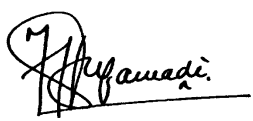
Foreword

It is with pleasure that we present the final report of the International Conference for Crime Prevention Partnerships to Build Community Safety, Urban Safety – Safety for All held in Johannesburg, South Africa, 26-30 October 1998. The conference brought together practitioners with wide-ranging experience for discussions on topics with as much importance in South Africa as in other countries of the world.

The conference was a great success, including participants from Africa, the Americas, Australia, Europe and New Zealand to discuss common problems and solutions to the issues facing crime prevention practitioners. The conference was designed to focus on the practical steps necessary to undertake successful crime reduction, regardless of whether it occurs in a city in the United States of America or Senegal. The level of commonality of experience across regions in preventing and reducing crime was remarkable. We hope that all participants departed after having learned more about the challenges to reduce crime and the powerful ways in which communities, local and national government and the departments within the criminal justice system can work together. The emphasis throughout was on partnerships, and how, by working together, people can bring about change.

We hope that those who participated in the conference find this report useful and an accurate reflection of a wide range of topics. We also hope that those who did not attend the conference but are involved in crime prevention will find the report a useful addition to the emerging literature on crime prevention.