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New York

UN/NA COLLECTION

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 43rd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MADAR (Somalia)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.50 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 101: INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST TRAFFIC IN DRUGS: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/39/193, 194, 407, 421, 551 and Corr.1, 577 and 646; A/C.3/39/8; A/C.3/39/L.30, L.31)

1. Mr. POERSCHKE (German Democratic Republic) said it was undeniable that today there were more drugs with higher potential and more dangerous consequences available on the illicit drug market. The problem of drug abuse, especially in imperialist States and in some developing countries, had reached an extent unknown before. Those problems threatened the health of entire social groups in the countries concerned.
2. With respect to the co-ordinating role of the United Nations in the campaign against drug abuse, existing means must be used to the best effect. His delegation agreed with the decision taken at the eighth special session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to extend the area of control covered by the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances. The inclusion of additional substances in the control mechanism of that Convention presented the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) with new tasks. His delegation was convinced, however, that INCB had all the requirements necessary to meet its responsibilities.
3. The German Democratic Republic supported all efforts within the United Nations to increase security with respect to the international traffic in drugs and to enhance the co-operation of States in the struggle against illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse. Drug abuse was a very complex problem and should be thoroughly discussed within the relevant expert bodies. The German Democratic Republic took strong measures to ensure that its transit roads were not used for illegal traffic in drugs and, to that end, had confiscated several kilograms of drugs destined for various capitalist countries.
4. Domestically, the German Democratic Republic had created social conditions which prevented drug abuse. They included the right to work, education, leisure time and vacation, free medical care and the enjoyment of fundamental social and human rights. At the international level, the German Democratic Republic would continue, especially as a member of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, to work for better protection against the dangers of drug abuse.
5. Mr. BRAUN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that, despite considerable efforts of individual countries and the international community, drug abuse and drug traffic had increased over the past year. His Government therefore emphasized the need for even closer co-operation of all countries affected, in order to supplement national measures. Accordingly, it was most important to strengthen international instruments, and his delegation urged all Governments to accede to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 and that Convention, as amended by the 1972 Protocol and the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

(Mr. Braun, Federal Republic of Germany)

6. Material assistance to countries affected by illegal drug production and drug trafficking had to be increased, and his Government would step up its co-operation with those countries. In addition to bilateral measures, his country deemed it important to increase support of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) with a view to organizing concerted action against the problem in drug-producing and transit countries. His Government supported the UNFDAC concept of a master plan (A/39/193, para. 52) and believed that it was essential for receiving countries to participate actively in setting up similar plans. In addition, substitution programmes should be started only if their continuation by local authorities was assured.
7. His Government regarded the New York Declaration against Drug Trafficking and the Illicit Use of Drugs (A/39/551) and the Quito Declaration Against Traffic in Narcotic Drugs (A/39/407) as important steps in the international fight against drug abuse and drug trafficking. The Federal Republic of Germany would continue to support, both within the United Nations and in individual member countries, all efforts to control drug abuse and illegal drug traffic.
8. Mr. ALBORNOZ (Ecuador) drew attention to the Quito Declaration against Traffic in Narcotic Drugs (A/39/407), in which it was proposed that traffic in narcotic drugs should be considered a crime against humanity, with all the legal consequences implicit therein. There were clearly defined international instruments to prevent drug trafficking from the points of origin. However, efforts should also be made to remove the incentive to buy drugs. Ecuador was not a drug-producing country and was not involved in illicit traffic. However, given its location it was concerned about the danger of becoming a transit country and therefore sought the co-operation of other countries under the respective international instruments.
9. His delegation believed that the fund referred to in the Quito Declaration should be used for regional and subregional projects in accordance with the priorities of the fund and the interest of each country. Ecuador had already begun receiving the co-operation of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and hoped to continue receiving the co-operation of other United Nations bodies in that field. Today, more than ever, all such activities required international co-ordination and the political will of States. His delegation was gratified that the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs had been entrusted with the task of co-ordinating all United Nations activities in that field.
10. Mr. TOYAD (Malaysia) said that more needed to be done to control drug production, trafficking and illicit use of drugs, because the problem was urgent, dangerous and complex. Its tentacles could spread throughout society. Moreover, the drug problem posed a threat to the stability of many countries and to inter-State relations. Malaysia had promulgated stringent regulations against illicit drug activities, including the imposition of the death penalty for trafficking offences. In short, while Malaysia adopted a humanitarian policy towards drug dependence, it would never compromise with drug traffickers and dealers.

(Mr. Toyad, Malaysia)

11. A long-term solution to the problem of drug abuse could be achieved only if the problem was tackled in all its aspects. Many developing countries required assistance in coping with drug abuse because of the lack of financial and human resources. Countries should have common policies and programmes, particularly with regard to questions relating to the sources of supply, demand and illicit trafficking, education and information. That would facilitate inter-State co-operation.

12. Wherever there was demand, drugs would continue to flow. The affluent countries therefore had a particular role to play because they were the "first-choice" countries of the drug traffickers. Some of those countries had not adopted severe penalties for drug offences. In addition, these sometimes claimed that the producing countries had not done enough to stem the flow of illegal drugs. His delegation was convinced that those high-income countries were at least equally responsible, since a free market encouraged the flow of illicit drugs. Furthermore, those countries, imbued with a distorted sense of human freedom and human rights, could not bring themselves to impose heavy prison sentences on traffickers. An effective effort to combat drug abuse depended on the elimination of its demand.

13. The lack of progress in solving the drug problem could be attributed to the lack of political will on the part of many participating countries, as well as to insufficient co-ordination and to duplication of drug-control activities within the United Nations system. Programmes carried out by specialized agencies should be submitted to the United Nations Division of Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board for comments before being implemented. In addition, United Nations agencies should make more determined and co-ordinated efforts to stop the illegal cultivation of the opium poppy by crop-substitution subsidies, development projects, political persuasion and other available means.

14. Mr. CERMAK (Austria) said that his delegation greatly admired the work done by the Division of Narcotic Drugs, despite its budgetary restrictions, to implement the programme of action of the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy (A/39/193, para. 2). The Secretariat must be given sufficient funds to enable it to fulfil its mandate and it should continue to have access to extrabudgetary and voluntary contributions. Austria was pleased that the Secretariat was concentrating on the problems faced by transit States, and particularly on methods of combating illicit drug trafficking. Those efforts should culminate in the type of proposals to prevent drug traffickers from profiting from their illegal transactions which would not undermine the protection of fundamental human rights.

15. The concerns of transit States must be accommodated in proposals from the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and from expert groups that would amend existing legal instruments on drug-abuse control; those proposals could then be circulated by the Secretary-General in accordance with the procedures set up under the relevant international instruments.

(Mr. Cermak, Austria)

16. Non-governmental organizations had been dealing with drug problems for many years, sometimes very successfully. They had a unique role to play because of their unbureaucratic and direct contact with those affected by drug abuse, and they should definitely keep on with their activities.

17. His Government's position on the periodicity of meetings of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was unchanged. The holding of annual meetings required a sound legal basis, and the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly must take action to provide it.

18. He commended UNFDAC and INCB for their excellent execution of the tasks entrusted to them. INCB's quiet diplomacy enabled it to exert pressure on Governments and other entities without publicizing its efforts, and therefore produced otherwise impossible results. His Government supported the work of all United Nations drug-abuse control bodies.

19. Mr. BORGES (Uruguay) said that despite efforts to combat drug trafficking it had increased significantly. An integrated strategy must be implemented at the national, regional and international levels to abolish that criminal activity: that was why her Government participated in co-ordinated activities to combat drug trafficking. It supported the idea of convening a specialized United Nations conference to consider the legal and institutional problems connected with drug trafficking, and advocated the adoption of an international plan of action. A convention covering all aspects of the problem, particularly those not regulated by existing international instruments, should be elaborated, placing special emphasis on prevention and education.

20. Her delegation welcomed the activities of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, INCB and UNFDAC.

21. Mr. VILLAGRA DELGADO (Argentina) said that the drug problem was two-fold: first, it did enormous physical and moral harm to populations, particularly to youth, and second, it damaged social and sometimes political structures because of the link between organized crime and drug trafficking. The first aspect was approaching unprecedented dimensions because of the variety of substances that were being consumed and of sectors of the population which were affected. The second aspect had reached alarming proportions because of the huge profits derived from the dramatic increase in demand, particularly in developed countries, which drug traffickers were using to buy protection.

22. Argentina was particularly concerned about the dimensions of the problem in South America, and was convinced that only the adoption of special measures by the international community would resolve the crisis. The problem of drug trafficking could be combated effectively only if all members of the international community acted together. That was why Argentina had signed the Quito and New York Declarations (A/39/407 and 551), which were not mere rhetoric but a call to action. The time was now ripe for results in the struggle against drug trafficking.

(Mr. Villagra Delgado, Argentina)

23. Drug trafficking was a crime against humanity, and its declaration as such would make way for the formulation of precise legal definitions which would ensure that the crime was punished and that national borders were no longer used as shields for committing it. The international community must not waver in the struggle, and its activities must cover all aspects of the problem, including production, trafficking and consumption. The developed countries in which consumption was concentrated had special responsibilities both to adopt effective measures to reduce demand and to provide increased economic, scientific and technological resources. Development plans offering suitable economic and social opportunities for the population affected by illicit drug production were essential, and contributions like the significant one which Italy had made to UNFDAC should serve as an example to other countries. Regional arrangements like the South American Agreement on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, which had been quite effective, should be strengthened.

24. In order to eliminate drug trafficking and abuse, the international community must deploy economic, political and legal measures backed up by effective co-operation. The impetus derived from the increasing awareness of the gravity of the problem and the need to confront it must be used to the fullest.

25. Mr. CHEN Shiqiu (China) said that the United Nations drug-abuse control agencies had achieved remarkable results in providing technical assistance and training to the countries most affected and in helping transit States to cope with their special difficulties. Illicit narcotics production and trafficking and drug abuse harmed the mental and physical well-being of peoples, particularly youth, fostered crime and jeopardized the economic and social development of the countries concerned, and prohibition required co-ordinated efforts, primarily at the national but also at the regional and international levels.

26. Narcotics had plagued the Chinese before liberation, but since 1949 the Chinese Government had adopted a series of effective legislative and administrative measures. It had banned opium cultivation and trafficking, regulated narcotic drugs, and provided free medical care and treatment for drug addicts. As a result, narcotics trafficking and consumption and the harmful effects of opium had been eradicated. His Government strictly forbade the transport of narcotic drugs by foreigners through Chinese territory and any attempts to do so had been thwarted and punished according to law.

27. Narcotic drugs were produced by authorized units under State control. The use of narcotics and psychotropic substances for medical purposes and in scientific research was strictly regulated. In accordance with the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, the Chinese Government issued permits for the import and export of 40 different psychotropic substances.

28. Banning drug trafficking and eliminating the harmful effects of narcotics required not only determined and effective measures by the countries concerned but also close regional and international co-operation. His delegation attached great importance to co-operative United Nations efforts and was prepared to work with all other countries to strengthen control of narcotic drugs, protect the health of all peoples and promote social development.

29. Miss ABAS (Indonesia) said that drug abuse and illegal drug trafficking had become more widespread than ever: their deleterious effects not only jeopardized economic and social development, especially in the developing countries, but also posed a serious threat to communities, particularly young people. Indonesia, like its neighbours, had had experience with the drug-abuse problem, which was compounded by their proximity to a key source of narcotic drugs.

30. Modernization in Indonesia had brought rapid social change which had affected the traditional value system. It had created cynicism, frustration and social insecurity and had imbued many with a fear of the future, from which they sought refuge through drug and alcohol abuse. Additional factors such as unemployment, family problems and school drop-outs had increased the incidence of drug abuse. The tragedy was that much of the problem was concentrated among youth; the only ones to profit from the situation were the illegal drug traffickers and dealers. All sectors of the population must be invited to combat the problem side by side with their Governments. At the subregional level, a drug-abuse strategy had been developed within the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) with a view to promoting joint action.

31. Co-operation in respect of law enforcement was extremely important. Illegal drug trafficking knew no State boundaries, and powerful international drug syndicates had world-wide networks and private armed gangs that made it almost impossible for local authorities acting alone to achieve any success. International co-operation was therefore imperative and might take such forms as information exchange, joint operations, conferences and seminars. Law-enforcement officers of various countries should become acquainted with each other and with their respective operating procedures in order to facilitate joint action and promote confidentiality and speed in their work. The annual meetings of Heads of National Narcotics Law Enforcement Agencies, Far East Region, had resulted in the development of countermeasures at the regional and interregional levels. A number of intergovernmental organizations, including ASEAN, had already established special training centres for combating drug abuse which would greatly enhance the efficiency of law-enforcement training and other activities within the region.

32. Drug abuse and trafficking could be dealt with only through wide-ranging international co-operation and a combination of national and international measures - her delegation particularly appreciated the collective efforts being made by a group of Latin American States. The Indonesian Government would continue to co-operate closely with the United Nations in the immense task of drug-abuse control.

33. Mrs. QIZILBASH (Pakistan) said that recent record-breaking seizures of illegal narcotics had exposed an alarming increase in their production, trafficking and consumption and had challenged the international community to adopt a co-ordinated approach and to consider ways and means of reducing the demand for them. Pakistan was affected by illicit drug trafficking, and the Government was doing everything possible to overcome the problem. It had adopted a multi-dimensional approach which focused on poppy crop substitution, effective law enforcement, reduction of demand through the treatment and rehabilitation of addicts and abuse prevention

(Mrs. Qizilbash, Pakistan)

through education and motivation. Pakistan had already initiated four projects to promote poppy crop substitution, for which it was receiving assistance from UNFDAC and the United States Agency for International Development. That assistance, while welcome, was far from adequate, and the Government had to restrict its efforts to a few projects because of financial constraints.

34. In 1979, the Government had formally outlawed the cultivation, processing, use and possession of all narcotic drugs; subsequent enforcement had broken up a system for distributing opium and had reduced the acreage under poppy cultivation by about a quarter in three years. The opium harvested had been reduced even more, from 800 tonnes in 1979 to only 45 tonnes in 1983/84.

35. Effective law enforcement and co-ordinated action by the agencies concerned had substantially increased the amount and frequency of drug seizures. Because the Government was greatly concerned at the increased involvement of criminals in narcotics trafficking, it had made offenders liable to the maximum punishment.

36. The drug problem was so large that no country had the resources to cope with it effectively: only close co-operation among all nations could bring about a solution. Pakistan hoped to receive greater financial and technical support from United Nations agencies in order to promote poppy crop substitution; create industrial units, income-generating projects and employment opportunities in narcotics-processing areas; strengthen law-enforcement agencies through training and the provision of transportation, equipment and operating funds; and promote programmes for reducing demand, including the treatment of addicts, prevention and education. Pakistan, for its part, would continue to play a constructive role in the multilateral efforts which offered the only hope of winning the long and arduous struggle against drug abuse.

37. Mrs. FARRA-FROND (Central African Republic) said that, because of her country's location at the crossroads of the African continent and of such factors as the population explosion, the migration to the cities, the influx of refugees and nearly 10 years of drought, the youth of her country were particularly vulnerable to drug abuse. The illegal import and trafficking of cannabis and the misuse of certain toxic drugs was of utmost concern to her Government, which had begun to take preventive measures and apply harsh punishments. The Central African Republic lacked sufficient resources to set up centres for the treatment, rehabilitation and follow-up of former addicts. Her delegation therefore appealed to the relevant agencies to provide assistance.

38. Mr. HAWKES (Canada) said that the international trafficking in narcotic drugs was becoming worse, therefore requiring a strong international response. Indeed, the drug users were enslaved by their addiction and traffickers were their masters. The Secretariat officials who had introduced the item had rightly described the situation as "alarming and dangerous". Those who did not feel a sense of urgency should reflect on the future: the drug traders, who now preyed upon the weak in society, would ultimately prey upon those States that were least prepared to deal with them.

(Mr. Hawkes, Canada)

39. His delegation hoped that the Committee would act unanimously through resolutions to convey its sense of urgency to the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. A stronger set of international instruments was needed. He paid tribute to Venezuela, Bolivia and the other delegations which had done so much to re-energize and focus the current debate. The New York Declaration against Drug Trafficking and the Illicit Use of Drugs (A/39/551) and the Quito Declaration against Traffic in Narcotic Drugs (A/39/407) had made a valuable contribution to the Committee's consideration of the item. It was clear that co-ordinated efforts to combat drug trafficking required further specific legal and administrative agreements, and his delegation therefore welcomed draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.30, concerning the international campaign against traffic in narcotic drugs. The annexed working document proposed by the delegation of Venezuela would provide a useful basis for reflecting on new measures to deal with drug trafficking.

40. As to the proposal that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should prepare a draft convention or protocol on the imposition of financial sanctions on those convicted of drug trafficking, his delegation felt that it could usefully be studied in conjunction with the working document annexed to draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.30.

41. Canada was participating in a variety of drug-control activities. Canadian liaison officers were working with officials in several countries to exchange information, and the Government was providing training assistance to help other States control drug trafficking. His Government had also entered bilateral mutual-assistance agreements on co-operation between customs authorities in order to prohibit narcotics movements. Canada had also contributed over the years to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, which had supported a project to study how to reduce the illicit demand for narcotics and a project for ongoing training in addiction treatment in Africa. His delegation felt that those projects had been useful and that wider support for the Fund was essential. Lastly, his delegation hoped that, through such proposals as those made in the General Assembly and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, more effective and internationally acceptable legal instruments would be developed to provide sanctions against drug traffickers.

42. Mr. FAROUQUE (Sri Lanka) said that his delegation was seriously concerned about the alarming increase in the quantities of drugs seized world-wide during the past year. Illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse had become an international criminal activity that impeded economic and social progress while endangering the life and health of nations, particularly youth, and Sri Lanka was therefore willing to co-operate in global, interregional and subregional action to combat the drug menace.

43. Sri Lanka had recently enacted laws imposing stiffer penalties for several drug-related offences. It had also strengthened customs surveillance of drug trafficking. The drug-control authorities of Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan had initiated an understanding with a view to improving co-ordination and communication among the three countries. Sri Lanka also continued to provide maximum support for international agencies dealing with drug trafficking and related activities,

(Mr. Farouque, Sri Lanka)

including the illicit traffic in firearms, subversion, international terrorism and other organized criminal activities. His delegation was pleased to note that Colombo had been recommended as a venue for a regional meeting for official tripartite discussions among representatives of drug law-enforcement agencies in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

44. Mr. RATHORE (India) said that, despite the firm resolve by Member States to counteract both the symptoms and the disease, the traffic in drugs and psychotropic substances had greatly increased. The problem should be tackled firmly through the enactment and strict enforcement of suitable domestic legislation and through a co-ordinated strategy at the national, regional and international levels covering consumer, producer and transit countries. In that connection, his delegation welcomed the first joint meeting between the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East and the Heads of National Narcotics Law Enforcement Agencies, Far East Region, which had resulted in the development of co-ordinated countermeasures at both regional and interregional levels. His delegation also attached considerable importance to the countermeasures suggested by the Indian delegation at the thirtieth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held in Vienna in 1983.

45. His delegation regretted to note, however, in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/39/646, annex), that the General Assembly's appeals for greater activity by the United Nations system in the drug-abuse field had not found adequate response internationally. Furthermore, there were few signs of inter-agency co-ordination, with the exception of the designation of the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs as co-ordinator of all United Nations drug-related activities and the growth of ad hoc inter-agency meetings.

46. Opium was produced in India under strictly controlled conditions, ensuring that the leakage of opium from licit cultivation was minimal. Moreover, the area under opium had been progressively reduced. The possibilities of providing alternative employment through substitute crops, however, were severely limited for the large sectors of population traditionally dependent upon opium cultivation. In that regard, he drew attention to the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy, which called upon countries that had recently begun expanded production and manufacture of opiates for export to restrict production and manufacture mainly to their own domestic requirements. The Strategy also stated that it was desirable for importing countries to obtain their requirements from traditional supplier countries. The implementation of those provisions would go a long way in alleviating the financial burdens and socio-economic consequences faced by traditional supplier countries. Moreover, India, which was being increasingly used as a transit country in the international traffic of illicit drugs, felt there was a need to give priority to measures to alleviate the special problems of transit States through co-operative regional and interregional efforts.

47. Ms. LOEMBAN TOBING-KLEIN (Suriname) said that the recommendations of a biennial conference of the Caribbean Federation for Mental Health held in Suriname a few years previously, which had dealt with the problems of drug abuse, were still

(Ms. Loemban Tobing-Klein, Suriname)

very useful in 1984. That Conference had recommended that an epidemiological approach should be taken to all problems of drug dependence, as well as a comprehensive approach which would include dependence on alcohol and other common drugs; adequate treatment facilities must be provided for alcoholism; and attempts at primary prevention for all drug problems must be based upon unemotional and accurate education, fair legislation and programmes for promoting more healthful ways of living.

48. The Government of Suriname had set up a narcotic drug unit for the punishment of drug abuse and had undertaken a serious attempt at drug education; moreover, a drug-prevention foundation had been established as a non-governmental organization. There was close co-operation between the narcotic drug unit and the drug-prevention foundation, with emphasis placed on drug education. For the International Youth Year in 1985, a Caribbean youth congress on drugs was to be held in Suriname, and an intensive information programme was being implemented through all major youth channels. She noted, however, that the preventive measures being taken by her Government were seriously hampered by an influx of drug addicts of Surinamese origin from European countries as a result of policies conducted by those countries. Her delegation welcomed closer international co-operation among governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to intensify the battle against drug abuse, and it had therefore co-sponsored draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.31.

49. Mr. ZUCCONI (Italy) said that his delegation shared the view that it was increasingly evident that multilateral action was the most effective means of reducing drug traffic and drug abuse. Although each country should do its best to combat the problem, no country could hope to succeed in overcoming all the difficulties by itself; every State must contribute to the common effort. Contributions towards multilateral action could save countries considerable sums of money now being spent at the national level on the fight against the drug traffic and on the social rehabilitation of drug addicts.

50. His Government had taken important steps in its continued effort to prevent the spread of the use of narcotic substances among the young and to stop the traffic in drugs in the country. In the period 1980-1983, more than 30,000 kilograms of drugs had been seized. An interim ministerial committee had been established to study changes to be made in the anti-drug law of 1975, particularly with respect to preventive and punitive action. A national conference had been organized to study all the aspects of the spread of drugs among young people. The Ministry of Education had also set up planning and study committees to promote educational activities in schools.

51. Italy favoured the strengthening of international action to improve permanent co-ordination mechanisms for law enforcement. It therefore contributed regularly to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and had made \$45 million available to the Fund for specific projects in Latin America.

52. The social dimension of the drug problem, particularly the relationship between drugs and crime, should be more closely examined at the international

(Mr. Zucconi, Italy)

level. In that regard, the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held in Milan in 1985, would be an appropriate occasion to give the subject the attention it deserved.

53. Mr. MITREV (Bulgaria) said that United Nations efforts to devise comprehensive measures to combat drug abuse should take account of the relationship between the drug problem and socio-economic conditions. Moreover, all States must contribute to international co-operation in the struggle against drug trafficking. Drug abuse was non-existent in Bulgaria because of its socio-economic conditions and drug-control measures. National legislation exhaustively regulated efforts to control drug abuse and illegal drug trafficking, in full conformity with Bulgaria's international obligations.

54. Bulgaria had participated actively in international measures to prevent drug abuse and illegal drug trafficking, and its contacts with the competent international organs had always been very productive. It had hosted international conferences on drug-traffic control in 1978, 1980 and 1983 and would do likewise in 1985. The Bulgarian customs administration had active bilateral contacts concerning the drug problem with a number of European and other countries which it wished to expand.

55. Bulgaria was implementing national measures to stem drug trafficking: in the past 10 years, for example, the competent bodies had thwarted over 700 smuggling attempts and seized 17,370 kilograms of illegal narcotics. In the first half of 1984 alone, 146 kilograms, transported by foreign citizens, had been confiscated.

56. His country's policy regarding control of illegal drug trafficking was based on respect for international law and aimed at fostering international co-operation: that co-operation must not, however, be subordinated to expediency or myopic political calculations. Bulgaria would continue to contribute to efforts to end illegal drug trafficking, while strictly observing its obligations under international conventions and complying with its own legislation.

57. Mrs. DOWNING (Secretary of the Committee) announced that Canada and El Salvador had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.30, and that El Salvador and Indonesia had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.31.

AGENDA ITEM 93: UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN: EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE
(continued)

58. Mrs. DOWNING (Secretary of the Committee) announced that Guinea had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.27.

The meeting rose at 1.20 p.m.