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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

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Agenda item 5

Illicit drug traffic and supply

United States of America: draft resolution

Enhancing multilateral cooperation in combating drug trafficking by sea

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Concerned about the continued increase in trafficking by sea in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Reaffirming that full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and for the international law of the sea should govern cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking by sea,

Reaffirming also the obligation of all States parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,¹ under article 17 thereof, to cooperate to the fullest extent possible to suppress drug trafficking by sea,

Recalling the measures to promote judicial cooperation in combating drug trafficking by sea adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, in Assembly resolution S-20/4 C of 10 June 1998,

Recognizing the importance of bilateral and regional cooperation in suppressing drug trafficking by sea, in accordance with article 17, paragraph 9, of the 1988 Convention,

Recalling that, in its resolution 44/6, it requested the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to provide to interested States technical

¹ *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November-20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).



assistance and training in cooperation against drug trafficking by sea, including technical assistance in the development of a user-friendly reference training guide to assist parties to the 1988 Convention in making requests pursuant to article 17 of the 1988 Convention and to assist competent authorities who had the responsibility to receive and respond to such requests and technical assistance in the development of a model reference format to facilitate the exchange of information required for appropriate action pursuant to article 17 of the 1988 Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the work done by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in developing a practical guide for competent national authorities responsible for receiving and responding to requests made pursuant to article 17 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,¹ to serve as a user-friendly reference handbook to assist parties to the 1988 Convention in making such requests and to assist those national authorities;

2. *Urges* all Member States to consider using the practical guide to enhance their efforts to suppress drug trafficking by sea;

3. *Encourages* Member States to establish appropriate, reliable and consistent channels for the exchange of information required for expeditious responses to requests to board and search vessels and to take appropriate action with respect to vessels and persons and cargo on board, pursuant to article 17 of the 1988 Convention and in accordance with the domestic law and procedures of the flag States concerned;

4. *Requests* each Member State to provide to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme information to enable the preparation, distribution and maintenance of a detailed directory of national points of contact who have access to the detection, monitoring, interdiction and prosecution authorities of that State and who can facilitate operational and legal cooperation in maritime operations;

5. *Encourages* Member States with particular expertise in maritime interdiction to consider, within available resources and in cooperation with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, providing assistance and training to other interested States, upon request.