



Statement to the UN General Assembly – Reviewed Resolution Cooperation between INTERPOL and the United Nations

By

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Your Excellency, President of the UN General Assembly;
Excellencies; Ladies and Gentlemen;
Assalam Aleikum. Nǐ hǎo. Good morning. Bonjour. Zdravstvujtye. Buenos Dias.

Two years ago, I had the privilege to stand before this General Assembly Hall to address you on the occasion of the debate, and the adoption of the first ever Resolution on Cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL.

Following the co-facilitators' hard work and your valuable contributions, I am delighted today to be bestowed again with this honour, for the tabling of the first biennial review of Resolution 71/19.

Since the Resolution's first adoption in 2016, the transnational threat landscape has evolved to pose new and increasingly complex challenges, in large part driven by unprecedented technological advances and instability, worldwide.

What remains a constant variable over time, however, is the determination of international criminal groups to seek to exploit national boundaries to evade the rule of law.

Embracing and strengthening international law enforcement cooperation is the only way for the international community to stay ahead of the curve.

INTERPOL's mission is to work towards making this cooperation as seamless and as effective as possible, to carry our collective fight against crime across borders, by connecting law enforcement in our 194 member countries, and working together towards a safer world.

This cooperation framework rests on INTERPOL's apolitical character, rooted in the principles of neutrality and independence; and in the respect of human rights, enshrined in our constitution.

Trust - the trust of your nations - is just as important as the success of such cooperation.

Trust in INTERPOL, and trust in its ability to ensure appropriate management of police data.

Based strictly on its neutral mandate, and ensuring full respect for the national sovereignty of its member countries, INTERPOL practices strict adherence to its Rules on the Processing of Data and Due Diligence - from its General Secretariat in Lyon, to its remote offices, to each of the INTERPOL National Central Bureaus embedded in your criminal justice structures.

This independent and robust cooperation framework underpins INTERPOL's round-the-clock support to policing and law enforcement, as well as the implementation of its three global crime programmes, focusing on countering terrorism, organized and emerging crime and cybercrime. Through them, on a daily basis, your national law enforcement agencies receive tangible operational support at the frontlines.

The relationship between the UN and INTERPOL in tackling these crime areas has substantially strengthened since the adoption of Resolution 71/19 two years ago.

The cooperation between our two organizations has especially intensified in the context of counter-terrorism. Over the past two years, new cooperation agreements have been signed between INTERPOL and the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the UN Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (UNCTED), and in this context allowing INTERPOL expert participation in 17 CTED Country Assessment visits.

In addition, I am very pleased to see substantial recognition of INTERPOL's contribution to the fight against terrorism and to its support to member states and the United Nations in implementing the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, in particular through last year's UN Security Council resolutions 2341 and 2396, among others.

Furthermore, the close convergence of the UN and INTERPOL's respective visions is exemplified by the seven Global Policing Goals launched by INTERPOL alongside the UNODC in Vienna, just last month. These goals aim to serve as a framework for the international community to collectively address today's most pressing security threats, and have been designed to complement and further support the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Their overarching purpose is to provide guidance on which criminal threats the international law enforcement community should prioritize - and commit to - in the years to come, as part of our common broader efforts to meet objectives under the 2030 Agenda.

For criminal threats share a common denominator: the dire effects they have on our public security, long-term stability, economic systems and governance structures; ultimately stifling economic development and depriving society of a better future.

The fight against international crime is an instrument in bringing about global peace and stability. Its core lies in law enforcement, yet its roots and ramifications extend far beyond the strict boundaries of Ministries and agencies in charge of policing.

In an increasingly complex, fast-evolving and thus less predictable threat landscape, political leadership in international police cooperation is needed more than ever. Connecting the dots is just the first step to build a robust cooperation network. Relying on key decision makers to lead it towards a shared vision is the next.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

With the reviewed Resolution on Cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL tabled at this session, we are looking forward to marking a new milestone in our common journey towards a safer world.

In closing, please allow me to recognize the outstanding efforts of the Permanent Missions of Brazil and Switzerland in co-facilitating the review of this Resolution and in bringing together the precious viewpoints and contributions offered by the member states.

As we prepare to further strengthening the global security architecture with the UN and the Member States, INTERPOL expresses its highest gratitude and appreciation to the United Nations General Assembly for giving us this opportunity today.