

The United States of America

Positions for the General Assembly Third Committee

I. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice System

More than 60 years ago, in the aftermath of the destruction and devastation of World War II, the United States provided the leadership and vision that led to the founding of the United Nations. Fortunately, the 21st century has not experienced another global conflagration like WWI and WWII. However, other disasters, such as widespread criminal behavior, do vex the world today. In order to prevent further atrocities, the United States strongly believes that all nations of the world must work together.

In the United States, 12.6% of criminal activity is made up of young adults. Due to this high percentage, the US has many programs to aid its youth. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention are involved in decreasing gang activity in targeted neighborhoods, preventing and reducing violence in the community. Furthermore, the United States strongly believes that the key to crime prevention is to reach potential perpetrators at a younger age in order to address the systematic sources of criminal behavior, such as poverty, lack of strong educational institutes and broken families. The United States provides monetary support through grants to national and community organizations that mentor youths. The United States is pleased that the number of youths arrested has dropped 23.5 percent since 2001.

Youth crimes, however, are gaining momentum in areas of terrorism. The United States is highly concerned with the threat of terrorism, having experienced its horrifying results on September 11, 2001, which left a great scar on the United States. Sadly, youth are easily lured into joining terrorist groups. In many regards, it is the worst kind of criminal activity in the world and therefore the most important target of US crime prevention efforts. Hence in 2005, former President, George W. Bush, represented the United States and signed the first anti-terrorism law. The United States encourages nations that were impacted with terrorism to work together.

Since 2007, the United States has now implemented a goal of preventing terrorism and promoting the nation's security. The objective of this goal is to prevent, disrupt, and defeat terrorist operations, strengthen partnerships in response to terrorists, and prosecute those involved with terrorist acts. This goal also strives for the United States Criminal Division Office of International Affairs to work with foreign nations in counter terrorism investigations. The United States is also cooperating with INTERPOL in creating an international co-operation framework that allows police around the world to work together in arresting as many international criminals as possible. The United States now has over 110 extradition treaties with other nations. The United States proposes that with global community work we can prevent crimes at a younger age and terrorist acts. As H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, current President of the General Assembly of the United Nations, once stated that "the road to success must be found on the principle of partnership and on a deep sense of justice and responsibility."

II. Rehabilitation of Multilateral Funding: Responding to the Economic Instability of the Global Economy

The current recession in the United States was caused by liquidity problems in the banking system which further led to a collapse in financial institutions, bank bailouts, plummeting real estate prices, and tumbling stock markets. Combined with increasing current actual deficit of the United States, consumer and business confidence in the economy has dropped. This recession has also affected other nations, specifically the developing nations that once had strong economic growth, but are now suffering from slowdowns. With

economic slowdowns, these nations struggle with pressures on balance of payments, employment losses, higher crime rates, and an increase in poverty numbers.

The United States has actively participated in programs to help these developing nations. For the past 40 years, the United States Agency for International Development has been providing the world with economic and humanitarian aid, such as helping millions of entrepreneurs to start or improve their businesses and providing start-up support for loans and operating costs for banks. The USAID has created an economic growth strategy to initiate larger savings and investments. The USAID has also developed a framework plan that places developing nations into different categories in order to devise a more strategic plan for economic growth. In addition, the United States has also been a great contributor to the International Monetary Fund by funding 17.72% of its SDRs, which are then used to build sustainable economic growth around the world.

The United States applauds the steps taken by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the G20, and regional bodies like the African Development Bank, to address the global financial crisis and its consequences, particularly the consequences for developing Member states. Foreign assistance is a fundamental component of the international affairs budget and is viewed by any as an essential instrument of U.S. foreign policy. In 2004, the United States has provided some form of foreign assistance to about 150 countries promoting transformational development, especially in the areas of governance, institutional capacity, and economic restructuring. The United States is also proud to state that it has led an international effort to raise billions of dollars to help poor farmers feed their countries. Lastly, the United States is still committed to its pledge to the Millennium Development Goals. However, in order for the United States to continue to aid these nations its economic instability needs to be addressed. The priority of the United States is to create a fiscal policy agenda that places its public debt onto a sustainable track with entitlement reform and revenue raising measures. In an interdependent world, a better future for the people of developing countries means a more secure future for us all.

III. Combating the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Increased Drug Trafficking and Black Market Trade

The current financial crisis has helped to stimulate the growth of drug trafficking and the black market trade. Drug trafficking specifically, has become a substantial money earner, particularly in impoverished and economically stagnant nations. The global financial crisis increased the number of people handicapped by poverty. As a result, people living in rural areas are switching from growing agricultural crops to growing illegal drugs worldwide. Growing and selling illegal drugs has become an escape and a way of earning income since it brings in 10 to 50 times more money. Since the 1970s, the United States has been infiltrated with this drug trafficking via land, sea, and air routes from various countries around the world.

In response to the growing illegal drug industry, the United States created the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration in 1973 to “combat an all-out global war on the drug menace.” A few years later, the United States helped found the Financial Action Task Force, a group dedicated to promoting anti-money laundering controls around the world. Recently, the International Society for the Study of Drug Policy conference examined the consequences of an economic recession on drug use and two concerns were an increase of unemployed individuals selling drugs thus increasing the availability and the use of the drugs to cope with stress and economic difficulties.

The United States is dedicated to working with other nations on decreasing drug trafficking and the black market trade. The Department of Homeland Security of the United States has been working with Mexico, making significant progress on border-related crime and smuggling. President Obama is currently requesting \$500 million from Congress for enhanced border security to secure the borders and combat cartel violence.

The United States is also a member of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission, an organization of 34 nations that understands that this is a shared problem that all nations must cooperate to develop a solution. Recently, the commission passed the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs to implement institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction, and international cooperation within these nations. With a zero tolerance approach, the United States will support and implement this plan and continue to work with other nations on combating drug trafficking and trade under these current global financial times.