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Item 6 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Drug demand reduction: world situation with regard to drug abuse, in particular the spread of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) through drug injection

Australia: draft resolution

Human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and drug abuse

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Alarmed at the continuing spread of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) epidemic around the world,

Concerned that an estimated 40 million people across the globe are infected with HIV,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ in particular article 25, which states that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services,

Commending the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly, on HIV/AIDS, and noting the targets set in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,²

Reiterating the concerns of the General Assembly, reflected in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, that the global HIV/AIDS epidemic, through its devastating scale and impact, constitutes a global emergency and one of the most formidable challenges to human life and dignity, as well as to the effective enjoyment of human rights, which undermines social and economic development

* E/CN.7/2002/1.

¹ General Assembly 217 A (III).

² General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.



throughout the world and affects all levels of society—national, community, family and individual,²

Noting that the heads of State and Government and representatives of States and Governments participating in the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly, in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, solemnly declared their commitment to address the HIV/AIDS crisis by taking action, inter alia, to ensure that HIV/AIDS issues are included on the agenda of all appropriate United Nations conferences and meetings,²

Recalling that, in the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, it is stated that demand reduction policies should aim at preventing the use of drugs and at reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse,³

1. *Recognizes* the link between the spread of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), as well as other blood-borne viruses, and drug use, in particular injecting drug use;

2. *Expresses concern* about the continuing escalation in the popularity of amphetamine-type stimulants and recognizes that the use of those substances promotes risk-taking behaviour among users, which increases the likelihood that HIV/AIDS will spread;

3. *Recalls* that the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction recognized that progress to reduce the demand for illicit drugs should be seen in the context of the need for programmes to reduce the demand for substances of abuse and that such programmes should promote health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and should reduce the adverse consequences of drug abuse for the individual and for society as a whole;⁴

4. *Encourages* Member States to implement and strengthen efforts to raise awareness about the links between drug use and the spread of HIV and other blood-borne viruses;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to strengthen efforts to reduce the demand for illicit drugs and to ensure that a comprehensive package of prevention, education, treatment and rehabilitation measures are accessible to all individuals who use and abuse illicit drugs, including those infected with HIV/AIDS, in accordance with the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

6. *Further encourages* Member States to consider the potential impact on the spread of HIV and other blood-borne viruses when developing, implementing and evaluating policies and programmes for the reduction of illicit drug demand and supply;

7. *Commends* the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in response to the global epidemic of HIV/AIDS, and encourages Member States, to the extent possible, to support its efforts to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS around the world;

³ General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex, para. 8 (b).

⁴ General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex, para. 5.

8. *Welcomes* the participation of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS in the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and calls upon the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue to cooperate with the Joint United Nations Programme and other relevant United Nations entities in introducing and strengthening programmes to address HIV/AIDS.
