agencies to identify and address signs of juvenile delinquency at an early stage by:
 - a. doing regular check-ups and assessments of at-risk youth and their families,
 - b. provide counseling and support to students facing challenges,
 - c. report suspicious behavior or activity to authorities;
5. Demands all member states to establish restorative justice practices, meaning repairing harm caused by delinquent behavior, encouraging offender accountability through but not limited to:
 - a. restitution to victims,
 - b. community service,
 - c. mediation between young offenders and its victims;
6. Recognizes the need to enhance the availability and accessibility of rehabilitative and therapeutic services for juvenile offenders, addressing underlying issues such as mental health, substance abuse, and family dynamics;
7. Supports the cooperation between non-state actors such as NGOs, community organizations or IGOs, and states to establish mechanisms for prevention and rehabilitation in cases of juvenile delinquency;

8. Encourages mass media to recognize their social responsibility and role when influencing youths and it ought to make use of its influence to discourage the use of drug and alcohol abuse by:

- a. Spreading messages through a balanced approach, to inform correctly,
- b. Sharing all levels of effective drug awareness campaigns,
- c. Avoiding demeaning and degrading representations, especially for children, women, and interpersonal relationships, to create a mentality of respect;

9. Supports for juveniles leaving the justice system, reentry programs aiming to facilitate their successful return to the community such as but not limited to:

- a. educational and vocational training:
 - i. providing alternative education options helps address the needs of juveniles who may struggle in traditional school settings, reducing the risk of school-related delinquency,
 - ii. implementing Cognitive Behavioural Treatment (CBT),
- b. employment assistance:
 - i. encouraging companies to establish the presence of former adolescent delinquents,
- c. mental health support;

10. Calls upon international collaboration and information exchange on successful juvenile justice strategies.