

Alliance of NGOs Statement to the 31st Session of CCPCJ

Agenda Item 3: General debate

Anna Alvazzi del Frate, Chair

Thank you, Chairman. This statement is on behalf of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the umbrella organization supporting the overall work of the UN Programme on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

Since the Kyoto Congress, we have been witnessing increased opportunities for multi-stakeholders' engagement with the Commission. In particular, the first round of thematic discussions on the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration last November, as well as the CCPCJ expert discussions on crimes that affect the environment in February. The Alliance, in close cooperation with various parts of the Secretariat, coordinated a wide range of experts, panellists, and speakers. We welcome the format of these events, which have allowed civil society to be heard and share valuable expertise with Member States, and we look forward to their continuation in the future.

We are also pleased to announce that NGOs will have the opportunity to meet the Chair of the Commission on Thursday for an informal dialogue. This meeting complements the informal dialogue with the Executive Director of UNODC to be held on Wednesday. We look forward to a fruitful discussion on both occasions.

Nevertheless, there are challenges ahead of us. We count on the support of the Commission to ensure full participation and contribution of civil society in all relevant fora and processes. In addition, we also note that in-person participation in this session of the Commission is still a privilege for a very limited number of civil society representatives. We look forward to ensuring that all relevant stakeholders can come to Vienna and be in this room again.

Finally, the Alliance is eager to continue meaningful civil society engagement in implementing the Kyoto Declaration and in preparations for the 15th Congress, providing expertise as appropriate.

Thank you.