

UN Reports.

Crime Prevention & Criminal Justice.

The Commission is composed of 40 Member States elected by the Economic and Social Council the allocation being:-

Twelve for African States – Nine for Asian States – eight for Latin American and Caribbean States –four for Eastern European States – seven for Western European States and other States.

The discussion of the 28th session was:- “The responsibility of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems in preventing and countering crime motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind”

More than 100 side events took place and four are mentioned below:-

The Blue Heart Campaign – this is an international anti-trafficking programme started by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). In 2000, after the UN General Assembly adopted the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, the UNODC became the “guardian” of that protocol and assumed the functions of fighting against human trafficking.

The Blue Heart Campaign was launched in 2009 by the Executive Director of the UNODC, Antonio Maria Costa, to the World’s Women’s Conference meeting in Vienna. The symbol is a blue heart that signifies the sadness of those who are trafficked while reminding the world of the cold-heartedness of those who buy, sell and traffic human beings.

The blue heart campaign has a victim centred approach. An NGO from Nigeria (Freedom foundation) reported that most of the young women and girls are kidnapped and brought to a neighbouring country. Most are trafficked for sexual abuse. Ashamed to go back to their families they end up on the streets. An NGO from Italy described her work – fighting Nigerian organised crime bringing young girls into Italy and forcing them into prostitution.

We are family

UNODC in coordination with WHO has developed a science informed skill based and practical training package with elements of family therapy for youths with drug disorders including those in contact with or at risk of contact with the criminal justice system.

The strong family programme provides – trainers (5000 per year), leaflets for parents and teachers, book, seminars etc.

Child and forced Marriages in Humanitarian Settings – an increasing trafficking issue.

An overview of Child and forced marriages with an emphasis on conflict situation was presented.

Force, fraud, coercion, there is a fine line between different marriage situations and exploitations. The bride did not consent, was too young to give consent or is married according to faith traditions (in all religions). 90% of forced marriages happen in Africa.

The discussion ended up with the consent that there must be something done about the education of boys and men regarding violence.

Governments, civil society organisations and other partners must work together to ensure girls have access to learning programmes, girls orientated health information and services and life-skills training.

YES TO EDUCATION – NO TO CHILD-MARRIAGE

Trafficking in Persons & Smuggling of Migrants – UNODC’s Education for Justice.

UNODC’s Education for Justice Initiative, a component for the Global Programme for the implementation of the Doha Declaration seeks to prevent Crime and to promote a culture of lawfulness through educational activities for primary, secondary and tertial levels. The areas addressed in the University Modules range from crime, cybercrime, wildlife-crime, anti-corruption, firearms, counter terrorism to ethics and integrity.

10th Session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG 10)

To discuss measures and to protect the human rights of older persons the main areas are:- Education, Training, Life-long Learning and Capacity-building and Social Protection and Social Security, Including Social Protection Floors.

Nowadays, the number of persons aged 60 and over is increasing at an unprecedented place.

By the end of the decade it will rise from its current 740 million to 1 billion.

Today's 2/3 of the world's older people live in low and middle-income countries and this proportion will rise to 80% by 2050.

Commission for Social Development

Social exclusion is connected to all forms of inequality. According to some estimates, the richest 1% of the global population owned 82% of stock of wealth in 2017, while the poorest half saw no increase in their wealth.

The priority theme of the Commission's 57th session was – Addressing Inequalities and Challenges to Social Inclusion through Fiscal, Wage and Social Protection Policies. They also looked at Empowerment of people affected by natural and human-made disasters to reduce inequality; Addressing the different impact on persons with disabilities, older persons and youth.

Currently, 187 countries have committed to establishing social protection floors to ensure, at a minimum that, over the life cycle, all in need have access to essential health care, including maternity care, without risk of hardship and an increased risk of poverty, and basic income security throughout the life course, including in case of maternity, sickness, disability, employment injury and old age.

Only 45.2% of the global population is covered by at least one social protection cash benefits

Worldwide, over 350 million people are affected by natural disasters, conflicts and humanitarian crises annually.

In both developing and developed countries, persons with disabilities, older persons and youth are among those social groups who often disproportionately experience the negative impacts of natural and human-made disasters.

International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action.

Key findings :-

Important gains have been made in implementing the Programme of Action

Nevertheless, progress has been uneven, and some major gaps remain.

World's population is expected to continue to grow, albeit at a declining rate.

Global fertility is projected to reach a level around 2.1 births per woman by the 2060's.

Mortality rates have fallen globally, but remain high in some regions.

Gaps in life expectancy at birth across regions have narrowed.

Use of modern methods of family planning has risen markedly.

Global population is ageing, with important regional differences in timing and speed. By 2050, the proportions of persons aged 65 years or over is projected to reach 28% in Europe and 23% in Northern America.

Future population growth will be concentrated in urban areas of Africa and Asia. Today, 56% of the world's population resides in urban areas, a share that is projected to increase to 68% in 2050.

Number of International migrants continue to increase.