

Commission: Drugs and Crime

Session : Zonal MUN 2024

Sponsors : Australia, Canada, Ecuador, Malta, Mauritius, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Venezuela

QUESTION OF: **PROMOTING THE REHABILITATION AND INCLUSION OF CRIMINAL OFFENDERS IN SOCIETY**

The General Assembly,

Expressing deep concern about inadequate reintegration - there is a failure in the system to provide adequate support for reintegrating ex-offenders as well as a lack of employment opportunities and measures to help them return to mainstream society,

Alarmed about prison conditions - the conditions in prisons, which may include torture, forfeiture of privileges, degrading treatment and solitary confinement, are not conducive to rehabilitation and can complicate reintegration efforts,

Grieved by the fact that offenders are facing numerous challenges after being liberated due to the marginalisation of mentally ill people with substance use issues, which further continues with a cycle of addiction,

Cognizant that between 86% and 94% of convicted criminals recidivate after improper reintegration in society according to North-West University of South Africa,

Keeping in mind that the social justice system relies too heavily on punishment and incarceration and not enough on community-based sentencing,

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1. Draws the attention to The 1961 single Convention on Narcotics Drugs, The 1971 UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances followed by The 1988 UN Convention against Illicit Affairs in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances;
2. Welcomes UNODC's initiative to work in collaboration with the World Health Organisation and Human Rights instruments to promote rehabilitation and inclusion of criminal offenders in society globally;
3. Encourages strategies like the Service Delivery Model and the District Development Model to align correctional services with community development and economic empowerment initiatives;
4. Calls upon ensuring access to support services such as housing assistance, mental health care and peer support groups which will be critical for successful rehabilitation and inclusion of criminal offenders;
5. Suggests the implementation of community-based correction measures as an alternative to incarceration for non-violent offenders and assessments of offenders will be made to determine their risk level for alternative sentencing options;
6. Applauds the Nelson Mandela Rules which emphasize a human rights-based approach to correctional facilities in terms of educational programs and vocational training work;

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7. Invites sponsors to provide ex-offenders with resources such as financial support which can come in the form of grants, mentorship and guidance by pairing them with mentors who have successfully reintegrated society and training that can enhance their employability;
8. Accepts addressing stigma - experts suggest that eliminating the stigma associated with criminals is crucial for successful reintegration and that models from countries like China, which use integrative shaming approaches, are considered effective in reducing recidivism;
9. Further invites the UNODC to provide less developed countries with proper mental health treatment and support services to guarantee a smoother transition of criminal offenders in society;
10. Trusts in the support delivery of a new partnership approach based on the principle of Desegregated Offender Management which highlights the principle of de-centralisation with local areas responsible for identifying the offenders who are a priority;
11. Demands cooperation and collaboration with international partners through information sharing capacity building and best practice exchange to effectively address the transnational dimension of crimes.