

PNI Statement under agenda Item 4 (e), 19th May 2010

(M. Johansson, RWI)

Mr Chairman, distinguished delegates,

I am making this statement on behalf of the **United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes**, the so-called PNI, which supports the implementation of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and contributes to the work of the Commission.

The network was established by the Secretariat of the United Nations, in recognition of the importance of regional and interregional cooperation, and in response to various legislative mandates, and in full cooperation with the Member States. It aims to strengthen international cooperation, and to assist the international community in the crucial area of crime prevention and criminal justice at the global, regional and sub-regional level. The members of the network provide a variety of services, including exchange of information, research, technical assistance such as capacity building and training, and specialised education. Currently, the network consists of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and sixteen interregional and regional institutes and specialised centres from around the world.

The network began with the establishment of the first Institute in 1962, and the most recent member joined in 2007. As requested by the Commission, an account of the activities they carry out is provided to each Session of the Commission, and for 2009 is available in Doc. E/CN.15/2010/10 (*Activities of the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network*).

The Institutes contribute in four main ways to supporting the application of UN standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and other relevant instruments and activities: i) through research and technical assistance programmes, the Institutes provide capacity building or respond to the requests of governments in their respective regions or inter-regionally; ii) in collaboration with UNODC on data collection and analysis, and the development of tools and training materials; iii) through contributions at the Commission each year, especially in preparing a Workshop on one of the substantive themes of the Session; and iv) through support to the Secretariat in preparing workshop Background Papers, expert contributions and organizing the official Workshops at the Congresses. In relation to the work of the Institutes at the Commission and the Congresses, most of this activity is accomplished without extra-budgetary funding.

The work of the Institutes amounts annually to a very substantial and practical contribution to Member States. Consequently, the PNI welcomes Para. 9 of the *Salvador Declaration* which calls upon Member States and other international donors to support *inter alia* the work of the Institutes.

Thank you for giving me the floor.