RESOLUTION No. AGN/65/RES/9

SUBJECT:

International traffic in child pornography

TO BE CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 copy in the CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES: Year 1996
- 1 copy in the SUBJECT SERIES: Heading: Prostitution, exploitation of prostitution, traffic in human beings
- 1 copy in the SUBJECT SERIES: Heading: Obscene material

TEXT OF RESOLUTION

CONSIDERING that the distribution of pornography within a country is a matter of internal criminal policy, but that the export of such material is a matter of international concern,

ALSO CONSIDERING that almost every country in the world has subscribed to the Universal Postal Convention of 1957 and the 1964 revision thereof, and that Article 28 of this Convention prohibits the sending of obscene or immoral articles in the international mails,

HAVING IN MIND the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and more particularly Article 34 thereof,

ACKNOWLEDGING that child pornography, which implies the sexual exploitation of children, is often produced in one country with a view to its distribution in other countries,

CONSIDERING that it is increasingly difficult to intercept such material because of the methods used by the senders, and recognizing that there is an international market for such material showing children,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Antalya from 23rd to 29th October 1996 at its 65th session:

RESOLUTION No. AGN/65/RES/9

RECOMMENDS that member countries:

- enact legislation (if they have not yet done so) making the production, distribution, importation or possession of child pornography, criminal offences, and also making assistance and incitement punishable in the context of such offences, and
- consider enacting legislation which would allow the seizure of assets derived from such offences;

STRESSES the fact that such legislation should take account of the types of support currently used to transmit such material, but also leave room for new technology, such as computers and other virtual representations, so as to avoid any legal void which might favour offenders;

ASKS the member countries to reassess the importance they attach to child pornography investigations to give them maximum priority, and to pay particular attention to protecting the interests of the child when combating this form of crime;

ABROGATES the following Resolution:

- AGN/39/RES/4 - (1970) - Exporting obscene material by mail.
