

Speech of
Dr. Mohammad Bin Ali Kouman
The Secretary General of
The Arab Interior Ministers Council
At the 11th UN Congress on
Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

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*Mr. Chairman
Heads and Members of Delegations*

Peace upon you all, Mercy and Blessings of Allah.

It is indeed a great pleasure that I am amongst you today to participate in the 11th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. I would like at the beginning to convey to you the best wishes of their Highnesses and Excellencies the Arab Interior Ministers, who wish the works of this Congress all the best and success.

This Congress is held in light of the dangerous escalation of the crime phenomenon, especially organized crime. This demands from us all to stand firmly against all types and forms of crime, foster the cooperation and coordination relations among all the concerned states and entities to provide the pre-requisites of success in the war against crime and to save the various nations from its dangers and miseries. We consider that the UN General Assembly resolution that the main theme of this conference be ((Synergies and responses: Strategic alliances in crime prevention and criminal Justice)) is a perfectly wise decision, since it responds to the requirements of the phase, and the necessity of facing their challenges with more strategic alliance among the anti-crime powers.

*Mr. Chairman
Gentlemen*

The Arab Interior Ministers Council, which evolved basically for the purpose of developing and fostering cooperation, and coordinating the efforts among the Arab states in the field of internal security and fighting crime, is playing an active and efficient role in regards to fostering relations among the various security agencies in the Arab states in order to face crime in all its forms. The Council is achieving witnessed successes in this field via the agreements, strategies, and plans that the Council accredits, and that are implemented by its various bodies, prominently the Secretariat General, which also puts forth many programs, and organizes many security meetings with various specialties, and which contribute in deepening the cooperation ties

among the Arab Security agencies, and promoting their capacities towards the successful fight against crime.

I would like, here, to present briefly the most prominent achievements accomplished by the Council, which shall certainly be followed by other achievements, all's being well, in light of the council's customary commitment and dedication.

The Council accredited the Arab Security Strategy, out of which four periodic plans have evolved so far. The Council also accredited the Arab Strategy against the Illicit Use of Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and its four periodic plans, the Unified Arab Model Drug Code, the Arab Convention against the Illicit Trade in Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, the Arab Information Strategy for Security Awareness and Prevention of Crime, the Arab Strategy against Terrorism and its three plans, the Arab Convention against Terrorism, which was a result of a joint effort with the Council of Arab Ministers of Justice, the Comprehensive Arab Model Information Plan to raise the awareness of the Arab citizens against the dangers of terrorism and immunize them with spiritual, moral and educational values, the two Arab Information plans for the Prevention of Fraud Crimes, the Arab Model Guiding Law to Combat Money Laundering, the Arab Emirates Guiding Law against Crimes of Information Technology and the like, and finally the Arab Convention against Corruption.

These and other achievements emphasize the degree of seriousness which distinguishes the work of the Arab Interior Ministers Council, and expresses how keen the Council is in successfully facing the various types of crime via the coordination of the efforts of all the Arab states. Simultaneously, the Council is keen on promoting the cooperation relations with various international entities that share a common interest and speciality, in order to unify all possible efforts in facing the common danger. In this respect, we proudly acknowledge and appreciate the existing cooperation with the UNODCP and the same cooperation with INTERPOL. There is a Memorandum of Understanding signed between our Secretariat General and both the Office and the Organization as a lively evidence on the depth of

cooperation and coordination relations with both of them. We are continuously eager to foster this relation to serve our common interests.

In addition to cooperating with International entities, our Council has been keen on contributing to all international specialized meetings to face crime. We participated efficiently and significantly in the meetings of the committee which put forth the UN Convention against Corruption, and we participated before that in the meetings of the committee which put forth the UN Convention against the Organized Trans-national Crime.

Two years ago, we proposed to the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Committee to put a fourth protocol annexed to the convention to prevent and punish the trade in human organs, in line with the three protocols annexed to it. We perceive this procedure as necessary due to the human miseries caused by this trade.

We also look forward that the endeavor aiming at conducting a comprehensive convention to combat terrorism be fruitful and be crowned with success, and that the international community agrees on a decisive definition of terrorism that distinguishes between terrorism and the legitimate right in struggling for liberation and countering aggression.

Finally, I shan't forget to thank all those who are responsible for this congress for the good organization and performance. I would like also to thank the Thai authorities for the generous hospitality we were surrounded with.

May Allah lead your paths and crown your works with success.

Peace upon you, Mercy of Allah and His Blessings.
