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**INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING**

Global programme of action against illicit narcotic drugs

Report of the Secretary-General

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. In resolution 44/141 of 15 December 1989, the General Assembly recognized the need for a more comprehensive approach to international drug control and a more efficient and co-ordinated structure that would enable the United Nations to play the central and increased role necessary to counter the dramatic rise in drug abuse, illicit production and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.
2. In that resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), to co-ordinate at the inter-agency level the development of a United Nations system-wide action plan on drug abuse control.
3. In response to mandates contained in resolution 44/141, the General Assembly, at its seventeenth special session convened from 20 to 23 February 1990, adopted a Political Declaration and a Global Programme of Action (S-17/2) on international co-operation against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The Global Programme of Action is a comprehensive plan of action to be taken by States and United Nations entities collectively and simultaneously in the fight against all aspects of drug abuse and illicit traffic. In paragraph 97 of the Global Programme of Action, the Assembly called upon the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations drug control bodies to monitor the progress continuously of the Global Programme of Action and requested the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on all activities relating to the Global Programme of Action.
4. In paragraph 4 of resolution 44/141 and paragraph 93 of the Global Programme of Action, the General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to select experts from developed and developing countries to assist and advise him on methods to enhance the efficiency of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control and to report to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session. Accordingly, the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Expert Group Meeting on enhancement of the efficiency of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control is before the General Assembly.
5. The present document responds to the General Assembly's request for a report on the implementation of resolutions 44/141 and S-17/2.

## II. ACTION BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM - SYSTEM-WIDE ACTION PLAN

6. In paragraph 3 of resolution 44/141, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to co-ordinate at the inter-agency level the development of a United Nations system-wide action plan aimed at the full implementation of all existing drug abuse control mandates and subsequent decisions of intergovernmental bodies throughout the United Nations system, using as a guide the Declaration of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and the recommendations in the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities for Drug Abuse Control.

7. In accordance with that request, consultations were held between the Division of Narcotic Drugs, the International Narcotics Control Board and its secretariat and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control to develop a draft framework along the guidelines of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline for the United Nations system-wide action plan. Under the chairmanship of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, in her capacity as Co-ordinator of all United Nations drug-control related activities, informal consultations with a number of agencies represented on ACC were held at Vienna in late November 1989. A preliminary draft of the outline of the system-wide action plan was reviewed by the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Co-ordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control, which met at Vienna on 5 February 1990. It was revised again to take into account the views expressed at that meeting and, subsequently, the decisions taken by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session. The system-wide action plan was then presented by ACC to all Member States and forwarded to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC), which considered it at its thirtieth session from 7 May to 11 June 1990.

8. At its second regular session, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations system-wide action plan on drug abuse control and endorsed the relevant conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of CPC. In resolution 1990/87, the Council stressed the need to revise the system-wide action plan in time for the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly in order to incorporate fully all the mandates and activities contained in the Global Programme of Action and to comply with the guidelines set out by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/141.

9. In addition the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to submit the statement of programme budget implications in a timely manner to the relevant committees of the General Assembly in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation. The objective is to provide Member States with a detailed specification of the mandates and activities of the United Nations drug control units and the extent and nature of the resources required to implement their responsibilities. The Statement of the Secretary-General on the programme budget implications of the system-wide action plan will be submitted to the General Assembly.

10. The system-wide action plan, as amended to reflect the Economic and Social Council recommendations, details the actions that have been taken by the United Nations system to implement the mandates of the Global Programme of Action, and identifies those activities mandated but not yet or not fully carried out and the resources needed to fully implement all existing and new mandates. In addition, an annual report on international co-operation in drug abuse control has been prepared following the Assembly's request in resolution 34/177. This year that report, which is before the Assembly in document A/45/542, is presented in a modified format structured around the five major chapters of the system-wide action plan which itself is structured according to the chapters of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities for Drug Abuse Control adopted at the 1987 International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The

change in the format of this report both on the actions taken by the United Nations system to implement the recommendations detailed in the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline and those taken to implement the mandates of the Global Programme of Action.

### III. ACTION BY GOVERNMENTS

11. The system-wide action plan reports the activities of the United Nations system only. Paragraph 97 of the Global Programme of Action directs the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations drug control bodies to monitor the progress on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action continuously, and the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly also on the efforts of Governments.
12. At its next session, to be held from 30 January to 8 February 1991, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs will have to consider possible ways to monitor the activities of Governments to implement the Global Programme of Action.
13. Action taken by Governments in response to their obligation under the drug control treaties and to the recommendation of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline are already monitored through the completion of questionnaires.
14. Governments are required by the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs as amended by the 1972 Protocol and by the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances to complete a detailed annual reports questionnaire on legislative and administrative measures and socio-economic action, drug abuse and illicit traffic, illicit cultivation, illicit manufacture, and diversion from licit channels.
15. In addition, the Single Convention and the 1971 Convention require Parties to furnish to the INCB yearly estimates and statistical returns on the licit production, consumption, importation and exportation of drugs under international control. When the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances enters into force on 11 November 1990, Parties will have additional reporting requirements.
16. A questionnaire is also submitted to Governments annually on their activities to implement the seven targets of Chapter I, Prevention and Reduction of Illicit Demand in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance, of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline.
17. In view of the number and scope of the questionnaires that Governments are already required to complete, consideration should be given to consolidating and simplifying those questionnaires thereby reducing their number rather than adding a new questionnaire on the action taken by Governments to implement the Global Programme of Action.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

18. In order for the General Assembly to monitor the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, the Secretary-General is requested to report on action by the United Nations system and Governments taken in response to the Global Programme of Action.

19. The General Assembly might recognize that steps have been taken this year to consolidate in a single document the reports on the actions taken by the United Nations system to implement the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline and the Global Programme of Action. The report on international co-operation in drug abuse control, which is contained in document A/45/542, fulfils the Secretary-General's obligation to report annually on the activities of the United Nations system to implement the Global Programme of Action.

20. Regarding the monitoring of Government's action to implement the Global Programme of Action, the General Assembly might keep in mind the already cumbersome obligations of Governments to answer questionnaires on their activities pursuant to the drug control treaties and the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline. The Assembly might, therefore, request the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-fourth session to review existing questionnaires with a view to reducing their number, consolidating and simplifying them.

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