



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
3 March 2008

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Fifty-first session

Vienna, 10-14 March 2008

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

Illicit drug traffic and supply

Slovenia: draft resolution**

Strengthening international support for West Africa in combating the drug problem

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Aware that West Africa, as a result of more effective interdiction along traditional drug trafficking routes, its convenient and strategic location between South America and Europe and the lack of capacity among Governments of West African States to address the new challenge posed by cocaine trafficking, has become one of the main areas used for the storage and redistribution to Europe of cocaine manufactured in South America,

Concerned about the major threat that cocaine trafficking poses to stability, development, respect for the rule of law and public health in West Africa,

Deeply concerned about the possibility that other criminal activities and threats closely linked to drug trafficking may affect West Africa,

Realizing that the provision of international support to the States in West Africa requires long-term donor coordination and clear ownership of the process by the States in the subregion,

Recognizing the importance of pursuing a holistic approach to dealing with the drug problem and the fact that drug control policies need to be closely linked to broader development programmes in West Africa, including poverty reduction, good governance and security sector reform initiatives,

Acknowledging the efforts of the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States in fighting the drug problem in Africa in general and West

* E/CN.7/2008/1.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.



Africa in particular, namely through the formulation by the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States of a policy, a strategy and an action plan to counter that scourge,

Welcoming the decision by the Economic Community of West African States to convene a regional conference on the drug problem,

Reaffirming Security Council resolution 1580 (2004) of 22 December 2004, in which the Council appealed to the international community to continue to provide assistance to help Guinea-Bissau to meet its immediate needs, as well as its structural challenges, and the statement made by the President of the Security Council, at its 5762nd meeting, in which he stated that the Council called for urgent consideration of how the United Nations system might improve its support to Guinea-Bissau for its fight against international drug trafficking and organized crime,¹

Encouraged by the emergency plan against drug trafficking, presented by the Government of Guinea-Bissau on 3 August 2007, and by the commitments, made by the international donor community at the international conference held in Lisbon on 19 December 2007, to provide assistance to Guinea-Bissau,

Aiming to provide an effective response to the new and growing phenomenon of smuggling of illicit drugs in and through West Africa, which calls for a collective response by all States in the subregion and the rest of the international community,

1. *Reaffirms* its commitment to confronting, through a common, coordinated and balanced approach of Member States and in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility, the world drug problem in all its manifestations, in particular in the areas most affected by the negative consequences of the problem, such as West Africa;

2. *Calls upon* the Governments of the West African States to intensify their efforts against illicit drugs and to hold accountable those responsible for or complicit in drug trafficking;

3. *Calls upon* Member States and international organizations to strengthen, in coordination with the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States, initiatives and programmes aimed at providing technical and financial assistance in support of the efforts by the Governments of West African States and the Economic Community of West African States to combat the smuggling of illicit drugs in and through the subregion;

4. *Invites* Member States and international organizations to intensify their efforts to support the Government of Guinea-Bissau, given the particular dimension of the drug problem in that country;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission at its fifty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

¹ S/PRST/2007/38.