

OUTCOME DECLARATION

INTRO: On 4 November 2014, during the 83rd INTERPOL General Assembly in Monaco, Ministers from participating INTERPOL member states came together to engage in a high-level meeting on Turn Back Crime: 100 Years of International Police Cooperation. Discussions focused on progress and achievements, critical challenges facing the police and governments worldwide, as well as strategic opportunities, policies, and partnerships for another successful century of international police cooperation.

P1: At the conclusion of the Ministerial Meeting on Turn Back Crime: 100 Years of International Police Cooperation the following Declaration was adopted by the Ministers present:

P2: We, the Ministers,

P2A: Appreciating that, over the past 100 years, national authorities have made laudable efforts to overcome technical and material obstacles, remove legal barriers, and overcome political differences in order to shift national policing priorities from an individual and ad hoc to a collective and institutionalized approach to preventing and combatting crime;

P2B: Recognizing the accomplishments of national authorities in reorganizing and professionalizing law enforcement structures as well as recognizing the importance of engaging in multilateral efforts to effectively fight crime and developing strategies and policies for effective international police cooperation;

P2C: Further recognizing the creation of and national support for regional and international organizations, institutions and assemblies dedicated to promoting international police cooperation, notably efficient cross-border information exchange, the coordination of joint-operations and investigations, the building of lasting police networks, and the sharing of best practices between law enforcement authorities worldwide;

P2D: Acknowledging the revolutionary contributions which technological and scientific progress has made to international police cooperation, and the work of law enforcement in general, by improving police performance and greatly expanding communication and investigative capacities through the development of databases, surveillance devices, and, above all, biometric technology allowing for the identification of criminals, inter alia, through fingerprints, DNA profiles, and facial recognition;

P2E: Highlighting the important role of regional and international legal instruments, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, in strengthening international police cooperation through the recognition and adoption of legal definitions for organized criminal acts, including trafficking in persons and the illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms, as well as in encouraging national authorities to incorporate best practices in order to facilitate international cooperation throughout the entire criminal justice system;

P2F: Recognizing that, although crime continues to evolve, adapt, and relocate in conjunction with contemporary conditions, successful cross-border cooperation and information-sharing among law enforcement over the past century has nevertheless resulted in safer societies and declines in certain types of criminality, including certain forms of drug trafficking, organized crime, robbery, homicide, and vehicle theft, in various parts of the world;

P2G: *Emphasizing* that, despite the immense progress in international police cooperation, as crime and terrorism continue to expand and evolve across borders, so too must national authorities continue their efforts to build and strengthen police institutions and to improve upon, formalize, and, above all, share policies, practices, and procedures to ensure ever more efficient police cooperation both domestically as well as internationally;

P2H: *Expressing concern* as opportunistic criminals and their illicit endeavors continue to capitalize on and benefit from the conditions of an increasingly technological, globalized, and virtual world, from fraud and financial crimes to sexual exploitation and terrorism, and highlighting that many of these contemporary forms of crime are being planned, perpetrated and are proliferating in a largely lawless and seemingly limitless cyberspace making effective international police cooperation more crucial today than ever before;

P2I: *Expressing particular concern* for the serious threat to international peace and security posed by violent extremism, the expansion of international terrorist networks, and the radicalization, recruitment, and mobilization of foreign terrorist fighters who fuel ongoing conflict and violence and *highlighting* that contemporary forms of terrorism threaten all countries and all regions of the world and will require concerted and coordinated bilateral, regional, and multilateral efforts to be countered effectively;

P2J: *Recognizing* as well the need to strengthen police capacity and create adapted tools for international police cooperation in particular to conduct sophisticated financial investigations and to empower the police, within the limits of national law, to identify, trace, seize/freeze, and confiscate assets of a criminal origin which today greatly contribute to increasing the capabilities of organized crime groups and terrorists and enabling them to continue their illicit activities while posing serious threats to the licit economy;

P2K: *Asserting* that crime in the 21st Century poses unprecedented challenges to law enforcement authorities which may not be most effectively prevented or countered by relying on traditional policing methods alone and that working together with the private sector and responsible actors within civil society is a key element to ensure safety and security in the future.

P3: *Agree to,*

P3A: *Endeavor* to identify persistent gaps in international police cooperation and to develop strategies and policies in order to strengthen the capacity of our national law enforcement services to communicate and cooperate more efficiently and in greater synergy with relevant partners at the national and international levels including in the areas of providing investigative assistance and exchanging crime-related information;

P3B: *Support* the research and development, as well as the implementation, of new technologies and scientific methods which would progress police performance and improve their ability to cooperate nationally and internationally, including innovations which would further enhance the collection, cross-checking, and sharing of information, the positive identification of perpetrators, the detection of stolen and lost travel documents, surveillance activities information gathering, and the physical security of persons and places;

P3C: *Strive* to further diminish and eliminate, where possible and appropriate, legal barriers to international police and judicial cooperation by adopting measures and recommendations outlined in the texts of relevant international treaties and conventions aimed at improving international cooperation to more effectively prevent and combat crime, or by initiating or participating in bilateral, regional, or multilateral fora with the purpose of enhancing usage of existing agreements and promoting implementation of national laws to give them effect;

P3D: Acknowledging that today criminals cross borders with disconcerting ease and all too often manage to evade prosecution for their illicit actions, therefore, *endeavor specifically* to review and, where possible and appropriate, reform procedures for receiving and responding to requests for the apprehension and lawful return, including extradition, of criminals to deny them safe haven, and mutual legal assistance to further investigations, in order to fight impunity and ensure that they are brought to justice;

P3E: *Call upon* police authorities in developed countries as well as international organizations such as INTERPOL and the relevant agencies of the United Nations to collaborate, where possible and appropriate, with concerned national authorities in developing countries in order to reinforce the capacities of the latter to combat crime and terrorism and cooperate more effectively through, for example, the provision of recommendations for institutional reforms, technical resources and training, and investigative assistance and sharing best practices, as well as through supporting the participation of police authorities in developing countries in crucial international events and processes that aim to develop common strategies for preventing and repressing crime and terrorism;

P3F: *Strongly urge* national authorities to engage in bilateral and multilateral deliberations, working groups, and conferences to evaluate and analyze the nature of contemporary criminal threats and the challenges facing law enforcement today, including the general complexities of preventing and combatting crimes perpetrated in cyberspace as well as the specific challenge of preventing terrorists from using communication technologies, and specifically the internet, to radicalize, recruit, and incite others to commit acts of terrorism, with a view to defining comprehensive security strategies to empower police services to cooperate internationally and more effectively counter crimes of the 21st Century;

P3G: Recalling United Nations Security Council Resolution 2178 (2014) condemning violent extremism, *strive* to uphold the measures outlined in this Resolution particularly by engaging in multilateral action to address the underlying factors contributing to today's terrorist threat and *support*, where possible and appropriate, the work of INTERPOL in its efforts to promote international police cooperation to counter terrorism, in particular, through its pioneering programme focused on identifying, tracking, and disrupting the travel of foreign terrorist fighters;

P3H: *Encourage* all concerned national authorities to work together as well as with their foreign counterparts to develop strategies and police capacity to cooperate internationally in order to carry out more effective financial investigations and operational actions focused on the identification, tracing, freezing/seizure and confiscation of criminal assets;

P3I: *Urge* law enforcement officials to consider expanding their efforts to cooperate nationally and internationally with key stakeholders such as companies in the private sector that could prove crucial in the fight against crimes such as counterfeiting, fraud, financial crimes, and crimes perpetrated in cyberspace as well as with key individuals and authorities, as well as local, regional and international entities from civil society whose efforts to assist the police to prevent and combat contemporary crimes, including violent extremism, by raising awareness, for example through informational campaigns, and by reporting suspicious activity could make a profound difference in promoting and sustaining global safety and security;

P3J: *Applaud and continue to support* high-level international assemblies for law enforcement authorities such as the Ministerial Meetings which have been convened by INTERPOL to provide the global policing community with invaluable opportunities to come together and collectively deliberate on critical crime-related issues as well as on appropriate strategies and solutions to tackle contemporary security challenges, upholding that in order to make the world a safer place international police cooperation remains more indispensable today than ever before.