



## Economic and Social Council

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### Commission on Narcotic Drugs

#### Fifty-second session

Vienna, 11-20 March 2009

Agenda item 3 (a)

**Thematic debate on tools for enhancing the effectiveness of international drug control and international cooperation in the fight against illicit drugs, specifically: data collection for effective drug control, including on the misuse of cyberspace**

**Draft resolution submitted by Argentina and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)**

### **Improving the data collection and analysis system for following up on the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Recognizing* the urgent need to improve both the quality and the quantity of data on the cultivation of illicit drug crops and the illicit production, manufacture, distribution and consumption of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and their precursors in order to move towards comprehensive policies for reducing the supply of and the demand for such substances, thus fostering best practices and ensuring results, on the basis of appropriate data collection instruments,

*Recalling* that, in the Political Declaration on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem adopted at the high-level segment of its fifty-second session, Member States reaffirmed the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies, including those United Nations bodies with responsibilities in the area of drug control, and decided to promote and facilitate the effective follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action through biennial reports submitted to it,

*Emphasizing* the importance of strengthening and applying existing best practices relating to policies to reduce supply and demand,



*Recalling* its resolution 42/11, in which it requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to prepare a single biennial report containing, inter alia, information on global trends, organized by region, and in which it stated that the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, now called the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, should draw on its expertise and experience gained from its global technical assistance programmes and information collected under various relevant questionnaires,

*Stressing* that some Member States lack the data collection systems and tools needed to obtain relevant, reliable and internationally comparable data, and underscoring the importance of improving the tool used to collect data for the biennial reports of the Executive Director by making it simpler and more efficient, thus encouraging and motivating a greater number of Member States to submit the required information on time and ensuring a more representative assessment, at the global level, of all aspects of the drug problem,

*Concerned* by the rapid changes in and spread of the world drug problem, which make it difficult for Member States to collect data and assess the impact and effectiveness of measures taken to address the problem,

*Deeply concerned* by the difficulties faced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in its capacity as secretariat of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in conducting comprehensive statistical analyses for the preparation of the relevant reports,

1. *Urges* Member States to conduct an objective, balanced and transparent scientific assessment of the progress made through their policies in countering the world drug problem;

2. *Invites* Member States to step up their efforts to improve their systems for collecting data and assessing the nature and extent of the cultivation of illicit drug crops and the illicit production, manufacturing, distribution and consumption of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and of addiction to such substances, using tools and methodologies based on scientific evidence;

3. *Recommends* that Member States take into account the information and knowledge acquired by national and regional agencies specializing in drug-related issues in their respective geographical areas, as they can contribute significantly to assessing the problem and improving data collection and analysis systems;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance to those Member States that request it, particularly with regard to training in the application of efficient data-collection methods and the harmonization of indicators used to prepare statistics, with a view to collecting and analysing comparable data on the production of, trafficking in and abuse of drugs, thus facilitating the follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted at the high-level segment of its fifty-second session;

5. *Entrusts* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with organizing and implementing a process of consultation with Member States aimed at formulating proposals for ways to improve the tools used to collect data for the biennial reports and, to that end, decides to establish, within available resources, an

open-ended intergovernmental working group that should meet between the regular sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and that shall be responsible for developing guidelines for facilitating the submission of data showing progress achieved and the status of implementation of the goals and objectives set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to conduct exhaustive statistical analyses of the data furnished by Member States;

7. *Urges* Member States to redouble their efforts to achieve the goals and objectives set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

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