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## **Thirty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific**

Bangkok, 30 November-3 December 2010

### **Provisional agenda and annotations**

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, and relevant recommendations of the Thirty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.
5. 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.
6. Consideration of topics by working groups:
  - (a) Challenges to effective drug law enforcement;
  - (b) Amphetamine type stimulants — taking effective measures against synthetic drugs;
  - (c) Developing effective regional responses to illicit drug trafficking.
7. Organization of the Thirty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report of the Thirty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.



## **Annotations**

### **1. Election of officers**

Elections are held in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. Meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Asia and the Pacific, have in the past elected a Chairperson, two Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters**

The draft provisional agenda for the Thirty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, was approved at the Thirty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, held in Denpasar, Indonesia from 6-9 October 2009.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the Thirty-fourth Meeting may wish to establish a timetable and agree on its organization of work. A proposed organization of work for the consideration of the Meeting is contained in the annex to the present document.

#### **Documentation**

Provisional agenda and annotations (UNODC/HONLAP/34/1)

### **3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures**

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its thirty-eighth session, recommended that general statements relating to national trends and statistics should not be read out but rather should be circulated in written form. Accordingly, Governments are invited to submit to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, by 15 October 2010, a two-page report on the most recent trends in drug trafficking in their countries.

Participants are invited to inform the Thirty-fourth Meeting of the action taken by their Governments to enhance regional and subregional cooperation in areas such as joint investigations, law enforcement training and sharing of information and experience in drug trafficking countermeasures.

Participants are also invited to inform the Thirty-fourth Meeting of measures taken to counter drug trafficking at the national and regional levels.

The Thirty-third Meeting requested UNODC to provide a briefing on the situation in Afghanistan at the Thirty-fourth Meeting of HONLEA, Asia and the Pacific, under the relevant agenda item.

#### **Documentation**

Report of the Secretariat on statistical analysis of drug trafficking trends in East, South-East and South Asia and Oceania and worldwide (UNODC/HONLAP/34/2)

**4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, and relevant recommendations of the Thirty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific**

Participants are invited to inform the Thirty-fourth Meeting of action taken by their Governments to implement the recommendations adopted at the Thirty-second Meeting. For its consideration of this item, the Thirty-fourth Meeting will have before it a note prepared by the Secretariat based on the replies submitted by Governments on action taken to implement those recommendations.

To enable the Secretariat to prepare a report on the status of implementation of those recommendations, Governments are urged to return the completed questionnaire by 15 October 2010.

The Thirty-third Meeting requested that, in addition to the report on implementation of the recommendations from two years ago, the Secretariat should also report on implementation of the recommendations from 2009 on the specific expert groups that were envisaged for this year.

The recommendations made by the Thirty-third Meeting with regard to the issue entitled “Illicit drug trafficking: emerging trends across the region” included the following: (a) to support the appropriate action needed to tackle the threat posed by West African syndicates, governments should encourage their law enforcement authorities, in close cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) liaison office in Bangkok to create a technical working group to act as a repository of expert knowledge on the operations of West African syndicates; and (b) to establish a group of experts to agree upon a standard operating procedure template for the Asia-Pacific countries, which could be presented at the next meeting of HONLEA, Asia and the Pacific.

Furthermore, under the issue entitled “Measures to counter the manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants in the region”, it was recommended that governments of the region should form a small working group to make recommendations on responses to the anticipated increase in clandestine laboratory seizures and on how to deal with the drugs and precursors seized in such situations. The assessment should (a) determine the extent of the problem and (b) explore the most cost-effective options available to countries to address it. The working group may make recommendations based on the United Nations guidelines. The Secretariat will report on the outcome of the expert group meeting on safe and environmentally-responsible disposal of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs organized by UNODC’s Laboratory and Scientific Section and UNODC’s Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok, 20-22 September 2010.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat on the review of implementation of the recommendations adopted at the Thirty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/34/3)

Note by the Secretariat on the outcome of the expert group meeting on safe and environmentally-responsible disposal of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs (UNODC/HONLAP/34/CRP.1)

## **5. 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**

In its resolution 64/182, the General Assembly, welcoming the outcome of the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, adopted the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A.) as adopted at that high-level segment and called upon States to take the necessary measures to fully implement the actions set out therein, with a view to attaining in a timely manner their goals and targets.

In adopting the Plan of Action, Member States recognized that it constituted an integral part of and complemented the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session (Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex), the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development (Assembly resolution S-20/4 E) and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction (Assembly resolution 54/132, annex).

Member States committed themselves to effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action through resolute international cooperation, in collaboration with relevant regional and international organizations.

Also in its resolution 64/182, the General Assembly encouraged the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation.

Participants will be invited to consider the challenges posed to the States of the region with regard to the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, particularly part II of the Plan of Action, on supply reduction and related measures, as well as the implications with regard to follow-up and the contribution that the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement agencies, Asia and the Pacific, could make to the Commission in that regard.

## **6. Consideration of topics by working groups**

Working groups will be established to review issues of regional importance in the area of drug control and to facilitate informal discussions and exchanges of views on those matters. Subjects that were identified by the Thirty-third meeting are included under the three main working group topics. Speakers with relevant specialised knowledge will be invited to make introductory presentations on these subjects to inform the working groups and facilitate discussion. In preparing for this meeting, delegates are invited to prepare material around the following topics.

### **(a) Challenges to effective drug law enforcement**

#### *Violence against law enforcement officers*

Large organized crime groups involved in trafficking illicit drugs have gained a reputation for aggressively dealing with persons who confront them. What steps or

procedures have States taken to protect their law enforcement officers from threat, intimidation and harassment as a result of the performance of their official duties?

*Raising awareness among the judiciary of drug law enforcement operations and associated challenges*

The effective prosecution of those involved in trafficking illicit drugs increasingly requires the sanction and support of the judiciary in order to obtain the required evidence. How can Member States best support their respective judiciaries in being effectively engaged in the investigation of these offences?

*Measures against the cultivation of cannabis with high concentration of THC*

Cannabis continues to dominate the world's illicit drug markets in terms of pervasiveness of cultivation, volume of production and number of users. The increasing trend towards the development of significantly higher THC varieties of cannabis is a challenge to community health and law enforcement. How prevalent is high THC cannabis cultivation across the region and what steps have authorities taken in response?

**(b) Amphetamine type stimulants — taking effective measures against synthetic drugs**

*Measures against new synthetic drugs in the region, not under international control*

The increasing use of alternative chemicals to produce ATS is a challenge to both law enforcement and legislators. How are Member States responding?

*Global trafficking of ketamine*

The trafficking and abuse of ketamine has particularly affected Member States of HONLEA, Asia Pacific. How prevalent is this threat now, what challenges face authorities and how have they responded to contain it?

*The role of law enforcement in minimizing the adverse health consequences of drug abuse*

Law enforcement authorities have a leading role to play in national demand reduction strategies. What initiatives have been started and how have they impacted upon their target groups?

**(c) Developing effective regional responses to illicit drug trafficking**

*Ethnic alternative banking systems in the region*

Stopping the flow of finances associated with illicit drug trafficking is a cornerstone to restricting operations and options of drug traffickers. The international banking system is responding through the application of regulations to identify transactions linked to trafficking. Nevertheless the unregulated banking networks remains a significant challenge. What alternatives exist within the region for international financial transactions and how can these be better regulated?

**7. Organization of the Thirty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific**

The Thirty-fourth Meeting is to consider a draft provisional agenda for the Thirty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, including topics for discussion in working groups and possible venues for future meetings. For planning purposes, a decision at the Thirty-fourth Meeting on the venue of the Thirty-fifth Meeting and on the topics for the working groups would greatly facilitate the preparation and organization of the Thirty-fifth Meeting. The Secretariat will provide a copy of the standard letter of agreement to any Member State wishing to consider acting as host to the Thirty-fifth Meeting.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the Thirty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/34/4)

Note by the Secretariat on the standard letter of agreement and conference requirements for hosting a meeting of HONLEA, Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/34/CRP.2)

**8. Other business**

Under this item, the Thirty-fourth Meeting may wish to address any other important issues, such as urgent matters reflected in the country reports.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat on the review of the functioning of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (UNODC/HONLAP/34/5)

**9. Adoption of the report of the Thirty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific**

The Thirty-fourth Meeting will adopt its report, including the findings and recommendations of the working groups.

## Annex

### Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>	
<b>Tuesday, 30 November</b>	8.30 a.m.	Registration	
	10 a.m.	Opening	
		1	Election of officers
		2	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
	3	Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures	
1.30 p.m.	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-second Meeting and relevant recommendations of the Thirty-third Meeting of the Heads of National Drug Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific	
	5	Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation toward an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.	
<b>Wednesday, 1 December</b>	9 a.m.	6 Consideration of topics by working groups	
<b>Thursday, 2 December</b>	9 a.m.	6 Consideration of topics by working groups ( <i>continued</i> )	
	2 p.m.	6 Consideration of topics by working groups ( <i>continued</i> )	
<b>Friday, 3 December</b>	10 a.m.	7 Organization of the Thirty-fifth Meeting	
		8 Other business	
	1.30 p.m.	9 Adoption of the report of the Thirty-fourth Meeting	