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Agenda item 9*

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS FORTY-FIRST SESSION

Rapporteur: Alberto Scavarelli
(Uruguay)

(Item 5 of the agenda)

The rapporteur has the honour to communicate herewith the text of chapter IV of the Commission's report to the Economic and Social Council.

Chapter IV

MONITORING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM-WIDE ACTION PLAN ON DRUG
ABUSE CONTROL AND OTHER COORDINATION MATTERS

A. Structure of the debate

IV.1. At its 1160th meeting, on 13 March 1998, the Commission considered agenda item 5 entitled "Monitoring of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control and other coordination Matters". For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the following documents:

- (a) Note by the Secretariat on the coordination of drug control activities within the United Nations system (E/CN.7/1998/5);
- (b) Updated United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (E/CN.7/1998/CRP.1);

* The agenda for the session is contained in document E/CN.7/1998/1.

IV.2. Following an introductory statement by the Deputy Executive Director, statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, Thailand and United States of America. The observers for Denmark and Panama made statements.

B. Deliberations

IV.3. It was noted that the efforts being undertaken to coordinate the work of the United Nations system in drug-control activities had lead to some improvement, and that there was a strong likelihood of intensified cooperation in the future. The importance of consolidating scarce resources and of including the international financial institutions in that effort was stressed. Many activities undertaken within the United Nations system of organizations, particularly by the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Population Fund, could usefully include a drug control component. Similarly, the need for heightened collaboration at the field level was called for, and in that context, the reform process of the United Nations, particularly track 2 as defined by the Secretary-General and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, was welcomed. The limitations of the System-Wide Action Plan were recognized, and the need for further efforts to build on the conceptual framework and turn it into a planning tool, particularly for operations at the field level, was emphasized.

IV.4. The Commission approved the updated System-Wide Action Plan contained in document E/CN.7/1998/CRP.1, as an instrument to further inter-agency coordination, particularly at the field level.