
INTRODUCTORY NOTE

It is with pride that the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) offers to the international community Resource Material Series No. 59.

This volume contains the Annual Report for 2000 and the work produced in two UNAFEI international training programmes: the 118th International Training Course (conducted from 21 May to 12 July 2001) and the 119th International Training Course (conducted from 10 September to 1 November 2001). The main themes of these courses were “Best Practices in the Institutional and Community-Based Treatment of Juvenile Offenders” and “Current Situation of and Countermeasures against Transnational Organized Crime”, respectively.

The United Nations has long recognized the specific problems posed by juvenile offending and at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders held in Vienna, April 2000, it urged for measures to be taken to address the root causes and risk factors related to juvenile delinquency. Further, in the “Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century”, adopted by the Tenth Congress, the international community has accepted that a minimum use of the formal juvenile justice system is compatible with the recent trend towards community and restorative justice (paragraphs 27 and 28 of the Vienna Declaration). It is within this climate that the 118th International Training Course specifically considered the treatment of juvenile offenders both institutionally and in the community.

The 119th International Training Course, in considering the main theme of transnational organized crime, represented one of the annual courses UNAFEI has recently been holding towards the autumn of each year concentrating on this issue. It is anticipated that global commitment to combat organized crime will soon see itself manifested in the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime that was signed in December 2000 by more than 120 member states. Added significance was given to this

Course as it began the day after the atrocities occurred in the United States of America on 11 September 2001. This was an event that has strengthened the international community's resolve to counter every form of organized crime.

In this issue, papers contributed by visiting experts, selected individual presentation papers from among the Course participants, and the reports of the Courses are published. I regret that not all the papers submitted by the Course participants could be published. Also, I must request the understanding of the selected authors for not having sufficient time to refer the manuscripts back to them before publication.

I would like to pay tribute to the contributions of the Government of Japan, particularly the Ministry of Justice, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation for providing indispensable and unwavering support to UNAFEI's international training programmes.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all who so unselfishly assisted in the publication of this series; in particular the editor of Resource Material Series No. 59, Mr. Sean Eratt (Linguistic Adviser) who so tirelessly dedicated himself to this series.

October 2002

Kunihiko Sakai
Director of UNAFEI