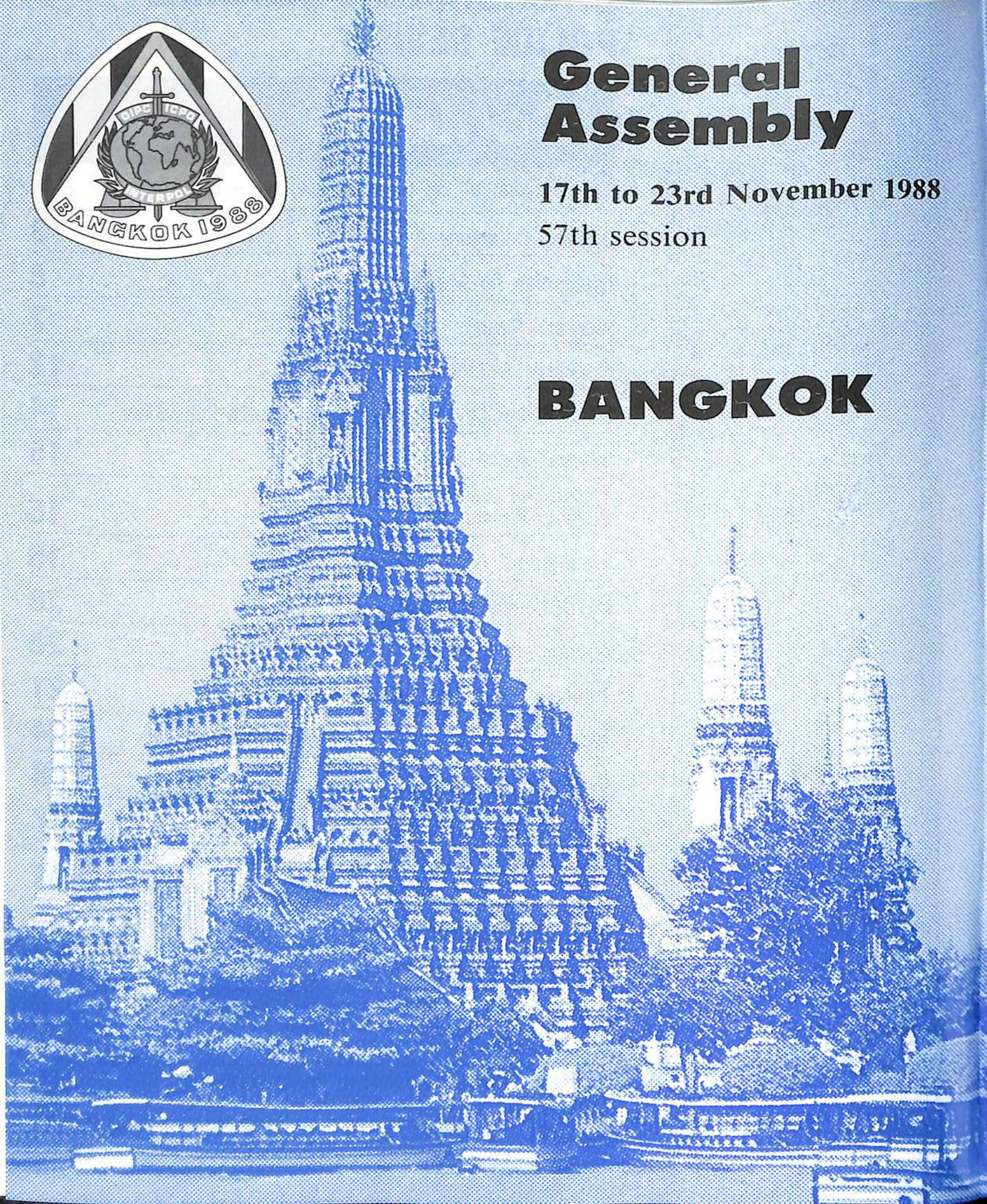




General Assembly

17th to 23rd November 1988
57th session

BANGKOK



OPENING CEREMONY

The General Assembly of the ICPO-Interpol held its 57th session in Bangkok, Thailand, from 17th to 23rd November 1988.

The meetings took place in the Dusit Thani Hotel and were chaired by Mr. John R. Simpson, the Organization's President. The session was attended by delegates from 127 member countries, the Secretary General and a number of his staff, and by Observers from twelve international organizations. The opening ceremony was held in the Napalai Ballroom, with His Excellency General Chatichai Choonhavan, Prime Minister of Thailand, in the chair. Police General Pow Sarasin, Director General of the Royal Thai Police Department, addressed the delegates as follows:

"Your Excellency the Prime Minister, Honourable Guests, Mr. President of ICPO-Interpol, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Royal Thai Police Department I would like to express my deepest appreciation and grateful thanks to His Excellency the Prime Minister for having honoured us with his presence to preside over the Opening Ceremony of the 57th ICPO-Interpol General Assembly session this morning.

The Royal Thai Police Department has been affiliated to the ICPO-Interpol since 1951. In 1982, we were given the honour of hosting the Fifth Interpol Asian Regional Conference which proved to be very successful in reaching a number of valuable conclusions.

This General Assembly session is the first world event that the Royal Thai Police Department has ever had the honour to host. We shall try our best to make this session a successful one. It is our earnest hope that this General Assembly session will fulfil its objectives and be a really beneficial event for all participants.

I extend a very warm welcome to all the distinguished delegates, representatives from various international organizations and agencies to this General Assembly session and I wish you all a pleasant and enjoyable stay in Thailand.

Thank you."

Mr. John R. Simpson, President of the Organization, then delivered the following speech:

"It is an honour for me to welcome all Interpol representatives — and our guests — to Interpol's 57th General Assembly Session. On behalf of our entire membership, I would also like to thank our hosts for welcoming us to their beautiful country. From my previous visits to this fascinating city, I know the kindness and hospitality of the Thai people will make our stay in Bangkok a memorable experience.

Before we begin our work for this session, I would like to speak to you for a few moments about some of the major issues facing us in this General Assembly Session and in the coming year. And I want to bring you up-to-date on some of the work in progress since last we met.



The Dusit Thani Hotel where the General Assembly session was held.

As you know, our primary concern for many years has been the modernization of this entire Organization.

At the very heart of this programme is the establishment of a world-wide telecommunications network of Interpol member countries. It is impossible to over-emphasize the importance of this goal — because it grows increasingly more critical with each passing day. Certainly, in the last few years, we have made progress toward modernization, both in the area of data management and in communications.



General Pow Sarasin, Director General of the Royal Thai Police, making a speech at the Opening Ceremony.

Some of the most recent and notable progress has been in the Caribbean/Central American region. I am happy to report that at this time, the manufacturer of the Caribbean telecommunications system is now in the process of building terminals, and on-site inspection is taking place. Specifications for message switches for that system are also currently out for bid.

A corollary project to this communications system is the automatic data processing system in Puerto Rico. I am pleased to report that this programme, too, is well under way. We expect installation to begin on the data base in Puerto Rico by early 1989.

Both of these projects in the Caribbean region represent real progress toward modernization and, I hope, will serve as an inspiration to other areas.

I would especially encourage the member countries of the South Pacific to consider establishing a network similar to the one being created in the Caribbean region. Certainly the need is there as far as local law enforcement is concerned. And the Pacific Basin is an area just as crucial to this Organization's success.

During this Assembly session, I would hope we will also see some further progress made on our goal to encrypt all of Interpol's telecommunications systems. And, as a related communications issue, at the operational level, I would encourage each of you to consider the recommendation made at a recent Caribbean meeting to adopt a format for messages. Obviously, anything we can devise procedurally to facilitate fast, efficient communication between member countries is worth our serious consideration.

Before closing, I would also like to mention for emphasis two areas of criminal activity that I feel are of primary concern to this Assembly session.

One is money laundering. During the past year, it has become very apparent that this crime is far more widespread than had been previously evident. I believe we can safely assume that money laundering now constitutes a major assault against the economic integrity and stability of many countries.

The investigation of this crime represents a very difficult, complex mission for law enforcement agencies — one that is not only labour intensive but also requires all the patience and technical expertise we can muster. I believe money laundering is also a crime in which the services of Interpol can be especially effective, and one in which we should play a critical role. Because very little can be achieved toward suppressing this crime without the constant interaction and co-operation of all the countries involved.

A second criminal category that has long been of major concern to this Organization is, of course, organized crime. I am certain that no one here today would argue with the fact that organized crime is a malignant force that has already plagued the world for too many years. But for purposes of discussion this week, I would only direct your attention to the fact that at a symposium earlier this year, a

recommendation was made to establish a separate unit on organized crime at the General Secretariat.

I would encourage this Assembly to seriously consider that proposal, because I believe such directed attention on the part of Interpol could contribute significantly to the fight against this major criminal force.

We have a great deal of hard work ahead of us this week, but I would like to point out, as I have in the past, that none of our concerns lack practical solutions. They require only determination, and a clear sense of purpose, to achieve success.

Since this is the last time I will be privileged to lead this august Assembly, I want to wish each of you great success in advance of your work



Mr. John Simpson, President of the ICPO-Interpol, delivering his speech.

this week. I hope this 57th General Assembly Session will be remembered as the most positive and productive meeting we have ever held!

Thank you."

Finally, his Excellency General Chatichai Choonhavan, Prime Minister of Thailand, gave the following speech:

"Excellencies, Honourable Guests, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honour and a pleasure to me to preside over the Opening Ceremony of the 57th ICPO-Interpol Assembly session this morning. On behalf of the Royal Thai Government,



General Chatichai Choonhavan, Prime Minister of Thailand, on the platform.

I extend my warmest welcome to Thailand to the distinguished delegates from the ICPO-Interpol member countries and the representatives from various international organizations and agencies attending this conference.

It is well realized that crime is one of the most detrimental problems to public security and peaceful existence of the nation. Each country has made its utmost efforts to cope with criminal problems, particularly in developing international co-operation for the effectiveness of crime prevention and suppression.

Apart from fighting against internal crime problems, most countries have to face international criminal problems too. Criminals can flee from one country to take refuge in another country, or even to further commit crimes in other countries, before eventually returning to and hiding in their own country. This poses obstacles to the authorities concerned to attempt an arrest since they have no rights or powers to operate beyond national boundaries. It is also recognized that advancement in communications, transportation and technology leads to the expansion of international crime to such an extent that one country is unable to solve the problems independently and efficiently. Therefore, international assistance and co-operation in the

exchange of intelligence is necessary for any endeavour to deal with international crime. The establishment of the ICPO-Interpol is really a great benefit to the development of better understanding, mutual assistance and co-operation for the accomplishment of police activities of the world nations.

The Royal Thai Police Department has been affiliated to the ICPO-Interpol for 38 years, and it has been an advantage to the Thai Police, in co-operation with the General Secretariat, especially with various member countries, in dealing with criminal conduct in the field of economic crime and narcotic drugs control. Thailand was very successful when given the privilege of hosting the ICPO-Interpol Asian Regional Conference in 1982.

In view of international terrorism, which is presently a worldwide problem, Thailand never hesitates to fully co-operate with the member countries to lessen the consequences.

On behalf of the Royal Thai Government, it is with high distinction that I congratulate the President of the ICPO-Interpol, the Vice-Presidents,

the Executive Committee members and the Secretary General, together with all those who have contributed to the work of the ICPO-Interpol. We are very pleased to welcome you here to Bangkok in a year when Thailand is presenting its Director General of Police, a former Vice President of Interpol, General Pow Sarasin, as a candidate for the Presidency. Again, it is with great pleasure that I welcome all participants to this meeting and hope you enjoy a pleasant stay in Thailand.

I wish this General Assembly success, and may it achieve its goal. I now consider it an honour to declare the 57th ICPO-Interpol General Assembly session officially open.

Thank you."

Leaving the Napalai Ballroom, from left to right: President Simpson, Mr. Kendall, Secretary General, General Chatichai Choonhavan, Prime Minister of Thailand, General Pow Sarasin, Director General of the Royal Thai Police, with Vice-President Zhu En Tao behind him, and Vice-President Babovic.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

This year, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe — an archipelago in the Gulf of Guinea, off the West coast of Africa — was the only State that had applied for membership of Interpol. The General Assembly accepted its application.

The Delegate of Sao Tome and Principe thanked the Delegations for their vote and assured them that his country would co-operate to the best of its ability in the fight against international crime.

Interpol now has 147 Member States.



The Delegation from Sao Tome and Principe

PROGRESS REPORT

The Secretary General stressed the fact that, unlike previous years, the Progress Report now covered the same period as the financial year and could therefore be submitted to the General Assembly for approval at the same time as the Financial Report. Of the many activities undertaken by the General Secretariat during 1987, one of the major developments had been the creation of the new Support Division, which comprised telecommunications, electronic data processing and part of the criminal records department. The creation of this new Division had meant that the tasks carried out by the Police Division had had to be reviewed. A study was currently in progress and the appropriate recommendations would be submitted to the General Assembly at its next session.

The Secretary General then commented on the Progress Report describing work carried out by Interpol during the period 1st January - 31st December 1987, which is summarized below.

General functioning of the Organization

A study has been carried out to re-organize the Secretary General's Executive Office. Findings indicate that the staffing level should be increased so that the duties of the Office can be expanded. The Public Relations Department which was set up at the beginning of 1987 to promote the Organization's image, is part of the Secretary General's Executive Office.

During the year it organized visits to the General Secretariat by 56 newspaper, radio and television journalists, people from 13 institutes, 5 official visits and visits by 11 private individuals. In addition to the creation of the new Support Division, the General Administration Division was also considerably re-organized in preparation for its future structure in the new Headquarters in Lyons.

The European Secretariat was set up in 1986 following the adoption of a

resolution by the General Assembly at its session in Washington in October 1985. Since then, it has been represented at many meetings, notably the European Regional Conference in Wiesbaden, Federal Germany. It prepared and was represented at three meetings of the Technical Committee for Co-operation in Europe, and also organized a meeting on fingerprint identification computer systems used in Europe. The introduction of a network of liaison officers should enable the European Secretariat to participate even more effectively in day-to-day co-operation in Europe.

The New Building Project (construction of a new Headquarters building and transfer to Lyons) is progressing according to schedule and with no major technical problems.

The Executive Committee met on three occasions in 1987: in February, in mid-July and in November, immediately prior to the General Assembly session in Nice.

Three regional conferences were held in 1987: the American Regional Conference in Panama City in April, the European Regional Conference in Wiesbaden, Federal Germany, in April, and the Asian Regional Conference in Tokyo, Japan, in July.

The 7th International Counterfeit Currency Conference was held in Lyons, France, in June 1987 and was attended by 450 participants from 75 States and observers from 43 international organizations and private bodies.

Technical co-operation

A Training Seminar for NCB Officers (in English and Arabic) was held in October and was attended by 50 participants from 35 countries.

International crime

Fighting international crime is naturally Interpol's main vocation and is the chief concern of the National Central Bureaus and the General Secretariat.

The General Secretariat's Police Division is responsible for co-ordinating co-operation in this fight against international crime. It comprises three Sub-Divisions which are responsible for general crime (including international terrorism), economic and financial crime, and drug-related crime, respectively. The Organized Crime-FOPAC Group is directly attached to the Head of Division, and is in charge of investigating the involvement of criminal organizations in various types of crime. As recommended by the Organization and Development Department, this Group will develop into a Criminal Analysis Office.

The General Crime Sub-Division (offences against persons and property, international terrorism) took part in various conferences and meetings organized by other international institutions, and it also organized six working meetings.

The new forms concerning international notices, which were adopted by the General Assembly at its session in Belgrade in 1986, were sent to all NCBs. The forms came into force on 1st September 1987.

Groupe C specializes in property-related crime including theft of works of art and cultural property, trafficking and theft of motor vehicles, trafficking, theft and illegal possession of firearms and explosives, general theft and other related offences. To a lesser degree, the Group deals with trafficking in endangered species and has contacts, from time to time, with CITES.

The Committee set up to study applications of data processing to stolen art objects approved the layout and manual of guidance for the new CRIGEN/ART form. Both documents were presented to the General Assembly at its session in Nice and were approved for distribution. The layout and presentation of the publication "The 12 most wanted works of art" have been modified: there will now be two issues per year entitled "The most wanted works of art"; each issue will deal with six works of art and is presented in such a way that it can be displayed in places such as police stations, museums, etc. Seven circulars and 192 stolen property notices were sent out to member countries in 1987.

At its session in Nice, the General Assembly approved the list of terms proposed by Group C for inclusion in the new form on the trafficking, theft and illegal possession of firearms and explosives. Work on the form is continuing.

The "Vehicle Registration Index" is being updated all the time. A circular was sent to the National Central Bureaus in July 1987, drawing attention to the importance of providing up-to-date information on vehicle registration.

Group D specializes in crimes related to violence against persons: murder, assault, robbery, extortion, kidnapping/hostage-taking, arson, morals cases and pornography, prostitution and trafficking in human beings. It is also responsible for handling cases involving disaster victim identification, missing persons and unidentified bodies, sea piracy, environmental crime and the activities of criminal organizations.

In 1987, Group D handled 832 cases of murder, assault and violence against persons, 478 robbery cases, 169 cases of kidnapping/hostage-taking and extortion, 283 morals cases, 11 cases of unlawful interference with civil aviation, 117 cases of illegal immigration/residence (at 19th April

Members of the Thai Delegation





The Delegate from New Zealand and the Norwegian Delegation

1987), and 393 cases of missing persons and unidentified bodies.

A Working Meeting on piracy at sea and armed robberies committed against merchant vessels was held at the General Secretariat in January 1987. At its session in Nice, the General Assembly approved the holding of a new Working Meeting on the subject.

The Sub-Committee on Disaster Victim Identification held two meetings during the year to study updating the DVI form in the light of the experience gained in different countries, and the possibility of using electronic data processing techniques to identify disaster victims.

In September 1987, Group D organized the European Meeting on the Exploitation of Prostitution and on Pornography. During the year, seven circulars were produced by the Group and distributed to member countries.

The TE Group specializes in work on international terrorist crime, and operates within the framework of the Guide for Combating International Terrorism, which was formally approved and adopted by the General Assembly at its 1986 session in Belgrade. The Group also deals with matters of civil aviation security as it often relates to international terrorism and hijacking matters. It collaborates

with the General Secretariat's Drugs Sub-Division in cases where international drug trafficking seems to be linked to terrorists or terrorist groups. In 1987, the TE Group made itself known as widely as possible by participating in various meetings, notably the Interpol American Regional Conference in Panama City. It also attended meetings in the United Kingdom, France, Federal Germany, the Netherlands, Italy and the United States, and organized working meetings at the General Secretariat. In addition, the Group has effected appropriate liaison with other international organizations in the field of civil aviation.

Eight circulars (including reports on the drugs/terrorism connection) were produced by the Group and distributed to member countries in 1987.

The Economic and Financial Crime Sub-Division is composed of three Groups.

Group E deals with fraud and general economic offences, including the fraudulent use of identity documents.

The 1st European Symposium on fraud and economic crime was held at the General Secretariat in March 1987.

In conformity with a resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its 1986 session in Belgrade, a working group was established to improve co-operation between the law enforcement and banking

communities. It held its first meeting in March 1987, at the General Secretariat. In June 1987, Group E arranged a follow-up working group meeting on a large-scale advance-fee fraud case.

Although the number of cases reported to the General Secretariat is too low to make it possible to draw any specific conclusions as to the scale of economic and financial crime, it can be seen that fraud on an international scale has increased both in volume and complexity and that Interpol member countries are showing growing concern about the problem. This was confirmed by many speakers at the General Assembly session in Nice. A total of 23 circulars, including six Fraud Intelligence Reports, were prepared by Group E in 1987. Also, a comprehensive report entitled "Offences related to economic and financial crime — The situation in 1987" has been circulated to all NCBs.

Group F is responsible for combating currency counterfeiting. The Group continued to carry out expert analyses of counterfeit banknotes and cheques in its laboratory, as in the past.

The 10th European Meeting on Counterfeit Currency was held at the General Secretariat in January 1987. It was attended by 42 participants from 19 countries, as well as by observers from the United States and the BCEAO (West African States' Central Bank).

The 7th International Counterfeit Currency Conference was held in Lyons, France, from 22nd to 26th June 1987. It was organized by the General Secretariat, with financial contributions from the issuing institutes and participants from the private sector. The previous Conference was held in Madrid, Spain.

The "Counterfeits and Forgeries" Group is responsible for editing and publishing the "Counterfeits and Forgeries" Review, which had a circulation of approximately 15,000 at

1st January 1987. The Review comprises two distinct volumes which are updated every month. Volume I is devoted to counterfeits and forgeries of banknotes discovered throughout the world, and is now laid out in the same way as Volume II. The presentation of texts and photographs has been modified. The counterfeits are reproduced in colour, with enlargements of the main defects. Volume II covers genuine banknotes in circulation. Approximately 150 countries co-operate with the General Secretariat in the preparation of this publication. The monthly newsletter has been improved. "Counterfeits and Forgeries" is issued in five languages: Arabic, English, French, German and Spanish.

The mission of the Drugs Sub-Division is to enhance co-operation among national police services and stimulate the exchange of relevant information among all national and international bodies concerned with countering the illicit production, traffic and use of drugs and narcotic substances. Drawing upon the wide investigative and analytical experience of staff members from many countries, the Sub-Division serves member countries in the areas of data-bank management, administrative co-ordination of international enquiries, tactical intelligence analysis and dissemination, and strategic intelligence production and dissemination.

The Sub-Division is composed of two groups, the Operations Group and the Intelligence Group.

At 31st December 1987, the Drugs Sub-Division consisted of 30 officers and administrative support personnel; the police officers came from 19 different countries. There is also a part-time Liaison Officer for the Caribbean.

The high turnover of personnel has always been a problem in the Sub-Division and tends to compromise overall efficiency. Nevertheless, in 1987 an extremely high level of activity was maintained. Approximately

53,000 drug-related enquiries were received for information, action or administrative co-ordination by the Liaison Officers of the Operations Group. This figure represents about 45% of all reports, telegrams and correspondence received at the General Secretariat.

In addition to the annual European Meeting for Heads of National Drugs Services (held in April), the Sub-Division organized a total of seven working meetings at the General Secretariat during 1987. The Liaison Officers conducted 23 liaison missions to 47 countries, and the staff of the Sub-Division attended 43 meetings organized outside the Headquarters.

As well as preparing reports for the General Assembly, Regional Conferences and the World Health Organization, the Sub-Division published 14 circulars for member countries, four editions of the QUEST Review (quarterly statistics), which has replaced the SAM Bulletin, and 52 Weekly Drug Intelligence Messages.

Liaison with other international or regional organizations is also an important function of the Drugs Sub-Division. In addition to meetings organized by the Sub-Division, mention should be made of the 2nd European Police/Customs Conference which took place in Brussels, Belgium, in May and was organized jointly by the Sub-Division and the Customs Co-operation Council. In June, the Sub-Division participated in the United Nations-sponsored World Drug Conference in Vienna, Austria. The Sub-Division also took part in the 10th Special Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Sub-Committee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East. Finally, the Sub-Division's work with the World Health Organization in the scheduling and control of licit drugs was particularly fruitful. The recent rescheduling of secobarbital from Schedule III to Schedule II of the 1971 Psychotropic Convention would not have been possible had it not been for



The Delegation from Qatar

the abuse and trafficking data compiled by the Drug Sub-Division's Psychotropics Group.

Training for national drug law enforcement personnel, which began in 1985, has continued. The Liaison Officer for the Near and Middle East participated as an instructor in the Drugs Training Course for law enforcement officers from the Gulf area, held in Islamabad, Pakistan, in January 1987.

In Africa, funding from the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control enabled the Sub-Division to organize training in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, and in Nairobi, Kenya, on the subject of licit drug diversion. The programme completed the training begun in Kenya in 1986.



The Organized Crime — FOPAC Group was separated from the Economic and Financial Crime Sub-Division in March 1987 and is now in charge of analysing the implications of actions undertaken by criminal organizations concerning various types of criminality. In the future, this Group will develop into a Criminal Analysis Office, which will be responsible for providing the Head of the Police Division with information about current and project crime trends and patterns so that he will be in a

position to determine policies, objectives and goals for the Police Division. The Group's main tasks include analysing and co-ordinating information, organizing working meetings on investigations related to the Group's programmes, co-operating with international organizations, drawing up model legislation, updating the Financial Assets Encyclopaedia, distributing literature and developing training programmes. In 1987, staff from the OC-FOPAC Group attended several working meetings held at the General Secretariat and organized or took part in the Financial/Diversion Investigations Training Course in



One of the Delegates from Papua New Guinea

Abidjan, the NCB Officers' Training Course in Saint-Cloud, and the 6th FOPAC Working Group meeting in Panama City.

Studies, General Reference Sources, Symposia, ICPR

The activities of the General Secretariat's "Studies — General Reference Sources — ICPR" Division include: drafting documents and reports on subjects of interest to the police and on Interpol's activities; organizing meetings and arranging for Interpol representation at meetings organized by other bodies; participating, by consultation and the preparation of documents, in the work of other General Secretariat

departments; managing and processing the Secretariat's general reference documents (library) and answering requests for documentary material; publishing the International Criminal Police Review and managing its circulation.

The Division provides secretariat services for the Supervisory Board for the Internal Control of Interpol's Archives.

The Head of Division is also the Organization's legal adviser.

The Division's main activities involving legal studies and research during the period in question included drafting various internal rules, and studying the problems involved in their application: Staff Regulations, Staff Rules, Rules on the deletion of police information held by the General Secretariat, minimum criteria for the publication and circulation of international warning notices; drafting or checking contracts and specifications (e.g. for the construction of the new Headquarters building in Lyons); negotiating the Agreement relating to the Organization's future Bureau in Buenos Aires.

The General Reference Sub-Division continued to organize, process and acquire books, periodicals and other material on subjects of special interest to the police and likely to meet the information needs of member countries, General Secretariat departments and other departments or researchers. In all, 410 books, brochures and other documents were acquired during the year; the Sub-Division also has subscriptions to 173 periodicals from 25 countries.

The Sub-Division handled 307 requests for information from departments or researchers in 73 countries, as well as about 100 requests from the General Secretariats' own departments. Twelve issues of the monthly bibliographical bulletin were published, and 62 book reviews were written for those bulletins. A special

bulletin on Interpol was also issued. Two information bulletins were published, containing approximately 177 bibliographical references in all, one on police investigations, the other on informers and undercover agents.

Following the changes decided on by the Executive Committee in June 1986, the International Criminal Police Review has appeared in a new form since the first issue of 1987. Today, virtually all the articles which appear in the ICPR are being published for the first time; six such articles have provoked considerable interest and several requests to be allowed to reprint them have been received from national police journals.

The French and English editions, which are published by the General Secretariat, and the Spanish edition, which is published in Madrid with the collaboration of the Spanish Police, continue to appear with little or no delay. The Arabic edition is being produced with the assistance of the Tunisian NCB, and efforts are being made to catch up on delays in publication. It should be noted that the January/February 1987 issue, which was a special "Drugs" number, was also published in Arabic.

Technical Support

Within the context of the re-organization of the General Secretariat, a fourth division — the

The Tunisian Delegate



Support Division — was created on 9th March 1987. It is composed of:

- The Telecommunications Sub-Division

This was previously part of the Administration Division and was itself re-organized on 1st July 1987. It now has two distinct sections: the Operations Section is responsible for the Organization's day-to-day communications, and in particular for the Automatic Message Switching System (AMSS) which has been in operation since 1st July 1987 and which will considerably reduce the time required to process and transmit messages. Traffic over the AMSS has gradually risen from 0 to 3,000 messages a day. Eight new 1 kW HF transmitters were brought into service in April 1987 to replace obsolete equipment. These transmitters ensure good quality on the automatic ARQ links of the Europe-Mediterranean network. New phototelegraphy equipment and new facsimile equipment have also been brought into operation. The Sub-Division's Study Section, in liaison with the Standing Committee on Information Technology (SCIT), is responsible for studying and managing projects designed to enable the Organization to acquire the communications equipment it requires to meet its needs. Finally, it should be noted that on 1st June 1987, a telecommunications engineer took up his post as Adviser to the Secretary General.

- Criminal Intelligence and Criminal Affairs

In March 1987, the Criminal Records Sub-Division was transferred from the Police Division to the new Support Division. It comprises:

- The Message Research Branch and Back Record Conversion Team

Since the new data computerization system was introduced in February 1987, no new personal or speciality index cards have been created. All information received is analysed and then immediately computerized. The



One of the Austrian Delegates with members of the Chinese Delegation behind him

index cards referring to files which have yet to be computerized will be kept until the computerization process has been completed. Consequently, the Branch's staff are currently obliged to operate both a manual and a computerized search system.

- The Data Entry and International Notices Branch

The Branch is responsible for: entering, modifying and cancelling data concerning persons and cases; drafting international wanted notices, warning notices on offenders with criminal records in a number of countries, enquiry notices for missing persons or persons whose true identity has not been established; checking all other notifications such as those concerning stolen works of art, etc. A new "yellow" notice has been created exclusively for missing persons, and the second edition of the "Wanted by Interpol" poster has now been published. In 1987, Data Entry created 34,355 nominal files, 10,304 case files, 7,591 drugs seizure files and 3,377 counterfeit currency seizures files.

- Fingerprint Identification Branch

In 1987, 8,602 new fingerprint files were created and compared with the 155,237 existing files. Only fingerprints of good quality can be processed by the General Secretariat. Following the "Rules on deletion", more than 84,000 fingerprint files have been eliminated.

- The Electronic Data Processing Department

A new Criminal Information System (CIS) was introduced in February 1987. Its objectives are to provide a better response time to NCBs, to provide the officers in the Police Division with rapid access to computer files, and enable them to retrieve criminal information within their own work areas without reference to the old manual card indexes. CIS provides storage and linkage for files on individuals, cases, drugs seizures, counterfeit currency seizures and stolen property. The EDP Department is responsible for maintenance and monitoring of all the microcomputers and dedicated printers at the General Secretariat.

Since September 1987, the Department has been making enquiries about an automated office and electronic mail system, an electronic archiving system, and the possible replacement of the General Secretariat's computer. This research is being carried out in the light of the General Secretariat's move to Lyons.

Resources

These resources are located in the Administration Division which has been considerably re-organized in preparation for the move to the new Headquarters building in Lyons.

Conferences and Missions Office

In 1987, in addition to meetings, working meetings and symposia held at the General Secretariat, the

activities of the Office were marked by two major events which had to be organized entirely by the General Secretariat: the 7th International Counterfeit Currency Conference in Lyons, and the 56th General Assembly session in Nice.

General and Social Welfare Sub-Division

This Sub-Division is responsible for managing property and supplies, such management covering, in addition to the administrative and technical maintenance of the Headquarters building in Saint Cloud, all purchases except for the acquisition of reference material. Personnel management involved the following activities: preparation of the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules in collaboration with the Legal Division, re-negotiation of the supplementary social insurance and retirement contract, studies on the transfer of staff to Lyons, etc.

Document Production Sub-Division

This Sub-Division comprises all the departments responsible for typing, translating, printing and dispatching all the documents drafted at the General Secretariat. In 1987, 17,510 pages were translated and 23,759 pages typed, 21 metric tons of paper were used, and 3 million photocopies, 2,300 photographs and 460 series of fingerprints were produced.

Security Sub-Division

This Sub-Division was created on 23rd February 1987 and is responsible



One of the Venezuelan Delegates

for the general security of the Headquarters, staff and visitors, and for official vehicles and drivers. It took part in various studies conducted with a view to designing a reliable and coherent security system for the new Headquarters building in Lyons.

Finance and Accounts Sub-Division

This Sub-Division was created early in 1984. A computer was installed in 1985 in order to meet the requirements of programme budgeting and to improve the control and information system needed for that purpose.

Since 1986, monthly statements have been produced to inform Programme Managers about how their expenditure corresponds to the budget. The payroll section has been transferred to the Personnel Department.

Internal control of archives

The Supervisory Board for the internal control of Interpol's archives, established in accordance with the Rules on international police co-operation and the internal control of Interpol's archives, has submitted its report for 1987. During the year the Board held three meetings, and suggested that more specific criteria be established for the circulation of certain notices.

The Board considers that its activity is insufficiently well-known at international level, as is the general public's right of access via the Board.

Personnel Matters

At 31st December 1987, the General Secretariat staff totalled 251 persons, broken down as follows: 161 staff under contract, 62 seconded police or government officers, and 28 detached police or government officers.

Staff members working at the General Secretariat come from the following 36 countries: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Federal Germany, France, Greece, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kampuchea, Lebanon, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Portugal, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Yugoslavia.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

The General Secretariat representative commented on the Financial Report which described the General Secretariat's financial position at 31st December 1987. The Report consisted of the Balance Sheet, the Income and Expense Statement, and the Budget Implementation

Statement. After depreciation, setting up provisions and adjusting the Working Capital and Reserve Funds to their statutory levels, the Balance Sheet showed a surplus.

The Income and Expense Statement showed that income from contributions called up had increased because the value of the budget unit

had been increased. Running expenses had increased compared with 1986, mainly due to the cost of repairs to the Saint Cloud building following the bomb attack. Finally, the Budget Implementation Statement, which gave an analysis of the budget income and expenditure, also showed that income other than that from the

statutory contributions called up had increased compared with the original budget. As far as expenditure was concerned, personnel expenses were 3% down on 1986. Most of the savings made had resulted from exchange rate variations.

At its session held in Washington in 1985, the General Assembly had approved a new set of Financial Regulations which provided for external auditors to replace the Auditors who had hitherto been elected each year by the General Assembly. The external audit had been entrusted to the French "Cour des Comptes". A Rapporteur from that body presented its report on the administrative and financial management of the ICPO-Interpol during the 1987 financial year.

Further to observations made by the auditors, and in conformity with a resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its 56th session in Nice in 1987, administrative and accounting procedures for an internal financial management control system had been drawn up and approved by the Executive Committee in April 1988.

The new system had come into force on 2nd May 1988. The auditors, who had been consulted when the procedures were being drawn up, were nevertheless aware that, since any system of internal control invariably gave rise to difficulties, the procedures would eventually have to be modified in the light of experience. However, the text did provide a response to the Organization's need for a management control system to define roles and responsibilities in relation to the day-to-day management of the General Secretariat.

With regard to the construction of the new Headquarters building in Lyons, the auditors had noted that the building work had been absolutely on schedule at the end of April 1988.

As far as the implementation of the 1987 budget was concerned, the auditors had certified that the accounts submitted had been



The Delegate from Lesotho with two Libyan Delegates behind him

accurately and properly kept and could be submitted to the General Assembly for approval.

In view of the serious situation regarding contributions in arrears (84 Member States owed amounts totalling more than 40% of all the contributions called up for 1987), the auditors considered that several measures had to be taken to find a remedy. First of all, an attempt had to be made to find out why each Member State with arrears had not paid its contributions. It was also necessary to identify the various steps that had to be taken in each State to obtain authorization for payment and what particular department was responsible for making the appropriate payment. Greater awareness of precisely who was responsible for dealing with such matters would make it easier to recover the sums in question.

In conclusion, the auditors wished to place particular emphasis on two major problems facing the General Secretariat in the short term: first, completing the construction of the new Headquarters building and the transfer of staff and removal of equipment and furniture in accordance with a schedule which would allow the Secretariat to continue functioning normally without interruption; secondly, the seriousness of the situation with regard to contribution arrears, which would soon create difficult cash flow problems that would eventually affect the General Secretariat's ability to operate. That alarming situation

justified raising the value of the budget unit.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the Balance Sheet and the accounts for the 1987 financial year.

For the second year running, Mr. Van Hove, Adviser to the Organization, presented a report on contributions in arrears. He emphasized the need for the delegates of the countries concerned to make the necessary approaches to their national authorities so that payments could be made on time. While the value of the budget unit had increased regularly over the past number of years, that had not always been the case. Between 1980 and 1986, the value of the budget unit had remained unchanged and in some years it had even been possible to make reimbursements. Very few international organizations had achieved such results. The results of international police co-operation, thanks, in particular, to the major role played by the General Secretariat, provided ample justification for the very modest financial support needed to enable the Organization to continue to improve its performance as the driving force in the fight against international crime.

Mr. Van Hove said that the Executive Committee had given him the task of examining any imbalances in the scale of budget contributions. He had carried out a preliminary study and had given the results to the Secretary General. However, some additional work was required. Specific

proposals would probably be submitted to the next General Assembly session.

The General Secretariat representative then presented the draft Budget for 1989, which had been prepared in the context of the work undertaken by the General Secretariat over the previous four years; it was the result of implementing the programmes approved by the General Assembly at previous sessions. As a result of the changes made to working methods, the General Secretariat had organized its departments in the light of the chosen objectives and with a view to improving the quality of the staff who worked there. The General Secretariat was also aware of the effort which member countries had to make to attain the objectives set. It was also conscious of its duties towards members and was convinced that the resources required to achieve those objectives would be forthcoming.

The President then made a speech,

pointing out in particular that "we cannot hope to complete our modernization — we cannot hope to reach our goal — without the support and financial backing of every member country represented here. And it is on this issue that each of you, individually, can make a difference."

The General Assembly then adopted the following resolution:

HAVING EXAMINED the draft Budget for 1989 (Report No. 3), prepared by the Secretary General and approved by the Executive Committee,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the implementation of the 1988 Budget and the forecasts for 1989,

NOTING that the draft Budget for 1989 includes an appropriation for the reimbursement of a loan to finance the construction of the new Headquarters building in Lyons, in conformity with Resolution No. AGN/55/RES/11,

HAVING BEEN INFORMED that

a provision of SFr 770,000 has been made to offset the risk of contributions in arrears which cannot be recovered,

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of the fact that the draft Budget for 1989 includes new items of expenditure intended for the Staff Welfare Fund and to implement a training policy for General Secretariat staff,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

APPROVES the draft Budget for 1989 as it appears in the document referred to above;

DECIDES that the sums allocated in the draft Budget for 1989 should be credited to the Capital Investment Fund and used in conformity with the purposes for which they are allocated, as indicated in Report No. 3, entitled "Draft Budget for 1989", page 23;

DECIDES that the value of the budget unit for the 1989 financial year shall be 16,800 Swiss francs.

MODIFICATION OF ARTICLE 52 OF THE GENERAL REGULATIONS

During its 87th and 88th sessions, the Executive Committee had studied the problems raised by the fact that delegates of Member States which

Two of the Delegates from the Netherlands



were in arrears with their financial contributions were nevertheless eligible for election to the Executive Committee. The President reported that members of the Executive Committee had recently been asked to make personal approaches to certain

of the Organization's Member States in their respective regions to encourage them to pay off their contribution arrears. Members of the Committee were also called upon to vote on the application of Article 52 which, in its existing form, made it possible to suspend the voting rights, at General Assembly sessions, of Members in arrears with their contributions.

Since the members of the Executive Committee were involved in taking important decisions of a financial nature, and since the very fact that they had to exercise such functions meant that its members had to come from Member States whose own position with regard to payment of their contributions was beyond reproach, it had therefore been proposed that an additional provision



The Delegate from Burkina Faso

to Article 52 of the General Regulations should be submitted to the General Assembly for approval.

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

HAVING EXAMINED Report No. 6, submitted by the Executive Committee and by the Secretary General and entitled "Amendment of Article 52 of the General Regulations",

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of the opinion of the "ad hoc" committee set up in application of Article 56 of the General Regulations,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from

17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

DECIDES to add a new paragraph at the end of Article 52 of the General Regulations, which shall read as follows:

"If a Member of the Organization has not paid the total amount owing in respect of its financial contributions due for the financial years prior to the financial year in which an election to the Executive Committee is held, delegates from that Member shall not be eligible for election as President, Vice-President or Delegate on the Executive Committee".

INTERNAL SOCIAL INSURANCE SCHEME

It was pointed out that numerous international organizations had set up internal social insurance schemes for their officials. These schemes differed quite considerably from each other.

It was also explained that ICPO-Interpol officials stationed in France and whose salaries were paid by the Organization, as well as the Organization itself in its capacity as employer, were currently subject to French social security legislation.

Those officials currently benefited from the cover provided by the compulsory French social security scheme, as well as from supplementary cover under an

insurance contract signed by the Organization.

The General Secretariat had looked into the possible advantages of obtaining, for the Organization and its officials, exemption from application of French social security legislation, in respect of some of the risks covered. A study carried out with the assistance of the Organization's insurers suggested that Interpol could, in fact, make considerable savings in that area without actually reducing the level of social insurance cover from which its officials currently benefited.

Having been informed of the situation, the Executive Committee had authorized negotiations with the

relevant French government departments and a draft agreement had been approved by the Executive Committee at its 88th meeting. The Committee had decided to authorize the Secretary General to sign the agreement, subject to approval by the General Assembly, and to submit the agreement to the General Assembly for its approval.

The agreement would only come into force once it had been ratified by the French Parliament.

The General Assembly unanimously adopted the draft resolution submitted to it in plenary session.

TRANSFER OF THE HEADQUARTERS — BUILDING PROJECT: STATUS REPORT

The Secretary General reported that the new Headquarters building project was proceeding according to schedule and within the budget limits laid down. Thanks to the competence of the firms selected and the favourable weather conditions, the

target dates for the different stages of the construction work had so far been met and the building would be delivered at the end of February 1989, ready for the installation of the technical equipment. Numerous contacts and adjustments had been made at the General Secretariat to

take account, at each stage of the construction, of the wishes expressed by the different heads of department, so that installations and facilities offering the best possible working conditions could be made available. Concurrently with the actual construction work, special task forces

had been set up to iron out problems related to the transfer of the Headquarters to Lyons, including the removal of recoverable equipment, acquisition of new equipment required, transfer of the General Secretariat personnel (it had been calculated that 80% of the staff would be following the Organization to Lyons), vacation of the premises currently occupied, as stipulated in the sale contract for the building in Saint Cloud.

An inventory of transferable equipment had been drawn up, making it possible to estimate the volume of equipment to be moved to Lyons and prepare specifications and a call for bids for specialized carriers. An inventory of equipment requirements and appropriate estimates had also been prepared. A transfer schedule had been drawn up,

and it was expected that all the staff would have taken up their posts in the new building by 30th June 1989 at the latest.

The Police Division would have been transferred during May and the services provided by the Headquarters should not suffer any interruption.

The estimate with regard to security requirements made during the first half of 1986 had not taken account of all the risks faced by the Organization's Headquarters or of the lessons learned from the enquiry following the bomb attack on the General Secretariat. It had become apparent that, in order to be as effective as possible and in view of the modern computer and telecommunications equipment with which the new Headquarters would be equipped, the security measures would have to be very carefully reassessed. Consequently, several additional

parameters had had to be incorporated into the specifications, including a multi-purpose computerized management system making it possible to control access, circulation, presence and deliveries.

The Secretary General thanked the French police for the round-the-clock protection provided by uniformed officers for the building in Saint Cloud as well as for the Lyons installations. The protection had, in particular, enabled the General Secretariat to benefit from relatively advantageous insurance conditions.

In plenary session, the General Assembly adopted, with no votes against, two resolutions approving "the equipment project for the new Headquarters" and authorizing "the security work as described by the Secretary General".

INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFIC



Two of the Malaysian Delegates

The Drugs Committee was chaired by Mr. Chavalit Yodmani (Thailand). The General Secretariat representative summarized the reports on the situation in 1987.

Opium and its derivatives

In the two principal opium-producing areas, South-East and

South-West Asia, output had increased despite intensified enforcement initiatives, eradication programmes, and crop substitution endeavours. The Thai National Central Bureau had reported that the opium production figures for the Golden Triangle area, comprising Burma, Laos and Thailand, were between 1,000 and 1,300 tonnes. Burma remained the primary production area. The primary opium cultivation areas of Thailand were located in the northern provinces, the

two largest being Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai. The Thai authorities had reported that plantations covering a total area of about 5,500 hectares had been destroyed between 1984 and 1987. Opium yields averaged approximately 15 kg. per hectare, so these efforts had prevented the production of over 80 tonnes of opium.

Poppy cultivation and the refining of opium to heroin continued at a high level in the South-West Asian region. Afghanistan was still the primary opium — producing area. The total opium production in South — West Asia was estimated at between 700 and 1,300 tonnes.

Although opium production in Mexico was much less than that mentioned above, approximately 50 tonnes had been produced in 1987, almost double the figure for the previous year. Lebanon had previously been known only as a producer of cannabis but heroin production there was continuing to increase.

Most of the laboratories for converting opium into either morphine or heroin were located in the producer countries and, as in previous years, most of the opium had been seized inside producer countries or in the neighbouring countries.

Precursor chemicals used in the conversion process were becoming more and more difficult to obtain in Thailand due to the strict enforcement of the "chemical-free north" policy.

Land transport had been used in most cases, followed by air and sea. The same was true in respect of heroin but the post had also been used for that drug. Sea routes and the post had not been used to any significant degree for transporting morphine.

Cocaine

Cocaine cartels had managed to expand their operations and establish new consumer markets, despite determined law enforcement endeavours, improved legal structures within which to combat the cartels, greater allocation of government funds in support of law enforcement elements, and an increased overall awareness of the need for co-operation at national and international levels.

The principal growing areas had remained unchanged. Peru still appeared to be the area in which the total number of hectares under cultivation and yield estimates were the highest. Average production had been estimated at 2 kg. of cocaine hydrochloride per hectare. Cultivation, refining and processing of coca appeared to be on the increase in Bolivia and Colombia.

Cocaine trafficking and abuse was continuing to expand. There was a great deal of evidence that cocaine traffickers were establishing close links with leading underworld figures throughout the world in order to seek out new areas of opportunity.

In addition to trafficking routes and methods of concealment, courier



One of the Delegates from Guinea and the Guatemalan Delegate

profiles were constantly changing: for example, not only were South American, North American, and European cocaine couriers active, but Africans, Indians and East Asians were also being encountered. In Africa alone, 32 different ethnic groups had been encountered by law enforcement authorities in the previous three and a half years.

Because of increased smuggling activity and the violence associated with it, governments were establishing stronger laws and better co-ordinated intelligence and enforcement programmes at national and international levels. It had been realized that police officers were often out-manned, out-gunned, and out-financed in the war against powerful and professional drug — smuggling organizations. However, despite the odds, well-planned intelligence — gathering programmes coupled with sound law-enforcement initiatives had resulted, in 1987, in the arrest of major violators, the immobilization of well-organized trafficking syndicates and several record seizures of cocaine. Over 40 tonnes had been seized in the United States and over 3 tonnes in Europe. Everything seemed to point to an even higher figure in 1988. The quantities of cocaine seized in recent years had increased considerably. The number of South Americans arrested in Europe had increased and Europeans had also begun to work as couriers.

Air transport had been used in most cases, followed by land and sea transport and the post. False-

bottomed suitcases were the most commonly used hiding places for air transport. Traffickers always used containers for sea transport. Cocaine was also hidden in clothes and body orifices. Couriers also swallowed condoms, fingerstalls and the fingers of surgical gloves containing cocaine. Between 100 and 500 grams of cocaine could be transported in that way.

Cannabis

During 1987, huge quantities of marijuana were available throughout the world, despite some consumer preference for other types of drug abuse. Information indicated a growing poly-drug profile relative to marijuana abuse, i.e. using marijuana in conjunction with other drugs.

Thailand remained the principal South-East Asian cannabis-producing area. Primary cultivation areas had expanded rapidly during the previous ten years. Eradication was by the slash and burn method. Nonetheless, experiments were being conducted with the application of paraquat and glyphosate by ground spraying.

The ganja produced in Thailand was financed, grown, and trafficked by Thai criminal organizations working in league with Western counterparts.

Hashish production in Afghanistan and Pakistan had remained at the same level as the previous year. Besides supplying user/abuser

markets in the growing regions and neighbouring countries, the drug was also transported to Europe and North America by ship.

Cannabis in Europe had continued with little change from previous years relative to amounts seized or level of abuse. However, a change of primary growing area supplying European markets had been noted. Lebanese cannabis had captured the market in 1987, with the most significant seizure activity occurring in Greece where approximately 23 tonnes had been intercepted. The other source area had been Morocco; over 15 tonnes of Moroccan cannabis had been seized in Europe during 1987. Principal areas intercepting marijuana had been Spain, France, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands.

Land transport had been used in most cases, followed by sea and air transport and the post. The cannabis seized on land routes was usually concealed in courier's clothing or in hiding places in motor vehicles. In the case of air transport, false-bottomed suitcases were used, or the drug was hidden in the traffickers' clothes. For sea transport, the cannabis was usually packed in sacks or wooden crates. Increasingly large quantities were being transported in this way, ranging from 500 kg. to several tonnes per ship. Cannabis sent through the post was usually hidden inside newspapers or small hand-made articles.

The Delegation from Singapore



Psychotropic substances

The ICPO-Interpol Member States had reported an escalating abuse and misuse of psychotropic substances during 1987. The most frequently reported seizures of the legally produced psychotropic substances had included several of benzodiazepines, fenethylamine and methaqualone. There had been ample evidence of large-scale illegal movements of secobarbital; nonetheless, actual seizures reported had decreased in 1987 in comparison with the previous year.

Fenethylamine continued to pose significant problems for law enforcement authorities in the Near and Middle East with over ten million dosage units seized in 1987.

Methaqualone seizures in 1987 had exceeded 1986 figures and numerous countries had reported seizures of heroin containing varying percentages of methaqualone. Most of the methaqualone seized in recent years appeared to be of illicit origin, rather than diverted from legitimate sources. However, a clear delineation was not possible.

The most frequent and largest seizures of the illicitly produced psychotropic substances were reported for amphetamine and methamphetamine. Thailand had seized over 600 kg. of amphetamines; Europe over 560 kg.; Japan over 490 kg. in the first six months of 1987;

Australia over 35 kg.; the United States over 1,700,000 dosage units. Additionally, for the first time, India had experienced trafficking in amphetamines and seized 45 kg. in 1987. Significant methamphetamine seizures had been reported by the United States — over 24 million dosage units — and Korea — over 120 kg.

The controlled substance analog, methylenedioxy-methamphetamine (MDMA) had again been seized throughout Europe and in the United States.

LSD was the most frequently seized hallucinogenic substance in 1987 with over 4 million doses recovered by law enforcement authorities. Seizures of LSD during 1986 were also approximately 4 million doses.

Over 700 clandestine laboratories producing psychotropic substances were reportedly seized during 1987, thus emphasizing the extent of illegal activity in psychotropic substances, as well as the availability and trafficking in precursors and essential chemicals.

A large number of delegations contributed to the Committee's very lively discussions. So many delegations wished to speak that there was not sufficient time for all of them to take the floor and approximately ten of them submitted written remarks to the General Secretariat.

The general opinion was that the traffic was continuing to increase. Various countries were affected by trafficking which led to the related problems of corruption and political instability. Many delegates were convinced of the need to strengthen co-operation and step up exchanges of information and they congratulated the General Secretariat on the help it had provided. The Cypriot Delegate indicated that assistance had been provided by drug law enforcement agencies in various countries, particularly in Europe.

The Turkish Delegate explained that the number of seizures had increased because international

co-operation had improved. The Delegate of Benin hoped that industrialized and developed countries would reinforce the assistance they provided to the Third World. He thanked France, Federal Germany and the United States for the support they had given.

Several Delegates (Philippines, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Italy, Panama, Jordan, Sri Lanka) reported on the legislation which had been adopted or was being studied in their countries. The French Delegate said that in the previous two years his country had adopted two very important laws in this area. The first concerned the seizure of fixed assets and the second permitted the seizure and freezing of assets before offenders were sentenced. He also indicated that it had been decided to set up a special unit to combat economic and financial crime, which should make it possible to determine how financial empires had been built up and how the money had been laundered.

The representative of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control said that it was important to encourage the adoption of legislation and he stressed the importance of the Plenipotentiary Conference which was to meet in Vienna, Austria, in December 1988 in order to draft a convention.

The need to ratify the various international treaties covering the fight against drug trafficking was also stressed.

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

CONVINCED that Interpol has



proved to be an effective channel of communication between member countries involved in the effort to combat illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

WHEREAS the Draft United Nations Convention Against Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, which will be considered for adoption by the Conference to be held in Vienna from 25th November to 20th December 1988, calls for closer co-operation and a more comprehensive exchange of information than in the past,

WHEREAS Interpol channels can be used effectively for many of the forms of co-operation and for the exchanges of information recommended in the said Convention,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

DECIDES that the General Secretariat should present the appended resolution to the United Nations Conference in connection with the adoption of the said Convention:

The Delegation from Zaire

The Conference,

CALLING attention to Resolution III, adopted by the 1961 United Nations Conference for the adoption of a Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, in which attention was drawn to the importance of the technical records on international drug traffickers of the International Criminal Police Organization-Interpol and their use by that Organization for the circulation of descriptions of such traffickers,

CONSIDERING the machinery developed by Interpol for the timely and efficient exchange of crime investigation information between police authorities on a worldwide basis,

RECOMMENDS that the widest possible use be made by police authorities of Interpol's records and communication system in achieving the goals of the Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

International terrorism will obviously continue to be a major source of concern to law enforcement services in the foreseeable future.

International co-operation is therefore necessary, and the Organization can provide one means of co-ordinating such co-operation.

The General Secretariat representative said that the efforts deployed by the General Secretariat anti-terrorist group in 1987 were



One of the Delegates from Finland

beginning to bear fruit. Member countries were making increasing use of Interpol channels to exchange police information relating to terrorism.

In September 1988, the group had held a special terrorism meeting in Saint Cloud for the European NCBs, during which the members of the anti-terrorist group had reported on their activities, described the links between drug trafficking and international terrorism, and explained how they co-operated with the civil aviation organizations. The 5th International Terrorism Symposium had also been held that month in Saint Cloud, and had been attended by over 100 participants from 42 countries. In

addition to the presentations made by members of the anti-terrorist group and by various delegates, a general report entitled "International terrorism and Interpol" had been presented by Mr. Babovic, the Organization's Vice-President for Europe.

The General Secretariat representative went on to describe two new Interpol programmes: the Interpol Explosive Incident System (IEXIS) and the Interpol Trafficking in Arms Programme (ITAR). In application of a resolution adopted at the General Assembly session in Nice, the General Secretariat was busy preparing a new weapons and explosives form. The data for both of these programmes would be computerized. NCBs had been asked to supply information to help set up an index on explosives and weapons manufactured in member countries.

The General Secretariat was also planning to publish manuals on the identification of weapons and explosives. Far from wishing to duplicate the work already done by individual member countries, it felt that its task was to provide all members with a centralized data base.

In the years ahead, the General Secretariat representatives at regional

conferences would be presenting detailed reports concerning work on terrorism in the particular areas concerned, and on the progress, problems and specific cases felt to be of interest in that region.

A large number of delegations contributed to the discussions concerning the problems involved in the fight against terrorism. The Korean Delegate thanked the General Secretariat and member countries for the assistance his country had been given in connection with the recent Olympic Games held in Seoul. More than 47,000 police officers had been mobilized to provide the necessary security cover for the event. The Korean authorities had set up a national counter-terrorism committee, organized anti-terrorist squads and stepped up the exchange of information with other countries. The authorities had also used information supplied by the General Secretariat and by numerous NCBs. The Delegates from France and Yugoslavia, in their turn, said they would appreciate similar co-operation in 1989, since major international gatherings would be held in their countries and would be attended by numerous Heads of State and Heads of Government.

COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY

It was reported that, during the year, Group F of the General Secretariat had prepared three new Interpol forms in order to standardize the reports on counterfeit currency seizures, on the discovery of clandestine printshops, and on seizures of known counterfeit

banknotes (seizures made in the absence of any suspects). This last form, if used properly, would eliminate a good deal of consultation between the different NCBs and the General Secretariat and thus reduce operating expenses.

Delegates from Yugoslavia, Canada

and France proposed certain modifications.

The General Assembly adopted a resolution in plenary session approving these new forms which will consequently be put into service on 1st January 1989.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND COMPUTERIZATION

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Schmidt-Nothen (Federal Germany).

Current network and requirements

It was recalled that the ICPO-

Interpol communications network had a three-tier structure. The first level was the National Central Bureau (NCB), which formed the interface

between a country's authorities and the rest of the Organization. There were 147 NCBs and 5 Sub-Bureaus. The second level was formed by the Regional Stations, each of which had the task of transmitting intraregional traffic to the NCBs in its region and of grouping and relaying traffic between its region and the rest of the Organization. There were six Regional Stations: the General Secretariat (Europe-Mediterranean/North America/Middle East), Nairobi (East Africa), Abidjan (West Africa), Buenos Aires (South America), Tokyo (Asia) and Puerto Rico (Caribbean/Central America; currently being set up). The third level was the Central Station which was responsible for inter-regional traffic via the Regional Stations and also served as the Regional Station for the Europe-Mediterranean/North America/Middle East network.

The Organization's current telecommunications requirements could be summed up in one sentence: "To enable NCBs to exchange messages in a secure, reliable and rapid manner, using a wide variety of methods". This basic requirement was far from being attained for various reasons: messages could be intercepted easily, and the continuing use of manual procedures at the Regional Stations and the shortcomings of the network had an adverse effect on both the reliability and the rapidity of performance.

It was pointed out that at present, 46 % of the NCBs used telex, 30% used radio (of which 10% were still using Morse), 15% had no means of communication and, finally, 10% were using more sophisticated means such as Teletex. Only the Central Station was equipped with an AMSS which was now operating with total satisfaction. It was expected that the majority of NCBs would be using modern sophisticated media by the end of 1989.

The plan which had been adopted at the General Assembly session in 1986 was being implemented at a satisfactory pace notably by:

- Using more sophisticated communications media, by discontinuing ARQ (radioteletype) as the main form of communication, at least in the Europe-Mediterranean region, and replacing it by Teletex or micro-computers (radioteletype would nevertheless be retained in the long term as a back-up method);
- Reducing the use of telex as far as possible since it was extremely costly;
- Gradually eliminating Morse;
- Gradually extending the use, within the Organization, of the X.400 international message-handling standard;
- Extending encryption to all communications media;
- Modernizing equipment at the NCBs;
- Integrating those NCBs not yet equipped;
- Implementing a policy of regular, well-planned equipment replacement.

Among the Organization's immediate requirements for its current activities was a system for handling messages transmitted between its members. There was now an international message handling standard: the X.400 standard, and an associated series of CCITT Recommendations. More and more message-handling services, both private and public, were conforming to the standard so that it was now possible to define an equipment strategy for the Regional Stations, equipping each with a mini-AMSS based on standard hardware, thereby avoiding expensive research and development. The AMSS at the General Secretariat would obviously have to be adapted to that standard to enable it to be integrated into the general network. This was planned for 1989.

Another priority was the modernization of the Europe-Mediterranean network which, like the North American network, was seriously overloaded. It was therefore important to ease congestion by introducing Teletex in the immediate

future and microcomputers on the X.25 network or the telephone network at 2400 b/s, as soon as the AMSS at the Central Station could integrate them, probably during 1989. It was worth bearing in mind that a single Teletex link, at 2400 b/s, was capable of replacing 48 ARQ channels. In addition to solving the problem of traffic flow, such a modification would make it possible to reduce the General Secretariat's telex costs, provided that the NCBs were equipped with Teletex or microcomputers.

Within five years, the Regional Stations would have to acquire standard X.400 mini-AMSS equipment. The need for the equipment, and its value, could be deduced from the fact that most countries throughout the world had found it necessary to change from manual to automatic telephone installations. The public networks would be used as communications supports: the telephone network, the X.25 packet-switching network, the telex network and radio channels. Each NCB would therefore be free to choose the most suitable system for its station in the light of its own specific needs. Only one means of communication, namely Morse, was incompatible with automatic operation, and would have to be gradually phased out.

It was also stressed that communications would have to be protected against interception. ARQ

Two of the Mexican Delegates



channels, which could easily be intercepted by radio amateurs, had been encrypted since mid-November 1987. The other media — telex, Teletex, Transpac or dedicated links — were automatically protected against interception. However, since it would still be possible to intercept these media, although that would be difficult and require considerable resources, it would be necessary to install security features on all types of access to the AMSS in the Central Station and to the future mini-AMSS in the Regional Stations, and to encrypt all communications media, including those which use the public networks.

Finally, a replacement policy would have to be implemented. All technical equipment had a given life-span after which it became obsolete and incurred excessive maintenance costs. For example, the life-span of antennas, transmitters/receivers and telephone equipment was ten years; for computer equipment, adaptors/modems and terminals it was five years.



BAHAMAS

One of the Delegates from the Bahamas

Computerization

The General Secretariat representative recalled the objectives of the new Support Division: modernization of the network and implementation of the computerization project.

He went on to describe the Criminal Information System (CIS) and its five

indexes (nominal, cases, drugs, counterfeits and property). By 31st October 1988, the names of almost 100,000 international criminals had been entered in the computer. By the time the Organization moved to Lyons, there would be 120,000 names in the memory. The current computer would not be transferred. Instead, the new computer, which would have double the capacity, would be installed in Lyons, thereby avoiding any interruption in service.

The budget for the automated office system had been approved in 1986 and 1987. The system finally chosen offered facilities for word processing in the Organization's working languages (Arabic, English, French and Spanish), electronic archiving, electronic internal mailing and a glossary facility for the translators.

Adapting the AMSS would speed up the General Secretariat's response time, make it possible to protect communications and allow NCBs to send messages directly to the General Secretariat's specialized groups. A response centre, operating 24 hours a day, would be set up at the General Secretariat, making it possible to send out replies rapidly.

Turning his attention to the archiving system, the principle of which had been approved by the Executive Committee and the General Assembly, the General Secretariat representative said that the optical disk option had been chosen because the technique had been greatly improved and also made it possible to store images. Searches could be made from a terminal on the basis of a name, and a copy of those documents connected with that name could be obtained on the printer. The General Secretariat would thus be able to reply in 15 seconds to queries which had sometimes taken 15 days to answer.

He then described the automated search facility which was to be funded from the 1991 budget, and which would give national police forces interactive access to data. Only the information which NCBs had agreed

could be used for that purpose would be stored. The information given would be limited to the name of the person, country of birth, type of offence, whether or not the person was wanted and the source of the information. The General Secretariat would be able to write the necessary software itself. Delegations were asked to send in their observations on the project, particularly bearing in mind their countries' laws on the protection of personal freedom.

The final proposal in the computerization plan concerned a system for the identification of fingerprints; electronic storage on optical disks appeared to be the best solution. Searching would be greatly facilitated and manual comparison would still be possible. The adoption of such a system was included in the computer equipment plan for the next five years.

The Netherlands Delegate raised the question of encryption on radio transmissions.

The General Secretariat representative replied that all the modems used by the Organization now allowed encryption and that a key management system made it possible for the keys to be changed every three months.

The French Delegate said that his country was co-operating actively in the development of the computerized network and was contributing to the enhancement of the telecommunications infrastructure. France had closely monitored the Caribbean Project and had attended the Caribbean Regional Conference. It had signed an agreement with UNFDAC and Interpol to take part in the project. It had also agreed in principle to make a contribution towards the financing of the mini-AMSS in Puerto Rico.

Referring to the modernization of the Caribbean network, the United States Delegate emphasized that such modernization had been made possible mainly because the countries in the region had committed



Views of the conference hall in which the plenary sessions were held.

themselves to regularly devoting the manpower and financial resources required for the system to function on a permanent basis. That example, the Delegate added, should be followed in all the other regions. The United Kingdom Delegate said that his country's NCB was following the Caribbean project with considerable interest, in the knowledge that the installation of the mini-AMSS was most necessary, especially in order to keep abreast of drugs cases. The United Kingdom, like France, had received a request for financial assistance and the United Kingdom Government would be giving its reply in the near future.



The General Assembly, asked to vote on the financing of the mini-AMSS for the Caribbean region, adopted the following resolution:

CONSIDERING Report No. 6 entitled "Telecommunications" (and in particular paragraph 2.2 concerning the Caribbean Project) submitted to the General Assembly at its 56th session (Nice) and Report No. 10 entitled "Computerization and Telecommunications" submitted to the present session,

HAVING NOTED that UNFDAC has granted a subsidy of U.S. \$800,000 to finance the Caribbean Telecommunications Network project,

NOTING that this subsidy does not make it possible to equip the network



with a mini automatic message switching system,

BEARING IN MIND Resolution No. AGN/56/RES/10 (Nice 1987) recommending that automation of the Interpol network be continued by equipping the Regional Stations with mini automatic message switching systems meeting the X.400 standard,

HAVING BEEN INFORMED that the U.S. NCB will make a gift of U.S. \$200,000 to the ICPO-Interpol in order to facilitate the acquisition of a mini automatic message switching system for the Regional Station in Puerto Rico,

NOTING that this gift comes within the scope of Resolution No. AGN/55/RES/4 (Belgrade 1986),

BEARING IN MIND Article 20 of the Organization's Financial Regulations,

HAVING BEEN INFORMED that the cost of equipping the Regional Station in Puerto Rico with a mini AMSS has been estimated at U.S. \$600,000 (covering the acquisition of equipment and spare parts required for operation, equipment maintenance over a two-year period, transport and installation of equipment, and training of operating personnel),

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988, at its 57th session:

DECIDES:

- (1) To establish a Special Fund entitled "Mini AMSS Caribbean Fund";
- (2) To use this Fund to equip the

Puerto Rico Regional Station with a mini automatic message switching system;

- (3) To deposit the gift of \$200,000 received from the U.S. NCB, or any other gift, in this fund;
- (4) To withdraw the sum required for this operation (after deduction of the gift from the U.S. NCB of \$200,000, or any other gift) from the Reserve Fund and to transfer it to the Mini AMSS Caribbean Fund;
- (5) To replenish the Reserve Fund and to bring it up to its statutory level, initially by depositing in it the profits from exchange rate differences recorded at the end of the 1988 financial year.

The Assembly also adopted the resolution concerning the Standard Catalogue of Telecommunications Equipment:

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of Report No. 10, entitled "Computerization and Telecommunications", and in particular of paragraph 2.2 of that Report,

CONCERNED to ensure that modernization of the ICPO-Interpol's telecommunications systems will be

successfully completed, in conformity with Resolution No. AGN/55/RES/10 (Nice, 1987),

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

RECOMMENDS that NCBs which do not yet have adequate telecommunications equipment should rapidly acquire, if possible within two years, one or other of the types of equipment recommended in the ICPO-Interpol Standard Catalogue of Telecommunications Equipment which may be amended according to future developments.

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★ ★

The Telecommunications and Computerization Committee had also considered the formatted messages recommended by a working party

which had been set up by the Standing Committee on Information Technology (SCIT). The General Secretariat representative had explained that the increased automation of procedures would help to improve the quality of information. The purpose of standardization was to assist with the transmission of messages; its value was obvious in an international organization using several languages. The modification would be implemented in stages, but it was important and even urgent to adopt the principle as of now. The General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

RECOGNIZING that modernization of the telecommunications network will provide the technical opportunity to store and validate standard message formats,

AWARE that standardization will improve the quality of information transmitted on the network to the benefit of Interpol members,

AWARE that the exchange of information plays a vital role in the fight against international crime,

HAVING NOTED the contents of paragraph 2.3 of Report No. 10 entitled "Computerization and Telecommunications",

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

RECOMMENDS that message formats be adopted for use in the transmission of standard messages on the ICPO-Interpol telecommunications network as outlined in Report No. 10, paragraph 2.3.

MEETING OF HEADS OF NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAUS

The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Paredes Pizarro (Chile), Member of the Executive Committee.

Reports on the activities of the Working Parties set up by the General Assembly

Working Group to improve co-operation between the law enforcement and banking communities

The Working Group had been set up by the General Assembly at its session in Belgrade, in 1986. Since then, it had met twice and was now submitting a preliminary draft resolution recommending the creation of national "Committees for co-operation between the law enforcement and banking

communities". The Swiss Delegate pointed out that his country had set up a joint banking/police committee fifteen years previously. He was himself a member of it and could testify to its effectiveness. He therefore urged delegations to adopt the preliminary draft. The Representative of the International Banking Security Association (IBSA) said that IBSA strongly supported the initiative. He was convinced that any co-operation between the banks and the police at international level should stem from co-operation of the same type at national level, and said that the NCBs should be represented on these Committees. The Committees could only function effectively if their members knew one another personally and if the work was carried out in a climate of confidence.

In plenary session, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution:

RECOGNIZING that there is a trend, in a number of countries, towards a progressive increase in economic crime and that this constitutes an ever-present threat to the economies of those countries,

RECOGNIZING ALSO the need for more effective means of combating international economic crime,

CONVINCED that appropriate



The Delegate from Pakistan

methods and procedures should be developed to permit the prevention of economic crime and the identification, investigation and arrest of offenders responsible for such crimes,

AWARE that, in order to achieve these objectives, close co-operation should be established between the law enforcement and the banking and financial communities in each country,

BEARING IN MIND Resolution No. AGN/56/RES/11 (Nice, 1987) in which NCBs were invited to rapidly transmit, when it is legally possible, information relating to international frauds to other NCBs, to the General Secretariat and to the banking communities in their respective countries,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

RECOMMENDS:

- (1) The creation of a "Committee for co-operation between the law enforcement and banking communities" in any country where such a committee does not already exist;
- (2) That members of such Committees should notably be representatives of NCBs and of the relevant departments of banking and financial institutions;
- (3) That the principal objective of each Committee should be the development of co-operation between the parties concerned in the fight against economic crime;
- (4) That each country should decide on the detailed operation of its Committee while ensuring that its NCB is able to circulate relevant information to other NCBs;
- (5) That the NCBs keep the General Secretariat informed of action following this Resolution and of its results, so that any measures taken may be evaluated at the next meeting of the Working

Group created in application of Resolution No. AGN/55/RES/18 (Belgrade, 1986).

Disaster Victim Identification

The General Secretariat representative reported that, further to the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly in Belgrade in 1986, the Working Party on Disaster Victim Identification had set up a Sub-Committee to update the Interpol Victim Identification Form. The Sub-Committee was also to study the possibilities for computerizing such data. It was composed of police officers, a forensic doctor and an odontologist from the following countries: Belgium, Denmark, Spain, France, the Netherlands, and Federal Germany. Recommendations had been made and would be submitted to the General Assembly at its next session. Many countries were using the form, although they considered that there was room for improvement.

The United States Delegate congratulated the Working Party on producing a very useful manual. It had already been reprinted four times in the United States.

Working Group on Fraudulent Travel Documents

Following proposals made by the Canadian Delegation, the General Assembly, meeting in Nice in 1987, had decided to set up a Working Group to study the problems related to the international use of fraudulent travel documents. The Group had met in Saint Cloud in June 1988 and had defined a travel document as any document that could be used to cross a border. In view of the problems caused by the use of fraudulent travel documents, a concerted effort had to be made to arrest and prosecute those responsible for the production and use of such documents. The Group asked member countries to improve the security of travel documents by establishing minimum security standards and to set up — in co-ordination with the General Secretariat — a data processing



The Delegation from Oman

network to circulate information on fraudulent travel documents. The Working Group particularly recommended that the General Secretariat should encourage specialized training on the detection of fraudulent documents.

In plenary session, the General Assembly adopted a resolution listing the Working Group's recommendations.

International Symposium on Traffic in Human Beings

The First International Symposium on Traffic in Human Beings was held in Saint Cloud in September 1988. The discussions had mainly focused on traffic in women with a view to prostitution and on the sexual exploitation of children for pornographic purposes. The discussions had revealed that the countries participating had very different conceptions of prostitution, depending on their national laws, which were often based on different systems. However, the exploitation of prostitution and the traffic in human beings for the purposes of prostitution were punishable offences in all countries.

Interpol's policy, which was in line with the spirit of the 1949 Convention, was to concentrate on combating the international aspect of such crime. Prostitutes should be thought of as victims rather than as criminals. It had appeared necessary to establish or improve data bases containing information about this type of crime.

Participants had agreed on the scale of the problem of the sexual exploitation of children and the fact that it was increasing, and had recommended increased international co-operation to combat such exploitation.

The Uruguayan Delegate suggested an addendum to the preliminary draft resolution to make more specific reference to cases where children or babies were "bought" and illegally taken out of their countries of origin.

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

BEARING IN MIND the 1988 Programme of Activities adopted by the General Assembly at its 56th session (Nice, 1987), which included a Symposium on Traffic in Human Beings,

HAVING NOTED the contents of the report on the First International Symposium on Traffic in Human Beings, held from 21st to 23rd September 1988,

REALIZING that there has been an increase in the procuring of human beings and that the Symposium confirmed the existence of organized international networks engaging in traffic in human beings and illegal activities relating to the exploitation of prostitution,

Two of the Togolese Delegates



RECOGNIZING that child pornography, the visual depiction of the sexual molestation and exploitation of children, often involves production of material in one country for distribution elsewhere and that there is an international market for this material and child pornography,

COGNIZANT that combating trafficking in human beings requires a high level of international co-operation,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

RECOMMENDS that:

- (1) Member countries improve the bilateral and multilateral exchange of information on illegal activities relating to prostitution, including identification material on individuals and organizations known to be or suspected of being involved in procurement practices, bogus marriages, illegal marriages, illegal entry and the use of forged identity papers;
- (2) Member countries establish their own data bases and improve their reporting at all levels, including reporting to the General Secretariat, to allow the establishment of a special data base to identify suspects involved in international traffic in human beings;
- (3) National police forces involve social welfare service agencies in assisting and protecting persons engaging in prostitution, since such persons are often victims who are intimidated by their procurers;
- (4) Law enforcement agencies place a higher priority on investigations into child pornography with particular emphasis on the welfare of the child;
- (5) Law enforcement agencies participate in public campaigns

designed to combat the sexual exploitation of children, and include that subject in their prevention programmes.

Protection of confidential information

Following a proposal from the Australian Delegation, the Meeting studied a preliminary draft resolution aimed at protecting confidential police information which the NCBs might receive from each other. The General Secretariat representative pointed out that the draft solely concerned the confidentiality of police information exchanged between NCBs. It bore no relation whatsoever to the activity of the Supervisory Board for the Internal Control of Interpol's Archives. The Federal German Delegate asked that such protection be extended to the information received from the General Secretariat.

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

FOLLOWING the discussion, during the Meeting of Heads of National Central Bureaus, on the confidential nature of documents, information and other items relating to criminal matters,

CONVINCED of the need to protect the confidential nature of any such documents, information or items that one NCB may receive from another or from the General Secretariat,

CONSIDERING that failure to respect confidentiality in such cases may adversely affect international police co-operation,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

URGES NCBs:

- to protect the confidential nature of any documents, information and

other items relating to criminal matters that they receive from other NCBs or from the General Secretariat,

- to take all necessary steps to ensure that such documents, information and items are used solely for crime prevention, crime investigation and criminal proceedings.

Combating Organized Crime

During the General Assembly sessions in Belgrade (1986) and in Nice (1987), it had become evident that Member States favoured the development of a comprehensive programme for combating organized crime. It was with that end in view that a specialized working party had met at the General Secretariat in January 1988. It was composed of representatives of the following countries: Italy, Federal Germany, the Netherlands, United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Japan.

The working party had studied the role of the General Secretariat in the fight against organized crime.

In May 1988, the First Symposium on Organized Crime had been held in Saint Cloud. It had been attended by 84 delegates.

The General Secretariat had noted that some of its initiatives in that area needed to be redirected. The problem of organizations engaging in multiple criminal activities had to be handled in the manner that would best meet the needs of the Member States.

The current system which consisted of studying messages from the sole angle of the actual criminal activity did not really meet the requirements. It had consequently appeared necessary for a specialized group to handle all the acts, committed by individuals or groups, and coming within the scope of organized crime, whatever the type of the activity concerned.



The Kuwaiti Delegation

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

RECOGNIZING that combating the international activities of organized crime requires full police co-operation at the international level,

AWARE that organized crime does not limit itself to one form of criminal activity,

NOTING that it is imperative that all Member States be made aware of current activities, movements and operations of organized criminal groups,

AGREEING that the exchange of such information should be surfaced at international forums,

REALIZING that a Specialized Group should be set up within the General Secretariat to co-ordinate all the information submitted by the Member States concerning specific organized criminal groups,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

RECOMMENDS:

- (1) that consideration be given to the development of a specialized Group at the General Secretariat to counter the activities of organized crime,
- (2) that organized crime matters should be an agenda item at

General Assembly and regional meetings, where appropriate,

- (3) that annual meetings of Heads of Specialized Services concerned with combating organized crime be held, when appropriate.

Combating Economic and Financial Crime

During the 6th Interpol Symposium on International Fraud, held in Saint Cloud in March 1988, the United States representative had drawn attention to the assistance that could be provided by auditors in investigations into fraudulent activities; such assistance would be particularly useful for extending the network for preventing and detecting frauds, for improving the systematic methods for combating such crime and strengthening measures to prevent fraudulent activities in a number of areas: computers, services, loans and credit.

After a discussion, the General Assembly, meeting in plenary session, adopted a resolution recommending the creation of a working group to explore ways in which member countries could better utilize the assistance of auditing organizations in their fight against economic and financial crime and which would report its findings to the Secretary General.



The Delegate from Niger

In plenary session, Mr. Babovic, speaking as the most senior Vice-President, said he was pleased to submit to the General Assembly a draft resolution that the Executive

Committee had discussed during its last meeting. He went on to say that President Simpson's term of office was coming to an end. Interpol's members had had time to appreciate his many qualities and his efficiency; they had all acknowledged his remarkable devotion to the Organization. Consequently, Mr. Babovic proposed to the Delegates present that they should thank Mr. Simpson for his action by granting him the title of Honorary President of the ICPO-Interpol.

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution by acclamation:

CONSCIOUS of the fact that Mr. John R. Simpson's term of office as President of the ICPO-Interpol is drawing to a close,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the outstanding efforts Mr. Simpson has made to consolidate the Organization's resources and to increase the effectiveness of international police co-operation,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

THANKS Mr. Simpson for his work on behalf of the Organization during his term of office;

CONFERS ON Mr. Simpson the title of Honorary President of the International Criminal Police Organization as a token of its high esteem for him.

CONTINENTAL MEETINGS

African Continental Meeting

The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Akele (Benin), Vice-President for Africa.

Telecommunications

The discussions during the Meeting centred on the acquisition of operational equipment and the related financial problems.

The Côte d'Ivoire Delegate (Abidjan is the Regional Station for West Africa) said that nine of the twenty-two countries in the region were not linked to the Interpol telecommunications network and that of the thirteen that were linked, only six were operational. Since the situation appeared to be similar in East Africa, he proposed that a meeting for the African heads of telecommunications services be held so that, initially, a list of the different NCBS' requirements could be drawn up.

The Kenyan Delegate (Nairobi is the Regional Station for East Africa), for his part, pointed out that funding for police telecommunications was a serious problem in Africa. The

Chairman mentioned the possibility of some action in connection with telecommunications in Africa being initiated by the European Economic Community.

Several speakers mentioned the problems that their countries were having in that domain: the Ethiopian Delegate thanked the Nairobi Regional Station for the assistance it had given in connection with telecommunications.

Regional activities and day-to-day co-operation

In accordance with a resolution adopted at the 10th African Regional Conference which took place in Tunis in May 1988, the Meeting set up the Working Party on Regionalization in Africa, composed of Delegations from Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Tunisia and Zimbabwe.

The Côte d'Ivoire Delegate stated that, following an informal meeting of West African Chiefs of Police, which had taken place in Lomé, Togo, his Government was prepared to host the Sub-Regional Bureau. The conditions for the installation of the Bureau remained to be determined.

During the Meeting, the possibility of funding training for officers specializing in drug law enforcement was discussed.

Date and place of the next Regional Conference

No country had yet offered to host the next Regional Conference which was due to be held in 1990.

American Continental Meeting

The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Paredes Pizarro (Chile), a member of the Executive Committee.

Regional activities and day-to-day co-operation

The General Secretariat representative reported on the negotiations between the General Secretariat and the Argentine Government with regard to the future Regional Sub-Bureau in Buenos Aires (Argentina). The Executive Committee would decide whether the text resulting from those negotiations should be submitted to the next General Assembly session. The

Argentine authorities had suggested that the General Secretariat take temporary measures which would enable the Bureau to open. To gain time, the General Secretariat had sent a circular to all the countries in the zone inviting them to nominate candidates for the posts of Head and Assistant Head of the Bureau. It was pointed out that Argentina had already made premises available for the Bureau.

The Delegate of Aruba commented on the work of the Caribbean-Central American Technical Committee. He said that the United Nations subsidy for the regional telecommunications project had been supplemented by funding from the United States and France in particular. He recommended that a second drugs liaison officer post be created and the Dominican Delegate supported his colleague's recommendation. Since the creation of a second post raised the problem of funding, the United States (Puerto Rico) Delegate said that his country could subsidize the funding of the additional post if the Executive Committee could not release the necessary funds.

The Guatemalan Delegate reported that the forthcoming Central American/Caribbean meeting would be held in Guatemala.

The Colombian Delegate thanked those countries which had provided assistance in a recent case of fraud.

Following a proposal from the United States Delegate, accepted by the Continental Meeting, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

WHEREAS over the last 18 years Interpol General Assemblies have adopted ten major resolutions calling on member countries to concentrate their investigative resources on the identification, tracing, seizure, and forfeiture of criminally derived assets, to promote the exchange of information for those purposes, and to develop treaties which would permit the exchange between countries of

financial records for use by their respective law enforcement authorities,

WHEREAS in response to internationally voiced concerns regarding the financial assets of organized crime, Interpol Resolution No. AGN/52/RES/2 was passed and the Secretary General established a special group, designated FOPAC, concerned exclusively with developing programmes related to, and monitoring investigations involving, the movement of criminally derived funds,

WHEREAS the Draft United Nations Convention Against Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances contains provisions that would obligate parties to establish money laundering activities as criminal offences, to provide for the identification, tracing, seizing, and forfeiture of proceeds and instrumentalities of illicit trafficking and to afford one another the widest measure of assistance in criminal investigative and judicial proceedings, and

WHEREAS the Interpol Caribbean/Central American Regional Conference, meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, from 15th-17th June 1988, and recognizing the need to create mechanisms for the interdiction of international money laundering and related crimes including narcotics trafficking,



The Delegate from Fiji

adopted the following recommendation:

That, the following be given priority by national administrations:

- A. The gathering of "currency flow intelligence";
- B. The reporting to the appropriate authorities certain currency flow into and out of the country;
- C. The sharing of that intelligence with domestic police agencies and the law enforcement authorities of other countries.

RECOGNIZING that the ICPO-Interpol must continue to support police efforts to combat narcotics traffickers and those who launder their vast profits for reintroduction into both legitimate and illegitimate economies,

CONVINCED of the need to strengthen and intensify co-operation between countries and their police authorities,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th-23rd November 1988, at its 57th session:

DECIDES that the existing FOPAC Working Group be transformed into a world-wide group and that the group will:

- A. STUDY existing, and develop new, mechanisms for the gathering of financial information connected with, arising from, related to or resulting from narcotics transactions **and other crimes**;
- B. DEVELOP proposals for the sharing of the above described information between countries for the use by, among others, their respective law enforcement authorities; and, finally,
- C. DEVELOP a proposal and implementation plan for creating a clearing house for the receipt, co-ordination and execution of requests for the above-described information.



The Gabonese Delegation

Date and place of the next Regional Conference

The United States Delegate confirmed his country's invitation to host the next American Regional Conference, as announced at the General Assembly session in Nice in 1987. The Regional Conference would take place in Washington in June 1989.

Asian Continental Meeting

The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Zhu En Tao (China), Vice-President for Asia.

Regional activities and day-to-day co-operation

The Chairman commented at length on the matters discussed by the Working Party on Regionalization which had met in November 1988.

The United States Delegate (Samoa) raised the question of creating a Sub-Region for the South Pacific. Many delegates felt the proposal should be given a more thorough preliminary examination.

The Delegate of Bangladesh requested that countries in the region which were affected by natural disaster compare their experiences.

Date and place of the next Regional Conference

The Nepalese Delegate, speaking on behalf of his government, said that his

country was prepared to host the next Asian Regional Conference in Kathmandu in February 1989.

European Continental Meeting

The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Babovic (Yugoslavia), Vice-President for Europe.

Regional activities

The United Kingdom Delegate, who was Chairman of the Technical Committee on Co-operation in Europe, commented on the report dealing with the development of police co-operation in Europe. He drew the Meeting's attention to the need to expand the European Secretariat and went on to say that in March 1989, two other countries would have to put their names forward to replace Federal Germany and the United Kingdom on the Committee. He asked the Meeting to study the preliminary draft resolution on the development of police co-operation in Europe.

In plenary session, the Secretary General, in reply to a question from one of the delegates, explained that the expansion of the European Secretariat could not take place before the transfer of the Organization's Headquarters, but that it was advisable to take a decision immediately since the transfer was due to take place before the next General Assembly session. The costs of the expansion would be borne by the European Members out of the

additional contribution that they already paid to finance the fight against drug trafficking.

The General Assembly adopted the following two resolutions in plenary session:

CONSCIOUS of the increase in international crime in recent years and the need for developing the relationships between member countries,

CONSIDERING that the use of Liaison Officers is an admitted means of international police co-operation,

RECOGNIZING the importance for the Organization to have approved guidelines in this area,

HAVING BEEN INFORMED of the recommendation adopted by the 17th European Regional Conference held in Saint Cloud from 18th to 20th April 1988,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

APPROVES the following principles:

The posting of Liaison Officers to other countries enhances international co-operation relating to international crime prevention and law enforcement, and should be encouraged wherever conditions permit;

The posting of Liaison Officers to National Central Bureaus of other countries will contribute significantly to the effectiveness of the Organization;

When a country is considering posting a Liaison Officer to another country, it should first consider the desirability of seeking the consent of the host country for the Liaison Officer to work from its National Central Bureau;

In certain circumstances, it may be decided that a Liaison Officer should be posted to and based in the Embassy of his parent country. In such cases,

the Liaison Officer should be encouraged to maintain the closest practicable working relationship with the National Central Bureau of the host country;

The sharing of the services of a Liaison Officer is advantageous in some circumstances (i.e. groups of neighbouring countries, or countries with similar legal and policing systems, or countries with common languages) and is to be encouraged.



The Malagasy Delegate

NOTING the European Member States' determination to intensify their co-operation,

AWARE of the close cultural, social and economic links between the European Member States which have already led to some easing of border controls within the region,

ASSUMING that this easing process will continue,

GIVEN that criminals are taking increasing advantage of this situation,

REALIZING that official contacts between European law enforcement agencies are still governed by a multitude of bilateral and multilateral agreements and complicated procedures which are not always appropriate for dealing with this situation,

RECOGNIZING that international crime within Europe can be countered more effectively if police departments are able to contact each other easily and without delay,

CONSIDERING that the existing rules on international co-operation allow for the possibility of facilitating such contacts through the National Central Bureaus,

MINDFUL of Resolution 54/AGN/RES/3 concerning the establishment of a European Secretariat,

NOTING the fact that, outside Europe, regional bureaus have been or are being created, and also the wish of European members that the structure for co-operation within Europe should be improved,

BELIEVING that a liaison unit at the General Secretariat could be a valuable instrument for achieving such an objective,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Bangkok from 17th to 23rd November 1988 at its 57th session:

DECIDES that:

- (1) The European Secretariat at the General Secretariat shall be expanded and shall act as a European Liaison Office, staffed by specialized officers from the European countries;
- (2) The officers assigned to this Liaison Office shall be paid by their countries of origin, and their legal status shall be according to the Staff Rules of the Organization;
- (3) This extended European Secretariat will undertake the following tasks:
 - act as a secretariat for European Interpol activities,
 - assist in the arrangement of European meetings,
 - identify subjects for discussion by the Technical Committee on Co-operation in Europe and other ICPO-Interpol meetings in Europe,

- assist in the preparation of European Regional Conferences,

- liaise between the General Secretariat and the Technical Committee on Co-operation in Europe,

- advise on legal and technical possibilities for investigations in European countries,

- assist exchanges of particular police information about ongoing criminal investigations,

- provide comprehensive monitoring of complicated ongoing investigations and co-ordination of those measures,

- organize and support ad hoc working groups on specific cases,

- plan and assist European programmes on crime prevention and suppression,

- contribute to the development of an integrated crime intelligence system within Europe,

- encourage and assist with any other initiative contributing to improve co-operation between European Member States;

- (4) The expenditure incurred by this extension of the European Secretariat should be met from the Eurodrug contributions paid by the European Member States.

Date and place of the next Regional Conference

The meeting accepted the Monegasque Delegate's invitation to hold the next European Regional Conference in Monte Carlo in March 1989.

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES 1988-1989

The General Assembly adopted the following Programme of Activities:

General administration

- Re-examination of the Financial Regulations
- Studies relating to the attribution of overheads
- Specifications for new software for the Finance and Accounts Sub-Division
- Meetings of the Financial Advisers
- Transfer of the personnel
- Recruitment of staff to replace those staff members who will not be moving to Lyons with the Organization
- Transfer of equipment and furniture etc. from Saint Cloud
- Installation in the new Headquarters (finding suppliers, negotiation of contracts)
- Training Seminar for NCB Officers (in English and Arabic)

Police

Permanent conferences and meetings

- 18th European Regional Conference (European Secretariat)

The Delegate from Djibouti



- Meetings of the Technical Committee on Co-operation in Europe (European Secretariat)
- 12th American Regional Conference
- 10th Asian Regional Conference
- Working Party on Regionalization in Asia
- Standing Committee on Disaster Victim Identification
- Conference on Fraudulent Travel Documents

Symposia, Working Parties and Meetings

- 5th Symposium on International Terrorism
- Symposium on Firearms and Explosives
- Symposium on Theft of Highly Valuable Property and related Trafficking
- Symposium on Violent Crime
- 2nd European Symposium on International Fraud
- European Working Meeting on Counterfeit Currency
- Training Seminar on Counterfeit Currency (Africa)
- 15th European Meeting for Heads of National Drugs Services
- 4th Meeting for Heads of National Drugs Services in the Gulf Area
- 4th Drug Detector Dogs Seminar (Bangkok)
- 7th FOPAC Working Group Meeting (Caribbean/Central America)
- European Working Meeting on Financial Assets
- Financial/Diversion Investigation Seminar for the Middle East
- European Regional Police/Customs Conference
- Working Group on the Assistance of Auditors in Combating Economic and Financial Crime



- Circulation of minimum weight levels for reporting drug seizures

- Development of a Programme relating to Drugs Smuggled in Containers
- Expansion of the European Secretariat
- Establishment of a Specialized Group at the General Secretariat to handle matters relating to organized crime
- Conversion of the Caribbean FOPAC Working Group into a worldwide group
- Appointment of a Second Caribbean Liaison Officer

Legal matters and training

- Rules governing co-operation between NCBs
- Work in connection with the ICPO-Interpol Constitution and General Regulations
- Negotiation of an agreement between Argentina and Interpol relating to the creation of a Sub-Regional Bureau
- Application of the Agreement for the Bangkok Office and its accompanying Exchange of Letters
- Meetings of the Supervisory Board for the Internal Control of Interpol's Archives
- Forensic Science Symposium
- Exchange of information on research in progress in forensic science laboratories
- Arrangements for setting up the Buenos Aires Sub-Regional Bureau
- Study on the possibility of setting up a West African Sub-Regional Bureau

Telecommunications and electronic data processing

- Automated office and electronic mail system
- Replacement of the C.I.S. computer
- Electronic archiving system
- Upgrading the AMSS - X.400
- Establishment of a Telecommunications Network in the Caribbean

ELECTIONS AND SELECTION OF A MEETING PLACE FOR THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION



Mr. Barbot (France) who was elected President of the Organization.

Since the term of office of Mr. John R. Simpson (United States) was drawing to a close, the Assembly was called upon to elect a new President of the Organization.

Mr. Ivan Barbot (France), Director General of the French national police, Member of the Executive Committee, was elected President of the Organization for four years.

Mr. Barbot expressed his sincere thanks and deep gratitude to the Thai authorities for all their hospitality, and in particular his high esteem for General Pow Sarasin. He said that he was proud to follow in the footsteps of President Simpson, who had done so much to enhance the Organization's international standing. He was delighted and honoured to have received such a mark of confidence, and would endeavour to prove worthy of it. He was convinced that the united efforts of the General Assembly, the Executive Committee,

the General Secretariat and the Presidency — following along the path already mapped out of course, but also breaking new ground — would ensure that Interpol, a great organization, would become even greater.

Mr. Inkster (Canada) was elected Vice-President for the Americas for three years.

The following were elected Delegates to the Executive Committee for three years: Mr. Alvarez (Argentina), Mr. Majali (Jordan), Mr. M.Enamul Huq (Bangladesh), Mr. Paye (Senegal), Mr. Schmidt-Nothen (Federal Germany) and, for two years, Mr. Stiener (United States).

On behalf of his Government, Mr. Zhu En Tao (China), Vice-President for Asia, invited the Assembly to hold its 58th session in Beijing in 1989. The Assembly accepted the invitation and expressed its appreciation by loud applause.

The Vice-President for Europe, Mr. Babovic, chaired the session and he called on his colleagues from that moment on to ensure that the decisions they had just taken were

applied, especially in connection with the setting up of Interpol's regional structures. He went on to say that the session which was coming to a close marked a turning point, in that it was the last one that would be prepared in Paris and because the Director General of the French police had been elected President of the Organization. Interpol's activities would now be conducted under new conditions, but it would still remain imperative:

- for Member States to work together and to make a constant effort to understand each other's problems;
- for the President and the Secretary General to continue to co-operate closely.

The delegations should remember that relocation always caused an upheaval, and they should bear with any operational difficulties that might arise as a result of the forthcoming transfer.

Mr. Babovic then thanked the Thai authorities for their outstanding hospitality. The Prime Minister of



Mr. Inkster (Canada) who was elected Vice-President.

Thailand himself had opened the General Assembly session. Mr. Pow Sarasin and the Thai police had done their utmost to provide the delegates with the best possible conditions for their work and accommodation.



Mr. Alvarez (Argentina) who was elected to the Executive Committee.



Mr. Paye (Senegal) who was elected to the Executive Committee.

Finally, Mr. Babovic also thanked the Thai NCB, the interpreters and the minute-writers. He congratulated the Secretary General and his team on the way in which they had once again demonstrated their discreet efficiency



Mr. Majali (Jordan) who was elected to the Executive Committee.



Mr. Schmidt-Nothen (Federal Germany) who was elected to the Executive Committee.

and had shown their ability to cope with exceptional and difficult situations.

Mr. Babovic then declared the 57th General Assembly session closed.



Mr. M. Enamul Huq (Bangladesh) who was elected to the Executive Committee.



Mr. Stiener (United States) who was elected to the Executive Committee.

The new President of the ICPO-Interpol: Mr. Ivan Barbot

Ivan Barbot was born on 5th January 1937. He is married (his wife teaches literature) and he has three children.

He read political science, literature and business administration at the University of Paris before entering the prefectural service in 1961. He was appointed prefect in 1982. In this capacity, he directed and co-ordinated the police and gendarmerie in various French "Départements" and was therefore responsible for security and maintaining law and order.



From 1974 to 1977 he was a technical adviser to the French Minister of the Interior.

He was appointed Director General of the French national police in 1987 and was elected to the Executive Committee of Interpol the same year.

As Director General of the French national police, Mr. Barbot commands all the police services responsible for intelligence, public order, crime investigation and international police co-operation.

These services are organized in eleven central directorates which cover the entire national territory and each is represented in the provinces by the corresponding regional services. There are currently 125,000 officers and the annual budget is 20 million francs. The Director General, under the direct authority of the Minister of the Interior, Director General is consequently responsible for all police administrative and operational activities.

Mr. Barbot is a "Chevalier" of the French Legion of Honour and an "Officier" of the "Ordre national du Mérite".

C onference sidelights

by Miguel Chamorro
Interpol General Secretariat

The 57th session of the ICPO-Interpol General Assembly was held from 17th to 23rd November 1988 in Bangkok, the capital of Thailand. A total of 430 delegates from 125 member countries — a record attendance for a General Assembly session — gathered in the splendid Hotel Dusit Thani.

Bangkok was founded by King Rama I, the first monarch of the ruling Chakri dynasty, who proclaimed the city capital of Thailand in 1782. Built on the banks of the Chao Phya river, the city prospered as a result of the maritime trade which developed along its canals. These canals are undoubtedly why the city has become known as the "Venice of the East", even if some of them have now been converted into roads in an attempt to ease traffic congestion in the city.

Modern Bangkok has a population of over 5 million and stretches for over 60 kilometres from end to end.

Most of Thailand's cultural, social, commercial, political and religious activities take place in the city. It has been the seat of government since its foundation over two centuries ago. Strolling through the streets of Bangkok one is aware that life in the city moves at the same frantic pace as its crazy traffic.

Bangkok is full of architectural surprises in the form of Buddhist temples (Buddhism is the main religion in Thailand).

Bangkok is to Thailand what Paris is to France.

Thailand prides itself the most exotic country in Asia and it richly deserves its reputation as the Garden of Eden of earthly delights. Surprising as it may seem, however, it is also, in common with all the other Asian countries, deeply religious and spiritually aware.

Above all else Bangkok is the capital of a nation of smiling people.

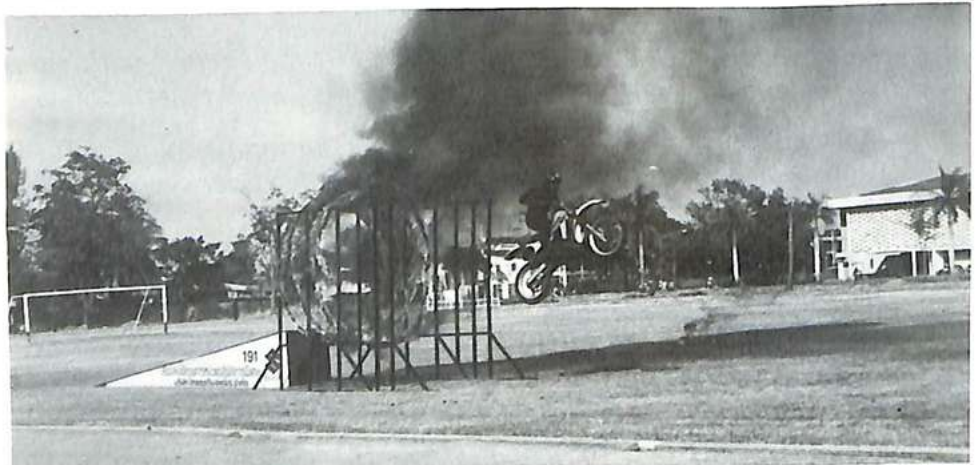
There was a full programme of social events during the General Assembly session and all were marked by a cordial atmosphere, good taste and an abundance of flowers.

The two largest cocktail parties were organized by the host country and the General Secretariat. However, daily throughout the session, the delegations of various countries, or

their diplomatic representatives, were unusually active at the social events they organized as they sought support for their respective candidates. This social and diplomatic activity was a prelude to closely-fought elections.

As the Secretary General said on several occasions to the journalists from all over the world who had gathered in Bangkok, "the fierce but open competition for the vacant posts (Presidency and seats on the Executive Committee) is a positive aspect as it is a clear indication of member countries' interest in the Organization..."

The visit to the Thai police's Metropolitan Patrol and Special Operations Division was most interesting and provided ample proof of the professionalism of the staff and their high state of readiness. The programme included a fictitious



Demonstration by police motorcyclists.



Wat Benchamabophit, the Marble Temple

hostage taking, training exercises for a dog-team, joint exercises including motorcyclists and marksmen and, finally, police deployment in a public order situation.

The visit to the Grand Palace was most impressive. King Rama I built the palace in 1782 in the classical Thai style as both a royal residence and a seat of government and it also houses the Temple of the Emerald Buddha. Various additions in different styles were made at different times and today it is used for royal and state ceremonies.

During the weekend between the sessions, the participants had an opportunity to visit other places of interest and get to know the city and its nightlife better. An excursion on the Chao Phya river included a visit to the floating market, the Temple of Alba and the Crocodile Farm, all in all a fascinating experience.

Thai Airways International hosted a wonderful lunch featuring typical Thai cuisine and the farewell dinner in the Rose Garden Country Resort was

a truly splendid occasion. The guests were greeted with flags, flowers and music and went on to enjoy an evening which included an elephant show, a cocktail party in the gardens and demonstrations of classical Thai dancing, wrestling and national folk customs as well as a traditional wedding ceremony.

A magnificent dinner was then served on the Rose Garden lawn, and was followed by the launching of



The Damnoensaduak Floating Market

“krathongs” or floating floral offerings.

The delegates with their spouses and relatives walked to the lakeshore and with an escort of dancers in traditional costume to the accompaniment of classical Thai music. On the lakeshore, they lit the candles set amidst the flowers of their “krathongs” before making their wishes and setting them afloat in the silvery light of the full November moon. The glow from the “krathongs” was soon overtaken by a cascade of fireworks which seemed to pour forth from the sky out across the shining waters which in turn reflected the graceful palm trees and the petals of the flowers. It was a romantic Oriental-style evening which enchanted all the delegates.

Thailand captured all our hearts with its traditions and the smiling good-nature of its people.

It came as no surprise therefore when Beijing’s offer to host next year’s General Assembly session was unanimously accepted.

Photographs courtesy of the Royal Thai Police except for those on pages 2, 36 and 37 which were kindly supplied by the tourism Authority of Thailand.

States, territories and observers attending the 57th General Assembly Session



States

Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bermuda*, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia (The), Germany (Federal Republic), Ghana, Gibraltar*, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong*, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kampuchea, Kenya, Kiribati, Korea (Republic), Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Puerto Rico**, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen (Arab Republic), Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

* United Kingdom NCB Sub-Bureaus

** United States NCB Sub-Bureau

Observers

Colombo Plan
Commonwealth Secretariat
Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior
Customs Co-operation Council
International Civil Aviation Organization
United Nations Organization
Arab Security Studies and Training Centre

International Air Transport Association
International Association of Airport and Seaport Police
International Association of Chiefs of Police
International Banking Security Association
International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations