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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

Illicit drug traffic and supply

Mexico: draft resolution

International cooperation in preventing the misuse of the Internet for the distribution of internationally controlled licit substances

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recognizing that the trade in internationally controlled licit substances via the Internet is reaching epidemic proportions on an international scale and that the unsupervised use of such substances purchased through the Internet by the general public, in particular by under-age persons, constitutes a serious risk to global health,

Noting that resolution 43/8, submitted to the Secretariat at the forty-third regular session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, encouraged Member States to consider new strategies and methods for establishing avenues of cooperation with a

* E/CN.7/2007/1.

view to prohibiting the supply and purchase of internationally controlled licit substances through the Internet,

Noting also that the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2006 addresses the misuse of the Internet for the sale of counterfeit substances without a valid prescription;

Recognizing also that the procurement of internationally controlled licit substances via the Internet is illegal whenever it contravenes an international treaty or national law,

Recalling the action taken at the national and international levels to control the diversion of internationally controlled licit substances through the implementation of the provisions contained in the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,

Aware that the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organization of American States (OAS), at its fortieth regular session, held at Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, in November 2006, adopted a guide entitled “Drugs in Cyberspace: Understanding and Investigating Diversion and Distribution of Controlled Substances via the Internet”,

Recognizing further that the above-mentioned guide explains how the misuse of the Internet can exacerbate the problem of abuse of prescription substances and counterfeit medicines, defines terms, lists key elements of possible legislation and investigative powers required to confront the problem and outlines how investigations may be conducted to identify and prosecute individuals who use the Internet for the illegal distribution of internationally controlled licit substances,

1. *Acknowledges* the efforts of CICAD-OAS and its member States in adopting measures to combat the illegal international distribution of internationally controlled licit substances via the Internet;
2. *Encourages* Member States to take into consideration the efforts of regional organizations, such as the preparation of the CICAD-OAS guide “Drugs in Cyberspace”, when examining whether adequate measures exist to regulate, investigate and prosecute the illegal distribution of internationally controlled licit substances via the Internet;
3. *Encourages* the International Narcotics Control Board to continue its work with a view to raising awareness of and preventing the misuse of the Internet for the illegal supply, sale and distribution of internationally controlled licit substances;
4. *Invites* Member States with experience in investigating drug-related Internet-based crime, where appropriate and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary financial resources, to provide necessary equipment, training and assistance to Member States so requesting, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC);
5. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as other international bodies continue to address the escalating problem of the illegal trade in internationally controlled licit substances and counterfeit medicines through the Internet, to continue to discuss this important issue at a future meeting.