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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

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Agenda item 6 (a) and (b)*

**Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of
Action on International Cooperation towards an
Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World
Drug Problem: Demand reduction and related measures;
Supply reduction and related measures**

Statement submitted by the International Police Association**

The following statement is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996.

* E/CN.7/2011/1.

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Today, drugs continue to destroy lives, generate crime and threaten sustainable development.

Drug abuse is still a global phenomenon, it affects almost every country and constitutes a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of humankind, in particular children and young people. Society has a responsibility to protect children from drugs. Home, school and playground should be safe for kids.

There are lots of reasons why people take illegal drugs. Some take them to escape problems while others are bored, curious or just want to feel good. People may be pressured into taking drugs to “fit in” with a particular crowd or to rebel or get attention.

Drug users come from all kinds of background. They are male and female, young and old, rich and poor, working and unemployed, from the city and the countryside - it does not matter.

Drug use can affect anyone. While some of the physical effects of drugs might sound nice, they do not last long. Many people get depressed and lonely afterwards and start feeling sick.

Illicit drug activities and organized crime activities around the globe are complex problems and require a coordinated approach, involving all agencies and governments, including law enforcement in particular the Police. There is a close link between drug supply, drug trafficking, organized crime and money-laundering and for this reason there is a need for cross-border cooperation all involved agencies in order to be successful to “Counter Illicit Drug supply”.

A way out of the production of illicit “synthetic drugs” could be a close cooperation between law enforcement/Police and chemical/pharmaceutical industry, including manufacturing companies, in order to prevent illicit synthetic drug supply. Companies producing and dealing with pharmaceutical products should be advised to take measures for countering their diversion by criminal groups.

If all bodies involved in the fight against illicit drug supply are willing to cooperate and do so, there will be a chance to reduce the production and sale of illicit synthetic drugs.

The International Police Association is working in close and successful cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.