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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

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Draft report*Rapporteur:* Marwan Al-Dobhany (Yemen)**Addendum****Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem**

1. At its 5th, 6th and 7th meetings, on 23 and 24 March, the Commission considered agenda item 6, which read as follows:

“Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem:

“(a) Demand reduction and related measures;

“(b) Supply reduction and related measures;

“(c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.”

2. For its consideration of item 6, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse (E/CN.7/2011/2);

(b) Report of the Executive Director on support for the development and implementation of the regional programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2011/6-E/CN.15/2011/6);

(c) Report of the Executive Director on promoting international cooperation in addressing the involvement of women and girls in drug trafficking, especially as couriers (E/CN.7/2011/7);

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(d) Note by the Secretariat on promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (E/CN.7/2011/10);

(e) Note by the Secretariat on the follow-up to the promotion of best practices and lessons learned for the sustainability and integrality of alternative development programmes and the proposal to organize an international workshop and conference on alternative development (E/CN.7/2011/12);

(f) Report of the Executive Director on measures to protect children and young people from drug abuse (E/CN.7/2011/13);

(g) Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the outcome of the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session (A/64/92-E/2009/98);

(h) Reports by intergovernmental organizations on drug control activities (E/CN.7/2011/CRP.1);

(i) Note by the Secretariat on the non-medical use of prescription drugs: policy direction issues — discussion paper (E/CN.7/2011/CRP.2).

3. Representatives of the Secretariat made introductory statements. Statements were made by the observer for Hungary on behalf of the European Union (Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine associated themselves with the statement) and the representative of Colombia on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States. Statements were also made by the representatives of Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Austria, China, Spain, the Netherlands, Chile, the Czech Republic, the United Kingdom, Pakistan, the United States, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Thailand, Peru, Colombia, the Sudan, Brazil, Algeria, Morocco, the Russian Federation and Argentina. Statements were also made by the observers for Guinea-Bissau, Kyrgyzstan, Norway, South Africa, Portugal, Slovakia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Mexico, Indonesia, Ecuador, Zambia, Lebanon, Nigeria, Turkey, the Syrian Arab Republic, Afghanistan, Egypt and Zimbabwe. The observers for the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the World Health Organization, the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, on behalf of the Vienna NGO Committee, and the Society for Threatened Peoples also made statements.

Deliberations

1. Demand reduction and related measures

4. Many speakers welcomed the stabilization of the use of amphetamine-type stimulants, cannabis, cocaine and opioids in many regions, but expressed concern over the increasing trend in the use of new synthetic and prescription drugs. Several

speakers expressed concern over increasing trends in the use of amphetamine-type stimulants and cocaine in Asia and cocaine and cannabis in Africa.

5. Many speakers noted the high prevalence of drug use among vulnerable groups such as women and children. They expressed the necessity of monitoring the situation of those vulnerable groups and addressing their needs for prevention, treatment and care services.

6. Some speakers reiterated the importance of quality data for the monitoring of progress in the implementation of national programmes, the evaluation of interventions and evidence-based policymaking, as well as for the monitoring of the implementation of the Plan of Action through the annual report questionnaire. Several speakers also reiterated the need for technical assistance and capacity-building in this area and the need for the identification and sharing of best practices.

7. Representatives raised the following issues: the need to respond to new challenges related to drug use, particularly among youth, such as new synthetic substances and the non-medical use of prescription drugs; the importance of a health-related approach and drug demand reduction as indispensable pillars of drug control, including prevention of drug use (especially in schools and families and through awareness-raising), drug dependence treatment, reintegration and rehabilitation and the prevention of the health and social consequences of drug use, most notably HIV, hepatitis and overdose; the need to base policies on scientific evidence and respect for the human rights and dignity of all individuals in need; notwithstanding the development of enhanced drug prevention, treatment and care, the need for increased resources and multisectoral collaboration at the national, regional and international levels, because coverage and quality were still inadequate, particularly in prison settings; the importance of evaluating interventions; and the crucial role played by non-governmental organizations and civil society.

2. Supply reduction and related measures

8. A number of speakers referred to the need for States to accurately collect and share data on drug supply to be effective in addressing illicit trafficking. Findings indicating a decrease in illicit cultivation of opium poppy in Afghanistan were welcomed. The need to develop assistance strategies with interventions that included food security and sustainable incomes were flagged as a cornerstone of regional security, good governance and protecting the health of affected communities. Several speakers noted an increase in cannabis production and trafficking in their countries.

9. Representatives also discussed the following matters: the need for enhanced international efforts to decrease illicit cannabis cultivation, the provision of resources and technical assistance and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned.

10. Several speakers called for more international cooperation to reduce production and greater coordination in maritime law enforcement initiatives to investigate and intercept trafficking operations. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)/UNODC programme response in West Africa to the challenge of cocaine trafficking was welcomed.

11. Global amphetamine-type stimulant production and the maintenance of effective controls over precursor chemicals were matters of great concern, with speakers endorsing international initiatives such as Project Prism and the universal use of pre-export notifications. Several speakers outlined specific initiatives, both national and regional, that Governments had engaged in to strengthen cooperation to combat trafficking. There was consensus that global supply reduction was a shared responsibility requiring an integrated and balanced approach at the national, regional and international levels.

12. Several speakers called for increased technical and financial assistance for alternative development programmes, which included preventive alternative development. The need to provide licit income-generating opportunities to farmers was underlined, as well as the need to address the problems of poverty, food security and other humanitarian needs.

13. Several speakers recognized the success achieved in reducing illicit drug-crop cultivation as a result of alternative development initiatives that addressed matters including awareness-raising, eradication and the rule of law.

14. Many speakers informed the Commission about their efforts and achievements in drug supply reduction at the national, regional and international levels, and the Triangular Initiative was cited as an example of good practice in regional cooperation. Several speakers welcomed the development by UNODC of a new regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries. UNODC efforts in enhancing the Paris Pact and the latter's most recent recommendations to develop a more integrated regional strategy to deal with drug trafficking, chemical precursor control and drug-related criminal intelligence were also noted. Some speakers referred to the comprehensive regional programme for West Africa 2010-2014, developed by UNODC in close cooperation with ECOWAS to fight organized crime.

3. Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation

15. Several speakers noted the importance of fighting money-laundering, which had become increasingly sophisticated and transnational, and called for a strengthening of regional and international cooperation and compliance with international standards. They also recognized the efforts of UNODC in providing technical assistance to counter money-laundering and underlined the need for further capacity-building, in particular for law enforcement agencies.

16. Some speakers suggested that greater consideration be given to the effectiveness of anti-money-laundering measures, in particular with regard to the forfeiture of the proceeds of crime, as the amounts forfeited remained low compared to the magnitude of the laundered funds moving through the financial system.