



Mr Kanemoto, President of Interpol

tion technology have opened new vistas in crime, the world over, making it difficult for any one country to tackle it alone. Detection and to some extent prevention of crime, both at the national and transnational level, will be possible only through the active co-operation amongst the police forces of all the countries. The call on the services of Interpol will certainly increase in times to come. Interpol plays a unique role in bringing together member countries with diverse laws, procedures and ideologies, in their fight against crime. Ladies and gentlemen, I would not be exaggerating if I state that Interpol has been a success because it is a union of die-hard professionals — a police club. The policeman or woman takes a vow to fight the battle against the criminal irrespective of his origin, nationality, ideology or religion. I salute you all.

Distinguished delegates, I wish you meaningful deliberations in the Session and a very happy and pleasant stay in the capital of India. We have resolved to make the 66th General Assembly a memorable experience for you and I am confident that you will remember it for a long time.

Thanking you all once again."

Speech by the President of the ICPO-Interpol

"Mr President,
Mr Prime Minister,
Honourable Ministers,
Fellow Platform Guests,
Honourable Delegates,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a great honour for me to address all of you at the opening ceremony of the 66th General Assembly of the ICPO-Interpol here in New Delhi.

As a member of Interpol since 1949, India has always been quite active within the Organization. India hosted the 13th Asian Regional Conference in 1994, while regularly sending its highest police officials to serve on the Executive Committee. I personally have a very fond and pleasant memory of working together with Mr Mohen G. Katre between 1985-1988, and with Mr Joginder Singh since last year.

Building on such a longstanding contribution to Interpol, it is particularly significant that India hosts the annual meeting of the Organization's supreme body in the same year as she celebrates

her 50th anniversary of independence.

On behalf of Interpol and all the delegates representing 177 Member States, I would like to express our profound appreciation to the Indian Government, Prime Minister Mr Gujral and Minister for Home Affairs Mr Gupta for hosting Interpol's General Assembly.

Our gratitude also goes to Messrs. Singh and Sharma and their staff who spared no energy in making this meeting a success and our stay comfortable. I am convinced that this Assembly will be an important milestone for Interpol which will celebrate its 75th birthday next year.

Ladies and gentlemen, one year has passed since you elected me President of Interpol during the 65th General Assembly in Turkey. I would like to thank all of you again for the confidence you expressed in my candidacy.

Since this conference is my first General Assembly, I believe that I should identify four principles which have directed and will continue to direct my actions as President. They are effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and solidarity.

Since we are all professional crime fighters, let us be effective by targeting our efforts and energies to where they are most needed. To do so, we should always re-examine our priorities and the relevance of what we have been doing.

Let us be efficient, because wasting scarce resources could be as serious a crime as that which might have been prevented with a more careful allocation of our re-