

**Economic and Social Council**

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**Commission on Narcotic Drugs****Fiftieth session**

Vienna, 12-16 March 2007

Agenda item 6

**Illicit drug traffic and supply****Argentina and Japan: revised draft resolution****Use of drug characterization and chemical profiling in support of drug law enforcement intelligence-gathering and operational work, as well as trend analysis**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Deeply concerned* over the impact of rampant illicit drug manufacture and trafficking, which exacerbate the global situation with regard to drug-related crime,

*Bearing in mind* General Assembly resolution 59/162 of 20 December 2004, in which the Assembly encouraged Member States to investigate the possibility of establishing operational chemical profiling programmes and invited them to support such programmes to the extent possible,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 60/178 of 16 December 2005, in which the Assembly stressed that data collection, analysis and evaluation of the results of ongoing national and international policies were essential tools for further developing sound, evidence-based drug control strategies and encouraged Member States to further develop and institutionalize monitoring and evaluation tools and to utilize existing available data to exchange and share information at all levels,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/14 of 24 July 2001, in which the Council recommended that Governments should facilitate the development of analytical methods for drug characterization and impurity profiling, and the development of chemical tracers, for the identification of manufacturing trends and new chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs,

*Recalling further* Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/15 of 24 July 2001 on international cooperation for the control of narcotic drugs, in which the Council recognized that the control of narcotic drugs was the collective responsibility of all States and that, to that end, coordinated action within the framework of international cooperation was necessary,

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*Recalling* that, in its resolution 1 (XXXIX) on scientific and technical cooperation in the control of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, it recognized the growing need for international cooperation in identifying sources, trafficking routes and distribution patterns of illicit drugs,

*Recalling* that, in its resolution 1 (XXXIX), it also recognized laboratory impurity analysis as a means of assisting law enforcement by providing valuable information pertaining to drug sources and to new and established drug trafficking routes and distribution patterns,

*Recalling* its resolution 47/5, in which it recognized the value of illicit drug characterization and profiling in supporting law enforcement intelligence-gathering and operational work and the international fight against illicit drugs,

*Noting* that drug characterization and chemical profiling have provided valuable information to identify, inter alia, relationships between drug dealers and users, drug sources, illicit drug distribution networks, drug trafficking routes, illicit drug manufacturing methods and precursors used, thus giving a broader picture of illicit drug manufacture and trafficking activities,

*Recognizing* the work done by the Laboratory and Scientific Section of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the international forensic community,

*Recognizing* the efforts made by various States to establish databases to improve information systems relating to illicit drug trafficking and the diversion of precursor chemicals,

1. *Affirms* the need to promote the use of laboratory information derived from drug characterization and chemical profiling in order to obtain updated assessments of illicit drug manufacture and trafficking trends and to identify chemical substances used in illicit drug manufacture;

2. *Reaffirms* the need to develop, strengthen and, if possible, harmonize drug characterization and chemical profiling activities of the international drug law enforcement community, pursuant to its resolution 47/5;

3. *Encourages* Member States to use drug characterization and chemical profiling to efficiently identify drug sources, drug trafficking routes and illicit drug distribution patterns, to assess illicit drug manufacture and trafficking trends and to identify chemical substances used in illicit drug manufacture;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to actively promote, where possible, the sharing and exchange of drug characterization and chemical profiling information among themselves in support of strengthened control against illicit manufacture of and trafficking in drugs as coordinated action within the framework of international cooperation;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to develop the programme of technical assistance relating to drug characterization and chemical profiling and the elaboration of assessments of trends in illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in drugs [, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources], in consultation with interested Member States, particularly developing countries, taking into account their specific needs in that area.