

Opening Remarks of H.E. Mr. Oh Joon  
President of ECOSOC  
at the High Level Presentation  
of the “

these rules towards their final adoption later this year at the General Assembly.

The Economic and Social Council has also been closely involved in the adoption

In doing so, they are building accountable and inclusive prison institutions and systems, and thereby enhancing human rights.

It is also important to note that the Nelson Mandela Rules are part of much wider attempts to break the cycles of prison terms and recidivism.

Re-offending and a life of crime are often handed down from one generation to another, exacerbating poverty and marginalisation in societies. Greater human rights, enhanced education, improved chances of rehabilitation can break these dangerous cycles.

The Revised Standard Minimum Rules represent a significant progress in the treatment of prisoners. Our goal now is to translate these rules into a daily reality for prisoners everywhere.

ECOSOC stands ready to work together in sending a clear message that the high walls of prisons are not a bar to access to justice, and most importantly, to human rights.

Thank you.

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