



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**COMMISSION ON  
NARCOTIC DRUGS  
VIENNA**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL INTERNATIONAL  
DRUG POLICY COMMITMENTS**

**Follow-up to the 2019 Ministerial Declaration**

“Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional  
and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation  
of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter  
the World Drug Problem”



Commission on Narcotic Drugs

# IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL INTERNATIONAL DRUG POLICY COMMITMENTS

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Regional and International Levels to Accelerate  
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# **Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem**

We, the Ministers and government representatives participating in the ministerial segment of the sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, have met at the United Nations in Vienna to take stock of the implementation of the commitments made over the past decade to jointly address and counter the world drug problem, in particular in the light of the 2019 target date set in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem of 2009,<sup>1</sup> and to enhance our efforts beyond 2019;

We reaffirm our shared commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem, which requires concerted and sustained action at the national and international levels, including accelerating the implementation of existing drug policy commitments;

We also reaffirm our commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States;

We further reaffirm our determination to address and counter the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to help ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity, and reaffirm our determination to address public health, safety and social problems resulting from drug abuse;

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<sup>1</sup>See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>2</sup>General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

We reiterate our commitment to respecting, protecting and promoting all human rights, fundamental freedoms and the inherent dignity of all individuals and the rule of law in the development and implementation of drug policies;

We underscore that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>3</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>4</sup> the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988<sup>5</sup> and other relevant instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system, welcome the efforts made by States parties to comply with the provisions and ensure the effective implementation of those conventions, and urge all Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to those instruments;

We emphasize that the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action<sup>6</sup> and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”,<sup>7</sup> represent the commitments made by the international community over the preceding decade to counter the world drug problem and address, in a balanced manner, all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures and international cooperation identified in the 2009 Political Declaration, as well as additional issues elaborated upon and identified in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held in 2016, and recognize that those documents are complementary and mutually reinforcing;

We recognize that there are persistent, new and evolving challenges that should be addressed in conformity with the three international drug control conventions, which allow for sufficient flexibility for States parties to design and implement national drug policies according to their priorities and needs, consistent with the principle of common and shared responsibility and applicable international law;

We reaffirm our commitment to a balanced, integrated, comprehensive, multi-disciplinary and scientific evidence-based approach to the world drug problem, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, and recognize the importance of appropriately mainstreaming a gender and age perspective into drug-related policies

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<sup>3</sup>United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>4</sup>*Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>5</sup>*Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

<sup>6</sup>See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>7</sup>General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex.



and programmes and that appropriate emphasis should be placed on individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, with a particular focus on women, children and youth, with a view to promoting and protecting health, including access to treatment, safety and the well-being of all humanity;

We also reaffirm the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and our support and appreciation for the efforts of the relevant United Nations entities, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity of the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem, and further reaffirm the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization;

We reiterate our resolve, in the framework of existing policy documents, *inter alia*, to prevent, significantly reduce and work towards the elimination of illicit crop cultivation and the production and manufacture of, trafficking in and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances, as well as to prevent, significantly reduce and work towards the elimination of the diversion of and illicit trafficking in precursors, and money-laundering related to drug-related crimes; to ensure access to and the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering, and address existing barriers in this regard, including affordability; to strengthen effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives covering prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures on a non-discriminatory basis, as well as, in accordance with national legislation, initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse; to address drug-related socioeconomic issues related to illicit crop cultivation and the production and manufacture of and trafficking in drugs, including through the implementation of long-term comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes; and to promote, consistent with the three international drug control conventions and domestic law, and in accordance with national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems, alternative or additional measures with regard to conviction or punishment in cases of an appropriate nature;

We express deep concern at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families as a result of the world drug problem, and pay special tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives and those who dedicate themselves to addressing and countering the world drug problem;

We underscore the important role played by all relevant stakeholders, including law enforcement, judicial and health-care personnel, civil society, the scientific community and academia, as well as the private sector, supporting our efforts to implement our joint commitments at all levels, and underscore the importance of promoting relevant partnerships;

We reiterate that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing.

## Stocktaking

Bearing in mind the biennial reports submitted by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on progress made by Member States in the implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action, the annual *World Drug Report* and the annual reports of the International Narcotics Control Board, and highlighting the experiences, lessons learned and good practices in the implementation of the joint commitments shared by Member States and other stakeholders at the annual sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as the thematic sessions held during the sixtieth and sixty-first sessions of the Commission,

We acknowledge that tangible progress has been achieved in the implementation of the commitments made over the past decade in addressing and countering the world drug problem, including with regard to an improved understanding of the problem, the development, elaboration and implementation of national strategies, the enhanced sharing of information, and the enhanced capacity of national competent authorities;

We note with concern persistent and emerging challenges related to the world drug problem, including the following: that both the range of drugs and drugs markets are expanding and diversifying; that the abuse, illicit cultivation and production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as the illicit trafficking in those substances and in precursors, have reached record levels, and that the illicit demand for and the domestic diversion of precursor chemicals are on the rise; that increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and money-laundering and, in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, are observed; that the value of confiscated proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking at the global level remains low; that the availability of internationally controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and palliative care, remains low to non-existent in many parts of the world; that drug treatment and health services continue to fall short of meeting needs and deaths related to drug use have increased; and that the rate of transmission of HIV, the hepatitis C virus and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, including injecting drug use in some countries, remains high; that the adverse health consequences of and risks associated with new psychoactive substances have reached alarming levels; that synthetic opioids and the non-medical use of prescription drugs pose increasing risks to public health and safety, as well as scientific, legal and regulatory challenges, including with regard to the scheduling of substances; that the criminal misuse of information and communications technologies for illicit drug-related activities is increasing; that the

geographical coverage and availability of reliable data on the various aspects on the world drug problem requires improvement; and that responses not in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and not in conformity with applicable international human rights obligations pose a challenge to the implementation of joint commitments based on the principle of common and shared responsibility; and to that end:

## Way forward

We commit to safeguarding our future and ensuring that no one affected by the world drug problem is left behind by enhancing our efforts to bridge the gaps in addressing the persistent and emerging trends and challenges through the implementation of balanced, integrated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary and scientific evidence-based responses to the world drug problem, placing the safety, health and well-being of all members of society, in particular our youth and children, at the centre of our efforts;

We commit to accelerating, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, the full implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016, aimed at achieving all commitments, operational recommendations and aspirational goals set out therein;

We commit to further strengthening cooperation and coordination among national authorities, particularly in the health, education, social, justice and law enforcement sectors, and between governmental agencies and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, at all levels, including through technical assistance;

We commit to strengthening bilateral, regional and international cooperation and promoting information-sharing, in particular among judicial and law enforcement authorities, in order to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and money-laundering, and in some cases terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, and to effectively identify, trace, freeze, seize, and confiscate assets and proceeds of drug-related crime and ensure their disposal, including sharing, in accordance with the 1988 Convention, and, as appropriate, their return, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption<sup>8</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup>United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

<sup>9</sup>*Ibid.*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

We commit to continuing to mobilize resources, including for the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building at all levels, to ensure that all Member States can effectively address and counter emerging and persistent drug-related challenges;

We commit to increasing the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building to Member States, upon request, in particular those most affected by the world drug problem, including by illicit cultivation and production, transit and consumption;

We commit to supporting the Commission on Narcotic Drugs continuing, within its mandate, as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, including, but not limited to, fostering broad, transparent and inclusive discussions within the Commission, involving, as appropriate, all relevant stakeholders, such as law enforcement, judicial and health-care personnel, civil society, academia and relevant United Nations entities, on effective strategies to address and counter the world drug problem at all levels, including through the sharing of information, best practices and lessons learned;

We commit to strengthening the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board, within their treaty-based mandates, as well as with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue to facilitate informed scheduling decisions on the most persistent, prevalent and harmful substances, including synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances, precursors, chemicals and solvents, while ensuring their availability for medical and scientific purposes, and commit to strengthening the dialogue of the Commission with the International Narcotics Control Board on the implementation of the three international drug control conventions, and with relevant international organizations;

We commit to ensuring that the Commission-led follow-up on the implementation of all commitments to address and counter the world drug problem made since 2009 is done in a single track, which entails the following:

(a) Devoting a single standing agenda item at each regular session of the Commission to the implementation of all commitments;

(b) Ensuring that collection of reliable and comparable data, through a strengthened and streamlined annual report questionnaire, reflects all commitments;

(c) Requesting the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to adapt the existing biennial report, transforming it into a single report, to be prepared on a biennial basis, within existing resources, on the basis of the responses provided by Member States to the strengthened and streamlined annual report questionnaire on progress made to implement all commitments at the national, regional and international levels, the first of which reports should be submitted for consideration by the Commission at its sixty-fifth session, in 2022;

We commit to promoting and improving the collection, analysis and sharing of quality and comparable data, in particular through targeted, effective and sustainable capacity-building, in close cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization, as well as with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant partners, including through the cooperation between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Statistical Commission, with a view to strengthening national data-collection capacity in order to improve the response rate and expand the geographical and thematic reporting of related data in accordance with all commitments;

We request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close cooperation with Member States, to continue, in an inclusive manner, expert-level consultations on strengthening and streamlining the existing annual report questionnaire and to reflect on possibilities to review other existing tools for the collection and analysis of drug control data as deemed necessary to reflect and assess progress made in the implementation of all commitments contained in the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action, the 2014 Joint Ministerial Statement and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, and to submit an improved and streamlined annual report questionnaire for consideration at the sixty-third session of the Commission, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

We also request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide enhanced technical and substantive support to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in supporting the implementation of and conducting follow-up to all commitments, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

We further request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance technical assistance and capacity-building for the implementation of all commitments, in consultation with requesting Member States and in cooperation with other relevant United Nations entities and stakeholders, and to invite existing and emerging donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose;

We encourage further contributions of relevant United Nations entities, international financial institutions and relevant regional and international organizations, within their respective mandates, to the work of the Commission and the efforts of Member States to address and counter the world drug problem, upon their request, to strengthen international and inter-agency cooperation, and encourage them to make available relevant information to the Commission in order to facilitate its work and to enhance coherence within the United Nations system at all levels with regard to the world drug problem;

Following up to this Ministerial Declaration, we resolve to review in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2029 our progress in implementing all our international drug policy commitments, with a mid-term review in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2024.



## **Outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”<sup>1</sup>**

We, Heads of State and Government, ministers and representatives of Member States, are assembled at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 21 April 2016 for the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, convened in accordance with Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, to review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>2</sup> including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments;

We reaffirm our commitment to the goals and objectives of the three international drug control conventions, including concern about the health and welfare of humankind as well as the individual and public health-related, social and safety problems resulting from the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular among children and young people, and drug-related crime, and we reaffirm our determination to prevent and treat the abuse of such substances and prevent and counter their illicit cultivation, production, manufacturing and trafficking;

We recognize that, while tangible progress has been achieved in some fields, the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity, and we resolve to reinforce our national and international efforts and further increase international cooperation to face those challenges;

We reaffirm our determination to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to help to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity, and reaffirm our determination to address public health, safety and social problems resulting from drug abuse;

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<sup>1</sup>General Assembly resolution S-30-1, annex. Adopted on 19 April 2016.

<sup>2</sup>See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

We note with concern that the availability of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering, remains low to non-existent in many countries of the world, and we highlight the need to enhance national efforts and international cooperation at all levels to address that situation by promoting measures to ensure their availability and accessibility for medical and scientific purposes, within the framework of national legal systems, while simultaneously preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to fulfil the aims and objectives of the three international drug control conventions;

We recognize that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach;

We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures, and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>3</sup> with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States;

We underscore that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>4</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>5</sup> the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988<sup>6</sup> and other relevant international instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system;

We reaffirm our commitment to implementing effectively the provisions set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, mindful of the targets and goals set therein, as well as to addressing the general challenges and priorities for action identified in the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted at the high-level review in March 2014;<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>4</sup>United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>5</sup>*Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>6</sup>*Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

<sup>7</sup>Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council*, 2014, Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C).



We welcome the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>8</sup> and we note that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing;

We recognize, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem, that appropriate emphasis should be placed on individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, with a view to promoting and protecting the health, safety and well-being of all humanity;

We recognize the importance of appropriately mainstreaming gender and age perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes;

We recognize that there are persistent, new and evolving challenges that should be addressed in conformity with the three international drug control conventions, which allow for sufficient flexibility for States parties to design and implement national drug policies according to their priorities and needs, consistent with the principle of common and shared responsibility and applicable international law;

We reaffirm the need to mobilize adequate resources to address and counter the world drug problem and call for enhancing assistance to developing countries, upon request, in effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the operational recommendations contained in the present document;

We recognize that transit States continue to face multifaceted challenges, and reaffirm the continuing need for cooperation and support, including the provision of technical assistance to, inter alia, enhance their capacities to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, in conformity with the 1988 Convention;

We reaffirm the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policy-making body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and our support and appreciation for the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem, and further reaffirm the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization;

We recognize that successfully addressing and countering the world drug problem requires close cooperation and coordination among domestic authorities at all levels, particularly in the health, education, justice and law enforcement sectors, taking into account their respective areas of competence under national legislation;

We welcome continued efforts to enhance coherence within the United Nations system at all levels;

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<sup>8</sup>Resolution 70/1.

We recognize that civil society, as well as the scientific community and academia, plays an important role in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and note that affected populations and representatives of civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation, implementation, and the providing of relevant scientific evidence in support of, as appropriate, the evaluation of drug control policies and programmes, and we recognize the importance of cooperation with the private sector in this regard;

We express deep concern at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families as a result of the world drug problem, and pay special tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives, in particular law enforcement and judicial personnel, and to the health-care and civil society personnel and volunteers who dedicate themselves to countering and addressing this phenomenon;

We reaffirm the need to strengthen cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, in their efforts to support Member States in the implementation of international drug control treaties in accordance with applicable human rights obligations and to promote protection of and respect for human rights and the dignity of all individuals in the context of drug programmes, strategies and policies;

We reaffirm the need to address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice, public security and law enforcement fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility, and recognize the value of comprehensive and balanced policy interventions, including those in the field of promotion of sustainable and viable livelihoods;

We reaffirm that targeted interventions that are based on the collection and analysis of data, including age- and gender-related data, can be particularly effective in meeting the specific needs of drug-affected populations and communities;

We reiterate our commitment to ending, by 2030, the epidemics of AIDS and tuberculosis, as well as to combating viral hepatitis and other communicable diseases, inter alia, among people who use drugs, including people who inject drugs.

## **Operational recommendations on demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as other health-related issues**

1. We reiterate our commitment to promoting the health, welfare and well-being of all individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, and facilitating healthy lifestyles through effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction

initiatives at all levels, covering, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, and we recommend the following measures:

### **Prevention of drug abuse**

(a) Take effective and practical primary prevention measures that protect people, in particular children and youth, from drug use initiation by providing them with accurate information about the risks of drug abuse, by promoting skills and opportunities to choose healthy lifestyles and develop supportive parenting and healthy social environments and by ensuring equal access to education and vocational training;

(b) Also take effective and practical measures to prevent progression to severe drug use disorders through appropriately targeted early interventions for people at risk of such progression;

(c) Increase the availability, coverage and quality of scientific evidence-based prevention measures and tools that target relevant age and risk groups in multiple settings, reaching youth in school as well as out of school, among others, through drug abuse prevention programmes and public awareness-raising campaigns, including by using the Internet, social media and other online platforms, develop and implement prevention curricula and early intervention programmes for use in the education system at all levels, as well as in vocational training, including in the workplace, and enhance the capacity of teachers and other relevant professionals to provide or recommend counselling, prevention and care services;

(d) Promote the well-being of society as a whole through the elaboration of effective scientific evidence-based prevention strategies centred on and tailored to the needs of individuals, families and communities as part of comprehensive and balanced national drug policies, on a non-discriminatory basis;

(e) Involve, as appropriate, policymakers, parliamentarians, educators, civil society, the scientific community, academia, target populations, individuals in recovery from substance use disorders and their peer groups, families and other codependent people, as well as the private sector, in the development of prevention programmes aimed at raising public awareness of the dangers and risks associated with drug abuse, and involve, inter alia, parents, care services providers, teachers, peer groups, health professionals, religious communities, community leaders, social workers, sports associations, media professionals and entertainment industries, as appropriate, in their implementation;

(f) Consider enhancing cooperation between public health, education and law enforcement authorities when developing prevention initiatives;

(g) Develop and improve recreational facilities and provide access for children and youth to regular sports and cultural activities, with a view to promoting healthy lives and lifestyles, including through the recovery and improvement of public spaces, and promote the exchange of experiences and good practices in this field to further enhance effective preventive interventions;

(h) Promote and improve the systematic collection of information and gathering of evidence as well as the sharing, at the national and international levels, of reliable and comparable data on drug use and epidemiology, including on social, economic and other risk factors, and promote, as appropriate, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Assembly, the use of internationally recognized standards, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, and the exchange of best practices, to formulate effective drug use prevention strategies and programmes in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities;

**Treatment of drug use disorders, rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration; prevention, treatment and care of HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne infectious diseases**

(i) Recognize drug dependence as a complex, multifactorial health disorder characterized by a chronic and relapsing nature with social causes and consequences that can be prevented and treated through, inter alia, effective scientific evidence-based drug treatment, care and rehabilitation programmes, including community-based programmes, and strengthen capacity for aftercare for and the rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration of individuals with substance use disorders, including, as appropriate, through assistance for effective reintegration into the labour market and other support services;

(j) Encourage the voluntary participation of individuals with drug use disorders in treatment programmes, with informed consent, where consistent with national legislation, and develop and implement outreach programmes and campaigns, involving drug users in long-term recovery, where appropriate, to prevent social marginalization and promote non-stigmatizing attitudes, as well as to encourage drug users to seek treatment and care, and take measures to facilitate access to treatment and expand capacity;

(k) Promote and strengthen regional and international cooperation in developing and implementing treatment-related initiatives, enhance technical assistance and capacity-building and ensure non-discriminatory access to a broad range of interventions, including psychosocial, behavioural and medication-assisted treatment, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, as well as to rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery-support programmes, including access to such services in prisons and after imprisonment, giving special attention to the specific needs of women, children and youth in this regard;

(l) Develop and strengthen, as appropriate, the capacity of health, social and law enforcement and other criminal justice authorities to cooperate, within their mandates, in the implementation of comprehensive, integrated and balanced responses to drug abuse and drug use disorders, at all levels of government;

(m) Promote the inclusion in national drug policies, in accordance with national legislation and as appropriate, of elements for the prevention and treatment of drug overdose, in particular opioid overdose, including the use of opioid receptor antagonists such as naloxone to reduce drug-related mortality;

(n) Promote cooperation with and technical assistance to the States most affected by the transit of drugs in developing and implementing comprehensive and integrated policies to address, where appropriate, the impact of illicit drug trafficking on increasing drug use in such States, including by reinforcing national programmes aimed at prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation and social reintegration;

(o) Invite relevant national authorities to consider, in accordance with their national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, including in national prevention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures and programmes, in the context of comprehensive and balanced drug demand reduction efforts, effective measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, including appropriate medication-assisted therapy programmes, injecting equipment programmes, as well as antiretroviral therapy and other relevant interventions that prevent the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, as well as consider ensuring access to such interventions, including in treatment and outreach services, prisons and other custodial settings, and promoting in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

(p) Promote and implement the standards on the treatment of drug use disorders developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization and other relevant international standards, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation and the international drug control conventions, and provide guidance, assistance and training to health professionals on their appropriate use, and consider developing standards and accreditation for services at the domestic level to ensure qualified and scientific evidence-based responses;

(q) Intensify, as appropriate, the meaningful participation of and support and training for civil society organizations and entities involved in drug-related health and social treatment services, in accordance with national legislation and in the framework of integrated and coordinated national drug policies, and encourage efforts by

civil society and the private sector to develop support networks for prevention and treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration in a balanced and inclusive manner;

(r) Encourage the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen cooperation with the World Health Organization and other competent United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to strengthening health and social welfare measures in addressing the world drug problem, including through effective prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration, in cooperation, as appropriate, with civil society and the scientific community, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs appropriately updated.

## **Operational recommendations on ensuring the availability of and access to controlled substances exclusively for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion**

2. We reiterate our strong commitment to improving access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by appropriately addressing existing barriers in this regard, including those related to legislation, regulatory systems, health-care systems, affordability, the training of health-care professionals, education, awareness-raising, estimates, assessment and reporting, benchmarks for consumption of substances under control, and international cooperation and coordination, while concurrently preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, and we recommend the following measures:

(a) Consider reviewing, within the framework of national legal systems, domestic legislation and regulatory and administrative mechanisms, as well as procedures including domestic distribution channels, with the aim of simplifying and streamlining those processes and removing unduly restrictive regulations and impediments, where they exist, to ensure access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering, as required by the three international drug control conventions and defined by national legislation, while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, and encourage the exchange of information, lessons learned and best practices in designing and implementing regulatory, financial, educational, administrative and other related measures;

(b) Strengthen, as appropriate, the proper functioning of national control systems and domestic assessment mechanisms and programmes, in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations system agencies, to identify, analyse and remove impediments to the availability and accessibility of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, within appropriate

control mechanisms, as required by the three international drug control conventions and taking into account the publication entitled “Ensuring Balance in National Policies on Controlled Substances: Guidance for Availability and Accessibility of Controlled Medicines” and, for that purpose, consider the provision of technical and financial assistance, upon request, to developing countries;

(c) Expedite, in accordance with national legislation, the process of issuing import and export authorizations for controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by using the above-mentioned guidance and the International Import and Export Authorization System of the International Narcotics Control Board;

(d) Address, at the national and international levels, issues related to the affordability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while ensuring their quality, safety and efficacy, including limited financial resources and problems in sourcing with regard to these substances, including in cooperation, as appropriate, with the private sector through, inter alia and where needed, expanding the national coverage of distribution networks to rural areas, addressing the link with government regulations, licences and taxation and allowing appropriately trained and qualified professionals to prescribe, dispense and administer controlled medicines based on their general professional licence, as well as, where appropriate, the manufacture of generic pharmaceutical preparations that are bioequivalent and cost-effective;

(e) Take measures, in accordance with national legislation, to provide capacity-building and training, including with the support of relevant United Nations entities such as the World Health Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, targeted at competent national authorities and health-care professionals, including pharmacists, on adequate access to and use of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including the relief of pain and suffering, consider the development and wider implementation of relevant clinical guidelines on the rational use of controlled medicines, and conduct appropriate awareness-raising campaigns under the coordination of relevant national health authorities and in cooperation with other relevant stakeholders;

(f) Develop national supply management systems for controlled substances that comprise selection, quantification, procurement, storage, distribution and use, strengthen the capacity of competent national authorities to adequately estimate and assess the need for controlled substances and paying special attention to essential medicines, as defined by national legislation, taking due note of the *Guide on Estimating Requirements for Substances under International Control*,<sup>9</sup> and enhance domestic data-collection mechanisms in order to present the International Narcotics Control Board with estimates on the consumption of drugs used for medical and scientific purposes;

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<sup>9</sup>International Narcotics Control Board and World Health Organization (Vienna, 2012).

(g) Continue to regularly update the Model Lists of Essential Medicines of the World Health Organization, enhance collaboration among Member States and the treaty bodies with scheduling responsibilities, leading to informed and coordinated scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs that take due account of all relevant aspects to ensure that the objectives of the conventions are met, and review national lists of controlled substances and national lists of essential medicines, as appropriate.

### **Operational recommendations on supply reduction and related measures; effective law enforcement; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation**

3. We reiterate our commitment to protecting the safety and assuring the security of individuals, societies and communities by intensifying our efforts to prevent and counter the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as drug-related crime and violence, through, inter alia, more effective drug-related crime prevention and law enforcement measures, as well as by addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities, mindful of their social and economic causes and consequences, and we recommend the following measures:

#### **Prevention of drug-related crime**

(a) Strengthen multidisciplinary measures at the international, regional, national, and local and community levels to prevent drug-related crime, violence, victimization and corruption and foster social development and inclusiveness, integrate such measures into overall law enforcement efforts and comprehensive policies and programmes, and promote a culture of lawfulness, as described in the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation;<sup>10</sup>

(b) Promote comprehensive supply reduction efforts that include preventive measures addressing, inter alia, the criminal justice and socioeconomic-related factors that may facilitate, drive, enable and perpetuate organized crime and drug-related crime;

(c) Promote data collection, research and the sharing of information, as well as the exchange of best practices on preventing and countering drug-related crime and on drug supply reduction measures and practices, in order to enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses, within the framework of applicable law;

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<sup>10</sup>Resolution 70/174, annex.



## Countering illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

(d) Increase cooperation at all levels and enhance measures to prevent and significantly and measurably reduce or eliminate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including through eradication, within the framework of sustainable crop control strategies and measures;

(e) Monitor current trends and drug trafficking routes and share experiences, best practices and lessons learned, in order to prevent and counter the misuse of international trade for illicit drug-related activities, and note the success achieved through United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime operational initiatives, including initiatives aimed at countering the exploitation of freight containers for drug trafficking and at preventing and countering the diversion of precursors for illicit use and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, as well as other technical assistance activities;

(f) Promote and strengthen the exchange of information and, as appropriate, drug-related criminal intelligence among law enforcement and border control agencies, including through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime multilateral portals and regional information centres and networks, and promote joint investigations and coordinate operations, in conformity with national legislation, and training programmes at all levels, in order to identify, disrupt and dismantle organized criminal groups operating transnationally that are involved in any activities related to the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the diversion of their precursors and related money-laundering;

(g) Strengthen coordinated border management strategies, as well as the capacity of border control and law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, including through technical assistance, upon request, including and where appropriate, the provision of equipment and technology, along with necessary training and maintenance support, in order to prevent, monitor and counter trafficking in drugs, trafficking in precursors and other drug-related crimes such as trafficking in firearms, illicit financial flows, smuggling of bulk cash and money-laundering;

(h) Enhance the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in forensic science in the context of drug investigations, including the quality and capacity of drug analysis laboratories to gather, preserve and present forensic evidence to effectively prosecute drug-related offences through considering, inter alia, the provision of advanced detection equipment, scanners, testing kits, reference samples, forensic laboratories and training, as requested;

(i) Strengthen regional, subregional and international cooperation in criminal matters, as appropriate, including judicial cooperation in the areas of, inter alia, extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with the

international drug control conventions and other international legal instruments and national legislation, and strive to provide appropriate resources to national competent authorities, including through the provision of targeted technical assistance to requesting countries;

(j) Maximize the effectiveness of law enforcement measures against organized criminal groups and individuals involved in drug-related crimes, including by placing appropriate focus within our respective jurisdictions on those responsible for illicit activities of a larger scale or more serious nature;

**Addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities**

(k) Respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and money-laundering, and, in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, by using an integrated, multidisciplinary approach, such as through promoting and supporting reliable data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence- and analysis-sharing to ensure effective policymaking and interventions;

(l) Encourage the use of existing subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms to combat all forms of drug-related crime, wherever committed, including, in some cases, violent crimes related to gangs, including by enhancing international cooperation to successfully counter and dismantle organized criminal groups, including those operating transnationally;

(m) Strengthen national, regional and international measures and, as appropriate, rules and regulations aimed at enhancing operational cooperation to prevent transnational organized criminal networks involved in illicit drug-related activities from trafficking and acquiring firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, explosives and other related material;

(n) Consider ratifying or acceding to relevant international legal instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,<sup>11</sup> the United Nations Convention against Corruption<sup>12</sup> and the international conventions and protocols related to countering terrorism, and call upon States parties to take measures to more effectively implement those international legal instruments;

(o) Continue to foster international cooperation by implementing the provisions against money-laundering contained in all relevant international and multilateral

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<sup>11</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

instruments, such as the 1988 Convention, the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption and, in accordance with national legislation, the Financial Action Task Force Recommendations on money-laundering;<sup>13</sup>

(p) Strengthen and utilize existing and relevant regional, as appropriate, sub-regional and international networks for the exchange of operational information to prevent and counter money-laundering, illicit financial flows and terrorist financing;

(q) Develop and strengthen, as appropriate, mechanisms of domestic coordination and timely and efficient information-sharing between authorities involved in identifying and countering drug trafficking, diversion of precursors and related money-laundering, integrate financial investigations more thoroughly into interdiction operations to identify individuals and companies involved in such activities, and encourage, in accordance with national legislation, cooperation with the private sector, including financial institutions, designated non-financial businesses and professions, as well as providers of money or value transfer services, to identify suspicious transactions, with a view to further investigating and disrupting the drug trafficking business model;

(r) Enhance national, regional, subregional, interregional and international capacity to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, including, as appropriate, through detection, investigation and prosecution of such activities, with a view to effectively addressing safe havens, and identify and mitigate money-laundering risks linked to new technologies, as well as emerging money-laundering methods and techniques, by using, inter alia, existing United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime technical assistance tools;

(s) Develop and strengthen bilateral, subregional and international mechanisms to share information among competent authorities and promote their cooperation to effectively and in a timely manner identify, trace, freeze, seize and confiscate assets and proceeds of drug-related crime and ensure their disposal, including sharing, in accordance with the 1988 Convention, as well as their return, in appropriate drug-related corruption cases, in the framework of the Convention against Corruption, or, as appropriate, in cases of drug-related crimes involving transnational organized groups, consistent with the Organized Crime Convention; and encourage the timely sharing of operational information among relevant law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies and financial intelligence units;

(t) Promote effective measures capable of addressing the links between drug-related crimes and corruption, as well as obstruction of justice, including through the intimidation of justice officials, as a part of national anti-corruption and drug control strategies;

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<sup>13</sup> Financial Action Task Force, *International Standards on Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism and Proliferation* (Paris, 2015).

(u) Improve the availability and quality of statistical information and analysis of illicit drug cultivation, production and manufacturing, drug trafficking, money-laundering and illicit financial flows, including for appropriate reflection in reports of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact of such crimes and to further enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses in that regard.

## **Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, children, women and communities**

4. We reiterate our commitment to respecting, protecting and promoting all human rights, fundamental freedoms and the inherent dignity of all individuals and the rule of law in the development and implementation of drug policies, and we recommend the following measures:

### **Drugs and human rights, youth, women, children, vulnerable members of society, and communities**

(a) Enhance the knowledge of policymakers and the capacity, as appropriate, of relevant national authorities on various aspects of the world drug problem in order to ensure that national drug policies, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach, fully respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and protect the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, vulnerable members of society, communities and society as a whole, and to that end encourage cooperation with and among the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, including those relevant to the above-mentioned issues, and relevant regional and international organizations, as well as with civil society and the private sector, as appropriate;

(b) Ensure non-discriminatory access to health, care and social services in prevention, primary care and treatment programmes, including those offered to persons in prison or pretrial detention, which are to be on a level equal to those available in the community, and ensure that women, including detained women, have access to adequate health services and counselling, including those particularly needed during pregnancy;

(c) Promote effective supervision of drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities by competent domestic authorities to ensure adequate quality of drug treatment and rehabilitation services and to prevent any possible acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in accordance with domestic legislation and applicable international law;

(d) Continue to identify and address protective and risk factors, as well as the conditions that continue to make women and girls vulnerable to exploitation and

participation in drug trafficking, including as couriers, with a view to preventing their involvement in drug-related crime;

(e) Promote, in accordance with domestic legislation, effective coordination among the justice, education and law enforcement sectors and social services to ensure that the specific needs, including mental and physical needs, of underage drug offenders and children affected by drug-related crime are appropriately considered, including in criminal justice proceedings where required, including by providing those in need with drug treatment and related support services;

(f) Implement age-appropriate practical measures, tailored to the specific needs of children, youth and other vulnerable members of society, in the legislative, administrative, social, economic, cultural and educational sectors, including measures to provide them with opportunities for healthy and self-sustained lives, in order to prevent their abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and address their involvement, use and exploitation in the illicit cultivation of crops, production and manufacturing of and trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and other forms of drug-related crime, including urban crime, youth and gang-related violence and crime, fulfilling the obligations as States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>14</sup> and taking into account the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines);<sup>15</sup>

(g) Mainstream a gender perspective into and ensure the involvement of women in all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of drug policies and programmes, develop and disseminate gender-sensitive and age-appropriate measures that take into account the specific needs and circumstances faced by women and girls with regard to the world drug problem and, as States parties, implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;<sup>16</sup>

(h) Consider, on a voluntary basis, when furnishing information to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs pursuant to the three international drug control conventions and relevant Commission resolutions, the inclusion of information concerning, inter alia, the promotion of human rights and the health, safety and welfare of all individuals, communities and society in the context of their domestic implementation of these conventions, including recent developments, best practices and challenges;

(i) Ensure that measures to prevent the illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances respect fundamental human rights, take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historical evidence of such use, and of the protection of the environment, in accordance with the three

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<sup>14</sup>United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>15</sup>Resolution 45/112, annex.

<sup>16</sup>United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

international drug control conventions, and also take into account, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;<sup>17</sup>

**Proportionate and effective policies and responses, as well as legal guarantees and safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings and the justice sector**

(j) Encourage the development, adoption and implementation, with due regard for national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems, of alternative or additional measures with regard to conviction or punishment in cases of an appropriate nature, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and taking into account, as appropriate, relevant United Nations standards and rules, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Noncustodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules);<sup>18</sup>

(k) Consider sharing, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, information, lessons learned, experiences and best practices on the design, implementation and results of national criminal justice policies, including, as appropriate, domestic practices on proportional sentencing, related to the implementation of the three international drug control conventions, including article 3 of the 1988 Convention;

(l) Promote proportionate national sentencing policies, practices and guidelines for drug-related offences whereby the severity of penalties is proportionate to the gravity of offences and whereby both mitigating and aggravating factors are taken into account, including the circumstances enumerated in article 3 of the 1988 Convention and other relevant and applicable international law, and in accordance with national legislation;

(m) Enhance access to treatment of drug use disorders for those incarcerated and promote effective oversight and encourage, as appropriate, self-assessments of confinement facilities, taking into consideration the United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),<sup>19</sup> implement, where appropriate, measures aimed at addressing and eliminating prison overcrowding and violence, and provide capacity-building to relevant national authorities;

(n) Encourage the taking into account of the specific needs and possible multiple vulnerabilities of women drug offenders when imprisoned, in line with the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>17</sup>Resolution 61/295, annex.

<sup>18</sup>Resolution 45/110, annex.

<sup>19</sup>Resolution 70/175, annex.

<sup>20</sup>Resolution 65/229, annex.

(o) Promote and implement effective criminal justice responses to drug-related crimes to bring perpetrators to justice that ensure legal guarantees and due process safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings, including practical measures to uphold the prohibition of arbitrary arrest and detention and of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to eliminate impunity, in accordance with relevant and applicable international law and taking into account United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, and ensure timely access to legal aid and the right to a fair trial.

### **Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues in addressing and countering the world drug problem: evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats, including new psychoactive substances, in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments**

5. We reiterate our commitment to strengthening our efforts in addressing and countering emerging and persistent challenges and threats of all aspects of the world drug problem, and note the need to effectively respond to the evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances through comprehensive, integrated and balanced drug control policies and programmes that take into account their transnational implications and that are in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, and to strengthen our international, regional and subregional cooperation, and we recommend the following:

#### **Addressing new psychoactive substances, amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, the diversion of precursors and pre-precursors and the non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances**

We resolve to strengthen national and international action to address the emerging challenge of new psychoactive substances, including their adverse health consequences, and the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and underscore the importance of enhancing information-sharing and early warning networks, developing appropriate national legislative, prevention and treatment models and supporting scientific evidence-based review and scheduling of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful substances, we note the importance of preventing the diversion and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and precursors while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes, and we recommend the following measures:

(a) Encourage the development and implementation of, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, comprehensive measures and programmes, as

outlined in paragraph 1 of the present document, adapt those measures to the risks and challenges posed by the use of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and the non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and actively share information on best practices and lessons learned with regard to national health-related experiences;

(b) Enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies to detect and identify new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and promote cross-border cooperation and information-sharing to prevent their abuse and diversion, including through the use of existing International Narcotics Control Board and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime tools and projects;

(c) Establish and strengthen partnerships and information exchange with industries, in particular with chemical and pharmaceutical industries and other relevant private sector entities, and encourage the use of the *Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry*, issued by the International Narcotics Control Board, and the Board's model memorandum of understanding between Governments and private sector partners, as and where appropriate, bearing in mind the important role these industries can play in addressing and countering the world drug problem;

### **New psychoactive substances**

(d) Continue to identify and monitor trends in the composition, production, prevalence and distribution of new psychoactive substances, as well as patterns of use and adverse consequences, and assess the risks to health and safety of individuals and society as a whole and the potential uses of new psychoactive substances for medical and scientific purposes, and on that basis to develop and strengthen domestic and national legislative, regulatory, administrative and operational responses and practices by domestic and national legislative, law enforcement, judiciary, social and welfare, educational and health authorities;

(e) Commit to implementing timely, scientific evidence-based control or regulatory measures within national legislative and administrative systems to tackle and manage the challenge of new psychoactive substances, and consider the use of interim steps while substances are under review, such as provisional measures of control, or make public health announcements, as well as share information and expertise on those measures;

(f) Share relevant information with, as appropriate, and strengthen the capacity of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant international and regional organizations to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances and to facilitate informed scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;



(g) Actively participate in early warning networks and promote the use of relevant surveillance lists and voluntary controls and the sharing of information through the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization, within their respective mandates, and enhance bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances and, to that end, strengthen the use of national, regional and international established reporting and information exchange systems, such as, where appropriate, the early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances and the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Project Ion of the International Narcotics Control Board;

(h) Enhance the capacity and effectiveness of national laboratories and promote national and regional cooperation among them, as appropriate, for the detection and identification of new psychoactive substances, including through the use of existing United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime reference standards and assistance activities;

(i) Strengthen domestic information-sharing and promote information exchange at the regional and international levels on effective prevention and treatment and related legislative measures in order to support the development of effective, scientific evidence-based responses to the emerging challenge of new psychoactive substances with regard to their adverse social and health consequences;

### **Amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine**

(j) Support existing research, collection and scientific analysis of data related to amphetamine-type stimulants through the global SMART programme and relevant International Narcotics Control Board tools, such as Project Prism, and strengthen cooperation at all levels in tackling amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine;

(k) Promote the use, as appropriate, of relevant existing programmes, mechanisms and coordinated operations at all levels and continue the development and sharing of best practices and lessons learned among practitioners with regard to a balanced and integrated approach to the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants;

### **Precursors and pre-precursors**

(l) Strengthen national, regional and international monitoring of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and new psychoactive substances, with a view to more effectively preventing the diversion of and trafficking in those chemicals,

while ensuring that the legitimate trade in and use of those chemicals are not adversely affected, including by using national, subregional and international reporting systems and International Narcotics Control Board tools such as Project Prism, the Precursors Incident Communication System and Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online);

(*m*) Take appropriate measures to address the diversion and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in as well as misuse of precursors under international control and to tackle the misuse of pre-precursors and substitute or alternative precursors for illicit drug manufacturing, and enhance voluntary efforts, including voluntary codes of conduct in cooperation with relevant industries and commerce at the national, regional and international levels, including through the use of relevant International Narcotics Control Board tools;

#### **Non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals**

(*n*) Enhance the sharing of information on the misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and the quality and consistency of reported data, including through the annual report questionnaire of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(*o*) Develop and implement countermeasures and supportive public health, education and socioeconomic strategies to effectively address and counter the non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals that contain narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes, and promote national, subregional, regional and international cooperation to prevent their diversion, trafficking and abuse, including through the use of existing World Health Organization, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and International Narcotics Control Board projects and tools;

#### **Use of the Internet in relation to drug-related activities**

(*p*) Support research, data collection, analysis of evidence and sharing of information and strengthen law enforcement, criminal justice and legal responses, as well as international cooperation, to prevent and counter drug-related criminal activities using the Internet, consistent with relevant and applicable law;

(*q*) Increase the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building at all levels to Member States, upon request, to prevent and counter the use of technologies, including the Internet, by drug trafficking networks and transnational criminal organizations, to facilitate drug-related activities;

(*r*) Enhance the capacity of national authorities, in particular law enforcement authorities, to preserve and analyse electronic evidence related to illicit activities,

including drug trafficking and money-laundering, and to monitor sales of illicit drugs using the Internet;

(s) Encourage the use of the *Guidelines for Governments on Preventing the Illegal Sale of Internationally Controlled Substances through the Internet*,<sup>21</sup> as appropriate;

(t) Support measures on the use of the Internet for prevention purposes, including appropriate counselling and information provision, develop, implement and promote, in accordance with national legislation, prevention strategies, programmes and measures, including via social media and other social networks, aimed at, inter alia, protecting children and young people from the abuse of controlled substances and new psychoactive substances and from involvement in their illicit sale and purchase via the Internet, and enhance cooperation at all levels in that regard;

#### **Evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats**

(u) Promote, as appropriate, the use and analysis of relevant, reliable and objective data generated by national and regional monitoring and evaluation to improve the implementation of comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug control strategies, policies and programmes, in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, and encourage the sharing of best practices and lessons learned, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and other relevant regional and international organizations, within their mandates, to, inter alia, better understand both their domestic and transnational implications;

(v) Intensify efforts in the context of long-term and sustainable development programmes to address the most pressing drug-related socioeconomic factors, including unemployment and social marginalization, conducive to their subsequent exploitation by criminal organizations involved in drug-related crime;

(w) Encourage the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in cooperation with relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, to consider, as appropriate, reviewing existing guidelines and, where required, developing new ones on the various aspects of the world drug problem, with a view to enhancing the capacity of relevant national authorities and strengthening international and interagency cooperation;

(x) Promote exchange of information to better understand the extent of adverse impacts, including the health, social and economic and safety impacts, of

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<sup>21</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XI.6.

drug trafficking in small quantities in order to develop, where appropriate, effective responses to counter microtrafficking;

(y) Call upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other United Nations entities with pertinent technical and operational expertise, within their mandates, to continue to provide, upon request, advice and assistance to States that are reviewing and updating their drug policies, in compliance with the international drug control conventions, taking into account their national priorities and needs through, among others, the promotion of the exchange of information and best practices on scientific evidence-based policies adopted by States.

### **Operational recommendations on strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility**

6. We reiterate our commitment to supporting our efforts at all levels, based on common and shared responsibility, to effectively address and counter the world drug problem and to enhance international cooperation and, to that end, we recommend the following measures:

(a) Strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance, including, where appropriate, adequate financial assistance, training, capacity-building, equipment and technological know-how, to requesting countries, including transit countries, through and in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, to assist Member States to effectively address the health, socioeconomic, human rights, justice and law enforcement aspects of the world drug problem;

(b) Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation among Member States, in cooperation with the international development community and other key stakeholders, in order to effectively address and counter the world drug problem;

(c) Strengthen, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and, as appropriate, its subsidiary bodies, the regular exchange of information, good practices and lessons learned among national practitioners from different fields and at all levels to effectively implement an integrated and balanced approach to the world drug problem and its various aspects and consider additional measures to further facilitate meaningful discussion among those practitioners;

(d) Encourage the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to contribute to the global follow-up and support the thematic review of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, within its mandates, bearing in mind the integrated nature of the Goals

as well as the interlinkages between them, and make that information available to the high-level political forum on sustainable development through the appropriate institutional framework, taking into account General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015;

(e) Encourage the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further increase cooperation and collaboration with all relevant United Nations entities and international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, when assisting Member States in designing and implementing comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug strategies, policies and programmes.

### **Operational recommendations on alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues**

7. We reiterate our commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies, and we recommend the following measures:

#### **Socioeconomic issues and alternative development**

(a) Target the illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of drugs and address related factors by implementing comprehensive strategies aimed at alleviating poverty and strengthening the rule of law, accountable, effective and inclusive institutions and public services and institutional frameworks, as appropriate, and by promoting sustainable development aimed at enhancing the welfare of the affected and vulnerable population through licit alternatives;

(b) Encourage the promotion of inclusive economic growth and support initiatives that contribute to poverty eradication and the sustainability of social and economic development, develop measures for rural development, improving infrastructure and social inclusion and protection, addressing the consequences of illicit crop cultivation and the manufacture and production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on the environment, with the incorporation and participation of local communities, and consider taking voluntary measures to promote products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, to gain access to markets, consistent with applicable

multilateral trade rules and with national and international law, within the framework of comprehensive and balanced drug control strategies;

(c) Express concern that illicit cultivation of crops and illicit manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain serious challenges in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and recognize the need for strengthening sustainable crop control strategies that may include, inter alia, alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures, for the purpose of preventing and reducing significantly and measurably the illicit cultivation of crops, and the need for intensifying joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of appropriate preventive tools and measures, enhanced and better coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges;

(d) Consider elaborating and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, that support sustainable crop control strategies to prevent and significantly, durably and measurably reduce illicit crop cultivation and other illicit drug-related activities, ensuring the empowerment, ownership and responsibility of affected local communities, including farmers and their cooperatives, by taking into account the vulnerabilities and specific needs of communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant international organizations, bearing in mind national and regional development policies and action plans, with a view to contributing to the building of peaceful, inclusive and just societies, consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals and in compliance with relevant and applicable international and national law;

(e) Strengthen subregional, regional and international cooperation to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, as an essential part of successful prevention and crop control strategies to increase the positive outcome of such programmes, especially in the areas affected by and at risk of illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;<sup>22</sup>

(f) Strengthen regional and international cooperation to support sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders at the local, national and international levels, and to develop and share best practices towards implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,

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<sup>22</sup>Resolution 68/196, annex.

taking into account all the lessons learned and good practices, in particular by countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, and note, inter alia, the Second International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Thailand from 19 to 24 November 2015;

(g) Promote research by States, including through cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, academic institutions and civil society, to better understand factors contributing to illicit crop cultivation, taking into account local and regional specificities, and to improve impact assessment of alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, with a view to increasing the effectiveness of these programmes, including through the use of relevant human development indicators, criteria related to environmental sustainability and other measurements in line with the Sustainable Development Goals;

#### **Technical and financial cooperation for comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug policies and viable economic alternatives**

(h) Consider strengthening a development perspective as part of comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug policies and programmes so as to tackle the related causes and consequences of illicit cultivation, manufacture, production of and trafficking in drugs by, inter alia, addressing risk factors affecting individuals, communities and society, which may include a lack of services, infrastructure needs, drug-related violence, exclusion, marginalization and social disintegration, in order to contribute to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies;

(i) Urge relevant international financial institutions, United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to consider increasing their support, including through long-term and flexible funding, for the implementation of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives, in particular alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, based on identified needs and national priorities, for areas and populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, with a view to its prevention, reduction and elimination, and encourage States to the extent possible to stay strongly committed to financing such programmes;

(j) Encourage the development of viable economic alternatives, particularly for communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas, including through comprehensive alternative development programmes, and to this end consider development-oriented interventions, while ensuring that both men and women benefit equally from them, including through job opportunities, improved infrastructure and basic public services and, as appropriate, access and legal titles to land for farmers and local communities,

which will also contribute to preventing, reducing or eliminating illicit cultivation and other drug-related activities;

(k) Consider the development of sustainable urban development initiatives for those affected by illicit drug-related activities to foster public participation in crime prevention, community cohesion, protection and safety and to stimulate innovation, entrepreneurship and employment;

(l) Promote partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society and international financial institutions to create conditions more conducive to productive investments targeted at job creation in areas and among communities affected by or at risk of illicit drug cultivation, production, manufacturing, trafficking and other illicit drug-related activities in order to prevent, reduce or eliminate them, and share best practices, lessons learned, expertise and skills in this regard.

8. We express appreciation for the inclusive, transparent and open-ended preparatory process for the special session, led by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with the support, guidance and involvement of the President of the General Assembly, and for all contributions to this preparatory process.

9. We resolve to take the steps necessary to implement the above-listed operational recommendations, in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society, and to share with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, timely information on progress made in the implementation of these recommendations.



# **Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 High-Level Review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the Implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem**

We, the Ministers and government representatives participating in the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held in Vienna on 13 and 14 March 2014, gathering to undertake a midterm review of progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>1</sup> adopted during the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in 2009, and by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009,

1. *Are fully aware* that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced and comprehensive approach to supply and demand reduction strategies, and reaffirm our unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction, supply reduction and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>2</sup> and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States;

2. *Underscore* that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1953 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>3</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>4</sup> the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic

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<sup>1</sup>See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>2</sup>General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>3</sup>United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>4</sup>*Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

Substances of 1988<sup>5</sup> and other relevant international instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system, welcome the efforts made by States parties to comply with the provisions and ensure the effective implementation of those conventions, and urge all Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to those instruments;

3. *Reaffirm* our commitment to achieving the targets and goals, and implementing the provisions, set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem;<sup>1</sup>

4. *Reaffirm* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,<sup>6</sup> the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,<sup>7</sup> the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,<sup>8</sup> the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,<sup>9</sup> the Joint Ministerial Statement and further measures to implement the action plans emanating from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, adopted during the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,<sup>10</sup> and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;<sup>11</sup>

5. *Have undertaken* a high-level midterm review<sup>12</sup> of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action to determine the progress achieved and challenges faced in its implementation and recommit to effectively addressing the world drug problem;

6. *Recognize* that, 15 years after the commitments made at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly to address the world drug problem, notwithstanding the ever-increasing efforts and progress made by States, relevant international organizations and civil society, the drug problem continues to pose a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity, in particular youth, our most precious asset;

7. *Also recognize* that the world drug problem undermines sustainable development, political stability and democratic institutions, including efforts to eradicate poverty,

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

<sup>6</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

<sup>7</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.

<sup>8</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.

<sup>9</sup> General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex.

<sup>10</sup> A/58/124, sect. II.A.

<sup>11</sup> General Assembly resolution 68/196, annex.

<sup>12</sup> As defined in the Political Declaration of 2009 and reconfirmed in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/12.

and threatens national security and the rule of law, and that drug trafficking and abuse pose a major threat to the health, dignity and hopes of millions of people and their families and lead to the loss of human lives;

8. *Reaffirm* our determination to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity;

9. *Express deep concern* at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families in countering the world drug problem, and pay special tribute to the law enforcement and judicial personnel who have sacrificed their lives and to the health-care and civil society personnel who have dedicated themselves to addressing this phenomenon;

10. *Recognize* that many challenges of the world drug problem have persisted and new ones have emerged in some parts of the world, and underscore the need to take these new trends into account in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

11. *Take note* of the ongoing discussions in some regions on how to address the world drug problem, in the light of the current situation and policies, and emphasize the importance of a broad, transparent, inclusive and scientific evidence-based discussion among Member States, with inputs from other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, in multilateral settings, on the most effective ways to counter the world drug problem consistent with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, in order to further implement the commitments and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

12. *Also take note* of the ongoing process to elaborate the post-2015 development agenda of the United Nations, bearing in mind relevant aspects of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, together with efforts of Member States in the implementation of the objectives and goals thereof;

13. *Reaffirm* the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policy-making body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, also reaffirm our support and appreciation for the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for countering the world drug problem, and further reaffirm the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization;

14. *Call for* continued cooperation between Member States, the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization to ensure the adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control, including opiates, for medical and scientific purposes, while concurrently preventing

their diversion into illicit channels, pursuant to the international drug control conventions, and to provide recommendations on the scheduling of substances;

15. *Welcome* the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in addressing the world drug problem, note with appreciation their important contribution to the review process, and note that representatives of affected populations and civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation and implementation of drug demand and supply reduction policy;

16. *Also welcome* the decision of the General Assembly<sup>13</sup> to convene, in early 2016, a special session on the world drug problem, following the present high-level review of the progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, and look forward to the proposals to be submitted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the United Nations organ with the prime responsibility for drug control matters, issuing from its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions;

### **General achievements**

17. *Note* that, based on the information available and reported by Member States, the global illicit supply and demand of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control have remained largely stable during the past five years, while trends in drug supply and demand have been unequal across regions and countries and according to drug type,<sup>14</sup> and acknowledge that appropriate policies and measures aimed at more efficient use of limited resources are necessary to effectively address the world drug problem;

18. *Also note* that several Member States in different parts of the world have achieved tangible and measurable progress in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the scientific community;

19. *Acknowledge* that Member States have achieved tangible progress in countering the world drug problem with regard to improved understanding of the problem, the elaboration and implementation of national strategies to tackle the problem in an increasing number of countries, capacity-building initiatives for national competent authorities, the review and updating of legal frameworks, the creation and strengthening of capacities within law enforcement and health institutions, and improved mechanisms for international cooperation;

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<sup>13</sup>General Assembly resolution 67/193.

<sup>14</sup>See *World Drug Report 2013* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.6).

20. *Take note* of the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-sixth session,<sup>15</sup> the *World Drug Report 2013*<sup>16</sup> of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the annual report of the International Narcotics Control Board,<sup>17</sup> and call upon Member States to strengthen international and regional cooperation and coordination to counter the threat to the international community caused by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, especially those in the opium group, as well as other aspects of the world drug problem, and to continue to take concerted measures within the framework of the Paris Pact initiative<sup>18</sup> and other relevant regional and international initiatives and mechanisms, such as the Heart of Asia initiative, in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchange with a view to countering drug trafficking with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

21. *Welcome* the ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation in combating illicit trafficking in drugs, addressing supply, demand and the diversion of precursor chemicals, undertaken by regional organizations and transregional initiatives such as the members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Triangular Initiative, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism and other relevant subregional and regional organizations and initiatives, including the counter-narcotics strategy of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization for the period 2011-2016, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States, the European pact to combat international drug trafficking, the European pact against synthetic drugs, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Senior Officials on Drug Matters workplan to combat illicit drug production, trafficking and use (2009-2015) with the aim of achieving a drug-free South-East Asia by 2015 and the South American Council on the World Drug Problem of the Union of South American Nations, as well as the recent intensification of partnering between the States members of the Caribbean Community, the Dominican Republic and the United States of America within the framework of the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, which aims, inter alia, to substantially reduce illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, the Accra declaration,<sup>19</sup> adopted at the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held in Accra from 25 to 29 June 2012, and the thirtieth International Drug Enforcement Conference, held in Moscow from 5 to 7 June 2013;

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<sup>15</sup>See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 8 (E/2013/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>16</sup>United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.6.

<sup>17</sup>E/INCB/2012/1.

<sup>18</sup>See S/2003/641, annex.

<sup>19</sup>Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/2, annex.

## General challenges and priorities for action

22. *Note with concern*, while acknowledging the progress made by Member States, that some continuing and emerging challenges of the world drug problem may hinder our common efforts to achieve the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, and call upon all Member States and relevant stakeholders to further strengthen their practical implementation;

23. *Underscore* that both the persistent and the new challenges in countering the world drug problem related to drug demand and supply reduction and to countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation remain a common and shared responsibility and should continue to be addressed in a comprehensive, integrated and balanced manner, in full conformity with the three international drug control conventions and fully consistent with applicable international human rights obligations, on both the drug demand and supply reduction sides, and urge Member States and all relevant stakeholders to further consolidate their efforts in order to achieve the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action by addressing those challenges, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, as well as all human rights, fundamental freedoms and the inherent dignity of all individuals;

24. *Also underscore* the need to respond to shifting trafficking routes and new drug trafficking trends, including Internet-based e-commerce and mail-order services;

25. *Note* the importance of an integrated approach in drug policies, including by strengthening the partnerships between public health, justice and law enforcement sectors and facilitating inter-agency cooperation and communication, where appropriate;

26. *Express* the need for a better understanding of the social and economic drivers of the world drug problem;

27. *Note* the emerging challenge of polydrug abuse in some regions;

28. *Are concerned* that amphetamine-type stimulants continue to pose a serious and evolving challenge to international drug control efforts;

29. *Encourage* Member States, in cooperation, as appropriate, with relevant stakeholders, to endeavour to ensure that measures taken at the national and local levels in response to economic and financial constraints do not disproportionately impact the implementation of comprehensive and balanced drug demand and supply reduction policies, including adequate provisions of related health measures, in accordance with national legislation, as well as sufficient efforts for supply reduction;

30. *Highlight* the need to continue providing technical assistance to Member States so as to enhance capacity in countering the world drug problem, upon their request; to

establish and further improve national drug control strategies and measures; to promote more targeted capacity-building initiatives based on scientific evidence for competent national authorities; to review and update legal frameworks and law enforcement institutions, taking into account applicable international human rights obligations; to improve existing mechanisms for international cooperation; and to foster the development of national monitoring systems and statistics to elaborate proper data collection and analysis that allow for the identification of current trends, institutional capacities and the effects of drug control measures;

31. *Call on* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime<sup>20</sup> and, as appropriate, the Protocols thereto<sup>21</sup> and States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption<sup>22</sup> to make more effective use of the relevant provisions for international cooperation contained in those conventions, in order to counter some aspects of the world drug problem;

32. *Welcome* the measures taken so far and stress the need to continue to improve the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order for the Office to fulfil its mandates effectively, efficiently and with the appropriate resources;

33. *Identify* the following achievements, challenges and priorities for further action in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action:

## **A. Demand reduction and related measures**

### **Achievements**

1. *Recognize* that drug addiction is a health problem and that many Member States have adopted national drug strategies with drug demand reduction components that include primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration measures, as well as measures aimed at minimizing the public health and social consequences of drug abuse, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, and aimed at monitoring and researching the drug situation, and encourage Member States that have not yet done so to consider the development, adoption and effective implementation of such strategies, in accordance with national policies and legislation, as well as their timely evaluation, review and strengthening, as appropriate;

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<sup>20</sup>United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>21</sup>*Ibid.*, vols. 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>22</sup>*Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

2. *Note* that some Member States, within their national drug control strategies, are expanding access to prevention, treatment, diagnosis, care and support services relating to HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases for people who inject drugs, and also note that those States that have implemented the interventions outlined in the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide*<sup>23</sup> and, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation, have remarkably reduced the number of HIV infections, with some countries approaching the elimination of injecting drug use-related transmission of HIV;

3. *Also note* that various Member States, within their legal frameworks and in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, as well as other relevant international laws, have implemented comprehensive drug demand reduction programmes for offenders, particularly children, and have also provided, within their national strategies, a broad range of alternatives to conviction and punishment in appropriate drug-related cases of a minor nature or in cases in which the person who abuses drugs has committed an offence as outlined in the relevant provisions of the international drug control conventions;

4. *Take note* of the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close cooperation with Member States, and encourage the further development of the International Standards on the basis of scientific evidence, as well as their effective implementation;

5. *Welcome* efforts made by several Member States to develop combined public education and law enforcement initiatives to address the rise of drug abuse;

### **Challenges and priorities for action**

6. *Consider* as main challenges in addressing the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances the need to increase focus on, in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and the fundamental principles of domestic legal systems and national legislation of Member States, drug-related health effects, taking into account the specific challenges faced by vulnerable groups, such as children, adolescents, vulnerable youth, women, including pregnant women, people with medical and psychiatric co-morbidities, ethnic minorities and socially marginalized individuals, and to further promote and strengthen effective national drug control strategies based on scientific evidence, with components for drug demand reduction that include primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, recovery and social

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<sup>23</sup> *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users: 2012 Revision* (Geneva, World Health Organization, 2012).



reintegration, as well as measures aimed at minimizing the public health and social consequences of drug abuse;

7. *Highlight* the need for Member States to formulate and implement, where appropriate, a broad system of primary prevention and early intervention based on scientific evidence, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention and other measures, including educational activities and interactive campaigns;

8. *Reaffirm* the need to further strengthen public health systems, particularly in the areas of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, as part of a comprehensive and balanced approach to demand reduction based on scientific evidence;

9. *Highlight* the need to develop or continue strengthening, within a comprehensive national drug control strategy, national monitoring mechanisms that collect and analyse data on current trends in illicit demand for drugs, including on possible gaps in the provision of appropriate public health, educational and social services, and call upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant United Nations entities and international organizations to support, upon request, those efforts, in cooperation with Member States;

10. *Invite* Member States to further undertake measures required to ensure access for all to comprehensive drug demand reduction measures, taking into account the specific needs of women and children and the circumstances they face with regard to drug problems, so that they benefit equally and without discrimination from those measures, and encourage the continuation of international cooperation in that regard;

11. *Reiterate* our commitment to reducing the transmission of HIV among injecting drug users by 50 per cent by 2015, in line with the agreed international targets of the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS,<sup>24</sup> and note that available evidence indicates that further efforts are required to achieve the Declaration's global target;

12. *Encourage* Member States, in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation, to consider providing, as appropriate, the measures aimed at minimizing the negative public health and social impacts of drug abuse that are outlined in the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide*, and also encourage, where appropriate, bilateral, regional and international cooperation to address that challenge;

13. *Underscore* the need to deepen knowledge of the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances, and highlight the need to develop comprehensive and

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<sup>24</sup>General Assembly resolution 65/277, annex.

integrated approaches to the detection, analysis and identification of new psychoactive substances, trends and possible negative health and other impacts of those substances, in close cooperation with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other relevant international organizations and global and regional cooperation frameworks;

14. *Note with concern* that the availability of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, particularly for the relief of pain and for palliative care, remains low to non-existent in many countries of the world, and highlight the need for Member States, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization, as appropriate, to address that situation by promoting measures to ensure their availability and accessibility for medical and scientific purposes, in accordance with national legislation, while simultaneously preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to realize the aims of the three international drug control conventions;

## **B. Supply reduction and related measures**

### **Achievements**

15. *Note with appreciation* the progress made with respect to measures related to the illicit production and supply of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, while ensuring their availability exclusively for medical and scientific purposes, and underscore that the world drug problem continues to be a major problem in many parts of the world and hinders socioeconomic development and the well-being of people;

16. *Welcome* the efforts made by various Member States to significantly reduce the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and the manufacture of psychotropic substances, within the framework of sustainable crop control measures, including eradication, law enforcement measures and development strategies such as alternative development, including preventive alternative development programmes, where they have been applied, as well as other successful national strategies, in accordance with the international drug control conventions;

17. *Recognize* the efforts of Member States in developing law enforcement techniques in their drug control efforts through, inter alia, the exchange of information and best practices, as well as regional and international coordination, capacity-building and, in some cases, cross-border operations and maritime control;

18. *Also recognize* the efforts made by interested Member States in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to adjust their monitoring systems by taking into account country-specific conditions, in order to assess progress in preventing, eliminating or reducing significantly and measurably the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and to ensure the comparability of statistics, in order to allow for better assessment of progress towards achieving the targets set in the plan of action of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem;

19. *Welcome* the adoption of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, and encourage interested Member States, international organizations, international financial institutions, donors and other relevant stakeholders to be guided by those guiding principles when designing and implementing alternative development programmes, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development;

20. *Recognize* the progress made in the development of a consolidated international response to the increasing availability of new psychoactive substances that may pose risks to public health and safety, including the development of a global reference point, the early warning advisory and cooperation with Member States and relevant regional organizations in the identification and reporting of such substances, in order to increase data collection, improve our collective understanding and find effective policy responses, and acknowledge the continuing efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance the capacity of Member States and improve the application of the international scheduling process, in collaboration with the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board;

21. *Acknowledge* the significant progress achieved by Member States in cooperation with relevant international organizations and United Nations bodies, in particular the International Narcotics Control Board, in the sphere of precursors control, welcome those joint efforts, supported by utilization of Pre-Export Notification Online, which has significantly increased the effectiveness of those joint efforts in reducing the diversion of precursors controlled under the 1988 Convention from international trade channels, and call on Member States that have not yet done so to consider making full use of Pre-Export Notification Online;

### **Challenges and priorities for action**

22. *Acknowledge* that law enforcement measures alone cannot address those challenges, and recognize the importance of promoting a comprehensive and balanced approach for a successful response;

23. *Also acknowledge* the need to scientifically evaluate, where appropriate, drug supply reduction measures, in order to direct government resources to initiatives that have proved to be successful in tackling the causes of the world drug problem;

24. *Stress* the urgent need to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and, in some cases, terrorism and money-laundering, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, and to the significant challenges faced by law enforcement and judicial authorities in responding to the ever-changing means used by transnational criminal organizations to avoid detection and prosecution;

25. *Recognize* that the effective application of and respect for the rule of law contributes to combating the world drug problem and facilitates efforts to hold drug traffickers and perpetrators of related crimes accountable for their actions;

26. *Reiterate* the need to strengthen international cooperation to support sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, where appropriate, as an essential part of successful crop control strategies, in order to increase the positive outcome of such programmes, especially in areas affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

27. *Also reiterate* the need to develop sustainable crop control strategies consistent with domestic legal frameworks, giving appropriate attention to alternative development as an essential part of those strategies, in accordance with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, with a view to developing products, through alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, identified on the basis of market demand and value-added production chains, including those referred to in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 55/8 of 16 March 2012 and resolution 56/15 of 15 March 2013, entitled “Follow-up to the Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem with respect to the development of strategies on voluntary marketing tools for products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development”;

28. *Underscore* the need to identify and better understand the new and increasing challenge of potentially dangerous new psychoactive substances that are emerging at a rapid rate, taking into account that information and communication technologies are a facilitator of their distribution, and stress the need to strengthen cooperation by collecting and sharing data on the production, distribution and effects of those substances;

29. *Encourage* Member States to monitor trends emerging in some regions in the import, export and distribution of some synthetic opioid analgesics not under international control, in particular tramadol, which is used in many countries for the effective treatment of moderate to severe pain, to monitor patterns in the non-medical use and misuse of those substances within their national borders and to continue, together with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant organizations, sharing and exchanging information on those emerging trends and patterns through bilateral and multilateral channels, while considering appropriate measures in accordance with national legislation aimed at preventing and reducing the non-medical use and misuse, the supply from illicit sources and the diversion of those substances, while ensuring their availability for medical and scientific purposes;

30. *Highlight* the need for Member States to work more closely with the International Narcotics Control Board by exchanging information on trafficking in precursor chemicals and other non-scheduled substances used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, including on new methods for their diversion, as mandated in article 12, paragraph 12, of the 1988 Convention, and to increase monitoring of trade in non-scheduled substances listed in the Board's limited international special surveillance list of non-scheduled substances, and encourage Governments to adopt the concept of industry as a critical partner in preventing the diversion of precursor chemicals and facilitating the identification of suspicious transactions of non-scheduled substances in order to prevent their use in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

31. *Note* that the diversion of precursor chemicals, including pharmaceutical preparations containing those chemicals, continues to be a major challenge in curbing the illicit production and manufacture of drugs, and emphasize the need to further strengthen control of precursor chemicals by Member States, as appropriate, including through the extensive use of tools prepared by the International Narcotics Control Board, such as Pre-Export Notification Online and the online Precursors Incident Communication System, the development of voluntary codes of conduct in cooperation with concerned industries and other relevant companies, the strengthening of public-private partnerships and enhanced international cooperation;

32. *Express concern* that illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant and illicit drug production, manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain a major challenge in countering the world drug problem, and recognize the need for strengthening sustainable crop control strategies that include, inter alia, alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures for the purpose of reducing significantly and measurably the illicit cultivation of such crops, and the need for intensifying joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the

principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of appropriate preventive tools and measures, enhanced and better coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges;

33. *Recognize* the significant role played by countries with accumulated experience in alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in promoting best practices and lessons learned from such programmes, and invite them to continue sharing those best practices with States affected by the illicit cultivation of crops, with a view to using them, where appropriate, in accordance with the national specificities of each State;

34. *Stress* the need to further strengthen international cooperation and the need for enhanced development-oriented approaches that implement measures for rural development, strengthen local governance and institutions, improve access to legal markets and infrastructure, promote the participation of local communities and consider the participation of multilateral and bilateral development agencies in the design and implementation of policies and programmes for alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, in accordance with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

35. *Recognize* that transit States continue to face multifaceted challenges, and reaffirm the continuing need for cooperation and support, including the provision of technical assistance, to, inter alia, enhance their capacities to counter the world drug problem, in conformity with the 1988 Convention and on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility;

36. *Also recognize* the need to improve international cooperation in relation to the monitoring and interdiction of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking, including through the timely exchange of information consistent with national law and procedures; by intensifying, as appropriate, law enforcement cooperation such as border control, including where possible joint border control measures; by strengthening maritime control cooperation; and, upon request by Member States, through the provision of related drug control equipment and the development of new practical measures to effectively monitor and interdict drug trafficking and enable the effective disruption of those organizations;

37. *Acknowledge* that in many Member States integrated supply reduction strategies have been adopted, often complemented by comprehensive strategies against organized crime that include components against drug trafficking, and acknowledge the active efforts of Member States, at both the national and international levels, to combat illicit cultivation of crops and illicit drug production, manufacture, distribution and trafficking, as well as other drug-related crimes;

## **C. Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation**

### **Achievements**

38. *Acknowledge* the efforts made by States parties in the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and, as appropriate, the Protocols thereto and of the Convention against Corruption, which constitute valuable tools for confronting some aspects of the world drug problem, note with appreciation the increasing level of adherence to those conventions, and call on Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to those conventions;

39. *Also acknowledge* the importance of international, regional and subregional cooperation as an effective measure against money-laundering and the importance of structuring domestic regulatory and supervisory systems and mechanisms using international initiatives in that area as guidelines, where appropriate;

40. *Recognize* that regional and international frameworks have effectively promoted the implementation of international standards contributing to the fight against money-laundering and other financial crimes and have built trust among officials, leading to a better understanding of their respective legal and procedural requirements;

### **Challenges and priorities**

41. *Express concern* over the many challenges encountered in addressing money-laundering, acknowledge that the value of confiscated proceeds of crime related to money-laundering activities at the global level remains low, and therefore continue to underscore the need for increased availability of information on proceeds of crime resulting from transnational organized crime, in order to enhance the capacity of Member States to prevent and combat money-laundering arising from drug trafficking;

42. *Reaffirm* the need for Member States to review and, if necessary, strengthen coordinated measures, enhance capacity-building to combat money-laundering arising from drug trafficking and improve judicial cooperation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels, to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking, in order to provide for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of the perpetrators of such crimes;

43. *Underscore* the need to strengthen national, regional and international networks for the exchange of operational information in compliance with national legislation and procedures among the relevant authorities, in order to facilitate the detection, seizure and confiscation of proceeds of drug trafficking and related crimes and criminal asset recovery;

44. *Urge* Member States, in their efforts to combat the laundering of money derived from illicit drug trafficking and other serious crimes, to continue to foster international cooperation by implementing the provisions against money-laundering contained in all relevant international instruments, such as the 1988 Convention, the Organized Crime Convention, the Convention against Corruption and, in accordance with national legislation, the Forty Recommendations on Money-Laundering of the Financial Action Task Force, within its mandate, and by, among other things, establishing new or strengthening existing domestic legislative frameworks to criminalize the laundering of money derived from drug trafficking, trafficking in and diversion of precursors and other serious crimes of a transnational nature in order to provide for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of money-laundering by, inter alia, ensuring that legal provisions in compliance with due process of law, such as banking secrecy laws, do not needlessly hinder the effectiveness of national and international systems for countering money-laundering and do not constitute grounds for the refusal of mutual legal assistance and by making money-laundering an extraditable offence, in accordance with national legislation, including by recognizing the widest range of predicate offences;

45. *Promote*, where appropriate, in the framework of international cooperation, the use of law enforcement techniques, including special investigative techniques such as controlled delivery and lawful electronic surveillance, undercover operations or cooperating defendants, consistent with national legislation and international law, including applicable human rights obligations, in order to ensure that drug traffickers are brought to justice and that major criminal organizations are disrupted and dismantled.



# Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

## Political Declaration

One decade after the commitments made at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly<sup>1</sup> to address the world drug problem,<sup>2</sup> notwithstanding the ever-increasing efforts and progress made by States, relevant international organizations and civil society, the drug problem continues to pose a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity, in particular youth, our most precious asset. Furthermore, the world drug problem undermines sustainable development, political stability and democratic institutions, including efforts to eradicate poverty, and threatens national security and the rule of law. Drug trafficking and abuse pose a major threat to the health, dignity and hopes of millions of people and their families and lead to the loss of human lives. We are determined to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity; therefore:

*We, the States Members of the United Nations,*

*Gravely concerned* about the growing threat posed by the world drug problem, having assembled, in a spirit of trust and cooperation, at the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to decide on future priorities and urgent action to counter the world drug problem beyond 2009, and mindful of the important lessons learned from the implementation of the Political Declaration, action plans and guidelines adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session with the aim of achieving measurable results,

*Fully aware* that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that requires effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

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<sup>1</sup> See General Assembly resolutions S-20/2, S-20/3 and S-20/4 A to E.

<sup>2</sup> The illicit cultivation, production, manufacture, sale, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including amphetamine-type stimulants, the diversion of precursors and related criminal activities.

1. *Reaffirm* our unwavering commitment to ensure that all aspects of demand reduction, supply reduction and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>3</sup> and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States;

2. *Reaffirm also* that the ultimate goal of both demand and supply reduction strategies and sustainable development strategies is to minimize and eventually eliminate the availability and use of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances in order to ensure the health and welfare of humankind and encourage the exchange of best practices in demand and supply reduction, and emphasize that each strategy is ineffective in the absence of the other;

3. *Assert* that the world drug problem is most effectively addressed in a multilateral setting and that the three international drug control conventions<sup>4</sup> and other relevant international instruments remain the cornerstone of the international drug control system, and urge all Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to those instruments;

4. *Support* the traditional and established supplier countries in maintaining a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opioids and opiate raw materials used for medical and scientific purposes;

5. *Reaffirm* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,<sup>5</sup> the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,<sup>6</sup> the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,<sup>7</sup> the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction<sup>8</sup> and the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted during the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>4</sup> The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1953 as amended by the 1972 Protocol (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152), the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (*ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956) and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (*ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627).

<sup>5</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

<sup>6</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.

<sup>7</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.

<sup>8</sup> General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex.

<sup>9</sup> A/58/124, sect. II.A.

6. *Recall also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>10</sup> the provisions of the 2005 World Summit Outcome<sup>11</sup> addressing the world drug problem, the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS<sup>12</sup> and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 63/197 of 18 December 2008 and those on regional and international cooperation to prevent the diversion and smuggling of precursors;

7. *Note* the commemoration, in Shanghai, China, on 26 and 27 February 2009, of the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission;

8. *Express deep concern* at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families in the fight against the world drug problem, and pay special tribute to the law enforcement and judicial personnel who have sacrificed their lives and to the health-care and civil society personnel who have dedicated themselves to addressing this scourge;

9. *Acknowledge* the important contribution made by women in curbing the world drug problem, commit ourselves to ensuring that drug control policies, measures and interventions take into account the specific needs and circumstances that women face with regard to drug problems, and decide to undertake effective measures to ensure that women, as well as men, have access to, and benefit equally and without discrimination from, drug control policies and strategies by involving them actively in all stages of programme and policy development and implementation;

10. *Welcome* the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in addressing the world drug problem, and note with appreciation their important contribution to the review process, also noting that representatives of affected populations and civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation and implementation of drug demand and supply reduction policy;

11. *Welcome also* the reports of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the world drug problem, the annual *World Drug Report* and the annual report of the International Narcotics Control Board and, on the basis of those reports, recognize that some progress has been made, through positive achievements, at the local, regional and international levels in implementing the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session but also recognize that there are still considerable challenges, as well as emerging challenges, to efforts to sustainably reduce, or at least effectively contain, illicit drug production, trafficking and consumption;

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<sup>10</sup> See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

<sup>11</sup> See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

<sup>12</sup> General Assembly resolution 60/262, annex.

12. *Acknowledge* the continuing efforts made and progress achieved in countering the world drug problem, note with great concern the unprecedented surge in illicit opium production and trafficking, the continuing illicit cocaine manufacture and trafficking, the increasing illicit cannabis production and trafficking and the increasing diversion of precursors, as well as the related distribution and use of illicit drugs, and stress the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle those global challenges in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of a common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better coordinated technical and financial assistance;

13. *Agree* that amphetamine-type stimulants and psychotropic substances continue to pose a serious and constantly evolving challenge to international drug control efforts, which threatens the security, health and welfare of the population, especially youth, and requires a focused and comprehensive national, regional and global response, based on scientific evidence and experience, in an international and multisectoral setting;

14. *Decide* to continue to raise public awareness of the risks and the threats posed to all societies by the different aspects of the world drug problem;

15. *Take account* of the need for indicators and instruments for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable and comparable data on all relevant aspects of the world drug problem and, where appropriate, the enhancement or development of new indicators and instruments, and recommend that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs take further measures to address that issue;

16. *Reaffirm* the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies, together with the International Narcotics Control Board, as the United Nations organs with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and decide to promote and facilitate the effective implementation of and follow-up to the present Political Declaration and its Plan of Action;

17. *Reaffirm also* our support and appreciation for the efforts of the United Nations, including those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for countering the world drug problem, reiterate our intention to continue to improve the governance and financial situation of the Office, stressing the need for adequate and stable financial resources to enable the Office to fulfil its mandates effectively, and request the Office to continue its efforts to carry out all its mandates under the international drug control conventions, as well as other relevant international instruments, and to continue to cooperate with relevant regional and international institutions and Governments by providing, inter alia, technical assistance to Member States that request it;

18. *Reaffirm further* the leading role of the International Narcotics Control Board, as an independent treaty-based body, in monitoring the implementation of the international drug control conventions, in accordance with its mandate, including the control of

substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, welcome the annual reports of the Board and support the Board in implementing all its mandates under those conventions;

19. *Call for* continued cooperation between Member States, the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization to ensure the adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control, including opiates, for medical and scientific purposes, while concurrently preventing their diversion into illicit channels, pursuant to the international drug control conventions;

20. *Note with great concern* the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, reaffirm our commitment to tackle those problems in the context of comprehensive, complementary and multisectoral drug demand reduction strategies, in particular such strategies targeting youth, also note with great concern the alarming rise in the incidence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among injecting drug users, reaffirm our commitment to work towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes and treatment, care and related support services, in full compliance with the international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, taking into account all relevant General Assembly resolutions and, when applicable, the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide*,<sup>13</sup> and request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to carry out its mandate in this area in close cooperation with relevant organizations and programmes in the United Nations system, such as the *World Health Organization*, the United Nations Development Programme and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

21. *Reiterate* our commitment to promote, develop, review or strengthen effective, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and related support services, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, taking into account the particular challenges posed by high-risk drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, and commit ourselves to investing increased resources in ensuring access to those interventions on a non-discriminatory basis, including in detention facilities, bearing in mind that those interventions should also consider vulnerabilities that undermine human development, such as poverty and social marginalization;

22. *Reaffirm*, consistent with the objective of promoting a society free of drug abuse, our determination, within the framework of national, regional and international

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<sup>13</sup> *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users* (World Health Organization, Geneva, 2009).

strategies, to counter the world drug problem and to take effective measures to emphasize and facilitate healthy, productive and fulfilling alternatives to the illicit consumption of drugs, which must not become accepted as a way of life;

23. *Reaffirm also* our commitment to invest in and work with youth in a range of settings, including in families, schools, workplaces and communities, by raising public awareness and providing youth with information, skills and opportunities to choose healthy lifestyles, taking into account the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, and working in coordination with the United Nations Programme on Youth of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat;

24. *Recognize that:*

(a) Sustainable crop control strategies targeting the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances require international cooperation based on the principle of shared responsibility and an integrated and balanced approach, taking into account the rule of law and, where appropriate, security concerns, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(b) Such crop control strategies include, inter alia:

(i) Alternative development and, where appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes;

(ii) Eradication;

(iii) Law enforcement measures;

(c) Such crop control strategies should be in full conformity with article 14 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,<sup>14</sup> appropriately coordinated and phased in accordance with national policies in order to achieve the sustainable eradication of illicit crops, noting furthermore the need for Member States to undertake to increase long-term investment in such strategies, coordinated with other development measures, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication in affected rural areas, taking due account of the traditional licit uses of crops where there is historical evidence of such use and giving due consideration to the protection of the environment;

25. *Reiterate* our commitment to promote and implement balanced policies and strategies on precursor control with a view to preventing the diversion of precursors used in

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<sup>14</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

the illicit manufacture of drugs while ensuring that the legitimate trade in and use of those precursors are not adversely affected;

26. *Emphasize* that continued and persistent national, regional and international efforts based on improved understanding of the problem through the examination of scientific evidence and the sharing of experiences, forensic data and information are essential to preventing the diversion of precursors and other substances under international control that are used in the illicit production and manufacturing of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including amphetamine-type stimulants;

27. *Express deep concern* at the growing violence resulting from activities of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking, and call for urgent measures to prevent those organizations from acquiring the means, in particular firearms and ammunition, to pursue their criminal activities;

28. *Stress* the urgent need to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in humans, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and, in some cases, terrorism and money-laundering, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, and to the significant challenges faced by law enforcement and judicial authorities in responding to the ever-changing means used by transnational criminal organizations to avoid detection and prosecution;

29. *Recognize* that, despite our past efforts, illicit crop cultivation and illicit drug production, manufacturing, distribution and trafficking have been increasingly consolidated into a criminally organized industry generating enormous amounts of money, laundered through the financial and non-financial sectors and, therefore, commit ourselves to strengthening the effective and comprehensive implementation of regimes for countering money-laundering and to improving international cooperation, including judicial cooperation, in order to prevent, detect and prosecute such crimes, dismantle criminal organizations and confiscate their illicit proceeds, and also recognize the need to train law enforcement and judicial personnel to utilize the tools available in the international framework, as well as the need to encourage the development of such training;

30. *Acknowledge* the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto<sup>15</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>16</sup> recognize that those conventions and other relevant international instruments constitute valuable tools for confronting the world drug problem, and urge Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to those instruments;

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<sup>15</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

31. *Acknowledge also* the importance of promoting, in order to enhance the effectiveness of drug control measures, an integrated approach in drug policies, including addressing comprehensively the impact and consequences of such measures and strengthening their coordination and the assessment of their implementation;

32. *Recognize* that transit States are faced with multifaceted challenges resulting from illicit drugs being trafficked through their territory, and reaffirm our willingness to cooperate with those States and to assist them in progressively enhancing their capacity to counter the world drug problem;

33. *Undertake* to promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation, aimed at countering the world drug problem more effectively, in particular by encouraging and supporting such cooperation by those States most directly affected by illicit crop cultivation and the illicit production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

34. *Call for* increased technical and financial assistance to Member States, in particular those most directly affected by the world drug problem, in order to ensure that they have the capacity to prevent and respond to that threat in all its forms and manifestations;

35. *Commit ourselves* to increasing cooperation at the regional and international levels, taking due account of situations where States are significantly affected by the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and illicit trafficking in drugs and precursors, in order to counter the world drug problem and its impact on political stability, democratic institutions, security, the rule of law and sustainable development, including efforts to eradicate poverty;

36. *Decide* to establish 2019 as a target date for States to eliminate or reduce significantly and measurably:

(a) The illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant;

(b) The illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; and drug-related health and social risks;

(c) The illicit production, manufacture, marketing and distribution of, and trafficking in, psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs;

(d) The diversion of and illicit trafficking in precursors;

(e) Money-laundering related to illicit drugs;



37. *Recognize* the need to increase investment in research and evaluation in order to properly implement and assess, based on evidence, effective policies and programmes for countering the world drug problem;

38. *Adopt* the Plan of Action, set out below, which constitutes an integral part of the present Political Declaration and complements the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

39. *Commit ourselves* to implementing effectively the present Political Declaration and its Plan of Action through resolute international cooperation, in collaboration with relevant regional and international organizations, with the full assistance of the international financial institutions and other relevant agencies and in cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as the private and public sectors, and to reporting biennially to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the efforts to fully implement the Political Declaration and the Plan of Action, and also consider it necessary for the Commission to include on its agenda a separate item on follow-up to the Political Declaration and its Plan of Action;

40. *Decide* that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, should conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the present Political Declaration and its Plan of Action, recommend that the Economic and Social Council devote a high-level segment to a theme related to the world drug problem, and also recommend that the General Assembly hold a special session to address the world drug problem.



# Plan of Action

## Part I. Demand reduction and related measures

### A. Reducing drug abuse and dependence through a comprehensive approach

#### 1. Enhancing international cooperation

##### *Problem*

1. The commitments made by Member States in 1998<sup>17</sup> to attain significant and measurable results in the area of drug demand reduction have been attained only to a limited extent, owing largely to the lack of a balanced and comprehensive approach.

##### *Action*

#### 2. Member States should:

(a) Pursue a balanced and mutually reinforcing approach to supply and demand reduction, devoting more effort to the realization of demand reduction with a view to achieving proportionality of effort, resources and international cooperation in addressing drug abuse as a health and social issue, while upholding the law and its enforcement;

(b) Scale up international assistance in addressing drug demand reduction in order to achieve a significant impact; to that end, long-term political and financial commitments from Governments and the international community need to be ensured, including the strengthening of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international agencies;

(c) Comprehensively support the reinforcement of the work that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime undertakes in drug demand reduction, in consultation with each other and with relevant United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,<sup>18</sup> the Action Plan for the implementation of those principles<sup>19</sup> and

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<sup>17</sup> See General Assembly resolutions S-20/2 and S-20/3.

<sup>18</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.

<sup>19</sup> General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex.

the strategy of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the period 2008-2011;<sup>20</sup>

(d) Encourage, in cooperation with multilateral agencies and international and regional financial institutions, short-, medium- and long-term planning and continuous financial support for drug demand reduction programmes;

(e) Encourage international and regional agencies working on drug demand reduction, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the International Narcotics Control Board, to engage in dialogue in order to strengthen inter-agency cooperation for a more effective response to drug use and dependence, while respecting each organization's role and mandate;

(f) Also encourage dialogue regarding drug demand reduction with the International Narcotics Control Board, and other relevant United Nations bodies including, as appropriate, human rights bodies, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions;<sup>21</sup>

(g) Develop and implement, in cooperation with international and regional agencies, a sound and long-term advocacy strategy, including harnessing the power of communication media, aimed at reducing discrimination that may be associated with substance abuse, promoting the concept of drug dependence as a multifactorial health and social problem and raising awareness, where appropriate, of interventions based on scientific evidence that are both effective and cost-effective;

(h) Promote the sharing of effective models for demand reduction that address the problem in a comprehensive manner.

## **2. Comprehensive approach to drug demand reduction**

### *Problem*

3. Some countries have implemented effective drug demand reduction policies. However, drug demand reduction measures are often limited in the range of interventions they offer. Measures are frequently planned and carried out in isolation and address only part of the health and socio-economic problems associated with drug use and dependence.

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<sup>20</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/12, annex.

<sup>21</sup> The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152), the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (*ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956) and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (*ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627).

## *Action*

### 4. Member States should:

(a) Develop, review and strengthen, as appropriate, comprehensive and integrated drug demand reduction policies and programmes, providing a continuum of prevention and care in the health-care and social services, from primary prevention to early intervention to treatment and to rehabilitation and social reintegration, and in related support services, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, taking into account the particular challenges posed by high-risk drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation;

(b) Deliver comprehensive policies and programmes using a multi-agency approach, including health-care, social-care, criminal justice, employment and education agencies, non-governmental organizations and civil society, which should take full advantage of the activities of non-governmental and civil society organizations;

(c) Develop, implement and disseminate demand reduction strategies as part of their respective comprehensive and balanced national drug control strategies, clearly describing objectives, interventions and funding, as well as defining roles, responsibilities and mechanisms for different partners in all relevant sectors;

(d) Undertake drug demand reduction efforts to address all forms of drug use, including misuse and dependence related to the consumption of two or more substances at the same time;

(e) Ensure that drug demand reduction efforts address the vulnerabilities, such as poverty and marginalization, that undermine sustainable human development;

(f) Deliver prevention programmes based on scientific evidence, both universal and targeted, in a range of settings (such as schools, families, the media, workplaces, communities, health and social services and prisons);

(g) Consider integrating scientifically established mechanisms for the voluntary and early identification, diagnosis and intervention of drug disorders as part of routine health-care services;

(h) Consider developing a comprehensive treatment system offering a wide range of integrated pharmacological (such as detoxification and opioid agonist and antagonist maintenance) and psychosocial (such as counselling, cognitive behavioural therapy and social support) interventions based on scientific evidence and focused on the process of rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration;

(i) Strengthen their efforts aimed at reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, taking into consideration not only the prevention of related infectious diseases, such as HIV, hepatitis B and C and tuberculosis, but also all other health consequences, such as overdose, workplace and traffic accidents and somatic and psychiatric disorders, and social consequences, such as family problems, the effects of drug markets in communities and crime.

### **3. Human rights, dignity and fundamental freedoms in the context of drug demand reduction**

#### *Problem*

5. There is an insufficient emphasis on human rights and dignity in the context of drug demand reduction efforts, in particular regarding access to the highest attainable standard of health services. There is also a need for an improved understanding of addiction and the growing recognition of it as a chronic but treatable multifactorial health disorder.

#### *Action*

6. Member States should:

(a) Ensure that drug demand reduction measures respect human rights and the inherent dignity of all individuals and facilitate access for all drug users to prevention services and health-care and social services, with a view to social reintegration;

(b) Promote meaningful livelihood activities and employment to instil a sense of purpose and self-esteem in individuals to steer them away from drugs;

(c) Develop demand reduction programmes that focus on primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation and related support services, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, taking into account the particular challenges posed by high-risk drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation; and work within existing legal systems to develop mechanisms that link law enforcement processes to health-care systems, including, in the area of drug-related treatment, in accordance with national legislation.

### **4. Measures based on scientific evidence**

#### *Problem*

7. In many cases, drug use and dependence interventions aimed at prevention and care have been developed spontaneously by well-intentioned institutions responding to the urgency of a rapidly developing drug problem. Too often, however, those interventions were not based entirely on scientific evidence and a multidisciplinary approach.

*Action*

8. Member States should:

(a) Invest adequate resources in measures based on scientific evidence, building on the significant scientific progress achieved in that area;

(b) Support and widely disseminate, in collaboration with the international community, further research to develop measures based on scientific evidence that are relevant to different socio-cultural environments and social groups;

(c) Encourage innovative measures and incorporate evaluation in order to respond to present and future challenges; and take into account the possibilities given by new media and technologies, including the Internet, with a view to developing the scientific evidence base.

**5. Availability of and accessibility to drug demand reduction services**

*Problem*

9. A range of barriers to specific drug demand reduction services makes it difficult for those in need to access those services.

*Action*

10. Member States should:

(a) Ensure that access to drug treatment that is affordable, culturally appropriate and based on scientific evidence is available and that drug dependence care services are included in health-care systems, whether public or private, with the involvement of primary and, where appropriate, specialized health-care services, in accordance with national legislation;

(b) Ensure, where appropriate, the sufficient availability of substances for medication-assisted therapy, including those within the scope of control under the international drug control conventions, as part of a comprehensive package of services for the treatment of drug dependence;

(c) Continue to comply with the procedures established under the international drug control conventions and relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council relating to the submission to the International Narcotics Control Board of estimates of their requirements for narcotic drugs and assessments of requirements for psychotropic substances so as to facilitate the import of the required narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and to enable the Board, in cooperation with Governments, to maintain a

balance between the demand for and the supply of those drugs and substances in order to ensure the relief of pain and suffering and the availability of medication-assisted therapy as part of a comprehensive package of services for the treatment of drug dependence, while bearing in mind, in accordance with national legislation, the World Health Organization Model List of Essential Medicines.

## **6. Mainstreaming community involvement and participation**

### *Problem*

11. In many cases, interventions tend to be supported through isolated and short term initiatives and are not mainstreamed in the regular provision by Governments of public health, education and social services. Moreover, they do not involve all stakeholders at the community level in the planning, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of drug demand reduction measures, and they do not take full advantage of the activities of non-governmental organizations and civil society.

### *Action*

12. Member States should:

(a) Ensure, to the extent possible, that measures are mainstreamed in the provision of public and private health, education and social services (such as family, housing and employment services);

(b) Involve all stakeholders at the community level (including the target populations, their families, community members, employers and local organizations) in the planning, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of drug demand reduction measures;

(c) Involve communication media in supporting ongoing drug prevention programmes through well-targeted campaigns;

(d) Promote collaboration between governmental and non-governmental organizations and other members of civil society in the establishment of drug demand reduction measures at the local level.

## **7. Targeting vulnerable groups and conditions**

### *Problem*

13. Drug demand reduction interventions too often target the general population at large with a single standard approach and do not provide specialized programmes tailored to vulnerable groups with specific needs. Those groups include, among others,



children, adolescents, vulnerable youth, women, including pregnant women, people with medical and psychiatric co-morbidities, ethnic minorities and socially marginalized individuals. A person may belong to more than one of these groups and thus have multiple needs.

*Action*

14. Member States should:

(a) Ensure that a broad range of drug demand reduction services, including those in the areas of prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and related support services, provide approaches that serve the needs of vulnerable groups and are differentiated on the basis of scientific evidence so that they respond best to the needs of those groups, taking into account gender considerations and cultural background;

(b) Ensure that prevention programmes target and involve youth and children with a view to increasing their reach and effectiveness;

(c) Provide specialized training for those who work with vulnerable groups, such as patients with psychiatric co-morbidities, minors and women, including pregnant women.

## **8. Drug use and dependence care in the criminal justice system**

*Problem*

15. There are limited alternatives to prosecution and imprisonment for drug-using offenders, and treatment services within the criminal justice system are frequently inadequate. Moreover, issues such as corruption, overcrowding and access to drugs and their adverse effects, including the frequency of transmission of infectious diseases within prisons, need to be addressed. Finally, increased emphasis should be placed on the transition between incarceration and release, re-entry and social reintegration.

*Action*

16. Member States should:

(a) Working within their legal frameworks and in compliance with applicable international law, consider allowing the full implementation of drug dependence treatment and care options for offenders, in particular, when appropriate, providing treatment as an alternative to incarceration;

(b) Take measures to address corruption, reduce overcrowding and prevent access to and use of illicit drugs within detention facilities;

(c) Implement comprehensive treatment programmes in detention facilities; commit themselves to offering a range of treatment, care and related support services to drug-dependent inmates, including those aimed at prevention of the transmission of related infectious diseases, pharmacological and psychosocial treatment and rehabilitation; and further commit themselves to providing programmes aimed at preparation for release and prisoner support programmes for the transition between incarceration and release, re-entry and social reintegration;

(d) Provide appropriate training so that criminal justice and/or prison staff carry out drug demand reduction measures that are based on scientific evidence and are ethical and so that their attitudes are respectful, non-judgemental and non-stigmatizing.

## **9. Quality standards and training of staff**

### *Problem*

17. Inadequately trained personnel and a lack of certification and quality standards hinder the effective implementation of demand reduction measures based on scientific evidence.

### *Action*

18. Member States should:

(a) Support the development and adoption of appropriate health-care standards, as well as ongoing training on drug demand reduction measures;

(b) Ensure that services are staffed, to the extent possible and as appropriate, with multidisciplinary teams, including physicians/psychiatrists, nurses, psychologists, social workers, educators and other professionals;

(c) Ensure, where appropriate, that the educational curricula for relevant service providers, including the curricula of universities, medical schools and other relevant professions, include training on the prevention of drug use and dependence and related care;

(d) Provide training to planners and practitioners of governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and others in the community, on a permanent basis, on all aspects of demand reduction activities and strategic programming by identifying local, national, subregional and regional human resources and using their experience in the design of programmes to guarantee their continuity and to create and strengthen local, regional, subregional and national training and technical resource networks and, with the possible assistance of regional and international organizations,

to facilitate the exchange of experiences and expertise by encouraging States to include demand reduction personnel from other States in training programmes that they have developed;

(e) Support national, regional and international networks to provide training and develop and disseminate successful practices.

## 10. Data collection, monitoring and evaluation

### *Problem*

19. The lack of data, particularly on the rapidly changing nature and the extent of drug use, and the lack of systematic monitoring and evaluation by Governments of the coverage and quality of drug demand reduction measures are matters of great concern. Intensified international cooperation and support is necessary, including for improved and coordinated data collection, monitoring and evaluation of demand reduction programmes to inform demand reduction services and policy.

### *Action*

20. Member States should:

(a) Increase their efforts in collecting data on the nature and extent of drug use and dependence, including the characteristics of the population in need, strengthening information and monitoring systems and employing methodologies and instruments based on scientific evidence;

(b) Develop and improve methods of objective national assessment by Governments to understand in a systematic and holistic manner the negative impact of drug abuse on society, health and economies;

(c) Ensure that drug demand reduction measures are based on scientifically sound assessments of the nature and extent of the drug problem, as well as the social and cultural characteristics of the population in need;

(d) Ensure that drug demand reduction measures are based on drug use trends in the community and are revised periodically on the basis of new trends, feedback and monitoring and evaluation processes;

(e) Ensure that drug use and dependence prevention and care interventions, as well as other demand reduction measures, include adequate record-keeping systems, while maintaining confidentiality, and that drug dependence care record-keeping systems are part of an active system for monitoring the nature and extent of the drug problem;

(f) Take an integrated and comprehensive approach to data collection and analysis to ensure that the information available in international, regional and national bodies is fully and legally utilized; and provide technical assistance to those countries where capacity is less developed;

(g) Seek agreement on a set of relevant indicators covering key issues to allow for the comparable assessment of the effectiveness of demand reduction measures with a view to developing, adapting and validating simple, standardized United Nations data-collection and evaluation methods, concepts and tools;

(h) Develop, in cooperation with the international community and in the light of lessons learned in the analysis of replies to the annual reports questionnaire and the biennial reports questionnaire, enhanced data-collection instruments to be considered and adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, allowing streamlined measurement of the quality, extent and coverage of drug demand reduction measures, ensuring that the tools used are appropriate for the different needs and reporting capacities of countries and are scientifically sound, making full use of existing information resources and, benefiting from, if appropriate, the experience of the existing regional monitoring systems, while minimizing the reporting burden.

## Part II. Supply reduction and related measures

### B. Reducing the illicit supply of drugs

#### 1. Enhancing cooperation, coordination and law enforcement operations to reduce supply

##### *Problem*

21. While the majority of States have adopted and implemented supply reduction policies and made supply reduction an important priority, the commitment made by Member States in 1998 to attain significant and measurable results in the area of supply reduction has been attained only to a limited extent, owing, inter alia, to the lack of effective implementation of drug supply policies, the lack of appropriate national legislative frameworks for international cooperation, inadequate information-sharing and monitoring and control mechanisms and the lack of coordinated law enforcement operations, as well as the insufficient and unstable allocation of resources.

##### *Action*

22. Member States should:

(a) In order to reinforce the fight against narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, ensure, in cooperation with multilateral agencies and international and regional financial institutions, the implementation of short-, medium- and long-term planning so as to ensure a sufficient and stable allocation of resources for drug supply reduction programmes;

(b) Promote the exchange of best practices and successful experiences in the area of drug supply reduction;

(c) Ensure that supply reduction measures are carried out in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, the three international drug control conventions and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(d) Continue to rely on the three international drug control conventions as the primary legal framework for tackling the world drug problem, taking into account the relevance of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto<sup>22</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>23</sup> and supporting the pursuit of broader adherence to and implementation of those instruments;

(e) Promote supply reduction measures that take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historical evidence of such use, as well as environmental protection, in conformity with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;<sup>24</sup>

(f) Promote and implement multilateral, regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities to combat the involvement of criminal organizations in drug production and trafficking and related criminal activities;

(g) Ensure that the international response to the drug problem beyond 2009 continues to be pursued as a common and shared responsibility, requiring a balanced approach for purposes of international cooperation and the provision of technical assistance;

(h) Ensure that international and regional agencies working on drug supply reduction engage in dialogue to strengthen inter-agency cooperation for a more effective response, while respecting each organization's role and mandate;

(i) Further develop and implement effective legislation and legislative frameworks for multilateral, regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation, including agreements on mutual legal assistance and extradition, and address appropriately issues regarding jurisdiction, expedite the processing of mutual legal assistance and extradition requests and, where possible, carry out joint investigations;

(j) Maintain and expand, in collaboration with the international community, projects and programmes to foster bilateral and regional cooperation on specific supply reduction issues;

(k) Consider reassessing the current data-collection strategies and instruments so as to facilitate the compilation of reliable, relevant, comparable and usable data on drug supply in order to ensure a strong and common understanding of the issue, and, in that regard, consider adjusting and standardizing international data collection efforts;

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<sup>22</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

(l) Remain up to date on scientific studies, data and research on the medicinal and other legitimate uses of plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances, taking into account the provisions of the three international drug control conventions;

(m) Establish, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and in coordination with the Statistical Commission of the Economic and Social Council, clear and measurable indicators in the area of supply reduction in order to accurately assess the achievement of any goals and targets that might be set by the international community beyond 2009;

(n) Provide the United Nations entities having pertinent expertise with resources for the collection of data and the provision of technical and financial assistance to States with a view to enhancing their ability to address trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; coordination with and among United Nations entities and various multilateral entities should be strengthened;

(o) Take additional steps to present a coordinated and coherent response to trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by land, air and sea, in partnership with United Nations entities and international partners, so as to close jurisdictional gaps in the investigation, interdiction and prosecution of traffickers;

(p) Ensure that further encouragement and assistance are provided for the sharing of information through official channels in a timely manner, the implementation of border control measures, the provision of equipment, the exchange of law enforcement officers, collaboration between the private and public sectors and the development of practical new methods for effectively monitoring drug trafficking activities;

(q) Establish, when appropriate, multi-agency bodies to ensure that a comprehensive approach is being taken in tackling drug trafficking networks, while remaining aware that organized criminal groups engaged in drug trafficking are likely to be engaged in other forms of trafficking; the multi-agency bodies will help to ensure that agencies fighting other forms of organized crime share relevant information, intelligence, practices and resources with drug law enforcement agencies.

## **2. Addressing new trafficking trends**

### *Problem*

23. As new trends in drug trafficking emerge, they may pose significant challenges to the ability of States to provide a vigorous and effective response.

## *Action*

### 24. Member States should:

(a) Ensure that law enforcement agencies are able to adapt in order to adequately address the changing nature of the drug trafficking problem, particularly with regard to new technologies, routes and methods used by traffickers, thereby reducing the illicit supply of drugs;

(b) Take into account possible linkages between trafficking in narcotic drugs and trafficking in psychotropic substances, the involvement of terrorist groups in some parts of the world, corruption and transnational organized crime, including trafficking in firearms and money-laundering, when developing and implementing supply reduction strategies;

(c) Continue to give attention to the development of methods for gathering and using hard-to-reach intelligence<sup>25</sup> and evidence, including judicially sanctioned evidence-gathering techniques such as electronic surveillance, structured informant programmes and controlled delivery;

(d) Promote the exchange of intelligence among countries of origin, transit and destination to combat drug trafficking, while safeguarding the sources and the integrity of information;

(e) Monitor, in collaboration with the international community, the nature, use, extent and impact of cybertechnology on trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and give consideration to the development and implementation of legislation and training opportunities in order to respond effectively to the emerging problem;

(f) Make efforts to ensure that appropriate procedural and substantive legislation is developed at the national level to deal with drug trafficking carried out in an electronic environment, including a framework for the effective regulation and oversight of online pharmacies operating or delivering pharmaceutical preparations containing internationally controlled narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances within their respective jurisdictions;

(g) Implement strategies to disrupt and dismantle major organizations involved in trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and to address emerging trends;

(h) Provide assistance to transit States to combat trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances more efficiently.

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<sup>25</sup> Lawfully gathered information obtained through the use of structured programmes, such as registered informants, undercover officers, electronic surveillance for intercepting audio and/or video, controlled delivery and other techniques acceptable to the judicial process.



### 3. Reducing violence related to drug trafficking

#### *Problem*

25. In some cases, criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking are exposing civil society and law enforcement authorities to increasing levels of harm and violence, in particular because of their propensity to be heavily armed with illicitly manufactured and trafficked firearms and to engage in violence to protect themselves and their illicitly trafficked drugs. The international community must take steps to not only reduce the illicit supply of drugs but also reduce the violence that accompanies drug trafficking.

#### *Action*

26. Member States should:

(a) Consider ratifying or acceding to and, where possible and appropriate, strengthening the implementation of, the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime<sup>26</sup> in order to reduce the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms as a means of reducing the violence associated with drug trafficking;

(b) Implement preventive and enforcement measures to combat all forms of criminal activity that may be linked to trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, such as money-laundering, trafficking in persons, the smuggling of migrants and, where appropriate, the financing of terrorism, including the detection of cash and other negotiable items that cross international borders;

(c) Provide adequate and targeted training to law enforcement, customs and border control authorities in combating trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and, where appropriate, illicit trafficking in firearms, increase, in the case of States with relevant experience, bilateral and multilateral cooperation, including through programmes administered by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other international partners, United Nations agencies or regional mechanisms, focused on capacity-building and training, and exchange experiences and best practices so as to increase the ability of all States to more effectively fight trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and, where appropriate, illicit trafficking in firearms;

(d) Increase information-sharing among law enforcement authorities and judicial cooperation in order to identify and investigate possible links between the criminal organizations involved in trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and other criminal activities, including, in particular, the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms.

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<sup>26</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

#### **4. Addressing supply and demand reduction together**

##### *Problem*

27. While drug trafficking is a multifaceted issue that can be effectively tackled only by reducing both supply and demand, this interlinkage is often not taken into account. Supply reduction must involve the application of a balanced approach to reduce demand under the principle of shared responsibility, just as demand reduction must involve the application of a balanced approach to reduce supply under the principle of shared responsibility.

##### *Action*

28. Member States should:

(a) Employ in their national drug control strategies a multidisciplinary approach and include different Government agencies having an interest in combating drug trafficking, including in the areas of health, law enforcement and education, to ensure that all of the factors relevant to reducing supply are taken into account when developing and implementing supply reduction strategies;

(b) Address the need for a comprehensive, multisectoral and balanced approach involving demand reduction and supply reduction, each reinforcing the other, together with the appropriate application of the principle of shared responsibility, while stressing the need for services responsible for prevention, including law enforcement agencies, and ensuring that those measures are mainstreamed in publicly and privately provided health, education, rural development, agriculture and social services.

#### **5. Strengthening of anti-corruption measures and provision of technical assistance and capacity-building**

##### *Problem*

29. Organized criminal groups, in order to facilitate and protect their illicit trade in drugs, often attempt to influence public officials, including law enforcement authorities. Efforts to reduce supply must be complemented by anti-corruption measures and must employ a comprehensive approach that involves the cooperation of both government and civil society. In this context, several developing countries, especially those on major drug trafficking routes, require technical assistance to further strengthen their law enforcement agencies.

*Action*

30. Member States should:

(a) Consider ratifying or acceding to and strengthening their implementation of the Convention against Corruption, the 1988 Convention and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;<sup>27</sup>

(b) Ensure that proactive strategies are pursued by law enforcement agencies to prevent corruption, such as participating in multilateral and bilateral anti corruption technical assistance programmes, preparing anti-corruption action plans and instituting integrity programmes for law enforcement officials;

(c) Further develop and improve domestic and international training and awareness-raising efforts for law enforcement and judicial capacity-building, while ensuring the coordination of international training and awareness-raising efforts in order to avoid duplication;

(d) Further develop and support the use of controlled delivery, consistent with the 1988 Convention, and other special investigative techniques, both nationally and internationally, consistent with their national legislation;

(e) Enhance efforts to acquire knowledge of the modus operandi of drug traffickers, including through regional and international mapping exercises;

(f) Harness the resources of existing international police structures and institutions to address the issue of trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in a coordinated manner and to ensure a greater degree of efficiency and efficacy;

(g) Provide adequate resources and equipment to border management agencies and provide technical assistance to requesting States in this regard;

(h) Strengthen and integrate law enforcement capabilities to enable them to better investigate organized criminal groups engaged in trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

(i) Encourage the development and introduction of sustainable and comprehensive programmes in judicial and law enforcement institutions, which should address conditions of service, remuneration, training and awareness-raising so as to attract and retain the best personnel;

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<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

(j) Ensure that commercial port operations are supported by drug law enforcement authorities with adequate resources, equipment, training and legal powers to effectively screen, evaluate and examine commercial freight and sea bound containers and also ensure that relevant international agencies provide technical assistance to requesting States in this regard.

## **C. Control of precursors and of amphetamine-type stimulants**

### **1. Improving understanding of the phenomenon of amphetamine-type stimulants**

#### *Problem*

31. Because of the absence of a systematic global mechanism for monitoring the illicit manufacture, prevalence patterns and abuse of and trafficking in amphetamine-type stimulants<sup>28</sup> and of a global approach to controlling illicit synthetic drugs and the manufacturing and diversion of and trafficking in precursor chemicals, it is still not possible to fully understand the illicit market for synthetic drugs and its characteristics. Many Member States have not yet implemented measures to detect and monitor this part of the illicit drug market and evaluate the responses to it, have limited data on which to base the planning and programming of actions and consequently have limitations with respect to scientific evidence in formulating programmes to tackle it more effectively. In addition, some countries lack the financial and human resources and the know-how to tackle this problem.

#### *Action*

32. Member States should:

(a) Take measures to advance the monitoring of illicit synthetic drugs, where it does not already exist, linking existing activities related to amphetamine-type stimulants around the world, and take measures to further the development of monitoring capacity, including for the early identification of emerging trends and to generate prevalence data on amphetamine-type stimulants;

(b) Emphasize the critical importance of forensic and scientific laboratory and treatment centre data and qualitative information in understanding the problem of illicit synthetic drugs and the range of products available on the illicit market and systematically integrate such data and information into their monitoring and investigation activities;

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<sup>28</sup> The Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Report and Trends (SMART) programme, set up in September 2008, is already in the early stage of development in some regions.

(c) Promote consultative mechanisms between the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international and regional bodies in order to enhance the quality and consistency of reported data on amphetamine-type stimulants and other synthetic drugs and their precursors;

(d) Take further measures to advance international information-sharing (i.e. the electronic linking, through the Internet, of national, regional and international documentation centres) to ensure the global dissemination of accurate and timely information, in a standardized manner, on various aspects of the problem of amphetamine-type stimulants (including interdictions, prevalence rates and analysis of policies, legislation and operational responses to inform best practices);

(e) Continue to complement monitoring activities by conducting more systematic research into the problem of amphetamine-type stimulants, including more detailed examinations of the complex interplay between the demand for and the supply of amphetamine-type stimulants in different contexts, and by conducting and making available the results of studies to establish the prevalence and identify the risks of the use of amphetamine-type stimulants.

## **2. Targeting the clandestine manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants**

### *Problem*

33. Synthetic drugs pose a special problem, as they can be illicitly manufactured in a variety of forms using precursor chemicals, many of which can be easily substituted. In addition, the clandestine and potentially mobile nature of their manufacture requires a global approach in order to understand and prevent the diversion of synthetic drugs and their precursors into illicit channels in all manufacturing, transit and consumer countries.

### *Action*

34. Member States should:

(a) Develop or strengthen their national capacity for the safe investigation and handling of seized clandestine laboratories for amphetamine-type stimulants, chemical warehouses and precursor chemicals, while building on existing forensic laboratory resources;

(b) Identify best practices for systematically conducting inventories of clandestine laboratory sites, including the laboratory equipment, clandestine manufacturing methods, starting materials, chemicals and reagents used, and improve the exchange of such information in a timely and standardized way;

(c) Monitor on a voluntary basis, to the extent possible, the sale of laboratory and other equipment, such as tablet presses, in compliance with article 13 of the 1988 Convention.

### 3. Preventing illegal sale and diversion

#### *Problem*

35. The diversion of pharmaceutical preparations, the manufacture and marketing of mixtures of amphetamine-type stimulants and other synthetic drugs, the use of non-controlled chemicals and/or substitute chemicals as new precursors for the illicit synthesis of drugs and the use and distribution of pharmaceutical products with a view to circumventing appropriate controls on manufacture are crucial challenges for Member States in tackling the problem of amphetamine-type stimulants.

#### *Action*

36. Member States should:

(a) Address through concerted action the illegal sale of preparations containing amphetamine-type stimulants via the Internet and the misuse of postal and courier services for smuggling such preparations;

(b) Take measures to advance cooperation in the detection and investigation of diversion cases and for the sharing of experiences and information among competent national bodies on specific types of diversion;

(c) Strengthen controls, including through the Pre-Export Notification Online system, where required, for the import and export of preparations containing precursor chemicals, such as ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, which could be used in the manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants;

(d) Advance the systematic collection of data on the abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and the diversion of precursors and preparations containing amphetamine-type stimulants and use the data to take appropriate countermeasures;

(e) Provide technical assistance, as appropriate, for the development and implementation of adequate controls over the manufacture, sale, diversion and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants, including legislative, administrative and operational responses, particularly in regions where there is an absence of such controls.

#### 4. Raising awareness and reducing demand

##### *Problem*

37. Despite the potentially serious risks associated with the use of amphetamine-type stimulants and other synthetic drugs, they are nevertheless incorrectly believed to be compatible with healthy lifestyles. It is therefore important to raise greater awareness about the potential risks associated with the use of these substances.

##### *Action*

38. Member States should:

(a) Raise awareness of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors with law enforcement, health and regulatory authorities and educate vulnerable population groups as to the dangers associated with the use of amphetamine-type stimulants;

(b) Encourage access to comprehensive services, such as treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration, to address substance abuse, including the abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants, under the supervision of health-care and other appropriate providers, for individuals with problems related to amphetamine-type stimulants, in view of the widespread availability and illicit use of amphetamine-type stimulants by a wide range of population groups;

(c) Develop prevention and treatment programmes tailored to the specific characteristics of the phenomenon of amphetamine-type stimulants as key elements in any relevant strategy to reduce demand and minimize health risks.

#### 5. Emerging issues in precursor control

##### *Problem*

39. While legislative and regulatory controls have prevented the diversion of precursor<sup>29</sup> chemicals into illicit channels, such chemicals still reach clandestine drug laboratories. Precursor chemicals are often diverted from domestic distribution channels in the countries that manufactured or imported them and are smuggled across borders.

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<sup>29</sup> The term “precursor” is used to indicate any of the substances listed in Table I or Table II of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, except where the context requires a different expression. Such substances are often described as precursors or essential chemicals, depending on their principal chemical properties. The plenipotentiary conference that adopted the 1988 Convention did not use any one term to describe such substances. Instead, the expression “substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances” was introduced in the 1988 Convention. It has become common practice, however, to refer to all such substances simply as “precursors”; although that term is not technically correct, it is used in this text for the sake of brevity.

Countries not previously targeted by traffickers are now used as areas of diversion. Non-controlled precursor chemicals and/or substitute chemicals, as well as pharmaceutical preparations containing precursors, have been used in the illicit synthesis of drugs. In addition, scientific and forensic support in the identification and safe disposal of precursors is still inadequate in many countries.

40. The absence of a global mechanism for the exchange of laboratory information and law enforcement findings between drug control agencies, customs officials and police remains a global challenge in the control of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors.

#### *Action*

41. Member States should:

(a) Further strengthen mechanisms, as appropriate, for the timely identification, collection and exchange of information on non-scheduled substances, including derivatives specifically designed to circumvent existing controls, especially by making use of the updated international special surveillance list of non-scheduled substances;

(b) Further strengthen legislation, as appropriate, on the control of precursors and the criminalization of their diversion;

(c) Ensure that measures to control precursors and amphetamine-type stimulants are carried out in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, the international drug control conventions and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(d) Conduct further research on precursors to understand emerging trends, such as the use of substitute chemicals and the splitting of the production process, including proactive studies on the potential use of such substances, and share the results of such research;

(e) Further advance working relations with the relevant industries to promote the formulation of a universal code of conduct for industry and appropriate national and international legislation on the supply of and trafficking in precursors, including those not yet under international control, and invite the International Narcotics Control Board to provide guidelines on how to establish cooperation between competent national authorities and operators;

(f) Focus greater attention on the use of non-scheduled substances and substitute chemicals for the manufacture of traditional precursors used in the manufacture of heroin and cocaine;



(g) Cope with the multiple challenges faced by the drug control agencies of developing countries, especially in view of the emergence of new synthetic drugs and amphetamine-type stimulants in those markets, through capacity-building and technical assistance involving, inter alia, the provision of advanced detection equipment, scanners, testing kits, forensic laboratories and training;

(h) Ensure that international and regional agencies working on the control of precursors and amphetamine-type stimulants engage in dialogue to strengthen inter agency cooperation for a more effective response while respecting each agency's role and mandate;

(i) Support efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to assist in the implementation of actions taken within the framework of national and regional cooperation mechanisms;

(j) Support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board in conducting, coordinating and disseminating research on precursors in collaboration with the international scientific community to understand emerging trends;

(k) Emphasize the importance of the instruments provided for in article 12 of the 1988 Convention and promote and further enhance their effective implementation,<sup>30</sup> and also maintain secure means of communication, including secure e-mail addresses;

(l) Endeavour to compile national lists of companies authorized to manufacture, distribute and/or trade in precursors, with a view to enhancing means of verification;

(m) Strengthen national capacity to provide forensic support to law enforcement and the criminal justice authorities in investigating offences involving precursor chemicals, including their trafficking, diversion and use in clandestine laboratories, and assist law enforcement authorities in the detection of precursors on the ground and the early identification of new trends;

(n) Enhance frameworks for the exchange of high-quality and reliable forensic information among drug control agencies, customs authorities and police authorities, including, when appropriate, through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime forensic laboratory;

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<sup>30</sup> The use of the Pre-Export Notification Online system, including the provision of a timely response, is a key issue in this respect. On a voluntary basis, that system may be used for reporting, to the extent possible and in accordance with national authorities, non-scheduled substances, including pharmaceutical preparations, prior to export, and transit countries should be notified.

(o) Determine estimates of their legitimate national requirements for ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone and 1 phenyl-2-propanone, as endorsed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in its resolution 49/3, and provide that information to the International Narcotics Control Board, which, in consultation with Member States, should seek to promote standardized methodologies to assist with those estimates to the fullest extent possible;

(p) Strengthen national and regional cooperation among drug control agencies, customs authorities, police authorities, forensic laboratories, relevant industries and operators along the supply chain with a view to preventing the diversion of precursor chemicals;

(q) Make better use of international collaborative and cooperative mechanisms and new and developing technologies to support effective national and international control measures, including the production of strategic data on precursor trends (including information on diversions, as well as on clandestine manufacturing methods and starting materials currently being used in clandestine laboratories);

(r) Develop systems (for example, shared online recording systems) to prevent precursor chemicals from being diverted into illicit channels from community pharmacies;

(s) Increase efforts, beyond international trade controls, to prevent the diversion of precursors, and pharmaceutical preparations containing the precursors ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, from domestic channels to be smuggled across borders, while stressing that the increased involvement of border control authorities in this respect is essential;

(t) Develop practical procedures for the safe handling and disposal of seized precursors in cooperation with competent international and regional bodies and share experiences in that area, as well as training and related activities;

(u) Consider “marking” certain chemical shipments for possible future use if scientific advances ensure the appropriate use of such tools, taking into account the potential burden this would place on authorities and industry;

(v) Continue to support the successes achieved under Project Prism and Project Cohesion, which underline the importance of such activities, including the vital and indispensable role of the International Narcotics Control Board as the global focal point.

**D. International cooperation on eradicating the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and on alternative development<sup>31</sup>**

**1. Strengthening research, data-collection and assessment tools**

*Problem*

42. The generation, distribution, sharing and use of credible information on alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development, are essential to support the drafting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of alternative development interventions. However, there continues to be a lack of reliable and up-to-date data on illicit drug crop cultivation, including on, inter alia, the drivers of illicit crop cultivation, no increase in and ineffective utilization of data on human development and socio-economic aspects and insufficient sharing of best practices and lessons learned among the members of the international community engaged in alternative development.

*Action*

43. Member States should:

(a) Undertake further research, strengthen data collection and guide better alternative development programmes;

(b) Conduct research to assess the factors leading to the illicit cultivation of drug crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

(c) Provide the necessary financial and political support, to the extent possible, to survey, monitor and verify the extent of coca bush, opium poppy and cannabis cultivation, both in indoor and outdoor cultivation sites, consistent with international drug control conventions, and share this information with relevant international agencies and other Governments with a view to increasing cooperation on drug crop eradication and on alternative development, including, where appropriate, on preventive alternative development, in accordance with the specificities of each country or region;

(d) Ensure that States with the necessary expertise, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant United Nations organizations assist affected States in designing and improving systems to monitor and assess the qualitative and quantitative impact of alternative development and drug crop eradication programmes with respect to the sustainability of illicit crop reduction and socio-

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<sup>31</sup> In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/33, 2007/12, annex, and 2008/26, the concept of alternative development includes preventive alternative development.

economic development; such assessment should include the use of human development indicators that reflect the Millennium Development Goals;

(e) Ensure that affected States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant key actors strengthen efforts to share the results of alternative development programmes with the broader development community; in that regard, increased efforts should be made to highlight the work accomplished and the benefits provided to affected communities, and best practices and lessons learned should be identified and shared, failures evaluated and conclusions disseminated to the broader development community.

## **2. International cooperation on development-oriented drug control**

### *Problem*

44. Despite considerable advances over the past 10 years in strengthening international cooperation to address illicit drug crop cultivation through alternative development, the problem of ensuring increased and sustained financial, technical and political assistance by States and the international community continues to hinder the full applicability of alternative development. As such, increased cooperation among States and the international community, under the principle of shared responsibility, a balanced approach and the framework of sustainable development, with a specific focus on preventing, reducing and eliminating the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, is necessary to achieve effective and sustainable programmes.

### *Action*

45. Member States should:

(a) Foster and strengthen international cooperation based on the principle of shared responsibility in sustainable alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development;<sup>32</sup>

(b) Reinforce international assistance in addressing the eradication of illicit drug crop cultivation and illicit drug production through integrated and sustainable alternative development; in this connection, long-term political and financial commitments on the part of Governments and the international community should be promoted to the extent possible;

(c) Establish, where possible, sustainable alternative development programmes, in particular in drug-producing regions, including those with high levels of poverty, as

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<sup>32</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/12, annex, para. 18 (c).

they are more vulnerable to exploitation by traffickers and more likely to be affected by the illicit cultivation of drug crops and the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

(d) Consider, where appropriate, including in their national development strategies, integrated and sustainable alternative development programmes, recognizing that poverty and vulnerability are some of the factors behind illicit drug crop cultivation and that poverty eradication is a principal objective of the Millennium Development Goals; and request development organizations and international financial institutions to ensure that alternative development strategies, including, when appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, are incorporated into poverty reduction strategy papers and country assistance strategies for States affected by the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

(e) Support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime so that it can continue to exercise its catalytic role with a view to mobilizing technical, financial and political support from international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations, relevant United Nations organizations, the private sector and civil society and so that it can also continue its work in supporting States in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of alternative development programmes;

(f) Ensure that the design and implementation of alternative development programmes, including, when appropriate, a preventive approach, involve all stakeholders, take into account the specific characteristics of the target area and incorporate grass-roots communities in project formulation, implementation and monitoring;

(g) Ensure that international and regional agencies working on alternative development engage in dialogue in order to strengthen inter-agency cooperation while respecting each organization's role and mandate;

(h) Promote plans, strategies and guiding principles among members of the development community, in particular international financial institutions, to integrate measures to address the causes of the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and to incorporate alternative development strategies into their wider development agendas where such strategies do not already exist;

(i) Ensure, in collaboration with multilateral agencies and international and regional financial institutions, that short-, medium- and long-term planning allows for the continuous financial support of integrated and sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes where appropriate, particularly in vulnerable areas;

(j) Take into account, where appropriate, governance and security concerns when implementing alternative development programmes, highlight, where appropriate, the status of national drug control strategies and programmes, including the eradication of illicitly cultivated crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and ensure that a balanced approach to national drug control and alternative development strategies is adequately applied;

(k) Reach out to States not affected by illicit drug crop cultivation and to the private sector with a view to providing greater access to markets for alternative development products, consistent with national and international obligations and taking into account applicable multilateral trade rules;

(l) Make use of existing cooperation mechanisms and develop regional cooperation mechanisms to exchange experiences in the areas of alternative development and eradication of illicitly cultivated crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

(m) Assist States affected by illicit drug crop cultivation to strengthen cross border, subregional and regional technical assistance and cooperation, including South-South cooperation; and request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the international development community and other key stakeholders to promote and support relevant cooperation in this regard;

(n) Cooperate with development partners to harmonize, align and manage international development assistance provided to the States affected by illicit drug crop cultivation in accordance with the principles of the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness: Ownership, Harmonization, Alignment, Results and Mutual Accountability;

(o) Encourage relevant international financial institutions, United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to increase their rural development support for regions and populations affected by illicit drug crop cultivation through long-term and flexible funding, and, to the extent possible, affected States should make a stronger commitment to financing alternative development programmes.

### **3. A balanced, long-term approach to addressing the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances**

#### *Problem*

46. Despite some significant progress made in certain areas, efforts have not led to a significant overall decrease in the global illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The lack of understanding

of demand/supply drug market dynamics and the lack of a long-term balanced approach, combined with ill-sequenced policy interventions, corruption and inadequate international development assistance to address the causes driving illicit crop cultivation, have impeded the ability of Governments to sustain the gains achieved locally.

*Action*

47. Member States should:

(a) Tackle alternative development in a larger development context through a holistic and integrated approach, taking into account the Millennium Development Goals, with the priority of eradicating poverty;

(b) Develop alternative development programmes and eradication measures while fully respecting relevant international instruments, including human rights instruments, and, when designing alternative development interventions, taking into consideration the cultural and social traditions of participating communities;

(c) Ensure that development assistance provided to communities in areas affected by illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances takes into account the overall aims of human rights protection and poverty eradication;

(d) Ensure that the implementation of alternative development and preventive alternative development, as appropriate, enhances synergy and trust among the national Government, local administrations and communities in building local ownership;

(e) Integrate communities in marginalized regions into the economic and political mainstream in order to further drug control efforts and security; if appropriate, such integration should include the possibility of supporting access to roads, schools, primary health-care services, electricity and other services and infrastructure;

(f) Ensure the proper and coordinated sequencing of development interventions when designing alternative development programmes; and, in this connection, the issues of the establishment of agreements and viable partnerships with small producers, favourable climatic conditions, strong political support and adequate market access should be taken into account;

(g) Ensure, when considering taking eradication measures, that small-farmer households have adopted viable and sustainable livelihoods so that the measures may be properly sequenced in a sustainable fashion and appropriately coordinated;

(h) Support, in particular in collaboration with development partners, international financial institutions and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, States engaged in alternative development by carrying out preventive

alternative development activities, where appropriate, or proactive development measures to prevent the expansion of the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the migration of workers to areas affected by illicit drug crop cultivation and illicit drug production zones;

(i) Ensure that development partners, international financial institutions and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime support States in addressing the illicit cultivation of coca bush, opium poppy and cannabis through sequenced activities, such as conducting further research to assess the extent of cultivation, identifying the social and economic drivers of cultivation and, ultimately, designing appropriate interventions to tackle the problem;

(j) Address the need to enhance international cooperation and increase comprehensively the effectiveness of strategies aimed at strengthening the capacity of States to counter illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and at promoting the realization of alternative development programmes;

(k) Develop market infrastructure in support of alternative development programmes, sharing best practices among Governments and regions, as appropriate;

(l) Promote a coordinated response to alternative development and eradication;

(m) Implement, where there is illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, comprehensive multisectoral interventions that take into account social, cultural, economic, political, educational and environmental aspects while incorporating, where appropriate, demand reduction measures;

(n) Mainstream drug control and alternative development approaches into the broader development agenda, while encouraging the development community, in particular the international financial institutions, to incorporate drug control approaches into their wider development agendas.

#### **4. Innovative strategies to support alternative development**

##### *Problem*

48. Emerging threats and new challenges competing for global attention have led to a significant reduction in the means available to support the implementation of alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes, where appropriate. There is an increasing need to identify new and innovative funding mechanisms and to ensure that alternative development programmes are complementary to and incorporated into programmes aimed at addressing environmental issues.



Likewise, the identification of market-driven products must be undertaken with the private sector, and market access must be assured in order to effectively implement alternative development strategies.

*Action*

49. Member States should:

(a) Encourage all Member States and multilateral, international and regional financial institutions, in conformity with the principle of shared responsibility, to redouble their efforts to enhance international cooperation, aimed at utilizing the expertise of developing countries and the financial support of developed countries in assisting developing countries, to reduce the illicit cultivation of drug crops through alternative development and preventive alternative development, as appropriate;

(b) Develop strategies consistent with domestic legal frameworks, including the utilization of local expertise, capacity-building and entrepreneurship, to develop products through alternative development programmes identified on the basis of market demand and value-added production chains, as well as secure and stable markets with fair prices for producers, in accordance with international trade rules, including the required infrastructure and a conducive environment, including roads, the establishment of farmer associations and the use of special marketing regimes, for example those based on fair-trade principles and commerce in organic products;

(c) Consider supporting public information campaigns to raise awareness about the concept of shared responsibility and about the added social value of alternative development products;

(d) Assist States affected by the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to take advantage of existing mechanisms, such as debt swaps, and existing trade arrangements, and to explore the possibility of increasing national financing for alternative development programmes;

(e) Ensure that development partners, affected States and other relevant key development actors examine innovative ways to promote alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes, where appropriate, that are environmentally friendly;

(f) Continue to promote gender equality in alternative development interventions, ensuring that equal conditions exist for full participation in the design, implementation and evaluation of alternative development programmes;

(g) Encourage participatory approaches from all stakeholders, including groups at risk of starting to illicitly cultivate crops used for the production of narcotic drugs

and psychotropic substances, in the identification, preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of alternative development;

(h) Support, together with development partners, affected States and other relevant development agencies, the institutional strengthening of key national line agencies involved in alternative development, particularly national drug control coordinating bodies, recognizing that the sustainability of programmes depends on strengthened national institutions and their ability to bring together Government agencies and to coordinate with the international community;

(i) Examine the possibility of supporting regional mechanisms and promoting bilateral agreements between States in order to address the problem of geographical displacement.

## **Part III. Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation**

### **E. Countering money-laundering**

#### *Problem*

50. The laundering of money derived from illicit drug trafficking and other serious crimes continues to be a global problem that threatens the security and stability of financial institutions and systems, undermines economic prosperity and weakens governance systems.

#### *Action*

51. Member States should continue to foster international cooperation by implementing the provisions against money-laundering contained in all relevant international and multilateral instruments, such as the 1988 Convention, the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption and, in accordance with national legislation, the Financial Action Task Force Recommendations on Money Laundering, and also by:

(a) Establishing new or strengthening existing domestic legislative frameworks to criminalize the laundering of money derived from drug trafficking, precursor diversion and other serious crimes of a transnational nature in order to provide for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of money-laundering by, inter alia:

- (i) Widening the scope of predicate crimes for money-laundering to include all serious crimes, giving due consideration to crimes related to the misuse of new technologies, cyberspace and electronic money transfer systems and to transnational cash smuggling;
- (ii) Adopting or strengthening legal measures providing for the identification, freezing, seizure and confiscation of the proceeds of crime and considering, where compatible with fundamental principle of domestic law, non-conviction-based confiscation;
- (iii) Promoting the use of internationally accepted asset-sharing procedures in international confiscation cases, such as the Model Bilateral Agreement on

the Sharing of Confiscated Proceeds of Crime or Property, adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2005/14;

- (iv) Ensuring that legal provisions in compliance with due process of law, such as banking secrecy laws, do not unnecessarily impede the effectiveness of their systems for countering money-laundering and do not constitute grounds for the refusal of mutual legal assistance;
  - (v) Granting the widest range of mutual legal assistance in investigations, prosecutions and other judicial proceedings related to money-laundering and confiscation cases;
  - (vi) Ensuring that the crime of money-laundering is covered by mutual legal assistance agreements for the purpose of ensuring judicial assistance in investigations, court cases and other judicial proceedings relating to that crime;
  - (vii) Making money-laundering an extraditable offence, in accordance with national legislation;
- (b) Establishing new or strengthening existing financial and regulatory regimes for banks and non-bank financial institutions, including natural and legal persons providing formal or informal financial services, thus preserving the integrity, reliability and stability of financial and trade systems through, inter alia:
- (i) Customer identification and verification requirements, namely, application of the “know-your-customer” principle in order to have available for competent authorities the necessary information on the identity of clients and their financial transactions;
  - (ii) Requirements for the submission of meaningful beneficial ownership information for legal persons;
  - (iii) Financial record-keeping;
  - (iv) The mandatory reporting of suspicious transactions;
  - (v) Mechanisms to detect and monitor the cross-border transport of cash and other negotiable bearer instruments;
  - (vi) Consideration of establishing partnerships with the private sector, including financial businesses, with a view to ensuring sound and effective due-diligence procedures to counter money-laundering;
  - (vii) The introduction of measures to keep centralized statistical data on legal action taken to counter money-laundering;

(c) Implementing effective detection, investigation, prosecution and conviction measures, including:

- (i) The establishment of dedicated financial intelligence units to serve as national centres for the collection, analysis and dissemination of suspicious transaction reports and the consideration of existing and affordable information technology solutions to assist financial intelligence units in the analysis of suspicious transaction reports;
- (ii) The development of specialized law enforcement techniques, consistent with national legislative frameworks, to support efforts to counter money-laundering;
- (iii) The encouragement of specialized training for law enforcement and judicial personnel in techniques for countering money-laundering;
- (iv) The consideration, in conformity with domestic legislation, of utilizing confiscated funds to support law enforcement activities, demand reduction programmes and efforts to counter money-laundering;
- (v) The development and use of instruments to detect and counter, in a timely manner, emerging methods and techniques for laundering money, including money derived from drug trafficking, from the diversion of precursors and from the abuse of cyberspace, money transfer systems and payment cards; and the provision of technical assistance for building the capacity of developing countries in this regard, including the development of national detection instruments;

(d) Promoting effective cooperation in strategies for countering money-laundering and in money-laundering cases by, inter alia:

- (i) Strengthening mechanisms for domestic inter-agency coordination and information-sharing;
- (ii) Strengthening regional and international networks for the exchange of operational information among competent authorities, in particular financial intelligence units;
- (iii) Avoiding, to the extent possible, the duplication of data-collection tools related to Member States' obligations with respect to countering money-laundering, as set out in relevant United Nations instruments.

## F. Judicial cooperation

### 1. Extradition

#### *Problem*

52. Legal impediments to extradition and practical difficulties remain, even though most States have laws in place and have entered into bilateral and multilateral treaties on the extradition of drug offenders, and many States have revised their legislation since the twentieth special session of the General Assembly. Concerning the non-extradition of nationals, several States maintain the position that they will not consider extraditing their nationals.

53. Much progress has been achieved through the adoption of relevant bilateral, regional and international agreements, especially at the regional level. While the low number of reported refusals is encouraging, there remain many difficulties with regard to differences between legal systems, delays and procedural and language problems.

#### *Action*

54. Member States should:

(a) Make full use of multilateral treaties, notably, the 1988 Convention, the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption, subject to their constitutional and judicial provisions and consistent with relevant international law, as a legal basis for requesting and granting extradition as a supplement to bilateral and regional treaties on judicial cooperation;

(b) Make use of the 1988 Convention, the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption, as appropriate, for the purpose of providing a basis for establishing dual criminality required for drug offences, in accordance with their national legislation;

(c) Establish mechanisms to facilitate extradition in line with the international drug control conventions, subject to their national legislation, specifically by considering further simplification of requirements in such areas as dual criminality, the application of political offences, consent surrender and conditional surrender;

(d) Ensure that when, on grounds of nationality, they do not extradite a person, they submit, in conformity with their domestic legislation, as appropriate, the case to their competent national authorities for prosecution;

(e) Advance cooperation in the areas of extradition, mutual legal assistance and law enforcement, as well as the effective use of tools and programmes to enhance cooperation efforts, consistent with relevant and applicable international human rights obligations and in accordance with their national legislation;

(f) Adopt measures to expedite extradition procedures and simplify evidentiary requirements in conformity with their domestic laws.

## 2. Mutual legal assistance

### *Problem*

55. While most States have adopted legislation and entered into bilateral and multilateral treaties on mutual legal assistance in drug trafficking cases, and many have revised their procedures since the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, it is difficult to assess the rate of implementation of those provisions. While some progress has been made in this area, problems remain, particularly in relation to differences in procedural requirements, the protection of bank secrecy, the protection of national interests, translation requirements and delays. Statistics on requests for mutual legal assistance are also lacking.

### *Action*

56. Member States should:

(a) Make full use of multilateral treaties, notably the 1988 Convention, the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption, subject to their constitutional provisions, as a legal basis for requesting and granting mutual legal assistance and as a supplement to bilateral and regional treaties on judicial cooperation;

(b) Consider the adoption of a more flexible approach to judicial cooperation in order to facilitate the provision of the widest possible range of mutual legal assistance, in particular in the area of non-coercive measures;

(c) Maintain timely and clear communication among all central authorities, with particular attention to regular consultations with States that have a high volume of requests for assistance, and undertake prior consultations in complex or time-sensitive cases;

(d) Ensure that procedures and practices in relation to mutual legal assistance, extradition and controlled delivery capacity between States take account of different legal systems; and consider, where appropriate, the posting of criminal justice liaison personnel abroad;

(e) Request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in cooperation with Member States, to consider the advisability and feasibility of establishing a virtual network of central authorities for mutual legal assistance and competent authorities for extradition requests, pursuant to the 1988 Convention and the Organized Crime Convention, in order to facilitate communication and problem solving among such authorities.

### **3. Transfer of proceedings**

#### *Problem*

57. A limited number of States have entered into bilateral and multilateral agreements or revised their legislation to facilitate the transfer of proceedings. The availability of data was lower than in other areas.

#### *Action*

58. Member States should:

(a) Consider adopting legislation or procedures to enable the transfer of proceedings, where appropriate, in particular where extradition is not possible;

(b) Make available information on their experiences in the transfer of proceedings to interested States if they have had such experiences;

(c) Consider entering into agreements with other States to transfer or receive proceedings in criminal matters, particularly with those States which do not extradite their nationals and, in that connection, refer to the Model Treaty on the Transfer of Proceedings in Criminal Matters<sup>33</sup> as a basis for negotiation.

### **4. Controlled delivery**

#### *Problem*

59. Practical difficulties remain in the implementation of controlled delivery. Some of the difficulties relate to differences in legal provisions and authorities responsible for conducting controlled deliveries in different States, as well as to identifying the links between local and international criminal groups.

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<sup>33</sup> General Assembly resolution 45/118, annex.



## *Action*

60. Member States should:

(a) Ensure, if permitted under the basic principles of their legal systems, that legislation, procedures and practices allow for the use of controlled delivery at the national and international levels and, to that end, enter into necessary agreements, arrangements and understandings;

(b) Enhance cooperation in the areas of controlled delivery requirements, national capacities and sharing of information pertaining to controlled delivery, in conformity with domestic law;

(c) Improve and consider institutionalizing the exchange of information among source, transit and destination countries and among intergovernmental organizations in the area of law enforcement cooperation; States, in particular those situated along major drug trafficking routes, should, in conformity with their national legislation, consider establishing joint investigations and teams of law enforcement officers dealing with drug trafficking and organized crime.

## **5. Witness protection**

### *Problem*

61. Disparities remain among States with respect to legislative provisions, rules, procedures and capacities for the protection of witnesses.

### *Action*

62. Member States should take appropriate measures, within their means, including adopting, where they have not yet done so, legislation, rules and practical measures that provide for the protection of witnesses before, during and after trial and that allow, where appropriate, the implementation of measures consistent with those set out in the Organized Crime Convention, which should be used to the fullest extent possible, as it includes state-of-the-art measures in this area.

## **6. Complementary measures**

### *Problem*

63. Although legal and procedural frameworks exist in many States, numerous difficulties remain in the implementation of all the measures, in particular the legal, procedural and technical aspects with respect to the execution of requests for judicial cooperation.

*Action*

64. Member States should:

(a) Identify areas of synergy between the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on judicial cooperation in the area of drug trafficking in the context of the 1988 Convention and the work carried out to implement the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption, recognizing that gathering information on the implementation of those instruments must be complementary and mutually supportive;

(b) Assist the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in expanding online tools, such as the directory of designated authorities, to enable the sharing of judicial cooperation tools, including model forms, guidelines and manuals for extradition, mutual legal assistance, transfer of proceedings and other types of judicial cooperation or include links to websites containing such information;

(c) Enable the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist them, upon request, in collecting data for international cooperation and, where appropriate, in establishing databases to maintain such information;

(d) Use, in conformity with national legislation, existing tools and programmes to enhance extradition and mutual legal assistance through information-gathering, judicial assistance resources, including online resources such as directories, model forms, guidelines and manuals;

(e) Promote training and workshops to help acquaint States with different legal systems and strengthen working relationships among counterparts in order to facilitate the execution of requests for assistance and build trust among central authorities;

(f) Strengthen the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing training and in facilitating problem-solving forums in recognition of the need for States to familiarize themselves with different legal systems and to establish new or strengthen existing working relationships with counterparts;

(g) Review national legislation, as appropriate, to ensure compliance with the legal requirements of the 1988 Convention, as well as to promote the exchange of information among competent authorities regarding drug trafficking by sea, through regional and subregional cooperation;

(h) Define the liability and responsibilities of various shipping structures and strengthen cooperation with professional trade associations, consistent with existing international mechanisms and in accordance with their national legislation.





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