



## Economic and Social Council

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### Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Forty-sixth session

Vienna, 8-17 April 2003

Agenda item 6

#### Implementation of the international drug control treaties

##### **Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela: draft resolution**

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

#### **Efforts to counter moves towards the indiscriminate legalization of drugs for non-medical use**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Taking into account* the policies adopted by organizations of the United Nations system concerning the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,<sup>1</sup> that Convention as amended by 1972 Protocol,<sup>2</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>3</sup> the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988<sup>4</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>5</sup> in particular article 33 thereof,

*Recalling* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,<sup>6</sup> devoted to countering the world drug problem together, the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction<sup>7</sup> and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>4</sup> *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).

<sup>5</sup> General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

<sup>6</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

<sup>7</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.

<sup>8</sup> General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex.



*Recalling also* that narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are controlled under the 1961 Convention, that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol and the 1971 Convention, which call for the States parties to those conventions to adopt all possible measures to limit the production, manufacture, export, import and distribution of, trade in and use and possession of those drugs for medical and scientific purposes if those States consider that to be the most appropriate means of protecting health and public welfare,

*Conscious* that Governments must recognize that, without the appropriate control, increased availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for legitimate medical purposes could facilitate the diversion and improper use of those drugs,

*Taking into account* the reports of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2001<sup>9</sup> and 2002,<sup>10</sup>

*Bearing in mind* that countering the world drug problem is a shared responsibility calling for coordinated action in conformity with the relevant multilateral instruments in force at the international level,

*Concerned* at the increasing levels of illicit drug consumption, in particular among children, young people and groups at risk of abusing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

*Also concerned* at the trend in some developed countries towards liberalizing policies relating to cannabis and other drugs, in particular in recent years,

*Emphasizing* that the trend towards legalizing the consumption of cannabis and other drugs for non-medical purposes is incompatible with the international drug control treaties, in particular the 1961 Convention and that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,

1. *Urges* all Governments and relevant intergovernmental bodies, in particular the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization, to analyse the new trends regarding cannabis and other drugs in various countries in the light of international law;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in collaboration with the World Health Organization, to draft a report analysing new trends with regard to cannabis in developed countries that have decided to tolerate the cultivation, manufacture and possession of, trade in and improper use of cannabis, in contrast to the efforts being made by the member States of the Andean Community, such as the allocation of appropriate resources to eradicate cannabis and coca bush and to combat drug trafficking.

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<sup>9</sup> *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2001* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XI.1).

<sup>10</sup> *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2002* (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.03.XI.1).