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## INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST TRAFFIC IN DRUGS

Draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and  
psychotropic substancesReport of the Secretary-General

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\* A/42/150.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 39/141 of 14 December 1984, the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, requested the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to initiate, as a matter of priority, the preparation of a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

2. By resolution 40/120 of 13 December 1985, the General Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to instruct the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to decide, at its ninth special session, on the elements that could be included in the draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. It also requested the Secretary-General to prepare a draft based on those elements and to submit a progress report, including completed elements of the draft, to the Commission for consideration at its thirty-second session in 1987. A draft convention, consisting of 14 articles reflecting the 14 elements identified by the Commission for inclusion therein, was accordingly prepared for consideration by the Commission at its thirty-second session. 1/

3. On 14 December 1986, the General Assembly adopted resolution 41/126 entitled "Preparation of a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances". In paragraph 3 of the resolution, the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to instruct the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue, at its thirty-second regular session, its work on the preparation of the draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in the most expeditious manner, so that it might be effective and widely acceptable, and enter into force at the earliest possible time.

4. In paragraph 4 of the resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, to be held in 1987, a report on progress achieved in the preparation of the new convention. In paragraph 6 of the resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its forty-second session on the implementation of the resolution. The present report has been prepared in compliance with that request.

## II. ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

5. On 6 February 1987, pursuant to paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 41/126, the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session, adopted decision 1987/104 entitled "Draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances", by which the Council requested the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its thirty-second session, to proceed along the lines set forth in Assembly resolution 41/126. The Council further requested the Commission to report to it at its first regular session of 1987 on the results achieved at the thirty-second session.

6. At its thirty-second session, from 2 to 11 February 1987, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs had before it the preliminary draft of the convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances 1/ and a compilation of comments and/or proposed textual changes submitted by Governments concerning the preliminary draft. 2/ Following consideration of the preliminary draft convention under item 3 of its agenda, the Commission approved draft resolution I, entitled "Preparation of an international convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances", for submission to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its first regular session of 1987. The Commission's report on the results achieved 3/ was also before the Council at that session.

7. At its first regular session of 1987, the Economic and Social Council adopted on 26 May 1987 Commission on Narcotic Drugs draft resolution I as Council resolution 1987/27. In paragraph 3 of that resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare a working document that would consolidate the draft prepared by the Secretary-General, the comments made by Governments, the comments made by States participating in the thirty-second session of the Commission, as reflected in its report, and information on the results of the session, and to circulate it to States by 1 May 1987. The document was also to include "a draft preambular part, a section on the implementation mechanism and draft final provisions".

8. In paragraph 4 of resolution 1987/27, the Economic and Social Council decided to establish "an open-ended intergovernmental expert group to meet in 1987, twice if necessary (perhaps in July and October), each session lasting one to two weeks, within available resources, to review the working document, to reach agreement on the articles of the convention, wherever possible, and to prepare a revised working document".

9. In paragraph 6 of resolution 1987/27, the Council reiterated the request contained in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 41/126, addressed to the Secretary-General to report to the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on the progress made in preparing the draft convention. In paragraph 7, the Secretary-General was requested to distribute, by 1 November 1987, the expert group's revised draft to States for review. In paragraph 8, the Secretary-General was further requested to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its next session on the results of the expert group's meetings and to provide any comments from Governments on the expert group's revised draft. In paragraph 9, the Council requested the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to consider at its next session "the report of the Secretary-General on the progress achieved by the expert group and the comments from Governments on the work of the group, and to make recommendations on the steps to be followed in the further elaboration of the draft convention, including the possibility of convening a plenipotentiary conference in 1988 to adopt it". In paragraph 10, the Council requested the Secretary-General "to allocate sufficient funds from the programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987 for the expert group to meet; if necessary, the Secretary-General should seek to provide the funding from voluntary contributions or from the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989". The Secretary-General was also requested, in paragraph 11, to make provisions for the convening of a plenipotentiary conference in the biennium 1988-1989.

## III. ACTION BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

10. Pursuant to the request contained in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 41/126, the Secretary-General presented to the 1987 International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking a report on the progress achieved in the preparation of the new draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. 4/

11. Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/27, the Secretary-General prepared a working document 5/ and circulated it to all Governments under cover of a note verbale dated 29 April 1987. Pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 10 of the resolution, the Secretary-General organized the first meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group, which was held at the Vienna International Centre from 29 June to 10 July. The interim report on the first meeting 6/ has been circulated to all participants and a second meeting has been scheduled from 5 to 16 October 1987 to continue and, if possible, complete the review procedure requested by the Council.

12. Following the second meeting of the expert group, the group's final report and revised draft will be distributed by 1 November 1987 in accordance with the request contained in paragraph 7 of the resolution. Pursuant to the request contained in paragraph 8, the final report of the expert group, together with any comments received from Governments on the expert group's work, will be before the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its tenth special session (8-19 February 1988). The Commission, as requested in paragraph 9 of resolution 1987/27, should thus be in a position to "make recommendations on the steps to be followed in the further elaboration of the draft convention, including the possibility of convening a plenipotentiary conference in 1988 to adopt it".

Notes

1/ E/CN.7/1987/2.

2/ E/CN.7/1987/2/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1-3 and Add.2 and Add.2/Corr.1.

3/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 4 (E/1987/17), chap. II.

4/ A/CONF.133/5.

5/ DND/DCIT/WP.1 and Add.1.

6/ DND/DCIT/WP.12.

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