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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Fifty-third session

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Draft report

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Organization of the session and administrative matters

A. Informal pre-session consultations

1. At its intersessional meeting held on 11 September 2009, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided that its fifty-third session should be preceded by informal consultations to consider draft resolutions made available in advance of the session, as well as the provisional agenda and the topic for the thematic debate of its fifty-fourth session.

2. At the informal pre-session consultation chaired by the First Vice-Chairperson Veronika Kuchynová Smigolová (Czech Republic) and held on 5 March 2010, the Commission conducted a preliminary review of draft resolutions submitted in advance of the session.

B. Opening and duration of the session

3. The Commission held its fifty-third session in Vienna from 8 to 12 March 2010. The Commission held a total of 10 plenary meetings and 8 meetings of the Committee of the Whole. The Chairman of the Commission opened the session and invited participants to observe a minute of silence for the victims of the recent catastrophic earthquakes in Haiti and Chile. Opening statements were made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the observers for Algeria (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Zimbabwe (on behalf of the Group of African States), Costa Rica (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) and the Republic of Korea (on behalf of the Group of Asian States) and the representative of Spain (on behalf of States members of the European Union). Statements were also made by the Deputy Minister for Health of



Portugal, the Adviser to the President and Secretary-General of the Drug Control Headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Counter-Narcotics of Afghanistan, the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy of the United States of America, the Director of the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation, the President of the National Commission for Development and Life without Drugs (DEVIDA) of Peru and the Chairman of the Drug Law Enforcement Agency of Nigeria, on behalf of the Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice of Nigeria.

C. Attendance

4. The session was attended by representatives of [...] States members of the Commission ([...] were not represented). Also attending were observers for other States Members of the United Nations and non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. A list of participants is contained in document [...].

D. Election of officers

5. In section I of its resolution 1999/30, the Economic and Social Council decided that, with effect from the year 2000, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should, at the end of each session, elect its Bureau for the subsequent session and should encourage it to play an active role in the preparations for the regular as well as the intersessional meetings of the Commission, so as to enable the Commission to provide continuous and effective policy guidance to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Pursuant to rule 16 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the officers of the Commission hold office until their successors are elected and are eligible for re-election.

6. In accordance with section I of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 and rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission, at the end of its reconvened fifty-second session, on 2 December 2009, opened its fifty-third session for the sole purpose of electing its Bureau for that session. At that meeting, the Commission endorsed the election of the Chairman, the Second Vice-Chairman, the Third Vice-Chairman and the Rapporteur.

7. At its 1st meeting, on 8 March 2010, the Commission endorsed the designated First Vice-Chairperson.

8. The officers of the Commission at its fifty-third session were as follows:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Regional group</i>	<i>Officer</i>
<i>Chairman</i>	Group of Asian States	Ali Asghar Soltanieh (Islamic Republic of Iran)
<i>First Vice-Chairperson</i>	Group of Eastern European States	Veronika Kuchynová Smigolová (Czech Republic)
<i>Second Vice-Chairman</i>	Group of Western European and other States	Alberto Groff (Switzerland)
<i>Third Vice-Chairman</i>	Group of Latin American and Caribbean States	Julio Cesar Zelner Gonçalves (Brazil)
<i>Rapporteur</i>	Group of African States	Koffi Hypolite Yéboué (Côte d'Ivoire)

9. A group composed of the chairpersons of the five regional groups (the representative of Australia and the observers for Zimbabwe, the Republic of Korea, Georgia and Costa Rica), the representative of Spain (on behalf of the European Union) and the observer for Algeria (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) was established to assist the Chairman of the Commission in dealing with organizational matters. That group, together with the elected officers, constituted the extended Bureau foreseen in Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/39. During the fifty-third session of the Commission, the extended Bureau met on [...] and [...] March 2010 to consider matters related to the organization of work.

E. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

10. At its 1st meeting, on 8 March 2010, the Commission adopted by consensus its provisional agenda (E/CN.7/2010/1), which had been finalized at its intersessional meetings pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2009/248. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Normative segment

3. Thematic debate: in the context of a balanced approach to reducing drug demand and supply, measures to enhance awareness of the different aspects of the world drug problem, including by improving understanding of how to tackle the problem:
 - (a) Effective means of raising awareness about the risks of abusing drugs, including cannabis, giving special attention to addressing in a comprehensive manner the specific needs of women, men, youth and children;
 - (b) Measures to improve the understanding of drug addiction as a chronic but treatable multifactorial health disorder;
 - (c) Regional and interregional cooperation;

- (d) Importance of research and the collection, reporting and analysis of data for raising awareness about the world drug problem.
- 4. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.
- 5. Improving the collection, reporting and analysis of data to monitor the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.
- 6. Drug demand reduction: world situation with regard to drug abuse.
- 7. Illicit drug traffic and supply and related measures:
 - (a) World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission;
 - (b) Reducing the illicit supply of drugs;
 - (c) Control of precursors and of amphetamine-type stimulants;
 - (d) International cooperation on eradicating the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and on alternative development.
- 8. Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation:
 - (a) Countering money-laundering;
 - (b) Judicial cooperation.
- 9. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:
 - (a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
 - (b) International Narcotics Control Board;
 - (c) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes;
 - (d) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

Operational segment

- 10. Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions:
 - (a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;
 - (b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
 - (i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

- (ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions.

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- 11. Provisional agenda for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission.
- 12. Other business.
- 13. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-third session.

F. Documentation

- 11. The documents before the Commission at its fifty-third session are listed in annex [...] of the present report.
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