

# GWJ United Nation Representative Advocacy Report Vienna 2020

## GWJ advocacy goals

1. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to policy, legislation, budget and infrastructure to facilitate transition of girls from primary to secondary school and ensure gender parity and gender equality throughout secondary education by 2030.
2. By 2030 100% of United Nations low-income Member States have increased access to tertiary education for girls and women by 50%.
3. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to and implement policies for continuing education to empower women throughout the life course, within the formal and informal economies.
4. Influence the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.
5. All 17 SDGs will include girls' education targets.

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## Meeting attended: (place, date, time, name of meeting)



### Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) Regular and Reconvened 29th Session Vienna, 3-4/12/2020

#### Subject of meeting:

The regular (postponed from May as a result of the Covid Pandemic) and reconvened 29th Session of CCPCJ took place 3-4/12 in Vienna in a scaled down, hybrid (physical / virtual) format. Due to the COVID-19 situation, only Members of the Commission could have a delegate attending in person, all others participated remotely. The sessions were shortened to business meetings without side events. Certain NGO's including GWJ were invited by the UNODC Executive Director to nominate virtual observers and I attended as GWJ's designated observer.

The Session focused mainly on administrative and planning matters, including:

- Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions at UNODC.
- Preparations for the upcoming 14th UN Crime Congress in Kyoto March 7-12
- Election of Officers
- Agenda for the full 30th Session of CCPCJ in May 2021

UNODC published its new 2021-2025 strategy.

Given the scaled down nature of the Session, the originally planned thematic discussion - 'effective measures to prevent and counter the smuggling of migrants, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants, particularly women and children, and those of unaccompanied migrant children' - was postponed and will now be covered at next year's 30th Session.



*CCPCJ Chair, Ambassador Marcondes of Brazil, conducts the 29th Session (Screenshot)*

**Refers to SDG no #: (please reference)**

1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17

**Relevant treaties/conventions/resolutions:**

Many, including the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; the UN Convention against Corruption; the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism, etc

**Intervention by GWI rep: (what you did) N.A.**

**Personal observations :**

1) UNODC's mission is 'to contribute to global peace and security, human rights and development by making the world safer from drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism by working for and with UN Member States to promote justice and the rule of law and build resilient societies.' Its mandates include the areas related to transnational organized crime, criminal justice, countering corruption, drug control and terrorism.

UNODC's new strategy as released for the CCPCJ 29th Session is well worth reading, particularly for its assessment of how the Covid pandemic has created fertile ground for crime to flourish, while worsening the vulnerabilities of the most disadvantaged. During the pandemic, organized crime groups have expanded their reach, there is much increased cyber-crime - and there is greater abuse and exploitation of women and children in the cybersphere. 'Stay at home measures have much increased the likelihood of domestic violence. Criminal justice systems have been further stretched, leading to delays, increasing impunity and the weakening of the rule of law.'

The UNODC Strategy document makes very clear the challenges to global Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice posed by the pandemic.

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND\\_Sessions/CND\\_63Reconvened/ECN72020\\_CRP22\\_ECN152020\\_CRP3\\_V2007057.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND_Sessions/CND_63Reconvened/ECN72020_CRP22_ECN152020_CRP3_V2007057.pdf)

2) In the Strategy document (and in UNODC Executive Director Ghada Waly's remarks on International Anti-Corruption Day 9/12) the increasing threat of corruption is emphasised. 'With governments spending huge amounts and fast-tracking stimulus measures, corruption is targeting these emergency measures, weakening vital health and social systems and fuelling greater social instability.'

3) The UNODC have reaffirmed their commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women. The guiding principle of their Gender Strategy (led by a dedicated gender team) is that 'all UNODC initiatives have a positive effect on gender equality and empowerment of women and support equal representation and participation of women in all thematic areas.' This gender focus is of great importance to global crime prevention and criminal justice.

**Next steps:(what needs to be done, who can we contact? Who did you network with?)**

2021 is an important year with the Crime Congress in Kyoto in March, and a significant agenda for the 30th Session of CCPCJ May 17-21. Could any members / NFA's with particular interests or concerns who would be interested in developing a side event at CCPCJ on a particular theme, please get in contact soon.

**Did you take any photographs? If yes, please include captions**

Screenshot included.

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