

INTERPOL for Strengthening Global Criminal Justice System

*Prof. Dr. Laxmi Prasad Mainali**

*Bishnu Prasad Soti***

1. Introduction

Advancement of technology is taking place at a rapid pace making the entire world a small global village. As a result, new opportunities are created and innovations multiplied every year. However, at the same time, the opportunities and innovations are easily accessible also to and are exploited by criminals, enabling them to commit crimes and elude arrest from police. The means and methods of operating and committing crime have, therefore, changed a great deal making the job of police more challenging than ever before. In this regard, it is imperative to embark on strengthening police cooperation in order to exchange criminal intelligence to ensure that information flow across all the law enforcing agencies around the world. It is also equally important to share experiences and ideas to forge greater cooperation in policing activities to eradicate and to minimize criminal mobility and restrain criminals from executing their criminal intent.¹ Criminals, today, may not be confined to a specific area. They may operate from one place and commit crimes in different parts of the world. This advancement has shifted the scope of crimes from primarily domestic to international levels, which requires a body of criminal justice with enough power to move freely from one sovereign state to another.² Therefore, the role of INTERPOL has become indispensable in

* Professor of Law, T.U. Central Department of Law and Senior Advocate

** Deputy Superintendent of Police, Nepal Police

¹ RUTSEL SILVESTRE J MARTHA, *THE LEGAL FOUNDATIONS OF INTERPOL* (1st ed.), Oxford & Portland, Hart Publishing Ltd., Great Britain, at 3, (2010).

² MICHAEL ROBERT WALTON, *INFORMAL TRANSNATIONAL POLICE-TO-POLICE INFORMATION SHARING: ITS STRUCTURE AND REFORM*, Ontario Press, Ontario, at 5, (2014)

capacity building of the police organizations across the world to fight against the menace of trans-border and transnational crimes.³

Since its beginning, the International Criminal Police Organization-INTERPOL has been the driving force behind international cooperation to combat ordinary criminal offences. The task is by no means an easy one and experience has shown that law-enforcement efforts are in constant danger of being frustrated by the ingenuity criminals' display and by the considerable resources some of them have at their disposal. Over the years, Interpol's working methods, facilities and machinery have been fashioned in the light of its practical experience of day-to-day police work. And precisely because of this, the Organization can be of invaluable assistance to police forces throughout the world.⁴

INTERPOL is an international police organization with the primary aim of advancing international police cooperation. On account of its very diverse membership, it was very early determined that its focus would be the prevention of and combating of ordinary law crimes, as opposed to political, military, religious and racial crimes.⁵ The only police organization spanning the entire world is INTERPOL. And extradition is one of the oldest forms of international cooperation; its roots can be traced to antiquity.

Though, INTERPOL has established strong relationships with a wide variety of international organizations inter-governmental and non-governmental, acting in different fields of interest of the Organization. Interpol focuses on cooperation in criminal matters over which concerns are shared internationally instead of seeking to accomplish more complex tasks for which it is not equipped. Basically, Interpol has a more global approach, against international crime.

INTERPOL, the International Criminal Police Organization, is the world's largest international police organization, with 194-member countries, founded in 1923. Its mission is to facilitate the exchange of police information and promote cooperation and assistance between law enforcement authorities of its member countries. INTERPOL resources and assistance are generally available only through the law enforcement authorities and National Central Bureaus of its member countries.⁶

³ RUTSEL SILVESTRE J MARTHA, *THE LEGAL FOUNDATIONS OF INTERPOL* (1st ed.), Hart Publishing Ltd., USA, at 1, (2010).

⁴ YAPSON, Supranote-3, at vii

⁵ INTERPOL Official Website, /<https://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Legal-materials/The-Constitution/>, (7 Feb, 2018)

⁶ Bishnu Prasad Soti, "Interpol as a Medium of Cooperation on Prevention of Transnational Crime: A Study of Interpol Nepal, Nepal Bar Council Law Journal, Vol. Xvi, Nepal Bar Council, at 266, (2017).

INTERPOL's primary role is to assist law enforcement agencies around the world in combating all forms of transnational crime. INTERPOL's purpose is to help countries work together to investigate international crimes and bring offenders to prosecution.⁷ International policing refers to police practices that involve citizens or jurisdictions of more than one nation. Police is hereby defined as the institution associated with crime control and order maintenance as it has been legitimated in the context of nation-states.

2. INTERPOL Structure and Governance

INTERPOL's activities are driven by member countries, within a clear framework of governing bodies (GA, Executive committee) and statutory meetings. INTERPOL has mainly **two types of structure** where it is governed by **principle of speciality, i.e. legal structure** and **functional structure**.⁸ The General Assembly and Executive Committee form the Organization's governance. **General Assembly** is the INTERPOL's supreme governing body. The General Assembly is composed of delegates appointed by each member country.⁹ **Executive Committee** provides guidance and direction to the Organization and oversees the implementation of decisions made at the annual General Assembly. It also sets organizational policy and direction.¹⁰ Day to day implementation of the Organization's strategic decisions is carried out by the **General Secretariat and National Central Bureaus (NCBs)**. **Advisers** are experts in a purely advisory capacity, who may be appointed by the Executive Committee and confirmed by the General Assembly. The following diagram shows the INTERPOL governing structure.

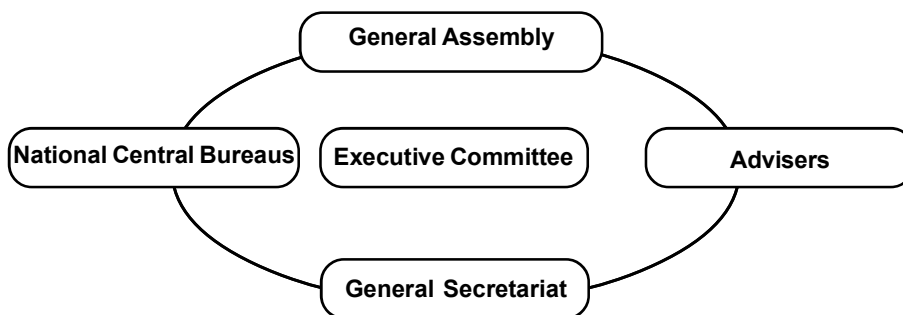


Figure-2.1: INTERPOL governing structure

⁷ MICHAEL FOONER, *INTERPOL: ISSUES IN WORLD CRIME AND INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE*, (1st ed.), Springer Science & Business Media, New York, at 6-7, (1989).

⁸ RUTSEL SILVESTRE J MARTHA, *THE LEGAL FOUNDATIONS OF INTERPOL*, Hart Publishing, Great Britain, at 105,(2010).

⁹ *Ibid*, at 52-53,(2010).

¹⁰ RUTSEL SILVESTRE J MARTHA, *THE LEGAL FOUNDATIONS OF INTERPOL*, (1st ed.), Hart Publishing Ltd., USA, at 66-67,(2010).

3. Role & Functions of INTERPOL

The main role of INTERPOL is for supporting police and law enforcement agencies worldwide. It works to ensure that police around the world have access to the tools and services necessary to do their jobs effectively. It provides **targeted training, expert investigative support, and relevant data and secures communications channels**. This combined framework helps police on the ground to ***understand crime trends, analyse information, conduct operations and, ultimately arrest as many criminals as possible***.¹¹

INTERPOL has **three core functions**. First, the organization serves as a global police communications system that is open to any willing state's law enforcement agency. Second, it offers several sophisticated criminal databases and in-depth professional analysis on criminal issues. Lastly, through capacity building and awareness raising activities it supports police agencies in their proactive policing practices.¹²

Fooner states that Interpol appears to be the world's oldest living international deliberative agency that actually engages in and practices global cooperation. Interpol can function simultaneously as an agency involved in suppressing crime and as a deliberative body examining, debating, and often reconciling diverse views on crime and punishment.¹³

INTERPOL provides proactive and systematic assistance and investigative support, coordinating for international cooperation to member countries as well as other international entities in order to **investigate, locate and arrest** fugitives who cross international boundaries. It also **shares, collates and disseminates** best practices and expert knowledge, with operational support and assistance to the searches for individuals wanted for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes through INTERPOL member countries, UN tribunals and the International Criminal Court.¹⁴

It has become imperative that states cooperate with each other so that persons, citizens or otherwise, committing crimes in their country are brought to book despite escaping from the country where the crime has been

¹¹ INTERPOL Official Website, / <https://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Overview/>, (Feb 8, 2018).

¹² INTERPOL Official Website, /<https://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Legal-materials/The-Constitution/>, (7 Feb, 2018).

¹³ FOONER, MICHAEL, *INTERPOL: ISSUES IN WORLD CRIME AND INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE*, Plenum Press, New York, at 6, (1989).

¹⁴ INTERPOL Official Website, /<https://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/International-partners/>, (7 Feb, 2018)

committed.¹⁵ Interpol in this crucial link between international criminals and individual states urge to bring them to justice. It ensures that international cooperation is made possible despite differing political ideologies and criminal justice systems of member states. To that extent it remains an important element in the calculus of preventing international crime.¹⁶

4. INTERPOL Fugitives Investigation & Provisional arrest

Fugitives pose a serious threat to public safety worldwide. They are mobile (often travelling between countries on stolen or fraudulent travel documents), and opportunistic, frequently financing their continued flight from the law through further criminal activities. Fugitives undermine the world's criminal justice systems. They may have been charged with a violation of the law but not been arrested. They may have been released on bail and then fled to avoid prosecution or perhaps they have escaped from prison. When fugitives flee, cases are not adjudicated, convicted criminals fail to meet their obligations, and crime victims are denied justice.

INTERPOL provides proactive and systematic assistance to member countries and other international entities in order to seek, locate and arrest fugitives who cross international boundaries. ***Locating and arresting criminals is at the heart of INTERPOL's work. The activities of INTERPOL include searching and chasing of international criminals; circulation of information regarding international crimes and criminal gangs received from member police forces, assisting in arrest of international criminals and making arrangements for keeping them under surveillance, pending their extradition. In addition, INTERPOL Activities include:***

- Providing investigative support to member countries in international fugitive investigations;
- Developing and implementing focused initiatives such as Operation Infra;
- Coordinating international cooperation in the field of fugitive investigations;
- Delivering training and conferences;
- Collating and disseminating best practice and expert knowledge;
- Providing operational support and assistance to the searches for individuals wanted for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes by INTERPOL member countries, UN tribunals and the International Criminal Court.

¹⁵ RUTSEL SILVESTRE J MARTHA, *THE LEGAL FOUNDATIONS OF INTERPOL*, (1st ed.), Hart Publishing Ltd., USA, at 1,(2010).

¹⁶ *Ibid*, at 2.

The following are some projects launched with the partnership of INTERPOL with some objectives and succeeded to hold and arrest the fugitives who are the challenge of global criminal justice system. So far in 2018, 954 Red Notices have been issued at the request of the only six participating countries. INTERPOL's global police cooperation platform help to locate, identify and arrest an international fugitive who have evaded justice for years and years. This clearly demonstrates the fundamental role of INTERPOL as a global 'tripwire' in international investigations.

4.1 Project EL PACCTO

Its partnership with INTERPOL and other six countries involves the following objectives:

- create and develop a standing, dedicated region-wide fugitive investigations network to identify, prioritize and target high-risk criminals with the support of INTERPOL Red Notices, Blue Notices, and Diffusions.
- develop a mechanism to standardize, analyze and exchange data associated with high-risk criminals.
- provide capacity building and training on fugitive investigations.
- expand the use of INTERPOL global tools and services to improve international police cooperation.

4.2 Rwandan Genocide Fugitives Project

The Rwandan Genocide Fugitives Project was set up in 2004 with the Rwandan National Prosecution Service and the ICTR to target the outstanding fugitives wanted by these two bodies. Since then, more than 40 fugitives who were the subjects of INTERPOL Red Notices have been arrested.

INTERPOL supports initiatives to track down and arrest the nine remaining fugitives still wanted by the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (UN-ICTR) who represents a top priority for the United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (UN-MICT).

4.3 Project Basic

Project Basic (Broadening Analysis on Serious International Crimes) targets fugitives wanted for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. Within this framework, INTERPOL cooperates with national authorities and international institutions to locate, arrest and develop information concerning individuals suspected of these crimes. In 2013, more than 50 individuals

wanted for war crimes by various countries were arrested or located in different parts of the world.

5. INTERPOL tools and databases for Fugitive investigation

INTERPOL tools and databases are the main sources of fugitive investigation. The success of international police investigations is dependent upon the availability of up-to-date, global data. INTERPOL provide the member countries with instant, direct access to a number of criminal databases. These contain millions of records, contributed by countries across the world. All databases, except IBIN (INTERPOL Ballistic Information Network), are accessible real-time through the I-24/7 network which connects all INTERPOL National Central Bureaus (NCBs). Furthermore, INTERPOL has developed web server solutions to extend access beyond the NCBs to frontline law enforcement officers, such as border guards, allowing them to search the databases on wanted persons, stolen and lost travel documents and stolen motor vehicles. The following are the some of the databases of INTERPOL which makes the fugitive investigation possible.

5.1 Notices and individual databases

INTERPOL's system of Notices is used to issue international alerts for fugitives, suspected criminals, persons linked to or of interest in an ongoing criminal investigation, persons and entities subject to UN Security Council Sanctions, potential threats, missing persons and dead bodies. Details are stored in a database known as the INTERPOL Criminal Information System, which also contains personal data and the criminal history of people subject to request for international police cooperation.

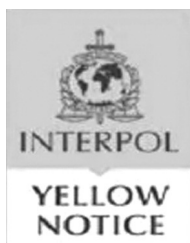
INTERPOL Notices are international requests for cooperation or alerts allowing police in member countries to share critical crime related information. INTERPOL's system of Notices is used to issue international alerts for fugitives, suspected criminals, persons linked to or of interest in an ongoing criminal investigation, persons and entities subject to UN Security Council Sanctions, potential threats, missing persons and dead bodies.¹⁷ Once published by INTERPOL, each member country determines what effect to give a Notice within its jurisdiction according to its national law and practice. In addition, Notices are used by the United Nations, International Criminal Tribunals and the International Criminal Court to seek persons wanted for committing crimes within their jurisdiction.

¹⁷ INTERPOL Official Website, <https://www.interpol.int/INTERPOL-expertise/Notices/> (Feb 9, 2018)

5.2 Types of Notices¹⁸



Red Notice
To seek the location and arrest of wanted persons with a view to extradition or similar lawful action.



Yellow Notice
To help locate missing persons, often minors, or to help identify persons who are unable to identify themselves.



Blue Notice
To collect additional information about a person's identity, location or activities in relation to a crime.



Black Notice
To seek information on unidentified bodies.



Green Notice
To provide warnings and intelligence about persons who have committed criminal offences and are likely to repeat these crimes in other countries.



Orange Notice
To warn of an event, a person, an object or a process representing a serious and imminent threat to public safety.



INTERPOL–United Nations Security Council Special Notice
Issued for groups and individuals who are the targets of UN Security Council Sanctions Committees.



Purple Notice
To seek or provide information on modus operandi, objects, devices and concealment methods used by criminals.

Figure- INTERPOL Notices

¹⁸ RUTSEL SILVESTRE J MARTHA, *THE LEGAL FOUNDATIONS OF INTERPOL*, (1st ed.), Hart Publishing, USA, at 117-120,(2010).

In the case of Red Notices, the persons concerned are wanted by national jurisdictions for prosecution or to serve a sentence based on an arrest warrant or court decision. INTERPOL's role is to assist the national police forces in identifying and locating these persons with a view to their arrest and extradition or similar lawful action. Circulated to 194 INTERPOL member countries, the Red Notice represents one of INTERPOL's most powerful tools in tracking international fugitives. INTERPOL's Fugitive Investigative Support unit after learning from some of the world's most experienced investigators, participants leave here with an enhanced ability to support war crimes investigations not only for the good of their own country, but for the good of humanity.

In addition, Notices are used by the United Nations, International Criminal Tribunals and the International Criminal Court to seek persons wanted for committing crimes within their jurisdiction, notably genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.

5.3 Child abusers and victims

The International Child Sexual Exploitation image database uses sophisticated image comparison software to make connections between victims, abusers and places. The aim is to identify, locate and arrest perpetrators, and to remove victims from harm.

5.4 Forensic Data

Fingerprints, DNA profiling and face recognition can play a crucial role in solving crimes as they have the potential to reveal links between individuals and/or crime scenes. Just as importantly, they can help to prove a suspect's involvement or innocence.

5.5 Fingerprints

Authorized users in member countries can view, submit and cross-check records in the finger prints database via a user-friendly automatic fingerprint identification system (AFIS).

5.6 DNA profiling

This database contains DNA profiles from offenders, crime scenes, missing persons and unidentified bodies.

5.7 Face Recognition

The Face Recognition System database provides a dedicated platform to store and cross-check images for the purpose of identifying fugitives, missing persons and persons of interest. Launched in November 2016, INTERPOL's

facial recognition biometric service contains more than 52,000 images from 179 countries. Police forces across the globe use INTERPOL's facial recognition capability daily to make connections between criminals and crime scenes, identify fugitives and missing persons or to compare mugshots.

5.8 Travel and Official Documents

Border points are critical locations for preserving national security. INTERPOL provides a range of databases to help detect and prevent the fraudulent use of travel papers and administrative documents, thereby restricting the movement of criminals or illicit items.

5.9 Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD)

The SLTD database contains records on lost, stolen and revoked travel documents, such as passports, identity cards, UN laissez-passer or visa stamps, including stolen blank travel documents.

5.10 Stolen Administrative Documents (SAD)

The SAD database records stolen official documents that serve to identify objects, for example, vehicle registration documents and clearance certificates for import/export.

5.11 Counterfeit documents

The Digital INTERPOL Alert Library – Document (Dial-Doc) is a joint G8-INTERPOL initiative, which allows countries to share at global level alerts produced nationally on newly detected forms of document counterfeiting.

5.12 Comparison of genuine and fake documents

Edison (Electronic Documentation and Information System on Investigation Networks) provides examples of genuine travel documents, in order to help identify fakes. It contains images, descriptions and security features of genuine travel and identity documents issued by countries and international organizations.¹⁹

5.13 Stolen Property

Stolen motor vehicles, vessels and works of art are likely to be trafficked across borders. INTERPOL maintains global databases in order to assist the law enforcement community in identifying stolen items and to increase the chance of their recovery.

¹⁹ INTERPOL Official Website, /<https://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Legal-materials/The-Constitution/>, (7 Feb, 2018)

5.14 Motor vehicles

This database contains extensive identification details from all types of motor vehicles (cars, trucks, trailers, heavy machinery, motorbikes) and identifiable spare parts reported as stolen.

5.15 Vessels

The Stolen Vessels database serves as a centralized tool for tracing and tracking stolen vessels and engines.

5.16 Works of art

The Works of Art database contains descriptions and pictures of cultural objects reported as stolen by INTERPOL member countries and international partners such as the International Council of Museums and UNESCO. It also includes items looted during crisis period.

5.17 Firearms Trafficking

The Firearms Programme offers powerful tools which can help member countries to collect and analyze more effectively the information that can be obtained from inside and outside the weapon, in order to prevent and solve firearm-related crime.²⁰

5.18 Identification of firearms

The INTERPOL Firearms Reference Table is an interactive online tool that provides a standardized methodology to identify and describe firearms, enabling INTERPOL member countries to increase the likelihood of successful tracing on cross-border investigations by ensuring the accuracy of firearm identification by their law enforcement officers.

5.19 Tracing of firearms

The INTERPOL illicit Arms Records and tracing Management System (iARMS) is the only global law enforcement platform supporting transnational tracing through tracking and record keeping of illicit firearms, including lost and stolen, as well as enhancing information exchange and cooperation between law enforcement agencies on terrorism and other firearm-related crimes.

5.20 Comparison of ballistics data

The INTERPOL Ballistic Information Network is the only large-scale international ballistics data sharing network in the world providing intelligence

²⁰ INTERPOL Official Website, /<https://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Legal-materials/The-Constitution/>, (7 Feb, 2018)

to law enforcement agencies through the centralized connection, storage, and cross-comparison of ballistics imaging in order to find connections between crimes from different countries that might otherwise remain undetected. The combined analysis of IBIN and iARMS data is likely to significantly increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to prevent and combat firearm-related crime, particularly through the identification of firearms traffickers and other criminals.

5.21 Organized Crime Networks

The purpose of these databases is to improve the collection and exchange of intelligence, support investigations, and better analyze the crime networks, leading to the identification and arrest of their leaders and financiers.

5.22 Maritime piracy

The maritime piracy database stores intelligence related to cases of piracy and armed robbery at sea, including data on individuals, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, piracy incidents, locations, businesses and financial information.

5.23 Radiological and Nuclear Materials

The Project Geiger database is used to collate and analyze information on illicit trafficking and other unauthorized activities involving radiological and nuclear materials. It combines data from the International Atomic Energy Agency, open-source reports and law enforcement channels.

6. Legacy of Interpol Crime Data to Cross-National Criminology

Crime data from INTERPOL are the oldest data set of cross-national indicators of crime maintained by an inter-governmental organization. Criminologists have created a literature that aims to explain national as well as cross-national differences and trends in crime rates. Created in 1923, the International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC, later abbreviated to ICPC-INTERPOL and now known as INTERPOL) was founded to facilitate police cooperation among countries, even where diplomatic ties do not exist. INTERPOL's International Crime Statistics were first published in 1950.²¹

7. INTERPOL Priorities for Fugitive investigation

The Strategic Framework 2017-2020 serves as a roadmap for INTERPOL's global activities. Containing the Organization's vision, mission, values, goals and objectives, it is the structure through which all the activities are defined,

²¹ INTERPOL Official Website, /<https://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Legal-materials/The-Constitution/>, (7 Feb, 2018)

executed and evaluated. Set for a period of four years, the Strategic Framework is approved by INTERPOL's supreme governing body, the General Assembly.²²

7.1 Serve as the worldwide information hub for law enforcement cooperation: The exchange of police information lies at the core of INTERPOL's mandate. INTERPOL manages secure communication channels that connect National Central Bureaus in all our member countries, along with other authorized law enforcement agencies and partners, and which give access to a range of criminal databases. INTERPOL is working to reinforce this technical infrastructure, expand access to the services and enable interoperability with other relevant information systems. INTERPOL also support member countries in improving the quality of data exchanged and producing analysis, in order to enable the law enforcement community to make well-informed tactical, operational or strategic decisions.

7.2 Maximize INTERPOL's role within the Global Security Architecture: This goal aims to bridge information gaps in the Global Security Architecture, strengthening cooperation between relevant sectors and entities, and raising political awareness and support for INTERPOL's Programmes. INTERPOL seek to federate the international community around common goals on security, and to strengthen the regional and ground-level delivery of programmes and capabilities to meet those goals. This could also require strengthening the legal foundations of the Organization for more effective service delivery.

7.3 Consolidate resources and governance structures for enhanced operational performance: In order to keep up with the evolving law enforcement landscape, INTERPOL continue to modernize the Organization's structures and processes to ensure efficient delivery of the capabilities and services. INTERPOL focus its efforts on implementing a sustainable funding model for the Organization, addressing risks at the organizational level, fostering change management, promoting a sustainable human resources strategy, and re assessing the governance framework.²³

8. Conclusion

The approach of this article is to conduct an extensive analysis of how Interpol facilitates for fugitives investigation among countries to enhance

²² INTERPOL Official Website, /<https://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Legal-materials/The-Constitution/>, (7 Feb, 2018)

²³ INTERPOL Official Website, /<https://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Legal-materials/The-Constitution/>, (7 Feb, 2018)

global criminal justice system, even where diplomatic ties do not exist. It also shows that how International Criminal Police Organization be utilized in urgent circumstances by using its tools and databases for holding and arresting fugitives and facilitates the criminal justice system. It also shows how, the use of the services offered through INTERPOL is urged in both the enforcement and the cooperation provisions.

The International Criminal Police Organization, better known as INTERPOL is structured mainly in a trans-governmental manner and peer to peer relations at an agency scale have been the crux of cooperation and communication in the organization. INTERPOL's trans-governmental structure maintains a fertile environment in which cooperative action thrives; however, its global nature inhibits the organization's efficiency and effectiveness due to the formalized information exchange and data protection procedures. INTERPOL can be considered successful in attaining its objectives on countering crimes and arresting criminals. INTERPOL constantly provides and promotes innovative and cutting-edge solutions to global challenges in policing and security. what INTERPOL aspires to achieve is "Connecting police for a safer world" its vision is that of a world where each and every law enforcement professional will be able through INTERPOL to securely communicate, share and access vital police information whenever and wherever needed, ensuring the safety of the world's citizens. The mission what INTERPOL does to achieve its vision is "Preventing and fighting crime through enhanced cooperation and innovation on police and security matters". INTERPOL facilitates the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal law enforcement authorities. It strives for innovation at all times, in the areas of police and security matters which ultimately enhance the global criminal justice system.

The Foundation work of INTERPOL is to ensure Vibrant and sustainable societies, Clean and prosperous businesses, Strong and connected law enforcement, Safe and accessible travel, Open and secure cyberspace, tackling critical issues, combating Terrorism and Organized crime and enhancing Police capacity. And the INTERPOL projects are to be supported for Securing societies against any threat, reducing crime, protecting vulnerable communities and cultural heritage, Cybercrime, Targeting the illicit drug trade, preventing the trafficking of illicit goods and medical products.

The strength of Interpol lies in its organizational structure. The concept of networking and functioning through NCBs was definitely a novel idea of

organizational structure, especially at the time when it was conceived. The NCBs work as force multipliers augmenting the functioning of the organization albeit from a distance. Over time, the cohesiveness between the NCBs and the secretariat has increased by member states consciously synchronizing their NCB functioning with other NCBs and the secretariat. The role of INTERPOL is crucial for the functioning of NCBs. Principle of reciprocity, principle of availability, deportation, expulsion etc. are some of the mere means of arresting absconded criminals. Where, these means are working in a remarkable way which is the significant contribution of Interpol for enhancing the global criminal justice system.

□□