



American Model United Nations
Economic and Social Council

ECOSOC/II/4

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners

SUBMITTED TO: The Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council,

1 *Reaffirming* the Berlin Declaration that provides effective measures of prisoners
2 into employment upon release from incarceration,

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4 *Recognizing* the Standard Minimum Laws that stipulate the further education of
5 all prisoners,

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7 *Recalling* Rule 8 of the 1990 General Assembly Resolution 45/11 on the Basic
8 Principles of the Treatment of Prisoners, which relates to the creation of conditions that
9 are conducive to the rehabilitation and meaningful employment of prisoners,

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11 *Expresses* its understanding that some Member States may choose to adapt or
12 prioritize these recommendations based on funding or other local concerns,

13
14 1. *Emphasizes* a States' ultimate sovereignty of individualized implementation;

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16 2. *Suggests* the Member States expand existing vocational employment systems in
17 prisons or create such systems if none exist so that incarcerated individuals can receive
18 monetary income as a basis of jump-starting their reintegration to society post-
19 incarceration, and provide appropriate incentives to do so, such as additional privileges;

20
21 3. *Encourages* national governments to implement such programs in collaboration
22 with regional development banks, which will provide necessary structured funding and
23 guidance;

24
25 4. *Recommends* the continuation and expansion of United Nations Office on
26 Drugs and Crime (UNODC) programs that provide the resources and guidance necessary
27 to assist developing nations with enacting prison reforms;

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29 5. *Invites* volunteer involvement with these programs as a way to:

30 (a) Implement these initiatives in a low cost manner;

31 (b) Increase engagement with local communities;

32 (c) Destigmatize prisoners in order to ease their reentry into society;

33 (d) Increase awareness of prison rights within communities to improve

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34 accountability;

35

36 6. *Further recommends* Member States to continue appropriately preparing
37 prisoners to reenter the workforce through vocational preparation such as:

38 (a) The promotion of professional skills such as resume building, public speaking
39 skills, financial literacy, computer science and technology training;

40 (b) Providing a system of career counseling in partnership with penitentiary
41 systems;

42 (c) Partnering with local businesses and educational organizations that can host
43 training seminars in prison centers and give prisoners opportunities to earn degrees or
44 certifications from partner institutions;

45 (d) Providing systems for mechanical training and rehabilitation programs;

46 (e) Granting prisoners financial investment opportunities as part of financial
47 literacy programs;

48 (f) Providing opportunities for inmates to be involved in such programs not only
49 as students but in instructional and administrative roles if they have the appropriate skills
50 or qualifications;

51

52 7. *Further encourages* Member States to partner with local businesses in ways
53 that attempt to gradually introduce prisoners into the work force including but not limited
54 too:

55 (a) Providing grants and financial assistance to businesses that hire rehabilitated
56 prisoners;

57 (b) Providing employment in community industries for prisoners while serving
58 their sentence in prison, to better improve the presence and relations between prisons and
59 the local community;

60 (c) Affording that the incarcerated labor is protected under the same labor laws
61 and regulations of all employees in said industries;

62

63 8. *Further invites* Member States to ensure the development of incarcerated youth
64 in their nations through the following mechanisms:

65 (a) Implementing, or expanding if such a system already exists, a system of
66 secondary education within juvenile detention centers;

67 (b) Ensuring a separate judicial and restorative approach is tailored for youth that
68 are incarcerated;

69 (c) Suggesting the reintroduction of juveniles into existent school structures
70 following incarceration;

71 (d) Requests that nations primarily emphasize achieving literacy in these existing
72 education systems;

73

74 9. *Endorses* access to educational and social opportunities for children of inmates
75 residing in prisons, such as:

76 (a) Enrollment in public schools;

77 (b) Educational support systems within prisons, such as tutors and study groups;

78 (c) Social and recreational opportunities with their peers within prison

79 institutions, and if possible, outside prison institutions too;
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81 10. *Further suggests* social and psychological rehabilitation processes to be
82 considered by Member States including:

83 (a) Prisoners be granted access to psychological and psychiatric specialists;

84 (b) Coordination with rehabilitation centers to organize courses and seminars
85 related to addiction and other forms of psychological rehabilitation for prisoners in
86 prisons not specialized in such fields;

87 (c) Granting prisoners access to local religious organizations and figures in the
88 community;

89 (d) Inviting opportunities for community service work in local communities to
90 increase social and civic engagement and to destigmatize prisoners.

Passed, Yes: 15 / No: 11 / Abstain: 2