Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Report on the fifty-first session
(28 November 2007 and
10-14 March 2008)

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Report on the fifty-first session
(28 November 2007 and
10-14 March 2008)
Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.
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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolutions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

1. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Promoting sustainability and integrality in alternative development as an important part of drug control strategy in States where illicit crops are grown to produce drugs

The Economic and Social Council,


Recalling the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, in which Member States recognized that action against the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility,⁵

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁶ in particular the Millennium Development Goals of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger and ensuring environmental sustainability,⁷

Reaffirming also its resolutions 2003/37 of 22 July 2003 and 2006/33 of 27 July 2006 and Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 45/14 and 48/9,

Taking into consideration the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2005⁸ and the report entitled Alternative Development: a Global Thematic Evaluation,⁹ prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Convinced that, in the review of the progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets set in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, there is a genuine need for the international community to

² Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
³ Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
⁴ Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
⁵ General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex, para. 2.
⁶ General Assembly resolution 55/2.
⁹ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.XI.13.
assess the way alternative development has been practised in the past and ensure that, overall, the approaches to alternative development are fully implemented.

Recognizing the significant achievements and efforts of countries in South-East Asia in recent decades towards eliminating illicit cultivation of opium poppy and cannabis and recognizing also the commitment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to making South-East Asia free of illicit drugs by 2015,

Recognizing also the significant achievements of the Andean countries in the implementation of alternative development and preventive alternative development programmes, as presented in the fifth report of the Executive Director on the world drug problem,10 and noting that those achievements were attained in accordance with national specificities, with significant national resources and with the support of international cooperation,

Recognizing further the success of the long-term, holistic and integrated approach to solving the problem of opium poppy cultivation, including its correlation with poverty, that has been applied for forty years in national and international programmes in Thailand, which led the United Nations Development Programme in May 2006 to present the first Human Development Lifetime Achievement Award to King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand as the initiator of that approach,

Acknowledging that the success of alternative development and preventive alternative development, as appropriate, may be dependent upon, inter alia, the following essential elements:

(a) Long-term investments by Governments and international donors;
(b) The efficiency of national institutions responsible for drug control policies and of institutions related to the promotion of alternative development;
(c) Synergy and trust among the Government, local administrations and communities in building local ownership;
(d) An adequate response to human needs and dignity in the context of sustainable rural development and community self-reliance;
(e) The creation of a value chain by utilizing local wisdom, capacity-building, marketing and entrepreneurship;
(f) Broader market access for alternative development products consistent with national and international obligations and consideration of measures to facilitate access and positioning in markets for alternative development products, taking into account applicable multilateral trade rules,

1. Recalls the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, which continues to have practical relevance and in which it is stated that alternative development is an important component of a balanced and comprehensive illicit crop eradication strategy and is intended to promote lawful and sustainable socio-economic options for those communities and population groups that have resorted to illicit cultivation

as their only viable means of obtaining a livelihood, contributing in an integrated way to the eradication of poverty;\(^1\)

2. **Emphasizes** that the problem of illicit production of narcotic drugs is often related to development problems, in particular poverty, poor health conditions and illiteracy, and that it must be tackled in a larger development context through a holistic and integrated approach;

3. **Agrees** on the relevance of enhancing alternative development and preventive alternative development, as appropriate, in a manner focusing on the sustainability and integrality of uplifting people’s livelihood, and recommends that such elements be considered by relevant bodies in the United Nations system;

4. **Recognizes** the significant role played by developing countries with extensive expertise in alternative development and preventive alternative development and the importance of outreach activities aimed at promoting a set of best practices and lessons learned in that area and sharing those best practices and lessons learned with States affected by illicit crop cultivation, including those emerging from conflict, with a view to using them, where appropriate, in accordance with national specificities of each State;

5. **Urges** donor Governments, as well as multilateral, international and regional financial institutions, in conformity with the principle of shared responsibility and as a sign of their commitment to fighting illicit drugs in a comprehensive and balanced manner, to redouble their efforts to enhance international cooperation, especially trilateral cooperation aimed at utilizing the expertise of developing countries and the financial support of developed countries in assisting other developing countries, in reducing illicit drug crops through alternative development and preventive alternative development, as appropriate, and to consider increasing their financial and material support and technical assistance and providing a flexible and sufficiently long-term commitment to States affected by illicit crop cultivation;

6. **Commends** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for its continued and progressive work on alternative development, described in its report entitled *Alternative Development: a Global Thematic Evaluation*,\(^1\) especially the lessons learned and the recommendations contained therein, and acknowledges the need to consider providing the Office with additional funding in that area;

7. **Calls upon** Member States, consistent with their national and international obligations, and relevant international organizations to consider measures to enable products of alternative development to have easier access to markets, taking into account applicable multilateral trade rules;

8. **Encourages** Member States, in the context of the review of the progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets set in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,\(^1\) to consider developing a set of international guiding principles on alternative development, based on the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in different countries and regions, and

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\(^1\) General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E, para. 17.

\(^1\) United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.XI.13.

\(^1\) General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.
acknowledging the best practices and lessons learned in sustainable alternative livelihood development of Thailand, annexed to the present resolution;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to multilateral, international and regional financial institutions and to all Governments for consideration and implementation;

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

Annex

Best practices and lessons learned in sustainable alternative livelihood development of Thailand

1. First and foremost, alternative development, which in the context of the Thai experience is referred to as “sustainable alternative livelihood development”, must be people-centred. The Doi Tung development project in Thailand served as the model for the present set of best practices and lessons learned. The outlook, design and implementation were developed taking into account a fundamental question: how will people benefit from this project? That became the key performance indicator for the project.

2. The main objective of sustainable alternative livelihood development is to transform poor and vulnerable communities, especially in rural areas, from social and economic dependency or sub-sufficiency to full socio-economic sufficiency, in a participatory manner and at a pace appropriate to each stage, to allow the changes to be accepted and introduced by the communities. Keeping in mind the goal of sustainability, development practitioners should see their role as facilitators of progress and should plan their exit strategy to enable the communities to continue the activities without external intervention.

3. Sustainability in this context means that the communities have sufficient economic capacity in their factors of production and marketing and are able to maintain equitable social and cultural integrity and live in harmony with their natural environment (coexist with nature). With this definition in mind, sufficient health care must be made available because sick people cannot be economically productive. Ideally, an income-generating mechanism should be employed that allows people and a healthy natural environment to benefit greatly from one another. Continuous education will ensure that future generations will be able to pursue legitimate livelihoods, cope with the pressures of globalization and create for themselves opportunities for growth.

4. When applying sustainable alternative livelihood development in the context of drug control, the eradication of illicit crops should not be the only immediate goal. The progressive introduction of viable alternative livelihoods in the broader context of rural development is needed to tackle the root cause of illicit crop cultivation – poverty – without severely curtailing the only available means of survival of the people involved.
5. Activities that provide people with alternative cash income and/or produce immediate health or social benefits within the first few months or days (so-called “quick hits”) are vital to building trust and enabling an immediate transition from illegitimate to legitimate sources of income, which can begin to transform the economic prospects of a community. Successful “quick hits” build confidence and strengthen cooperation among stakeholders at all levels, from people at the grassroots level and local authorities to leaders at the national level.

6. Medium-term and long-term activities are introduced simultaneously in order to ensure that the economic and social benefits are long-lasting and that the areas concerned remain free of illicit drug cultivation for a long time. Development activities must be based on continuity: each activity should lead into another, build on the success of previous initiatives and, over time, increase the hope and capabilities of the persons involved.

7. It is necessary to achieve a balance between a bottom-up and a top-down approach. Strong and committed leadership is required to ensure that development policies and activities are based on a true understanding of the needs and concerns of the target communities at the grassroots level. Clear and constant communication is critical, especially at the beginning, for knowledge and experiences to be transferred not only from development practitioners but also to them.

8. Viable livelihoods should be available to all members of the community: the young and the elderly; the fit and the infirm; and men and women alike. Having a variety of income-generating activities may serve as a safeguard against weakened interests in an individual product or activity. Livelihood diversification is in fact a major success factor in sustainable alternative livelihood development (single-crop solutions are rarely sustainable).

9. Combining local wisdom and available resources with a market-driven product development approach and effective management will lead to the creation of a viable value chain at the local level. Revenue from value-added goods locally manufactured by such an enterprise must contribute to the social benefits of the target communities and society in general. Such social entrepreneurship – the practice of using business profits to generate social goods – can lead to real socio-economic sustainability.

10. To ensure that development objectives are realized as expected, mechanisms must be in place to allow frequent assessments and necessary adjustments, starting with comprehensive census baseline data captured through both qualitative and quantitative development indicators. Project monitoring and evaluation hold development practitioners accountable for their action, and that is crucial, as people’s lives depend on the performance of those practitioners and imprudent and uncaring development often has adverse effects.

11. Ultimately, the key to sustainable alternative livelihood development is community ownership, where capacities and economic activities have been developed to such an extent that the communities can become owners in their ventures rather than only serving as contract farmers or employees. Community ownership means not only physical ownership of the enterprises but also emotional ownership, on the part of the community, of its own development and future, from the very start.
12. Since the issue of sustainability envisages the long-term commitment of all parties involved, it also calls for longer-term and sufficiently flexible funding from a variety of sources, including Governments, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions and other donors and development partners.

Draft resolution II

Provision of international assistance to the most affected States neighbouring Afghanistan

The Economic and Social Council,


Taking note with concern of the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled Afghanistan: Opium Survey 2007, in which the Office emphasized that in 2007 Afghanistan had produced 8,200 tons of opium, representing 93 per cent of global production,

Noting the progress that Afghanistan has made in implementing the Afghan National Drug Control Strategy, including the doubling of the number of its provinces free of opium poppy, from six to thirteen, in 2007,

Reaffirming the commitments assumed by Member States in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,\(^\text{14}\) and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,\(^\text{15}\)

Welcoming the Paris Pact initiative on assistance to States affected by the transit of illicit drugs,\(^\text{16}\)

Acknowledging the ongoing efforts of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community, including States neighbouring Afghanistan, to counter the scourge of illicit drugs, despite the continuing increase in the illicit cultivation of opium poppy and the illicit production of opiates in Afghanistan,

Emphasizing that international drug traffickers are constantly changing their modus operandi, rapidly reorganizing and gaining access to modern technology,

Acknowledging that transit States are faced with multifaceted challenges related to the increasing amount of illicit drugs transiting through their territory as a result of the increasing supply and demand on illicit drug markets,

Keeping in mind that the bulk of the illicit drugs originating in Afghanistan are smuggled through Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan and other countries neighbouring Afghanistan before reaching their countries of destination,

\(^{14}\) General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.
\(^{15}\) General Assembly resolutions S-20/4 A to E.
\(^{16}\) S/2003/641, annex.
Considering that a large number of transit States, in particular the States neighbouring Afghanistan, are developing countries or countries with economies in transition and are faced with multifaceted challenges, including rising levels of drug-related crime and increased prevalence of drug abuse,

Bearing in mind that the constantly changing tactics of drug traffickers and the introduction of new varieties of illicit drugs increase the challenges and harm that they cause in Afghanistan, in the States neighbouring Afghanistan and in other parts of the world,

1. Reaffirms its commitment, in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility, to counter the world drug problem in all its manifestations, in a coordinated manner, in particular by providing technical assistance and support to the transit States most affected by drug trafficking;

2. Calls upon the Government of Afghanistan to intensify, with the support of the international community, its efforts to continue implementing, in particular, the eight pillars of the Afghan National Drug Control Strategy, to identify and dismantle laboratories illicitly manufacturing heroin and morphine and to trace and curb the illicit supply of precursors;

3. Commends regional initiatives to strengthen international and regional cooperation aimed at countering the threat posed by the illicit production of drugs in Afghanistan and trafficking in drugs originating in that country;

4. Encourages cross-border cooperation among Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan;

5. Calls upon all Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide the technical assistance and support needed for strengthening the initiatives and efforts of Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan to fight drug trafficking, thereby also reducing the deleterious impact of illicit drugs in all parts of the world, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

6. Encourages the States neighbouring Afghanistan to enhance coordination through existing regional mechanisms for strengthening border cooperation and information exchange;

7. Encourages Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance and support needed for strengthening the efforts of States neighbouring Afghanistan to fight drug trafficking, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

8. Welcomes the trilateral ministerial meeting held in Vienna in June 2007, with the assistance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which brought together high-level officials from Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan, and supports the decision to hold another trilateral meeting in the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2008;

9. Emphasizes the importance of taking measures to reduce demand and the adverse consequences of drug abuse in conjunction with measures to reduce supply
in order to effectively counter the menace posed by illicit drugs to the entire international community;

10. **Calls upon** Afghanistan to mainstream, with the assistance of the international community, the counter-narcotics programme in the forthcoming Afghan national development strategy;

11. **Emphasizes** the need to strengthen the law enforcement capacity of the main transit States and the importance of inter-agency coordination in developing effective drug control strategies;

12. **Urges** the international partners, all relevant agencies of the United Nations and in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and invites international financial and development institutions to assist transit States, in particular the States neighbouring Afghanistan that are most affected by the transit of illicit drugs, by providing them with adequate technical assistance to effectively address the drug trafficking problem through a comprehensive and integrated shared plan, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

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

**B. Draft decisions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council**

2. The Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

**Draft decision I**

**Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-first session and provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-second session of the Commission**

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-first session and approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-second session of the Commission set out below.

**Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs**

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

*Documentation*

Provisional agenda, annotations and provisional programme of work
Normative segment

3. Thematic debate [theme and subthemes to be identified].

4. Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly: general overview and progress achieved by Governments in meeting the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008 set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session.

Documentation
Reports of the Secretariat (as necessary)

5. Drug demand reduction:
   (a) Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;
   (b) World situation with regard to drug abuse.

Documentation
Report of the Secretariat

6. Illicit drug traffic and supply:
   (a) World situation with regard to drug trafficking and action taken by subsidiary bodies of the Commission;
   (b) Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly:
      (i) Measures to promote judicial cooperation (extradition, mutual legal assistance, controlled delivery, trafficking by sea and law enforcement cooperation, including training);
      (ii) Countering money-laundering;

Documentation
Reports of the Secretariat

7. 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) Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly:
      (i) Measures to prevent the illicit manufacture, import, export, trafficking, distribution and diversion of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
      (ii) Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors;
(e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

Documentation
Notes by the Secretariat (as necessary)

Operational segment


Documentation
Report of the Executive Director


Documentation
Report of the Executive Director

10. Administrative and budgetary questions.

Documentation
Report of the Executive Director

High-level segment

11. Opening of the high-level segment.

12. General debate of the high-level segment: review of the progress achieved and the difficulties encountered by Member States in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session; challenges for the future.

13. Round-table discussions of the high-level segment:

(a) Current and emerging challenges, new trends and patterns of the world drug problem and possible improvements to the evaluation system;

(b) Strengthening international cooperation in countering the world drug problem using shared responsibility as a basis for an integrated, comprehensive, balanced and sustainable approach in the fight against drugs through domestic and international policies;

(c) Demand reduction, treatment and preventive policies and practices;

(d) Countering illicit drug traffic and supply, and alternative development.

14. Outcome of the high-level segment.
15. Closure of the high-level segment.

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16. Provisional agenda for the fifty-third session of the Commission.

17. Other business.

18. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-second session.

Draft decision II

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2007.17

C. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

3. The following resolutions and decision adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Resolution 51/1

Follow-up to the Second Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking Routes from Afghanistan

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming the commitments undertaken by Member States in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, in which Member States recognized that action against the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility and expressed their conviction that it must be addressed in a multilateral setting,18

Reaffirming also the Paris Pact initiative that emerged from the Paris Statement,19 which was issued at the end of the Conference on Drug Routes from Central Asia to Europe, held in Paris on 21 and 22 May 2003,

Taking note with concern of the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled Afghanistan: Opium Survey 2007, which emphasized that in 2007 Afghanistan had produced 8,200 tons of opium, making it virtually the sole supplier of one of the world’s deadliest drugs,


18 General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex, para. 2.

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/11 of 25 July 2007, entitled “Support to the counter-narcotic measures and programmes of Afghanistan”,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in the fight against narcotic drugs, and calling upon the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to intensify those efforts,

Expressing its support for the efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening international and regional cooperation in order to counter the threat to the international community posed by the illicit cultivation of opium poppy in Afghanistan and the illicit trade in opium,

Commending the activities carried out by neighbouring States of Afghanistan to promote cooperation aimed at countering the threat from illicit opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan and trafficking in narcotic drugs from Afghanistan, as well as cooperation in controlling the smuggling of precursors into Afghanistan,

Bearing in mind the outcome of the Conference on Afghanistan held in London on 31 January and 1 February 2006, which included counter-narcotics as a cross-cutting theme,

Recalling the decisions taken by the International Conference on Border Management and Regional Cooperation, held in Doha on 27 and 28 February 2006,

Recalling also the action plan approved at the expert round table on the control of precursors used in the manufacture of heroin, held in Vienna on 29 and 30 May 2007 within the framework of the Targeted Anti-trafficking Regional Communication, Expertise and Training initiative,

Taking note with satisfaction of the recommendations adopted by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board at its seventh meeting, held in Tokyo on 5 and 6 February 2008,

Recalling its resolution 50/1, in which it welcomed the outcome of the Second Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking Routes from Afghanistan, organized by the Government of the Russian Federation in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and held in Moscow from 26 to 28 June 2006, in continuation of the Paris Pact initiative,

Convinced that the results of the Second Ministerial Conference must be translated into effective action by States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, competent organs of the United Nations and other relevant actors,

1. Welcomes the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on progress achieved in the implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 50/1, entitled “Follow-up to the Second Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking Routes from Afghanistan”;  

2. Calls upon Paris Pact partners to promote international and regional initiatives against trafficking in opiates from Afghanistan and to strengthen

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cooperation with ongoing operations in the region, such as Operation Channel, Operation Containment and Operation Elena;

3. **Commends** the input provided by existing training centres and institutions in enhancing the capacities of drug law enforcement agencies, and underscores the importance of exploring additional possibilities and modalities for organizing training courses for drug law enforcement officers from Afghanistan, neighbouring States and States in Central Asia and in other subregions;

4. **Welcomes** the launch, under the guidance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Project Cohesion Task Force, of the Targeted Anti-trafficking Regional Communication, Expertise and Training initiative, targeting precursors used in the manufacture of heroin in Afghanistan, and urges Paris Pact partners to cooperate closely with the initiative in order to ensure its success;

5. **Encourages** time-bound operations focusing on trafficking in precursors, in particular acetic anhydride;

6. **Invites** Paris Pact partners, acting in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, to explore possibilities for strengthening control over the transnational movement of monetary proceeds of trafficking in illicit drug crops cultivated or illicit drugs produced on the territory of Afghanistan, money-laundering and other transnational criminal activities related to such proceeds, as well as the financing of terrorist activities in Afghanistan;

7. **Calls upon** Paris Pact partners to continue to implement prevention, treatment and rehabilitation initiatives and to exchange best practices in the area of demand reduction;

8. **Expresses its satisfaction** with the beginning of the pilot phase in the implementation of the initiative to establish the Central Asia Regional Information and Coordination Centre;

9. **Notes** the important role of the Automated Donor Assistance Mechanism in coordinating counter-narcotics technical assistance in countries along the main routes used for trafficking in opiates from Afghanistan;

10. **Requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission, at its fifty-second session, on the measures taken and on progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

**Resolution 51/2**

**The consequences of cannabis use: refocusing prevention, education and treatment efforts for young people**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

Recalling that Member States, in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, recognized that action against the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility requiring an integrated
and balanced approach,\textsuperscript{22} by which supply control and demand reduction reinforced each other, as enshrined in the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction\textsuperscript{23} and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem.\textsuperscript{24}

Recalling also that, in the Political Declaration, Member States committed themselves to achieving significant and measurable results in the field of demand reduction by 2008.\textsuperscript{25}

Highlighting that cannabis is one of the most widely produced, trafficked and consumed illicit drugs worldwide,

Noting that a number of Member States have reported an increase in the availability of cannabis cultivated indoors, as well as an average overall increase in the tetrahydrocannabinol content of some varieties of cannabis,

Recalling article 38 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,\textsuperscript{26} which requires the parties to the Convention to give special attention to and take all practicable measures for the prevention of abuse of drugs and for the early identification, treatment, education and aftercare of the persons involved,

Recalling also the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, which is aimed at preventing the use of drugs and reducing the adverse consequences of drug use,

Concerned about the number of young people reported to have sought treatment for substance abuse due to cannabis use in some countries,

Taking note of recent research correlating cannabis use with some mental health disorders,

Also taking note of research demonstrating the adverse respiratory effects of smoking cannabis, including the risk of lung cancer,

Mindful of the harmful consequences of driving under the influence of cannabis,

Acknowledging the role the International Narcotics Control Board in monitoring and reporting on the application of the international drug control treaties by Member States with regard to illicit drugs, pursuant to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,\textsuperscript{27}

1. Appeals to Member States and relevant international organizations to continue to raise awareness of the health risks of cannabis use among youth and adults;

2. Invites Member States to share effective, evidence-based strategies and best practices for preventing the use of cannabis by children and young people in

\textsuperscript{22} General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex, para. 2.
\textsuperscript{23} General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex, paras. 4 and 8.
\textsuperscript{24} General Assembly resolutions S-20/4 A to E.
\textsuperscript{25} General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex, para. 17.
\textsuperscript{26} United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 520, No. 7515.
\textsuperscript{27} Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
order to protect those vulnerable populations from the health risks associated with cannabis use;

3. **Encourages** Member States to implement programmes preventing the onset of cannabis use, targeting youth, especially children under the age of twelve, to maximize the impact of such programmes;

4. **Also encourages** Member States to urge the health and social research community to continue to study both prevention and treatment practices addressing the health risks and other related risks of cannabis use;

5. **Further encourages** Member States to implement comprehensive prevention and treatment approaches focusing on individuals and their relationships with their peers, families, schools and communities, as appropriate;

6. **Requests** Member States to give special attention to raising awareness among pregnant women of the risks involved in smoking cannabis;

7. **Encourages** Member States to consider carrying out qualitative and quantitative studies on the use of cannabis by young people, including children, and to collect comparable data with removed identifiers on visits to hospitals or dedicated health-care facilities and on treatment demand related to cannabis use in order to better understand the extent of cannabis use;

8. **Calls upon** Member States to further examine the scientific and medical data available on the health consequences of cannabis use.

**Resolution 51/3**

**Early detection of drug use cases by health- and social-care providers by applying the principles of interview screening and brief intervention approaches to interrupt drug use progression and, when appropriate, linking people to treatment for substance abuse**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

**Recalling** the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, in which Member States recognized that action against the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility requiring an integrated and balanced approach, by which supply control and demand reduction reinforced each other, as enshrined in the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,

**Taking note** of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, which, inter alia, recognizes that

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28 General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex, para. 2.
29 General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex, paras. 4 and 8.
30 General Assembly resolutions S-20/4 A to E.
progress to reduce the demand for illicit drugs should be seen in the context of the
need for programmes to reduce the demand for substances of abuse,31

Understanding that the use of the techniques of interview screening by health-
and social-care providers for the early detection of drug use and, if necessary, brief
interventions and the linking of patients to related treatment services and referral,
when appropriate, constitutes part of a comprehensive, integrated public health
approach to interrupting the progression towards risky drug use and dependence,

Acknowledging that employing such techniques may help to span the gap
between preventive efforts and treatment for persons with substance use disorders,

Recognizing that early detection and brief intervention techniques offer
preventive measures for identifying and interrupting the progression towards
dependence and can potentially reduce any stigma associated with substance use
disorders,

Recognizing also that health- and social-care systems and national legal
frameworks vary from one State to the next and that national contexts must be
considered,

Emphasizing that voluntary participation is essential to the success of early
detection and brief intervention techniques,

Recognizing that the use of early detection and brief intervention techniques
based on standardized, evidence-based questionnaires and protocols that research
has demonstrated to be effective and the linking of persons to treatment on a
voluntary basis are locally based, systematic approaches to ensuring that those in
need of the appropriate health- and social-care and other related treatment services
receive such services,

Acknowledging that those techniques can be applied in various health- and
social-care settings to intervene in cases involving the abuse of a broad range of
substances, before patients encounter serious adverse consequences, and can
potentially prevent long-term substance use disorders,

Acknowledging also that drug use is a public health issue, and its early
detection and brief intervention and, when appropriate, linking people to treatment
require a public health approach that must be addressed within health- and social-
care settings between providers and patients,

Noting that many States safeguard the confidentiality of communications
concerning illegal drug use between health-care providers and patients, and
considering that confidentiality overcomes a barrier to addressing the public health
problem of drug use and substance use disorders,

Recognizing the work of the World Health Organization in affirming that such
techniques help to reduce substance use and related problems,

Aware that the techniques of early detection, brief intervention and, when
appropriate, linking people to treatment can contribute to a reduction in health,
social and economic consequences for patients,

31 General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex, para. 5.
1. Notes the relationship between substance abuse and health, social and economic consequences;

2. Acknowledges the value of using the techniques of early detection, brief intervention and, when appropriate, linking people to treatment in mainstreaming substance abuse prevention and intervention into general health- and social-care settings alongside other health-care approaches;

3. Supports the use of those techniques as a means of reducing any stigma that may be associated with substance abuse in the field of health;

4. Encourages the implementation of those techniques as a set of effective preventive measures to be applied in health- and social-care settings;

5. Invites Member States to educate health- and social-care providers, some of whom may lack awareness of such approaches for addressing potential substance abuse problems in their patients;

6. Encourages Member States to raise awareness and build capacity by training health- and social-care providers in the use of those techniques as tools for identifying at-risk populations and to urge providers to encourage early intervention in order to significantly reduce substance abuse and possibly prevent dependence;

7. Urges Member States to share with each other and with relevant international organizations their research findings and best practices with early detection, brief intervention and, when appropriate, linking people to treatment;

8. Encourages Member States to consider, if necessary, adopting legislation to safeguard the voluntary participation of patients and to protect privacy and confidentiality in communications between health- and social-care providers and patients;

9. Invites the World Health Organization to promote worldwide the practices of early detection, brief intervention and, when appropriate, linking people to treatment and to work closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the context of the present resolution.

Resolution 51/4

Preparations for the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, relating to the follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, which devoted to countering the world drug problem together, in which the Assembly established goals and targets to be met by all States by the years 2003 and 2008,

Recalling also that in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, the Assembly called upon all States to

32 General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.
report biennially to the Commission on their efforts to meet the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008.\(^{33}\)

Recognizing that the international drug control treaties and the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, especially the Political Declaration, the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction\(^ {34}\) and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,\(^ {35}\) together constitute a comprehensive framework for drug control activities by States and relevant international organizations, and stressing the need for consistency in efforts to implement those activities,

Recalling its resolution 42/11, in which it requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to prepare a single biennial report, which should also cover the difficulties encountered in meeting the objectives and targets agreed upon at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, and it decided to submit a report to the Assembly in the years 2003 and 2008 on the progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration,

Recalling also its resolution 49/1, in which it called upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to engage with national and regional experts from all geographical regions, as well as experts from relevant international organizations in the field of drug control, on the collection and use of complementary drug-related data and expertise to support the global assessment by Member States of the implementation of the declarations and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Recalling further its resolution 49/2, in which it encouraged non-governmental organizations to reflect on their own achievements in addressing the drug problem and to report on their progress to their respective national government bodies, in the context of reporting on the goals and targets set by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Taking note of the fifth report of the Executive Director on the world drug problem,\(^ {36}\) the final assessment report submitted pursuant to its resolution 42/11, drawing together all the information gathered through all of the biennial reports questionnaires for each of the reporting periods,

Taking note also of the report of the Executive Director on the collection and use of complementary drug-related data and expertise to support the global assessment by Member States of the implementation of the declarations and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, submitted pursuant to its resolution 49/1,\(^ {37}\)

Noting the thematic debate at its fifty-first session on the progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets set for the years 2003 and 2008 in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

\(^{33}\) General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex, para. 20.

\(^{34}\) General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.

\(^{35}\) General Assembly resolutions S-20/4 A to E.

\(^{36}\) E/CN.7/2008/2 and Add.1-6.

Recalling its resolution 50/12, in which it agreed that, at its fifty-first session, in 2008, it would initiate the preparatory process for a high-level segment, open to all States Members of the United Nations, to be held during its fifty-second session, in 2009,

Stressing that the preparatory process should be a period of reflection, taking into account the international drug control treaties and measures that have led to positive outcomes and aspects that require greater effort and that during the preparatory process an objective, scientific, balanced and transparent global evaluation should be conducted of the implementation of the declarations and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of Member States to meet the goals and targets set by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Encouraging international and regional organizations and civil society to play a role in the preparatory process,

1. Decides to establish pursuant to its resolutions 49/1 and 49/2 open-ended, intergovernmental expert working groups to work in a coordinated manner, on the following topics, which correspond to the subjects of the action plans, declarations and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session:

   (a) Drug demand reduction; 38
   (b) Supply reduction (manufacture and trafficking); 39
   (c) Countering money-laundering 40 and promoting judicial cooperation; 41
   (d) International cooperation on the eradication of illicit drug crops and on alternative development; 42
   (e) Control of precursors 43 and of amphetamine-type stimulants; 44

2. Decides that each of the working groups shall meet once, for three days and with interpretation services, to assess the achievement of the goals and targets set by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, as well as areas requiring further action, and to draw conclusions for further intersessional discussions, taking into account:

   (a) The fifth report of the Executive Director on the world drug problem, 45 the final assessment report submitted pursuant to Commission resolution 42/11;
   (b) The outcome of the thematic debate of the Commission at its fifty-first session;

38 General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.
39 General Assembly resolution S-20/4 A.
40 General Assembly resolution S-20/4 D.
41 General Assembly resolution S-20/4 C.
42 General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.
43 General Assembly resolution S-20/4 B.
44 General Assembly resolution S-20/4 A.
45 E/CN.7/2008/2 and Add.1-6.
(c) Supplementary information provided pursuant to Commission resolutions 49/1, 49/2 and 50/12;

(d) Relevant information from international and regional organizations;

(e) Other relevant information, in particular from civil society;

3. Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to organize the meetings of the working groups back-to-back with each other, where possible and appropriate;

4. Urges Member States to ensure the participation of experts and practitioners in the working groups;

5. Invites Member States to provide resources for the attendance of experts from developing countries;

6. Decides that intersessional meetings shall be held during the second half of 2008 to prepare recommendations for the decisions to be adopted by the Commission at its fifty-second session, such intersessional meetings to take into account, inter alia, the conclusions of the working groups in order to provide material on which to base the drafting of the outcome of the high-level segment of its fifty-second session;

7. Decides also that, in addition to the five days usually scheduled for its sessions in the first half of the year, two days shall be devoted to the high-level segment of its fifty-second session;

8. Resolves that, notwithstanding the obligations emanating from the international drug control treaties and without prejudice to the outcome of the review process, a political declaration and, as appropriate, other declarations and measures to enhance international cooperation should be considered and adopted at the high-level segment, identifying, on the basis of the results of the review process, future priorities and areas requiring further action, as well as goals and targets to be set in countering the world drug problem beyond 2009, and also resolves that the outcome of the high-level segment shall be submitted to the General Assembly;

9. Calls upon Member States and observers participating in the high-level segment of its fifty-second session to ensure that they are represented at the highest possible level.

Resolution 51/5

Strengthening cross-border cooperation in the area of drug control

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Considering the importance of effective international cooperation in efforts to fight the world drug problem in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility, and noting the importance of Member States establishing the necessary domestic legal basis for joint teams to conduct cross-border drug control operations consistent with their respective legal and administrative systems,
Noting that successful international cooperation yields a number of benefits in terms of carrying out action and achieving positive results in efforts to fight the drug problem,

Calling attention to the successful joint operations conducted by drug control authorities at the bilateral, regional and international levels,

1. Emphasizes the importance of taking appropriate measures to facilitate effective cross-border cooperation in the area of drug control, in accordance with bilateral and multilateral agreements;

2. Recommends that Member States that share common borders but have not concluded bilateral agreements should enter into such agreements so that cross-border cooperation may take place within an established legal framework consistent with their respective legal and administrative systems;

3. Requests Member States to ensure that channels of communication among them are effective and efficient for exchanging information that may prove useful in drug control efforts;

4. Urges Member States, in appropriate cases and in accordance with their national laws, to fulfil their obligation to conduct joint investigations of transnational criminal groups involved in the production of and trafficking in illicit drugs, in accordance with applicable bilateral and multilateral agreements.

Resolution 51/6

Combating the illicit cultivation of and trafficking in cannabis

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,


Noting the importance of alternative development programmes,

Concerned that the illicit cultivation of and trafficking in cannabis are on the increase in Africa, owing in part to rising poverty and the lack of alternative crops but also to growing demand for cannabis in other regions and the rising profits derived from those activities,

1. Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support the establishment or strengthening of national strategies and action plans to eliminate the illicit cultivation of cannabis, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;


\(^{47}\) Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

\(^{48}\) Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

\(^{49}\) Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
2. *Urges* Member States to provide affected States with support in the area of alternative development, including by funding research on crops that are alternatives to cannabis, and in the areas of environmental protection and technical assistance;

3. *Encourages* Member States that have technical experience in eliminating the illicit cultivation of drug crops and in implementing alternative development programmes to share that experience with affected States.

Resolution 51/7

**Assistance to States affected by the transit of illicit drugs**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Recalling* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,50 the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction51 and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,52

*Considering* that all States are affected by the destructive consequences of illicit drug use and trafficking,

*Noting* the many challenges faced by States situated along international drug smuggling routes,

*Considering* that many transit States are developing countries or countries with economies in transition that need international assistance to support their efforts to prevent and suppress drug trafficking and to reduce the demand for illicit drugs,

*Reaffirming* the principle of common and shared responsibility and the need for all States to promote and implement measures to counter the world drug problem in all its aspects,

1. *Calls on* transit States, countries of destination and countries of origin to enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation in the areas of border control, mutual legal assistance, law enforcement, information exchange and demand reduction, consistent with their respective national legal and administrative systems, and calls on all Member States to support and promote such cooperation;

2. *Calls on* Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to strengthen initiatives to provide assistance and technical support to States affected by the transit of illicit drugs, especially developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

3. *Urges* international financial institutions to provide financial support to States, especially developing countries and countries with economies in transition, affected by the transit of illicit drugs through their territory;

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50 General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.
51 General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex.
52 General Assembly resolutions S-20/4 A to E.
4. 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.

Resolution 51/8

Marking the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling that the International Opium Commission, the first multilateral initiative in the field of drug control, was convened in Shanghai, China, from 1 to 26 February 1909, and that representatives of thirteen States, namely, Austria-Hungary, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Persia,53 Portugal, Russia, Siam,54 and the United States of America, participated in the deliberations,

Recognizing the great progress made by the international community since 1909, and aware of the challenges that remain in the field of global drug control,

Stressing the importance of international cooperation in efforts to fight the world drug problem,

Expressing its determination to strengthen action and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels towards the ultimate goal of an international society free of drug abuse and trafficking,

1. Decides to commemorate on 26 February 2009 the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission;

2. Notes with appreciation that the Government of China will host in February 2009 an event to celebrate the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission;

3. Encourages other Governments, organizations and civil society to hold celebrations marking the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission;

4. Invites the Government of China to report on its event marking the centennial to the Commission at its fifty-second session;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Governments and relevant international organizations for consideration.

53 Now referred to in the United Nations as the Islamic Republic of Iran.
54 Now referred to in the United Nations as Thailand.
Resolution 51/9

The need for a balance between demand for and supply of opiates used to meet medical and scientific needs

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,


Recognizing that the medical use of narcotic drugs, including opiates, is indispensable for the relief of pain and suffering,

Emphasizing that the need for a balance between the global licit supply of opiates and the legitimate demand for opiates used to meet medical and scientific needs is central to the international strategy and policy of drug control,

Noting the fundamental need for international cooperation with the traditional supplier countries in drug control to ensure universal application of the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961\(^\text{55}\) and that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,\(^\text{56}\)

Reiterating that a balance between consumption and production of opiate raw materials was achieved in the past as a result of efforts made by the two traditional supplier countries, India and Turkey, together with established supplier countries,

Noting that the stocks of opiate raw materials continue to be sufficient to cover the expected licit demand and that excessive stocks should be avoided,

Emphasizing the importance of the system of estimates, based on actual consumption and utilization of narcotic drugs, furnished to and confirmed by the International Narcotics Control Board on the extent of cultivation and production of opiate raw materials,

Recalling the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted during the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission,\(^\text{57}\) in which ministers and other Government representatives called upon States to continue to contribute to the maintenance of a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiate raw materials used for medical and scientific purposes and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production of opiate raw materials,

Considering that opiate raw materials and the opiates derived from them are not just ordinary commodities that can be subjected to the operation of market forces and that, therefore, market economy considerations should not determine the extent of cultivation of opium poppy,

Reiterating the importance of the medical use of opiates in pain relief therapy, as advocated by the World Health Organization,

Noting that countries differ significantly in their level of licit demand for opiates,


\(^{56}\) Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

\(^{57}\) A/58/124, sect. II.A.
Noting with concern the proliferation of the cultivation of opium poppy in certain areas other than the traditional and established growing countries,

1. **Urges** all Governments to continue to contribute to maintaining a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiate raw materials used for medical and scientific purposes, supporting traditional and established supplier countries, and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production of opiate raw materials;

2. **Urges** Governments of all producer countries to adhere strictly to the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961\(^{58}\) and that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol\(^{59}\) and to take effective measures to prevent the illicit production or diversion of opiate raw materials to illicit channels, and encourages improvements in practices in the cultivation of opium poppy and the production of opiate raw materials;

3. **Urges** Governments of consumer countries to assess their licit requirements for opiate raw materials realistically on the basis of actual consumption and utilization of opiate raw materials and the opiates derived from them and to communicate those requirements to the International Narcotics Control Board in order to ensure effective supply, calls on Governments of countries cultivating opium poppy to limit its cultivation, taking into account the current level of global stocks, to the estimates furnished to and confirmed by the Board, in accordance with the requirements of the 1961 Convention, and urges Governments of producer countries, in providing estimates of such cultivation, to consider the actual demand requirements of importing countries;

4. **Endorses** the concern expressed by the International Narcotics Control Board in its report for 2005\(^{60}\) regarding the advocacy by a non-governmental organization of legalization of opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan, and urges all Governments to strongly oppose such proposals and to continue to strengthen drug control in compliance with their obligations emanating from the international drug control treaties;

5. **Urges** the Governments of all countries where opium poppy has not been cultivated for the licit production of opiate raw materials, in compliance with the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions and in line with the views expressed by the International Narcotics Control Board\(^{61}\) and in the spirit of collective responsibility, to refrain from engaging in the commercial cultivation of opium poppy in order to avoid the proliferation of supply sites, and calls on Governments to enact enabling legislation to prevent and prohibit the proliferation of sites used for the production of opiate raw materials;

6. **Urges** the Governments of countries where opium poppy is cultivated for the extraction of alkaloids to implement and maintain adequate control mechanisms.

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\(^{59}\) Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.


in accordance with the provisions of the 1961 Convention and that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol;

7. **Commends** the International Narcotics Control Board for its efforts in monitoring the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions and, in particular:

   (a) In urging the Governments concerned to adjust global production of opiate raw materials to a level corresponding to actual licit requirements and to avoid creating imbalances between the licit supply of and demand for opiates caused by the exportation of products manufactured from seized and confiscated drugs;

   (b) In inviting the Governments concerned to ensure that opiates imported into their countries for medical and scientific use do not originate from seized or confiscated drugs;

   (c) In arranging informal meetings, during the sessions of the Commission, with the main States that import and produce opiate raw materials;

8. **Requests** the International Narcotics Control Board to continue its efforts to monitor the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions in full compliance with the 1961 Convention and that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol;

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Governments for consideration and implementation.

**Resolution 51/10**

**Strengthening international cooperation for the control of precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of synthetic drugs**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

**Recalling** the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,\(^{62}\) in which Member States decided to establish the year 2008 as a target date for States to eliminate or significantly reduce, inter alia, the diversion of precursors,

*Noting with concern* that, despite the efforts made by States and relevant international organizations, trafficking in substances used as precursors in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, continues to be a problem that States must deal with as a matter of priority,

*Noting* that the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular synthetic drugs, has increased substantially and that a decrease in the diversion of substances used as precursors in their manufacture would lead to a reduction in the illicit supply of such drugs,

*Concerned about* the new methods employed by organized criminal groups to divert such substances from licit trade channels,

\(^{62}\) General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.
Emphasizing the importance of further strengthening existing international cooperation mechanisms for the control of substances used in illicit drug manufacture and the need for States to participate in international operations, such as Project Prism, Project Cohesion and related operations such as Operation Crystal Flow, to counter the diversion of and trafficking in such substances,

Recalling national and international measures to counter the diversion of substances used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, that have been adopted pursuant to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,

Recalling also that, in section I of General Assembly resolution 62/176 of 18 December 2007, on international cooperation against the world drug problem, the Assembly urged all States to strengthen their efforts to achieve the goals set for 2008 at its twentieth special session by, inter alia, promoting international initiatives in order to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit manufacture of, trafficking in and marketing of drugs and other psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, and the diversion of precursors, as well as other transnational criminal activities,

Recognizing the legitimate need of industry to have access to precursors and the important role of industry in preventing the diversion of precursors,

1. Recognizes the important work of the International Narcotics Control Board as the principal body and global focal point for the international control of precursors;

2. Invites Governments to continue contributing to the efforts of the International Narcotics Control Board, particularly with regard to the Pre-Export Notification Online system, Project Prism, Project Cohesion and related operations such as Operation Crystal Flow, in order to ensure the successful outcome of those efforts;

3. Calls upon the International Narcotics Control Board to further reinforce communication with Member States and to work with them in identifying opportunities for more effective control of precursors;

4. Urges Member States to further strengthen, update or, if they have not yet done so, establish national legislation and mechanisms relating to the control of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, pursuant to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,

64 Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
65 Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
66 Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
67 Ibid., vol. 520, No. 7515.
5. **Invites** Member States in a position to do so to consider applying measures to control substances used as precursors for the illicit manufacture of drugs;

6. **Calls upon** Member States, in consonance with the provisions of the 1988 Convention and in conformity with their national legislation, to review their criminal and administrative measures against persons trafficking in diverted precursors for the illicit manufacture of drugs;

7. **Encourages** Member States to strengthen, in accordance with their national legislation, the overall control of preparations containing substances that can be easily used or recovered by readily applicable means for the illicit manufacture of drugs and to monitor, to the extent possible, the legitimate trade in such preparations;

8. **Also encourages** Member States to further strengthen controls on the importation of precursors to ensure their legal use;

9. **Encourages** States from which precursors are exported and those into which precursors are imported to maintain, to the extent possible, updated annual estimates of their legitimate requirements for 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone, pseudoephedrine, ephedrine and 1-phenyl-2-propanone;

10. **Emphasizes** the need for Member States to strengthen monitoring and control systems at the points of entry of precursors, such as airports, ports and customs posts, and to promote the secure transport of such substances;

11. **Urges** Member States to work closely, to the extent possible, with the relevant industries in the implementation of effective procedures for the control and monitoring of preparations containing substances that can be easily used or recovered by readily applicable means for the illicit manufacture of drugs;

12. **Invites** Member States with experience in the investigation of offences relating to the diversion of precursors and the International Narcotics Control Board to work together to provide, where possible, the relevant training to States upon request, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

13. **Urges** States to provide the International Narcotics Control Board and the Member States concerned with timely information on the identification of any new substances replacing precursors commonly used in the manufacture of illicit drugs and on the manufacture of such new substances;

14. **Invites** Member States to continue notifying the International Narcotics Control Board and the Member States concerned of any new routes and methods identified as being used in the diversion of precursors, such as misuse of the Internet, as reflected in Commission resolutions 43/8 and 50/11, and other delivery systems;

15. **Encourages** Member States to consider the issue of precursor control as one of the central questions to be discussed during the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which will review the action plans and measures emanating from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly;
16. **Requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Member States.

**Resolution 51/11**

**Links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking**

_The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,_

_Calling_ the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,\(^68\) in the preamble of which the parties to the Convention recognized the importance of strengthening and enhancing effective legal means for international cooperation in criminal matters for suppressing the international criminal activities of illicit traffic,


_Mindful_ that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1991/38 of 21 June 1991, on the terms of reference of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, considered that the Commission should apply an integral and balanced approach to the drug problem, taking into account all its aspects, and called upon the Commission to review the implementation of the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session,\(^69\)

_Calling_ General Assembly resolution 50/148 of 21 December 1995, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the danger and threat posed to civil society by drug trafficking and its links to, inter alia, transnational crime, money-laundering and the arms trade, and encouraged Governments to deal with that threat and to cooperate to prevent the channelling of funds to and between those engaged in such activities,

_Not ing that_ the General Assembly, in section IV of its resolution 50/148, on the proposal for an international conference to combat the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, stressed that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should take into account that the proposed conference should focus, with a balanced and integral approach, inter alia, on the assessment of existing strategies, as well as on the consideration of new strategies, methods and practical measures and concrete actions to strengthen international cooperation to address the problem of illicit drugs, including the combat against criminal organizations and illicit arms trade related to drug trafficking,

_Calling_ the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,\(^70\) in particular paragraph 11 of the Political Declaration, in which Member States expressed their alarm at the growing violence resulting from links between illicit production of and illicit trafficking in arms and drugs and

\(^{68}\) Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

\(^{69}\) General Assembly resolution S-17/2, annex.

\(^{70}\) General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.
resolved to increase their cooperation in stemming illegal arms trafficking and to achieve concrete results in that field through appropriate measures,

* Bearing in mind* the relevant international and regional instruments adopted to prevent and fight firearms trafficking,

* Considering* the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,\(^71\) in which the States participating in the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001, expressed their concern about the close link between, inter alia, organized crime, trafficking in drugs and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

* Recognizing* the principle of shared responsibility as well as the necessity of having an integrated and balanced approach in the fight against the world drug problem,

* Concerned* about criminal organizations heavily arming themselves with trafficked firearms to protect their illicit drug consignments in transit, exposing both the people living along the drug trafficking routes and the law enforcement personnel who protect them to increasing levels of violence and harm,

* Noting with concern* the increased number of incidents in which criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking accept or demand firearms as payment in kind for illegally distributed drugs, and attributing that increase, in part, to the organizations’ responses to cooperation among national and international law enforcement entities that successfully deprives those organizations of access to the funds and other resources they derived or expect to derive from drug trafficking and related criminal activities,

* Concerned* that, as a result of their trading illicit drugs for firearms and their easy access to illegal arms trading networks, criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking are able to arm themselves as well as if not better than local law enforcement entities,

* Bearing in mind* that stopping the flow of illegal firearms between those criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking is essential to limiting the violence that has claimed numerous human lives,

* Noting* that a further challenge to law enforcement is keeping abreast of the constantly changing patterns of criminal activities, as criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking and related criminal activities are constantly seeking new and more sophisticated methods and means with which to avoid detection,

* Reaffirming* the determination of Member States to combat the scourge of drug trafficking and related criminal activities, including the illicit manufacture of, trafficking in and illegal possession and use of firearms and ammunition,

1. * Recognizes* the increasing links between drug trafficking and the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms in some regions of the world and the need to prevent the spread of that problem to other regions;

2. **Notes** that reducing the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms is a major component of the efforts to reduce the illicit drug supply in some regions of the world;

3. **Encourages** Member States to take adequate measures, consistent with their international treaty obligations and other relevant international standards, to prevent the acquisition and use of firearms and ammunition by criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking;

4. **Emphasizes** the need for cooperation among Member States, consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative systems, in reinforcing border control with a view to preventing drug trafficking and related illicit activities, including the smuggling of firearms and ammunition;

5. **Urges** Member States, where appropriate and consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative frameworks, to allocate sufficient resources and provide adequate training and capacity-enhancing measures for intelligence, law enforcement, customs and related authorities responsible for fighting drug trafficking in order to assist in the prevention, detection and investigation of related cases involving illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, as well as to identify and dismantle existing networks and links between those illicit activities;

6. **Notes** that efforts to combat drug trafficking can be complemented by providing training in fighting firearms trafficking for law enforcement personnel responsible for investigating such activities, where appropriate and consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative frameworks, and urges Member States with experience in that area to promote and increase bilateral and multilateral cooperation, including through programmes administered by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, focused on capacity-building and training and to exchange experiences and best practices, so that States may fight more effectively the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms when those activities are linked with drug trafficking offences;

7. **Encourages** Member States, consistent with their national legal frameworks, to exchange information and provide judicial cooperation in order to identify and investigate possible links between activities of drug trafficking and those related to the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms and ammunition;

8. **Also encourages** Member States, when appropriate and having due regard for the sensitivity of criminal investigations and other legal obligations, to provide information to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime linking patterns of significance in firearms trafficking and drug-related trafficking, including information uncovered in the course of their investigations, and requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission, at its fifty-third session, on the information received from Member States;

9. **Requests** the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to take into consideration the information provided by Member States on the existing relation between drug trafficking and trafficking in firearms and ammunition when preparing the *World Drug Report* and other relevant reports on the world drug problem;

Resolution 51/12

**Strengthening cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations entities for the promotion of human rights in the implementation of the international drug control treaties**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Bearing in mind* the basic international drug control instruments, in particular the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,72 the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 197173 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 198874 and also bearing in mind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,75

*Bearing in mind also* that in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, the Assembly recognized that action against the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility requiring an integrated and balanced approach in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and particularly with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms,76

*Bearing in mind further* that, in accordance with article 28 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in that Declaration can be fully realized,

*Bearing in mind further* that Articles 1, 55 and 56 of the Charter of the United Nations provide that the Organization shall promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

*Bearing in mind further* the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 60/178 of 16 December 2005 and 61/183 of 20 December 2006,

1. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, that it requires an integrated and balanced approach and that it must be carried out in full

73 Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
74 Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
75 General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).
76 General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex, para. 2.
conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other provisions of international law and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

2. Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue, within its existing mandate, to work closely with the competent United Nations entities, including the United Nations human rights agencies;

3. 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.

Resolution 51/13

Responding to the threat posed by the distribution of internationally controlled drugs on the unregulated market

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Considering that the illicit distribution of internationally controlled drugs, including those containing internationally controlled substances, on the unregulated market continues to be a serious problem in many countries, in particular in developing countries,

Noting that the International Narcotics Control Board, in its report for 2006,77 highlighted, inter alia, the problems relating to internationally controlled drugs and the unregulated market, as well as the need for adequate access to controlled drugs through legitimate channels,

Considering that some internationally controlled drugs diverted from the legitimate, official market and sold on the unregulated market may have harmful or even fatal consequences and can lead to dependence,

Considering also that internationally controlled substances may be included in counterfeit drugs and that such counterfeit drugs may jeopardize public health and safety,

Recalling that the current extent of the problem of the distribution of internationally controlled drugs on the unregulated market is increasingly characterized by smuggling networks operating in an organized and structured manner and by the expansion of the range of products containing narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances available on that market,

Being aware that many States are affected by the distribution of internationally controlled drugs on the unregulated market and have taken a number of prevention and control measures to combat that global problem,

Noting the efforts made by international organizations such as the World Health Organization, the World Customs Organization and the International

Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and by relevant regional organizations to combat problems related to the distribution of internationally controlled drugs on the unregulated market and to protect populations,

Taking into consideration that the general population of the affected States is often not aware of the dangers posed by the consumption of counterfeit pharmaceutical products,

1. Requests Member States to continue to offer to affected States their cooperation and support through the provision of human and material resources, including the organization of training programmes;

2. Requests Member States that are parties to the international drug control conventions to implement fully the mandatory provisions of those conventions, including by adopting laws prohibiting the illicit distribution of internationally controlled substances on the unregulated market and by enforcing those laws;

3. Encourages affected States to consider adopting measures to enable the swift detection of new forms of illicit distribution of internationally controlled drugs;

4. Requests Member States to give consideration to implementing the applicable recommendations of the International Narcotics Control Board as set out in its annual report for 2006;78

5. Encourages the Member States concerned to take appropriate measures to increase the availability of drugs through legitimate channels, particularly in areas where there is little or no such access;

6. Invites the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, where it has the potential to assist, to explore ways of cooperating with the World Health Organization, the World Customs Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and other relevant international bodies in assisting Member States in implementing the applicable recommendations of the International Narcotics Control Board.

Resolution 51/14

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

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming the commitments undertaken by Member States in the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS,79 in which Member States called on the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, including its co-sponsors, to assist national efforts to coordinate the AIDS response,

78 Ibid., para. 38.
79 General Assembly resolution 60/262, annex.
Reaffirming also the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,\(^80\) in which the Member States supported greater action and coordination by all relevant organizations of the United Nations system,

Recalling its resolution 49/4 on responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users, in which it endorsed the recommendations of the Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors, as well as related decisions of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS,

Recalling also its resolution 48/12 on expanding the capacity of communities to provide information, treatment, health care and social services to people living with HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases in the context of drug abuse and strengthening monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems, in which it requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to facilitate, in coordination with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and other relevant United Nations entities, the collection, collation and dissemination of information on the relationship between HIV/AIDS and drug abuse,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled “Responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users”,\(^81\) describing major trends in the pandemic, its impact and the response, including the key initiatives and achievements of the Office over the two previous years,

Affirming that closer cooperation at the national level among experts from the criminal justice, health, social and drug control sectors is critical in devising an effective response to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care among drug users,

Welcoming the close cooperation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, including its co-sponsors, on the development of effective policies and programmes ensuring HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care among drug users,

Acknowledging the discussion paper prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on a comprehensive approach to reducing the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse, and welcoming the close cooperation and coordination between that Office and the International Narcotics Control Board in the preparation of that paper,

1. **Calls for collaboration** among Member States represented both in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and on the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS towards the promotion of better coordination and alignment of the HIV/AIDS response in order to scale up towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention, care, treatment and support services for drug users;

2. **Requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to share relevant decisions of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS with the Member States at each

\(^80\) General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

\(^81\) E/CN.7/2008/7.
session of the Commission held in the first half of the year, starting with the fifty-second session;

3. Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to transmit relevant resolutions of the Commission each year to the Chairman of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

4. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on the implementation of the present resolution.

Resolution 51/15

Control of international movement of poppy seeds obtained from illicitly grown opium poppy plants

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/32 of 28 July 1999,

Considering article 22 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, on the prohibition of the illicit cultivation of the opium poppy, and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Recalling that the International Narcotics Control Board, in its report for 1995, expressed its concern about trade in seeds obtained from opium poppy plants in countries where the cultivation of opium poppy was prohibited, and urged Governments to be vigilant in order to ensure that poppy seeds traded for food purposes were not derived from illicitly cultivated opium poppy plants,

Emphasizing the need to fight the illicit cultivation of opium poppy,

Noting that poppy seeds are a by-product available on a large scale from countries where the cultivation of opium poppy is prohibited,

Aware that, according to the provisions of the 1961 Convention, trade in poppy seeds is not subject to international control,

Recognizing that there is a need to prohibit international trade in poppy seeds obtained from illicitly grown opium poppy plants,

Recognizing also that the poppy plant used for food purposes has a low morphine content and is therefore unsuitable for the production of opium for illicit use by drug abusers,

Concerned about the trade in seeds obtained from opium poppy plants in countries where the cultivation of opium poppy is prohibited,

83 General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.
Resolving to fight the international trade in poppy seeds obtained from illicitly grown opium poppy plants,

Noting with concern the substantial increase reported in the illicit cultivation of opium poppy in certain areas,

1. **Urges** all Member States to endeavour, consistent with their domestic laws and regulations and applicable international regulations, to import poppy seeds derived from licitly grown opium poppy crops;

2. **Exhorts** all Member States to be vigilant and to ensure that poppy seeds traded for food purposes are not derived from illicitly cultivated opium poppy plants;

3. **Stresses** the need for all Member States to strengthen their resolve to implement Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/32 of 28 July 1999;

4. **Requests** the International Narcotics Control Board to continue gathering information regarding the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/32 by Member States with a view to strengthening the control of international movement of poppy seeds obtained from illicitly grown opium poppy plants and to share that information with Member States;

5. **Requests** the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to take appropriate measures to ensure the full implementation of article 22 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961\(^\text{85}\) by the Member States concerned.

Resolution 51/16

**Sharing of information regarding the use of non-scheduled substances as substitutes for scheduled substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and new methods of manufacture of illicit drugs**

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Acknowledging that international cooperation in precursor control, including through such initiatives as Project Cohesion and Project Prism, has established appropriate mechanisms enabling a reduction in the availability of precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of illicit drugs,

Concerned that the reduced availability of such precursor chemicals has caused drug traffickers to turn to using non-scheduled substances as substitutes for scheduled substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, hereinafter referred to as “alternate precursors”;

Concerned also that drug traffickers have devised different methods for manufacturing illicit drugs,

Recalling its resolution 50/10 on the prevention of diversion of drug precursors and other substances used for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs

and psychotropic substances, in which it recalled the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,\(^{86}\) in particular article 12, which lays down the mechanisms for the international cooperation and control of substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

*Noting with satisfaction* that Member States are required to provide to the International Narcotics Control Board, by way of form D, available information regarding substances not included in Table I or Table II of the 1988 Convention when such substances are identified as being used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and that Member States are requested to provide, on form D, information on methods of diversion and illicit manufacture,

*Noting with appreciation* that the special alerts issued by the International Narcotics Control Board on the use of non-scheduled substances are useful in preventing illicit drug manufacture,

1. *Requests* the International Narcotics Control Board to request Member States to provide to the Board, as soon as practicable and to the extent possible, in addition to the information that they provide on form D, available information on alternate precursors and on methods of illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and also requests the Board to continue to collate and share such information through special alerts;

2. *Urges* Member States to provide to the International Narcotics Control Board, as soon as practicable and to the extent possible, available information on alternate precursors and on methods of illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

3. *Invites* Member States to continue to exchange, on a bilateral and regional basis, information relating to the use of alternate precursors and new methods of manufacture of illicit drugs.

**Resolution 51/17**

**Reducing the demand for and abuse of cannabis**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Concerned* that legislative differences between some States with regard to the levels of penalties for cannabis-related offences may be perceived as reducing the restrictions on cannabis, which is under international control, as reported by the International Narcotics Control Board in its reports for 2005,\(^{87}\) 2006\(^{88}\) and 2007,\(^{89}\)
Aware that the international drug control conventions, in particular article 28 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,\textsuperscript{90} oblige States parties to limit the cultivation of cannabis exclusively for industrial or horticultural purposes,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions in which it called for strict adherence to and implementation of the provisions of the international drug control conventions with respect to cannabis,

1. Calls upon States to ensure national restrictions on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in relation to cannabis;

2. Also calls upon States to comply fully with the provisions of the international drug control conventions with regard to cannabis.

Resolution 51/18

Strengthening international support for States in West Africa in their efforts to combat drug trafficking

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,\textsuperscript{91} that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,\textsuperscript{92} the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971\textsuperscript{93} and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,\textsuperscript{94}

Recalling also the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,\textsuperscript{95} in which Member States reaffirmed their unwavering determination and commitment to overcoming the world drug problem through domestic and international strategies to reduce both the illicit supply of and the demand for drugs, and recognized that action against the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility requiring an integrated and balanced approach with full respect for the sovereignty of States,

Concerned that West Africa is emerging as a major transit area for consignments of illicit drugs, especially cocaine from Latin America, destined for international markets, mainly in Europe,

Fully aware of the threat that drug trafficking poses to peace, stability, development, the rule of law and public health in countries in West Africa and of the possibility that other organized criminal activities and threats, closely linked with drug trafficking, may affect the subregion,

Aware of the adverse consequences that the transit traffic in illicit drugs is likely to have for the population of States in West Africa, especially with regard to public health as a result of the use of illicit drugs,

\textsuperscript{90} United Nations, \textit{Treaty Series}, vol. 520, No. 7515.
\textsuperscript{91} Ibid., vol. 520, No. 7515.
\textsuperscript{92} Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
\textsuperscript{93} Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
\textsuperscript{94} Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
\textsuperscript{95} General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.
Concerned that the progress made by States in West Africa in the areas of peace and stability may be undermined by the flow of illicit drugs and the proceeds of drug trafficking,

Recognizing that the problem of the transit traffic in illicit drugs may aggravate the development challenges facing States in the subregion and requires the adoption and implementation of a holistic approach, including closely linking drug control policies with wider development programmes, such as the efforts to attain the Millennium Development Goals, the provision of alternative means of earning a livelihood and the strengthening of criminal justice and security systems,

Realizing that most States in West Africa require technical and financial support to deal effectively with the problem of drug trafficking, in particular those States emerging from conflict and those most affected by the problem,

Recognizing the need for a coordinated and sustainable response to address the problem of the transit traffic in illicit drugs through West Africa, in particular donor coordination, as well as the development of local capacity and ownership of the process by the States in the subregion,

Acknowledging the ongoing efforts of the States in West Africa, the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States to address the drug problem in Africa, including the development of an action plan by the Economic Community of West African States to address the problem at the subregional level and the emergency plan against drug trafficking presented by the Government of Guinea-Bissau on 3 August 2007,

Welcoming the initiative by the Economic Community of West African States to convene a subregional conference to discuss how to tackle the drug trafficking problem more effectively within the framework of its action plan,

Recalling the statement made by the President of the Security Council, at its 5762nd meeting, in October 2007, in which he stated that the Council had noted that the danger posed by drug trafficking in Guinea-Bissau could have negative implications for the region and for other regions, and 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,96

Aiming to provide an effective response to the new and growing phenomenon of smuggling of illicit drugs through West Africa, with full participation of States in West Africa and the support of the international community,

1. Reaffirms its determination and commitment to confronting the world drug problem in all its manifestations, using a common, coordinated and balanced approach and following the principle of shared responsibility, including in the area of new emerging trends, such as the increasing use of West Africa as a transit area for cocaine consignments destined for international markets, mainly in Europe;

2. Calls upon Member States and relevant international organizations, in coordination with the Economic Community of West African States, to strengthen ongoing initiatives and programmes, in particular those designed and developed by States in West Africa and the Economic Community of West African States, and to

facilitate the development of other relevant programmes considered appropriate by
the States concerned, in order to combat drug trafficking through West Africa by
providing technical and financial assistance, including strengthening support for
existing subregional drug law enforcement initiatives, such as the West African Joint
Operations initiative and the interregional initiative financed by the European Union
for the sharing of intelligence among States in the Caribbean, Latin America and
West Africa;

3. **Invites** Member States and relevant international organizations to
intensify their efforts in support of those West African States most affected by the
problem of drug trafficking, particularly Guinea-Bissau, bearing in mind the
specific dimension of the problem in those States and the urgent need to confront
the problem;

4. **Also invites** Member States and relevant international organizations, in
collaboration with the Economic Community of West African States and other
stakeholders, to strengthen their coordination in support of the efforts of the
Governments of West African States in order to achieve maximum results;

5. **Invites** the Commission of the Economic Community of West African
States to maintain and intensify its efforts, in consultation and collaboration with
other stakeholders, to finalize and implement its subregional action plan against
drug trafficking;

6. **Calls upon** Member States, especially those that are the main countries of
destination of illicit consignments of drugs, particularly cocaine, smuggled through
West Africa, to continue their efforts to reduce the demand for illicit drugs in line
with the provisions of the international drug control treaties;

7. **Urges** States in West Africa to continue their efforts to combat drug
trafficking and to adopt effective demand reduction measures, including the
provision of treatment and rehabilitation for drug abusers, and to continue to
address the drug problem in a balanced and integrated manner within their
development priorities;

8. **Calls upon** Member States and relevant international organizations to
accord adequate attention, in a balanced and integrated manner, to both supply and
demand reduction measures in providing assistance to States in West Africa and, in
the case of demand reduction, especially to treatment and rehabilitation;

9. **Requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs
and Crime to facilitate the coordination of efforts, in consultation with the States in
West Africa and international partners, to address the problem of the smuggling of
cocaine through West Africa, within the framework of the drug control component
of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, emanating from the Round Table for Africa
held in Abuja on 5 and 6 September 2005, pursuant to Economic and Social Council
resolution 2005/248 of 22 July 2005;

10. **Also requests** the Executive Director to report to the Commission at its
fifty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.
Decision 51/1

Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

At its 10th meeting, on 14 March 2008, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, recalling the integrated strategy for the period 2008-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime97 and also recalling paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 of its resolution 50/14, entitled “Budget for the biennium 2008-2009 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme”:

(a) Took note of the report of the Executive Director entitled “Financial issues and difficulties faced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in implementing its mandates and an initial assessment of the ways and means of improving the financial situation”;98

(b) Also took note of the note by the Secretariat on resolutions and decisions relating to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime adopted in the period 2003-2007 in which action by the Office was requested;99

(c) Further took note of the report by the Executive Director on the deviations from the standard programme support charge of 13 per cent during the period 2005-2007;100

(d) Decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group to discuss and prepare, taking into account, inter alia, the documents mentioned above, recommendations to be presented to the Commission at its fifty-second session on how to ensure political ownership by the Member States and on how to improve the governance structure and the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(e) Requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide the working group with the necessary assistance to facilitate its work.

97 Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/12, annex.
Chapter II

Thematic debate on the follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly: general overview and progress achieved by Governments in meeting the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008 set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session

4. At its 3rd to 5th meetings, on 11 and 12 March, the Commission considered agenda item 3, “Thematic debate on the follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly: general overview and progress achieved by Governments in meeting the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008 set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session”.

5. For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the fifth report of the Executive Director on the world drug problem (E/CN.7/2008/2 and Add.1-6) and the report of the Executive Director on the collection and use of complementary drug-related data and expertise to support the global assessment by Member States of the implementation of the declarations and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session (E/CN.7/2008/8). To assist the Commission in its consideration of the item, conference room papers on the following were made available: complementary drug-related data and expertise to support the global assessment (E/CN.7/2008/CRP.1-9); contribution of non-governmental organizations to the implementation of the Political Declaration and action plans adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session (E/CN.7/2008/CRP.12); action taken by the International Narcotics Control Board pursuant to the resolutions adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session (E/CN.7/2008/CRP.16); and an assessment by the Executive Director as a contribution to the review of the twentieth special session (E/CN.7/2008/CRP.17).

6. The Chairman of the Commission opened the thematic debate. As agreed by the Commission, the thematic debate was divided into three subthemes, under which various topics were considered, as follows:

(a) Shared responsibility as a basis for an integrated, balanced and sustainable approach to the fight against drugs through national and international policies:

(i) Drug control strategies;

(ii) Integration of health, social and enforcement initiatives in national drug policies;

(iii) Effective data collection;

(b) Drug demand reduction:

(i) Drug abuse prevention;

(ii) Trends in illicit drug consumption;

(iii) Treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers;
(iv) Reducing the health-related and social consequences of drug abuse;
(v) Consideration of supplementary information from relevant intergovernmental, international and regional organizations on aspects of demand reduction covered in the action plans adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session;
(vi) Progress and areas requiring further action;
(c) Countering illicit drug supply:
(i) Trends in the illicit production, manufacture, trafficking in and supply of narcotic drugs and amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors;
(ii) Control of precursors;
(iii) Judicial cooperation;
(iv) Countering money-laundering;
(v) Use of the Internet for drug trafficking;
(vi) Drug supply reduction through alternative development and preventive alternative development;

Deliberations

Subtheme (a). Shared responsibility as a basis for an integrated, balanced and sustainable approach to the fight against drugs through national and international policies

7. The Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) introduced subtheme (a), “Shared responsibility as a basis for an integrated, balanced and sustainable approach to the fight against drugs through national and international policies”. Statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Morocco, Colombia, Germany, Peru, the United States of America, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Argentina, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan. A statement was also made by the observer for New Zealand. A statement was also made by the observer for the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs.

8. Appreciation was expressed for the quality of the documentation prepared for the consideration of agenda item 3, particularly the fifth report of the Executive Director on the world drug problem and the additional information provided on that subject.

9. Speakers stressed the importance of using the year following the fifty-first session of the Commission to consider areas that would require further attention
beyond 2009. Member States were encouraged to consider possible new approaches to addressing the world drug problem in a comprehensive and collaborative manner.

10. Concern was expressed that some aspects of drug control had received greater attention than others since the twentieth special session of the General Assembly. Several speakers emphasized the importance of a balanced approach to supply and demand reduction, noting that successful supply reduction efforts in drug-producing regions had been partially offset by the continued demand for drugs in all parts of the world. All Member States were encouraged to take ownership of all aspects of efforts to counter the world drug problem.

11. Specific reference was made to the enhancement of existing international data collection mechanisms, including the possible restructuring of the biennial reports questionnaire and annual reports questionnaire processes. Some speakers offered concrete suggestions for that restructuring. It was noted that international drug strategies could be effective only if reliable data were available to enable accurate assessment of progress in combating the world drug problem. All Member States were encouraged to provide the Commission, to the extent of their capacities, with the necessary information in that regard.

12. A number of speakers drew attention to the successes achieved since the twentieth special session of the General Assembly in developing national monitoring strategies. Emphasis was placed on the need to sustain those successes and to enhance national information systems. It was stated that the international community should assist Member States not having sufficient capacity to collect, analyse and disseminate data in developing the necessary tools.

13. Speakers discussed the importance of incorporating into the review process reliable data available from complementary sources, including subregional and regional organizations.

14. Many speakers welcomed the increased level of cooperation between States since the twentieth special session of the General Assembly and recommended that that cooperation should be extended and strengthened beyond 2009. In particular, speakers discussed the importance of sharing the lessons learned from national experiences through the exchange of best practices and evidence-based solutions.

15. Several Member States stressed the importance of a multi-stakeholder approach at the national level. Such an approach entailed the incorporation of the law enforcement, legislative, health and social sectors, as well as civil society and non-governmental organizations, into national strategies. UNODC was called upon to assist with coordination among stakeholders at the international level.

Subtheme (b). Drug demand reduction

16. The Director of the Division for Operations of UNODC introduced subtheme (b), “Drug demand reduction”. The Chief of the Global Challenges Section of UNODC gave a presentation on the salient aspects of demand reduction. Statements were made by the representatives of the United Arab Emirates, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Germany, Morocco, Argentina, the United Kingdom, Uruguay, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan and the United States. A statement was also made by the observer for New Zealand. Statements were also made by the observers for the World Health Organization, the European
Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), the Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific, the League of Arab States, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs, the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, the International Harm Reduction Association and the International Council on Alcohol and Addictions.

17. A representative of the Secretariat gave a presentation on the level of implementation of demand reduction activities, the scientific evidence of the effectiveness of the various approaches used and the cost-effectiveness of investments in prevention, treatment and reducing the negative health and social consequences of drug abuse. The presentation highlighted the need for a comprehensive approach to demand reduction that would take into consideration both the imbalance in resources allocated to demand reduction and the stigmatization of drug-dependent persons. In the presentation attention was drawn to the need to focus on the reduction of human suffering as one of the main aims of the international drug control treaties.

18. Several speakers emphasized the importance of the measures and declarations emanating from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, in particular the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction (Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex). They considered it essential to use the lessons learned in the period following the twentieth special session to further encourage and facilitate the identification, sharing and adoption of best practices by and among Member States. Some speakers stressed the need to build on the work already done in order to sustain and expand demand reduction activities. It was noted that prior to 1998 demand reduction had been regarded as a controversial issue, whereas since then demand reduction had occupied an important place on the international drug control agenda. Several speakers felt that the positive responses by Member States to the Declaration had been an important legacy of the twentieth special session.

19. Several speakers were in agreement that, judged on the basis of the information available, progress in demand reduction responses since 1998 had been modest. It was noted that, although the number and scope of interventions had increased, the level of implementation in key areas was as yet not sufficient to achieve significant and measurable results in drug demand reduction.

20. Many speakers recognized that long-term, sustained demand reduction strategies could have a positive impact on the drug problem. However, the lack of financial, technological and human resources was viewed as a major obstacle to scaling up demand reduction programmes and interventions, such that it remained difficult for Governments to give high priority to demand reduction on their national agendas. Several speakers underlined the fact that a balanced approach to drug control required strengthening demand reduction measures without neglecting supply reduction and law enforcement.

21. Some speakers stressed the importance of investing in research in the area of demand reduction and the need to disseminate findings in order to inform the development of programmes and interventions.

22. Given the complexity of the drug abuse phenomenon, it was considered important to embrace a multisectoral and multidisciplinary approach. One factor
regarded as important to the success of demand reduction interventions was the involvement of civil society, which should be ensured by encouraging the active participation of and collaboration with non-governmental organizations. In that connection, many speakers noted with satisfaction the preparatory activities for the global forum entitled “Beyond 2008”, to be held in July 2008, which was being organized by the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs.

23. Reflecting on the lessons learned at the national and international levels in the decade to 2008, several speakers indicated the need for a continuum of practices describing a comprehensive approach to drug demand reduction that aimed first at the prevention of drug abuse, second at facilitating access to treatment and, third, at taking effective measures to reduce the health and social consequences of drug abuse. Various demand reduction activities were mentioned by speakers as part of their countries’ national strategies: the development of life skills for children and young people, the involvement of parents and family, the provision of accessible and good-quality treatment services, the availability of screening and brief interventions, the role of faith-based approaches in specific cultural contexts, the provision of alternatives to the imprisonment of drug offenders, substitution therapy for opioid dependence and the provision of services to prevent HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases.

24. Several speakers emphasized that measures to reduce the harm caused by drugs were essential to comprehensive drug demand reduction policies. They stressed that such measures, as well as the provision of universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention and care services, were effective ways of limiting the further spread of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. However, it was noted that many States had not made efforts to take such measures and that some of those measures had not been universally endorsed by Member States. Some speakers expressed appreciation for the discussion paper entitled “Reducing the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse: a comprehensive approach”, which had recently been published by UNODC.

25. Several participants called for the prioritization of and a more explicit commitment to human rights in the context of drug control efforts. They stated that drug abusers should not be stigmatized and were entitled to respect of their human rights in compliance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 217 A (III)). They asserted that a rights-based approach constituted the most effective way of preventing HIV/AIDS. States were called upon to actively respect and promote those human rights. The need to monitor and assess the status of human rights was mentioned as a way of preventing possible violations related to drug offences.

26. Some speakers expressed concern regarding the separation of producer and consumer countries in responses to the drug problem. Such separation was viewed as contradictory to the balanced approach, which considered demand and supply in the same context and linked the two elements in all countries.

27. Several speakers highlighted the need to develop enhanced monitoring systems and tools in the light of the lessons learned from the biennial reports questionnaire process. They emphasized the importance of mechanisms that allowed for monitoring and evaluation of the quality, impact and coverage of demand reduction interventions and that provided a forum for the standardization and harmonization
of data collection methods, concepts and tools. Some speakers reiterated the importance of working in close cooperation with national, regional and international bodies in order to reduce the overall burden of reporting on Member States and to make the most effective use of resources.

Subtheme (c). Countering illicit drug supply

28. The Officer-in-Charge of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs of UNODC, the Chief of the Anti-Organized Crime and Law Enforcement Unit of UNODC and other members of the Secretariat introduced subtheme (c), “Countering illicit drug supply”.

29. Statements were made by the representatives of Tajikistan, Nigeria, Argentina, Mexico, Kazakhstan, China, Australia, the United States, Peru, Saudi Arabia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Japan, Thailand, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Korea, the United Arab Emirates, Canada and Bolivia. Statements were also made by the observers for Belarus, Afghanistan, Honduras, Algeria, Indonesia, Togo, Lebanon and Saint Lucia. A statement was also made by the observer for Palestine. Statements were also made by the observers for the European Commission, the European Police Office (Europol), the Institute for Policy Studies, the Open Society Institute and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

30. Speakers under the subtheme highlighted the efforts of their Governments to comply with international standards to counter money-laundering through the adoption of comprehensive legislation criminalizing money-laundering and by establishing comprehensive prevention measures for financial institutions and other entities vulnerable to money-laundering. Some speakers stressed the need for enhanced domestic cooperation between law enforcement agencies and other entities involved in countering money-laundering. They also called for better-targeted regional and international cooperation for effective information and data exchanges for the purpose of prosecuting money-laundering cases and confiscating proceeds of crime.

31. Several speakers acknowledged the increase in trafficking in precursors by transnational organized crime networks and called for the strengthening of law enforcement efforts. A number of speakers emphasized the importance of preventing at an early stage the diversion of precursors from legitimate trade through effective regulation by the relevant authorities and by establishing partnerships with the private sector, such as the pharmaceutical industry. Speakers described new diversion methods and routes used by traffickers, such as air and maritime routes. Effective drug law enforcement required maintaining awareness of those evolving patterns, combined with regular training activities on new trends and countermeasures. A number of speakers reported on the successful implementation of national counter-narcotic action plans, which were guided by the goals established by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session and included information and awareness-raising campaigns. In addition, speakers emphasized the importance of incorporating integrated demand-reduction initiatives with prevention responses into their national counter-narcotics strategies.

32. Speakers emphasized the importance of international and regional cooperation, in particular among law enforcement agencies, and of strengthening border controls
and cooperation among various States in that area. Speakers welcomed and confirmed their support for regional and international joint initiatives such as Project Prism.

33. Speakers considered that the exchange of information and the collection of data and intelligence were necessary tools for assessing the true magnitude of the world drug situation and for facilitating a better understanding of the latest trends in trafficking in precursors. It was recommended that data collection systems should be improved and that they should use qualitative and quantitative data from as many sources as possible.

34. With respect to judicial cooperation, speakers mentioned various means adopted by their Governments to implement the measures to promote judicial cooperation, as described in the measures to promote judicial cooperation (General Assembly resolution S-20/4 C), such as the adoption of laws on extradition and mutual legal assistance, the signing of bilateral and multilateral agreements at the regional and international levels, the designation of competent national authorities and cooperation with law enforcement authorities of other States in specific drug-related cases. Several speakers reported on measures adopted by their Governments to address aspects of combating organized crime, such as witness protection and provisions to counter money-laundering.

35. One speaker emphasized that the recommendations and measures to promote judicial cooperation contained in the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session remained valid and should further guide the efforts of Governments in that area.

36. Most speakers highlighted the importance of some of the more specific measures for achieving effective judicial cooperation and law enforcement, such as the extradition of drug offenders, controlled deliveries, cooperation to combat trafficking by sea, the sharing of intelligence and cooperation among law enforcement authorities, which helped to build trust, in particular between neighbouring States.

37. Speakers suggested maintaining effective points of contact, providing guidance on using appropriate wording in drafting requests, regularly assessing procedures and addressing obstacles to cooperation. One speaker suggested that Member States should define clear conditions for the implementation of controlled deliveries that also took into account the need for confidentiality and safety.

38. A number of speakers offered to share with other Member States the experiences of their States; other speakers requested assistance from UNODC and from other Member States in reforming national legal systems and developing law enforcement capacities. Several speakers expressed their appreciation for the technical assistance provided by UNODC in the drafting of legislation and the preparation of training seminars.

39. Several speakers noted the need for further action to contain the problem of amphetamine-type stimulants, as shifts detected in the market had suggested some diversification in the illicit manufacture of and trade in such stimulants. It was stated that the reductions in trafficking observed in some regions were being offset by increases in others. While the number of manufacturing sites was reported to be declining in some parts of the world, it was noted that the size of the remaining sites
was increasing, reflecting the growing involvement of organized crime and large international criminal networks in the manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants. The globalization of the illicit manufacture of, trafficking in and use of drugs was felt to have gradually diminished the differences between manufacturing countries and consumer countries.

40. A number of speakers noted that, despite several successful national and regional initiatives and law enforcement efforts to combat the illicit manufacture and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants, there was a need to focus more on law enforcement cooperation with a view to identifying at an early stage emerging trends in the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in such stimulants. The importance of intelligence-led law enforcement was emphasized. Some speakers underlined the need to improve capacity for the investigation and dismantling of clandestine laboratories in order to counter new manufacturing methods, restrict the availability of new precursor chemicals and reduce the diversion of precursor chemicals.

41. Some speakers stressed that efforts should focus on building capacity to detect, monitor and understand the problem of amphetamine-type stimulants, on developing mechanisms and methodologies for monitoring such stimulants in order to improve estimates and on producing good-quality data for use in policymaking and strategic planning. The need for improved, standardized methodologies to estimate the prevalence of the use of amphetamine-type stimulants was highlighted.

42. There was consensus that alternative development had been a useful tool in addressing illicit drug crop cultivation from the development perspective, but that the reach of alternative development programmes and the resources allocated to them had been insufficient over the past 10 years.

43. Speakers noted the importance of preventive alternative development and described successful examples of proactive approaches to the design and implementation of alternative development projects, including the qualitative assessment of their social and economic impact.

44. It was noted that one Member State had obtained positive results in implementing comprehensive alternative development programmes focusing on the environmental protection of forest areas, formal education and vocational training and the introduction of productive livelihood systems. In the case cited, eradication programmes had been a prerequisite to the provision of assistance.

45. Speakers highlighted the pressing need to deliver immediate assistance to farming families that lost their livelihoods under such programmes. The links connecting illicit crop cultivation, extreme poverty, marginalization and insecurity were underlined by some speakers.

46. Most speakers agreed that international cooperation and support for States affected by illicit drug crop cultivation that were implementing alternative development programmes needed to be strengthened and designed to fulfil long-term objectives in a well-planned and well-timed manner. Many speakers emphasized the importance of continuing support for the alternative development programmes in South-East Asia, which had proved successful in reducing illicit opium poppy cultivation.
47. A number of speakers underlined the importance of horizontal cooperation through the sharing, within and between regions, of best practices and lessons learned. Many speakers emphasized the need to increase international cooperation to finance, design and implement alternative development programmes. In that respect, some speakers, while agreeing that cross-border cooperation was essential to the success of alternative development, stressed that it was important for bilateral and multilateral support to be flexible and not to be based on political agendas.

48. Some speakers noted the importance of having secure and stable markets for alternative development products in developed countries and highlighted the need for international cooperation to provide technical assistance in order to improve the quality and added value of those products.

49. The attention of the Commission was drawn to the importance of adhering to human rights principles when planning and implementing alternative development and drug crop eradication interventions. Some speakers expressed concern at the interpretation of the International Narcotics Control Board with regard to the traditional and cultural use of coca leaf.

50. Speakers stressed the importance of continued and long-term development support to Afghanistan in order to promote the establishment of sustainable development and to avoid a return to opium poppy cultivation in provinces recently made free of opium poppy. The importance of a balanced emphasis on law enforcement and development efforts in Afghanistan was also stressed.

51. Several speakers referred to the successful working relationships that their Governments had developed with UNODC and to the importance of continuing to support alternative development initiatives through UNODC and bilateral channels.

52. One speaker mentioned the need for enhanced monitoring of the cultivation of illicit crops in order to better inform the international community on the scope of illicit coca bush cultivation. It was considered important that credible law enforcement efforts should accompany the implementation of alternative development projects.

53. Speakers discussed the assertion that alternative development alone would not bring about a lasting solution in cases where poverty was not the driver of opium poppy cultivation. It was stressed that the challenge for the coming decade would be not to develop new commitments but to implement the commitments contained in the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, in accordance with the relevant United Nations conventions.

54. Concern was expressed about the impact of drug trafficking and criminality on West Africa, Central America and Central Asia. That situation, coupled with the decline in world commodity prices, had driven persons cultivating licit crops to switch to cultivating illicit crops. The UNODC proposal that any future action plan should continue to include cannabis was welcomed.

55. The Chairman of the Commission summarized the salient points of the thematic debate as follows:

(a) In the 10 years that had elapsed since the adoption of the Political Declaration and related instruments by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, progress had been made in several key areas. For example, there was a
more structured legal scheme and better tools for the international effort to combat
drugs. The thematic debate evidenced, however, that the objectives established in
1998 had not yet been accomplished: much remained to be done;

(b) One basic issue to be addressed was the quality of the information on
which the performance of the international drug control scheme was assessed. The
data collection mechanism, established as a result of the twentieth special session of
the General Assembly, had certainly provided critical information on progress made
since 1998. The thematic debate had shown, though, that reinforcement of that
mechanism, including its possible revision, would be beneficial, in particular to
ensure that all relevant sources of information were taken into account and that the
same standards were used for the evaluation exercise;

(c) The principle of common and shared responsibility, referred to in
paragraph 2 of the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its
twentieth special session (Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex), had guided the very
structure of the thematic debate, which addressed drug demand reduction and
countering the illicit drug supply on a balanced and interrelated basis. It was also
recalled that at the centre of the international fight against drugs were human
beings;

(d) It was recognized that since 1998 drug demand reduction had occupied
an important place on the international drug control agenda. The encouraging
responses by Member States to the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug
Demand Reduction, as well as to the Action Plan for the Implementation of the
Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction (General
Assembly resolution 54/132, annex), represented an important legacy of the
twentieth special session and the follow-up thereto;

(e) An evidence-based and long-term, sustained, comprehensive approach to
demand reduction was considered necessary. Such an approach should notably take
into consideration:

(i) The imbalance in resources allocated to demand reduction;
(ii) The stigma attached to drug-dependent persons;
(iii) The need to focus on reducing human suffering, including through
measures to reduce the harm caused by drugs, as one of the main aims of the
international drug control conventions;

(f) In addition, it was judged important for the success of demand reduction
interventions to involve civil society and to utilize the capacity of non-governmental
organizations;

(g) With regard to efforts to counter the illicit drug supply, speakers during
the thematic debate acknowledged the progress made since the twentieth special
session on many fronts in the development of national drug control strategies,
improved law enforcement capacity and regional and international cooperation;

(h) At the same time, the thematic debate confirmed that there had been
significant changes in the previous 10 years in the area of illicit drug supply and
that those changes posed challenges requiring an adjustment of the corresponding
international and national strategies. Those challenges concerned:
(i) New trafficking trends;

(ii) The diversification of sources of drug production, including as regards the illicit manufacture of and trade in amphetamine-type stimulants;

(iii) The increasing use of alternative or substitute chemicals not subject to international or national control;

(iv) The impact of globalization in blurring the line between producer and consumer countries as concerns the illicit production of, trafficking in and use of drugs;

(v) The growing links between drug trafficking and international organized crime;

(i) The thematic debate confirmed the central relevance of international cooperation to addressing those challenges effectively. In particular:

(i) It was considered important to encourage national authorities to develop areas of synergy for mutual benefit and support with the chemical manufacturing industry and chemical industry brokers. That would help to consolidate the significant improvements evidenced since the twentieth special session in the legislative and procedural controls exercised by States over the chemical substances listed in the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,\textsuperscript{101} with particular attention to States with inadequate controls, which continued to be the preferred target of traffickers;

(ii) It was recognized that there was a need for increased focus on law enforcement cooperation with a view to identifying at an early stage emerging trends in trafficking in and the manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants. Efforts in that regard should focus on building capacity to detect, monitor and understand the problem in order to facilitate policymaking and strategic planning;

(iii) Measures for achieving effective judicial cooperation and law enforcement were viewed as building trust, in particular between neighbouring States;

(iv) The continued establishment of dedicated financial intelligence units to collect, analyse and disseminate financial intelligence data was considered an effective tool for countering money-laundering and for consolidating the progress made by most Member States in the implementation of provisions for countering money-laundering;

(j) The thematic debate also confirmed the usefulness of alternative development as a tool for countering illicit drug supply by addressing illicit drug crop cultivation from a development perspective. The recognized importance of alternative development contrasted with the insufficient resources allocated to alternative development programmes during the previous 10 years;

(k) To expand on the possibilities of alternative development, the thematic debate considered, among other proposals, that:

(i) International cooperation and support to States affected by illicit drug crop cultivation and implementing alternative development programmes needed to be strengthened and designed to fulfil long-term objectives;

(ii) Horizontal cooperation through the sharing of best practices and lessons learned should be pursued further, including by continuing support for alternative development programmes, which had proved successful;

(iii) Alternative development programmes should be reinforced and updated, for example, by including environmental protection elements having a positive impact on forest conservation and land recovery;

(iv) Secure and stable markets in developed countries for products from alternative development programmes needed to be ensured, together with technical assistance to improve such products.

56. In closing, the Chairman noted that, as evidenced by the foregoing conclusions, the tone of the thematic debate had been predominantly realistic, constructive and proactive and that, for the sake of an effective international drug control system, States should commit themselves to maintaining that spirit during the coming year of reflection.
Chapter III

Drug demand reduction

57. At its 5th meeting, on 12 March, the Commission considered agenda item 4 (b), entitled “Drug demand reduction: world situation with regard to drug abuse”.

58. For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse (E/CN.7/2008/4) and the report of the Executive Director on responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users (E/CN.7/2008/7).

59. Statements were made by the observer for Slovenia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine, as well as Iceland and Norway), the representatives of the United States, Italy, Spain and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the observer for Ecuador. Statements were also made by the observers for the World Health Organization, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Central and Eastern European Harm Reduction Network.

60. The Director of the Division for Operations of UNODC made an introductory statement. A representative of the Secretariat presented an analysis of the world drug abuse situation and trends since 1998, summarizing key findings based on the annual reports questionnaire and the biennial reports questionnaire. Information was also presented on the related methodological issues with regard to global data collection and analysis.

A. Deliberations

61. Several speakers reiterated that comprehensive measures for drug demand reduction were an essential element of the response to the world drug problem. They emphasized the importance of a balanced approach to supply and demand reduction measures, which needed to be driven by evidence of the effectiveness of those measures. Speakers called for the balanced allocation of funding and other resources between supply and demand reduction measures.

62. Speakers stressed the importance of integrating prevention and treatment measures into overall health-care systems and of using an approach based on public health and respect for human rights to address the disease burden attributable to drug use. Some speakers expressed concern about the limited access to key health-care interventions in that area, in particular in low- and middle-income countries. Several speakers mentioned that harm reduction had become a well-established part of drug policy, as indicated by the steadily growing evidence base.

63. Several speakers reiterated the essential role played by good-quality data in supporting the formulation of evidence-based responses in demand reduction. Concern was expressed about the quality and quantity of data made available by
Member States for global analysis of the drug use situation and trends and about the need to improve the reliability of data on drug abuse.

64. It was suggested that a regional reporting mechanism should be designed as a basis for a global monitoring system beyond 2008 and that an Internet-based data collection instrument should be designed to facilitate responses by Member States. One speaker emphasized the need for the biennial reports questionnaire to be revised and offered technical support for its revision.

65. Several speakers highlighted the importance of primary prevention among youth and underlined the need to develop programmes targeting vulnerable groups, including women, children and families at risk.

66. Several speakers called for measures to strengthen comprehensive responses to HIV/AIDS prevention and care, including the collection of information on subject areas such as the risks associated with drug abuse, sterile injecting equipment, drug substitution therapy, treatment and rehabilitation, voluntary counselling and testing, antiretroviral therapy treatment and other services. Speakers welcomed the efforts of UNODC in playing a leading role in that work and welcomed the recommendations made by the second Informal Inter-Country Consultation on HIV Prevention and Care among Injecting Drug Users and in Prison Settings, held in Vienna in February 2008.

B. Action taken by the Commission

67. At its 10th meeting, on 14 March 2008, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.3/Rev.2) sponsored by Azerbaijan, Colombia, Egypt, Japan, Lebanon, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine and the United States. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/2.)

68. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.4/Rev.2) sponsored by Australia and the United States. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/3.)

69. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.8/Rev.1) sponsored by Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, China, Egypt, Japan, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand and the United States. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/5.)

70. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.10/Rev.1), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Angola, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Chile, China, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Peru, the Philippines, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo and Ukraine. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/7.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of such adoption. (For the text, see annex II.)

71. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.19/Rev.1), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya,
Norway, Serbia, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), Switzerland, Thailand and Ukraine. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/14.) After the adoption of the revised draft resolution, the representative of the Russian Federation submitted a statement indicating that the participation of the Russian Federation in the adoption of resolution 51/14 was without any prejudice to the position of the Russian Federation with regard to the use of substitution treatment.

72. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.23), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by France, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/17.)
Chapter IV

Illicit drug traffic and supply

73. At its 6th and 7th meetings, on 12 and 13 March, the Commission considered agenda item 5, which read as follows:

“Illicit drug traffic and supply:

“(a) World situation with regard to drug trafficking and action taken by subsidiary bodies of the Commission;

“(b) Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly:

“(i) Measures to promote judicial cooperation (extradition, mutual legal assistance, controlled delivery, trafficking by sea and law enforcement cooperation, including training);

“(ii) Countering money-laundering;

“(iii) Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development”.

74. For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2008/5);

(b) Report of the Secretariat on action taken by subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/CN.7/2008/6);

(c) Report of the Executive Director on using alternative development programmes to reduce the cultivation of cannabis plants (E/CN.7/2008/9);

(d) Report of the Executive Director on the follow-up to the Second Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking Routes from Afghanistan (E/CN.7/2008/10).

75. An introductory presentation was made by the Chief of the Anti-Organized Crime and Law Enforcement Unit of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ukraine, the Russian Federation, Turkey, the United Kingdom, Pakistan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Tajikistan and the United Arab Emirates. Statements were also made by the observers for Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), Algeria, the Dominican Republic, Armenia, Burkina Faso, Portugal, Kenya, South Africa, Indonesia, Azerbaijan, Lebanon and Mauritania.

A. Deliberations

76. Speakers emphasized the importance of international cooperation and the exchange of information and reiterated their commitment to important joint initiatives such as Project Cohesion, which was being coordinated by the International Narcotics Control Board. Several speakers reported on the high degree
of effectiveness of controlled delivery operations in identifying those involved in trafficking syndicates. It was noted that while controlled delivery operations were a useful law enforcement tool for fighting drug trafficking, the areas of complementary procedure, legislation and contact points should be further harmonized by States for greater effectiveness.

77. Several speakers reported on successful experiences with national activities to combat drug trafficking, which consisted of addressing demand and supply, as well as revising national legislation to bring it into line with international conventions and regulations. Reiterating the need for police and border officials to receive training, speakers expressed their appreciation for the specific examples provided of relevant training institutions.

78. It was stated that new technologies were increasingly being used, in particular to monitor maritime and air routes, which continued to be the preferred means of smuggling ever-larger consignments of illicit drugs. Speakers stressed the importance of cooperation and the early exchange of information on those new routes and on the movement of aircraft and vessels. The Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre – Narcotics, based in Lisbon, was acknowledged as an instance of successful collaboration by States that had enabled them to pool resources and information in order to target and intercept cocaine consignments smuggled across the Atlantic.

79. Several speakers stressed the fact that counter-narcotics strategies should be part of a broader, national strategy of development, addressing factors such as poverty alleviation, unemployment, education and other economic and social factors, in order to prevent a return to the cultivation of drug crops. A number of speakers from Africa observed that drugs and crime were serious obstacles to development on that continent and that effective strategies to reverse the situation were urgently needed. The establishment of effective criminal justice systems, including strengthening the rule of law and building the capacity of law enforcement authorities, was identified as a crucial factor in the fight against drug trafficking. Those speakers added that stability was needed at the community level to prevent a resurgence of drug trafficking.

80. Speakers commended UNODC on the successful organization of regional meetings, such as the sessions of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and the meetings held within the framework of the Paris Pact initiative, which had all proved extremely useful. All had offered opportunities for the exchange of information and had served as forums for promoting operational contacts and developing joint response strategies.

81. Speakers expressed concern at the increased use of countries on the West African coast as transit points in smuggling cocaine consignments from Latin America to European markets. Some speakers expressed their appreciation for the first steps taken in the course of the previous year towards strengthening international cooperation to combat that worrying trend.

82. A number of speakers raised the issue of increased trafficking in amphetamine-type stimulants and psychoactive pharmaceuticals subject to abuse, as well as the further processing of those substances. It was stated that the methods employed by traffickers continued to be dynamic in nature, changing in response to law
enforcement efforts and successes. A newly developing trend reported was the appearance of Afghan heroin in seizures in China, in Malaysia and, when the heroin was routed through South-East Asia, in Europe. Speakers called for continued vigilance and proactive measures to respond to the more common modes of smuggling of drugs, by human courier, postal service or sea container.

83. Speakers welcomed the meeting of the Afghanistan Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board that had been held in Tokyo in February 2008 and the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to effectively implement the National Drug Control Strategy of Afghanistan. It was stressed that successful interventions could only be achieved through an integrated approach that addressed social and economic factors and that involved neighbouring States and the international community. A number of speakers called on the international community to provide more practical assistance to the Government and people of Afghanistan.

84. A number of speakers reported on changes to national legislation and on capacity-building efforts made to enable authorities to address the money-laundering of proceeds of trafficking. Speakers expressed concern at the linkages between drug trafficking, organized crime and terrorism. Speakers noted the need for concerted action to add effective legislation and procedures to national countermeasures in order to deny criminal profits to those participating in trafficking, organized crime and terrorism. It was acknowledged that there was clearly a need for a multifaceted approach to that problem and that UNODC should play a key role in providing guidance on that approach.

B. Action taken by the Commission

85. At its 10th meeting, on 14 March 2008, the Commission approved for adoption by the Economic and Social Council a draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.5), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by China, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, Peru, the Philippines and Thailand. (For the text, see chapter I, section A, draft resolution I.)

86. At the same meeting, the Commission approved for adoption by the Economic and Social Council a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.12/Rev.1), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Afghanistan, China, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), Thailand and Turkey. (For the text, see chapter I, section A, draft resolution II.) Prior to the approval of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of such approval. (For the text, see annex III.)

87. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.2), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, China, Croatia, India, Japan, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), Turkey and the United States. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/1.)

88. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.9/Rev.1), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Azerbaijan, Egypt, Indonesia, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, Norway, the Philippines,
South Africa and Thailand. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/6.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of such adoption. (For the text, see annex IV.)

89. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.13/Rev.2) sponsored by Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, India, Japan, the Russian Federation, Turkey and the United States. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/9.)

90. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.15/Rev.1), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Colombia, Japan, Mexico, Norway and Peru. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/11.)

91. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.25), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Argentina, China, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), South Africa, Togo, the United States and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/18.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of such adoption. (For the text, see annex V.)
Chapter V

Implementation of the international drug control treaties

92. At its 1st, 2nd and 5th meetings, on 10 and 12 March, the Commission considered agenda item 6, which read as follows:

“Implementation of the international drug control treaties:
(a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
(b) International Narcotics Control Board;
(c) Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly:
   (i) Measures to prevent the illicit manufacture, import, export, trafficking, distribution and diversion of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
   (ii) Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors;
(d) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties”.

93. For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2007 (E/INCB/2007/1);


94. An introductory statement was made by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board. Statements were made by the observer for Slovenia on behalf of the European Union, the representatives of Japan, Belgium, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Turkey, the United Kingdom, Germany, the United States, China, Nigeria, Peru, Bolivia and Argentina. Statements were also made by the observers for France, Malaysia, Azerbaijan, Sweden, Norway, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, Denmark and South Africa. The observers for the European Community and the World Health Organization also made statements.

A. Deliberations


95. The President of the International Narcotics Control Board introduced the report of the Board for 2007. Referring to chapter I of the report, on the principle of proportionality and drug-related offences, he noted that the principle of

proportionality required that Government responses to drug-related offences should be proportionate to the seriousness of the crime. In that connection, he observed that the three international drug control treaties, namely the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,103 the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971104 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, encouraged and facilitated sanctions proportionate to the seriousness of the respective drug-related offences and that the 1988 Convention required parties to the Convention to take special measures to ensure that serious offences were not committed with impunity. Recalling that proportionality included respect for equality before the law, the President stressed that large-scale drug traffickers should not be allowed to use their resources to compromise the criminal justice system. He informed the Commission about the Access to Controlled Medications Programme, developed by the World Health Organization in consultation with the Board, and called on Governments to support the implementation of that Programme. He expressed appreciation for the work of all institutions involved in drug control, including Governments, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations.

96. Those who spoke on the report of the Board for 2007 welcomed the attention given in the report to the principle of proportionality and drug-related offences. Some speakers expressed concern about the continued use of capital punishment in some States, recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 62/149 of 18 December 2007, had called upon all States still maintaining the death penalty to establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty. Some speakers noted that the Board should provide clear recommendations to States regarding the application of the principle of proportionality in drug-related offences.

97. Several speakers mentioned that the purpose of the international drug control treaties should be to protect the health of individuals and the public as a whole and that those treaties should be implemented with respect for the international human rights treaties. Some speakers expressed disagreement with the view of the Board that certain measures taken to protect public health and human rights in their States, such as drug consumption rooms, were contrary to the international drug control treaties. Speakers noted that new health threats called for innovative approaches to reducing the negative health and social consequences of drug abuse.

98. The Commission welcomed the continued efforts of the Board in promoting the maintenance of a global balance between the supply of and demand for opiate raw materials for medical and scientific purposes, as required under the provisions of the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol.105 The Board was commended for arranging informal meetings with the main States importing and producing opiate raw materials. Reference was made to Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/9 of 25 July 2007, in which the Council had underscored the need to maintain a balance between the supply of and demand for opiate raw materials.

99. Speakers stressed the importance of adhering to and fully implementing the international drug control treaties, which constituted the foundation of the

104  Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
105  Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
international drug control system. States not yet parties to one or more of those treaties were urged to adhere to them without delay. States were also urged to fulfil the reporting requirements of the Board and to submit information in a timely manner.

100. Country missions undertaken by the Board were welcomed as a valuable opportunity for the exchange of information, ideas and views on matters of mutual importance. Such missions were considered to be an important means for the Board to continue to strengthen its dialogue with Member States and other organizations involved in drug control. Some speakers urged the Board to ensure objectivity in its mission activities and reports, to clarify the criteria and methodologies that it used to establish priorities within its work and to seek to take into consideration unique national situations and circumstances that could affect the approach of different States to drug control.

101. Several representatives informed the Commission of a number of notable developments and achievements in addressing the issue of drug abuse and trafficking. Speakers reported on the drug control strategies of their Governments aimed at reducing illicit drug supply and demand. Some noted that, as a result of those strategies, large quantities of drugs had been seized, illicit drug laboratories had been dismantled and important measures to further strengthen drug control had been implemented.

102. Concern was expressed about the deteriorating drug control situation in Afghanistan. Some speakers felt that the international community should reinforce its efforts to assist the Government of Afghanistan in addressing the drug problem in that country. Another ominous development mentioned was the fact that countries in Africa were increasingly being used as transit areas by drug traffickers.

103. Some speakers welcomed the discussion paper on a comprehensive approach to reducing the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse, prepared by UNODC in consultation with the Board, and encouraged the Board to pursue its dialogue with Governments with a view to reaching a consensus on that matter.

104. The observer for the World Health Organization stated that the lack of access to opioid analgesics led to unnecessary suffering despite the fact that pain management was neither difficult nor expensive. In the view of the observer, Governments should increase access to those substances without allowing an increase in their non-medical use and should establish policies to make those substances readily available for medical purposes. Expressing appreciation for the support voiced by the observer for France and the representative of the Netherlands for the Access to Controlled Medications Programme, the observer noted that a broader base of donors was essential to making the programme fully successful. In addition, the observer informed the Commission that ketamine was currently under review and that, as yet, there had been no recommendation for its scheduling. He expressed the concern of the Organization that premature measures could make ketamine-based medicines inaccessible and render surgery impossible in developing countries.

105. The representatives of Bolivia and Peru stated that, in their countries, coca leaf chewing was an ancestral tradition with a long history. It was noted that, according to article 14, paragraph 2, of the 1988 Convention, measures to eliminate the illicit demand for narcotic drugs should take due account of traditional licit uses and the
protection of the environment. The Board was requested to take those and other factors into account when reviewing the situation with regard to coca leaf chewing. It was also noted that in the report of the Board for 2007 all Governments were reminded that the provisions of the 1988 Convention did not absolve parties of their national obligations under the international drug control treaties. The Board was also requested to continue pursuing its dialogue with the Governments concerned. The President of the Board reaffirmed the readiness of the Board to do so.


106. The President of the International Narcotics Control Board introduced the 2007 report of the Board on the implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention (E/INCB/2007/4) and highlighted the importance of international cooperation in drug control under Project Prism and Project Cohesion. In that connection, the President commended the Government of Slovenia for its recent seizure of over 110 tons of acetic anhydride that had been intended for use in the illicit manufacture of heroin. He noted that the major operation had succeeded as a result of cooperation and investigations involving several States within the framework of Project Cohesion. The hope was expressed that that and other developments might assist the Government of Afghanistan in addressing the serious problems related to heroin manufacture in its territory. The President cautioned Governments that, owing to the successful monitoring of international trade in substances used in illicit drug manufacture, diversion from domestic distribution channels and smuggling across borders had become the most commonly used methods of obtaining those substances for use in clandestine drug laboratories. Therefore, Governments were urged to adequately monitor the manufacture and distribution, on their territory, of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of drugs. In an effort to prevent drug trafficking organizations from seeking out non-scheduled substances for use in the illicit manufacture of drugs, Governments were called upon to make use of the updated limited international special surveillance list of non-scheduled substances that had been released to all competent national authorities in 2007. In addition, Governments were encouraged to establish mechanisms for exchanging alerts and information on suspicious trade in and seizures of substitute chemicals.

107. Representatives of several Member States commended the Board for its report on the implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention, particularly the overview on the implementation of the provisions of the Convention, the licit trade in precursors and the latest trends in trafficking in precursors. It was noted that the report supported the work of national authorities in preventing the diversion of precursor chemicals. Some speakers asked that the Board also use complementary data sources in preparing its reports.

108. Speakers noted with appreciation the work of the Board as the global focal point for Project Prism, the international initiative aimed at addressing the diversion of chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants, and the contribution of the Board to Operation Crystal Flow.

109. The observer for Malaysia provided recent information on the dismantling of a large clandestine laboratory that had been illicitly manufacturing methamphetamine.
It was reported that, in March 2008, Malaysian law enforcement authorities had arrested several nationals of other States and seized substances, including precursor chemicals, used in the illicit manufacture of methamphetamine. In the opinion of the observer, that case helped to confirm that international criminal networks were involved in the illicit manufacture of drugs.

110. The continued utility and importance of pre-export notifications were stressed by a number of speakers, and Governments not yet participating in the system of notification were urged to do so. Several speakers provided updates on new legislation on precursors and precursor control measures in their States.

B. Action taken by the Commission

111. At its 10th meeting, on 14 March 2008, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.11/Rev.1) sponsored by Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, China, Japan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), Thailand and the United States. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/8.)

112. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.14/Rev.1), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Lebanon, Mexico, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, the United States and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/10.)

113. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.16/Rev.1), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), Switzerland and Uruguay. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/12.) After the adoption of the revised draft resolution, the representative of Bolivia made a statement indicating that Bolivia had opposed the deletion of the preambular paragraph referring to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007. The representative of Cuba made a statement expressing regret at the trend of not taking into account human rights in general and the human rights of indigenous persons in particular.

114. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.20/Rev.2) sponsored by France, India, Spain and Turkey. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/15.)

115. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.21/Rev.1), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, China, India, Japan, Norway, Serbia, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), South Africa, Thailand, the United States and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/16.)

116. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.17/Rev.1), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Angola, Argentina, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, France, Japan, Mexico,
Morocco, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), South Africa, the Sudan, Switzerland, Togo and Turkey. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/13.)
Chapter VI

Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

117. At its 7th meeting, on 13 March, the Commission considered agenda item 7, entitled “Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”. For its consideration of the item, the following documents were prepared:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2008/3-E/CN.15/2008/3);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on resolutions and decisions relating to the drug programme of UNODC adopted in the period 2003-2007 in which action by the Office was requested (E/CN.7/2008/13);

(c) Report of the Executive Director on deviations from the standard programme support charge of 13 per cent during the period 2005-2007 (E/CN.7/2008/14-E/CN.15/2008/19).

118. An introductory statement was made by the Officer-in-Charge of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs. A statement was made by the observer for Slovenia on behalf of the European Union. Statements were also made by the representatives of the United States, Japan and Australia. The observer for France also made a statement.

Deliberations

119. A representative of the Secretariat introduced the report of the Executive Director on the activities of UNODC (E/CN.7/2008/3-E/CN.15/2008/3) and pointed out that the report should be read in conjunction with the conference room paper on making drug control “fit for purpose” (E/CN.7/2008/CRP.17). He underlined that the work of the Office should be viewed in the context of the four broader themes of peace, security, development and the rule of law.

120. Speakers welcomed the report of the Executive Director on the activities of UNODC and the current reform initiatives led by the Executive Director aimed at fostering result-based management, which increased transparency and accountability. Speakers stressed that management-related decisions that were not technical but reflected a change in policy direction needed to be taken with adequate guidance from Member States.

121. Several speakers recalled the need to implement the strategy for the period 2008-2011 for UNODC (Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/12, annex), including at the field level, and to clearly describe how the concrete results specified in the strategy would be achieved and what performance measures would be established to measure those achievements within clearly defined time periods.

122. Speakers commended the Independent Evaluation Unit on its work, in particular on the 2006 annual evaluation report. Speakers supported the recommendations contained in the report, such as the need for UNODC to further
improve its knowledge management, to enhance internal coordination and cooperation, and to continue to implement project-cycle management, which would contribute to result-based project design, monitoring and reporting. It was stated that the Unit should be given operational independence to ensure objectivity and impartiality.

123. Speakers attached importance to the current United Nations reform process and to the recommendations contained in the report of the High-level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence in the Areas of Development, Humanitarian Assistance and the Environment, entitled “Delivering as one” (A/61/583). In that respect, it was recommended that coordination in the framework of UNODC co-sponsorship of UNAIDS and the coordination between UNODC and the World Health Organization should be continuous.

124. Appreciation was expressed for the efforts of UNODC to streamline its operations and the activities carried out as part of the integrated approach to tackling the problems of drugs and crime. It was emphasized that UNODC should maintain a balanced and integrated approach to dealing with the world drug problem, giving due consideration to supply and demand reduction, law enforcement activities and the promotion of public health. One speaker expressed concern about needle exchange programmes, which, in the speaker’s view, should not be promoted by UNODC.

125. UNODC was urged to expand its donor base by establishing partnerships with the private sector and multilateral institutions.

126. Appreciation was expressed for the work of UNODC in the monitoring of illicit crops in Afghanistan. In addition, the broad range of activities carried out by UNODC in Central Asia in the area of counter-narcotics was commended.

127. Speakers also commended UNODC on the development of the Automated Donor Assistance Mechanism and recommended that its application be extended to other regions, such as Africa.

128. Several speakers stressed the need to give greater attention to the abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants, in particular in South-East Asia.

129. One key issue highlighted was the need for UNODC to focus on its core functions and not on issues peripheral to its mandate that were being dealt with by other United Nations entities. It was recommended that UNODC prioritize its tasks based on the medium-term strategy.

130. One speaker expressed particular appreciation for the efforts made for the preparation of the global forum entitled “Beyond 2008”, to be held in Vienna in July 2008, at which non-governmental organizations and civil society would have an opportunity to showcase their contributions to preventing and treating drug abuse.

131. Speakers referred to the role to be played by UNODC in supporting the 10-year review by Member States on progress made in implementing the goals and targets set at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly. In that regard, one speaker advocated designating a single point of contact within the Secretariat for preparations related to the review.
Chapter VII

Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body

132. At its 7th meeting, on 13 March, the Commission considered agenda item 8, entitled “Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body”. For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on financial issues and difficulties faced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in implementing its mandates and an initial assessment of the ways and means of improving the financial situation (E/CN.7/2008/11-E/CN.15/2008/15);


133. An introductory statement was made by the Officer-in-Charge of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs. Statements were made by the observer for Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union) and the representatives of the United States, Japan and Australia. A statement was also made by the observer for France.

A. Deliberations

134. A representative of the Secretariat highlighted the efforts made by UNODC to harmonize its strategy for the period 2008-2011 with Secretariat-wide tools such as the biennial programme plan, the consolidated budget and the strategic framework of the United Nations. It was stated that the consolidated budget approved by the Commission at its reconvened fiftieth session had been the first step in ensuring that the results and result areas identified in the strategy for the period 2008-2011 could be measured and had corresponding indicators of achievement. The speaker noted that, despite its best efforts, UNODC had been unable to obtain a copy of the draft strategic framework of the United Nations from United Nations Headquarters in time for the consideration of that agenda item by the Commission at its current session.

135. Speakers urged UNODC to use the strategy for the period 2008-2011 as a programme guide to prioritize activities and to identify further areas for cost-saving.

136. Speakers welcomed the efforts of UNODC to institute result-based management and the reprofiling of the UNODC Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. They expressed continued support for the initiatives relating to project cycle management undertaken by UNODC and stated that successful implementation of those initiatives would help to foster a culture of evaluation in UNODC. One speaker asked for more information on current evaluations and stressed the need to ensure that the research and analysis products of UNODC
should be based on a rigorous methodology, should be submitted to peer review and should be developed in close consultation with the States involved. That speaker also suggested that the strategy for the period 2008-2011 for UNODC should be used to streamline the project portfolio. She welcomed the idea that UNODC should receive greater funding from the regular budget of the United Nations and suggested that the Secretariat should make a strong effort to work with major donors to that end, including by providing detailed lists of the required regular budget resources.

137. One speaker recapitulated all the efforts made by the Secretariat to provide a basis for more secure funding, including the adoption of the strategy for the period 2008-2011 for UNODC and its harmonization with the strategic framework of the United Nations and the consolidated budget. That speaker asked Member States to clarify what more was needed to ensure sufficient funding for UNODC. The speaker stated that UNODC could soon find itself in a position where it would have to refuse extrabudgetary contributions linked to specific projects because the general-purpose funds were not sufficient to meet operational costs. In that connection, he welcomed the proposal to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group on issues related to finance and governance. The speaker stressed the need for more resources from the regular budget of the United Nations to be allocated to UNODC, and he urged Member States to advocate that.

B. Action taken by the Commission

138. At its 10th meeting, on 14 March 2008, the Commission adopted a revised draft decision (E/CN.7/2008/L.22/Rev.1), as orally amended; the decision was sponsored by Norway, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union). (For the text, see chapter I, section C, decision 51/1.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft decision, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of such adoption. (For the text, see annex VI.)
Chapter VIII

Administrative and budgetary questions

139. At its 7th meeting, on 13 March, the Commission considered agenda item 9, entitled “Administrative and budgetary questions”. For its consideration of the item, the following documents were prepared:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on financial issues and difficulties faced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in implementing its mandates and an initial assessment of the ways and means of improving the financial situation (E/CN.7/2008/11-E/CN.15/2008/15);

(b) Report of the Executive Director on programmes and initiatives to be implemented by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the bienniums 2008-2009 and 2010-2011 (E/CN.7/2008/12-E/CN.15/2008/16);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on resolutions and decisions relating to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime adopted in the period 2003-2007 in which action by the Office was requested (E/CN.7/2008/13);

(d) Report of the Executive Director on deviations from the standard programme support charge of 13 per cent during the period 2005-2007 (E/CN.7/2008/14-E/CN.15/2008/19).

140. The Director of the Division for Management made an introductory statement. Statements were made by the representatives of the United States, Australia, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Cuba. Statements were also made by the observers for South Africa, Kenya and Sweden.

Deliberations

141. A representative of the Secretariat introduced the item and noted that UNODC, despite having an integrated programme of work, had separate voluntary funds for its drug programme and its crime programme and that the budget for each of those programmes was approved by the appropriate Commission; the General Assembly, however, approved an integrated regular budget for the drug and crime programmes. The speaker recalled that each voluntary fund had three components: general-purpose (or unearmarked) funds, special-purpose (or earmarked) funds and programme support charges collected on special-purpose funds. It was pointed out that the level of unearmarked contributions did not match the requirements of the Office, especially with regard to the field office network. A breakdown of the consolidated budget funding by source was provided, showing that 81 per cent of that funding came from special-purpose funds (including programme support charges), 8 per cent from general-purpose funds and 11 per cent from the regular budget of the United Nations. It was stated that the level of the general-purpose funds was not sufficient to support the implementation and sustainability of the activities of UNODC currently funded by special-purpose resources. The speaker noted that special-purpose funds had grown considerably – which was viewed as reflecting the confidence of Member States in the programmes – but funding from the regular budget had remained static in absolute terms and general-purpose funds...
had declined. Therefore, the issue was considered to be not the overall funding level but the funding mix. It was noted that the decline in both absolute and relative terms in general-purpose funds and the ongoing dependence on a small number of donors had created special challenges. It was pointed out that, in the report of the Executive Director on financial issues and difficulties faced by UNODC in implementing its mandates (E/CN.7/2008/11-E/CN.15/2008/15), the Executive Director had mentioned a number of possibilities for addressing those challenges and had proposed the establishment of an informal working group to assess the situation and to chart the way forward.

142. Speakers expressed support for the programmes carried out by UNODC. Importance was attached to the strategy for the period 2008-2011 for UNODC as the basis for the prioritization of existing programmes and activities, rather than expansion into new areas for which there was no stable sufficient funding base. Some speakers mentioned that programmes not within the framework of the strategy and those lacking prospects for funding should be eliminated. With regard to the idea of an indicative scale for voluntary contributions, one speaker stressed that voluntary contributions should remain voluntary. Another speaker expressed the view that funding levels should be in line with the activities in the specific State and region and that the funds allocated to UNODC from the regular budget of the United Nations should be increased. In that regard, it was suggested that Member States should urge their representatives at United Nations Headquarters to follow up on and support the allocation of more adequate funding to UNODC from the regular budget of the United Nations. One speaker expressed concern that, despite the adoption of a strategy, funding was not fully aligned with that strategy and sufficient general-purpose funding was not forthcoming. It was noted that the concerns about the appropriate funding levels for UNODC needed to be considered in the broader context of its governance and mandate.

143. One speaker stated that the fragmented budget and funding structure of UNODC did not correspond to the reality of a unified office and strategy on drugs and crime. The increase in special-purpose funds, the decrease in general-purpose funds and the reliance on a small number of donors were seen as worrying developments as they might induce distortions in the priorities of the Office. The speaker questioned whether it was feasible and ethically correct to allocate less than 1 per cent of the regular budget of the United Nations to areas dealing with the prevention of crime and terrorism, drug control and criminal justice. He also questioned the inclusion in resolutions of phrases that violated General Assembly resolutions, such as resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 42/211 of 21 December 1987 and 45/248 B of 21 December 1990.

144. One speaker noted with interest the idea of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice holding a joint session to review the consolidated budget, as suggested in the report of the Executive Director on financial issues and difficulties faced by the Office in implementing its mandates, and saw that as a possible way to increase efficiency. Another speaker stressed that the results of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Independent Evaluation Unit should be shared with Member States. One speaker proposed that the programme support charges from projects in a given country or region should be allocated to the UNODC office in that country or region. In that connection, the representative of the Secretariat
explained that only a handful of field offices were currently generating a surplus in funds from programme support charges, which were being used to subsidize offices with insufficient programme volumes in other regions. Referring to the exceptions to the standard percentage of 13 per cent for programme support charges, the speaker indicated that UNODC had tried to ensure that most of its costs were recovered, as authorized by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, by directly charging a fair share of those costs to the respective projects and by instituting a reduced percentage for the programme support charge in agreement with the donors and implementing partners.
Chapter IX

Preparations for the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission

145. At its 9th and 10th meetings on 14 March, the Commission considered agenda item 10, “Preparations for the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission”. For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it a draft proposal from the extended Bureau on the arrangements for the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission.

146. Statements were made by the representatives of Cuba and the Islamic Republic of Iran and by the observer for Sweden (on behalf of the Group of Western European and other States).

A. Deliberations

147. In introducing the item, the Chairman noted that a draft proposal on the arrangements for the high-level segment, prepared by the Secretariat, had been shared with the chairmen of the regional groups, together with the provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Commission, at the meeting of the extended Bureau of the Commission held on 12 March 2008. At that meeting, the chairmen of the regional groups had been urged to consult on the draft proposal within their respective groups and to provide feedback at the subsequent meeting of the extended Bureau.

148. It was noted that, at its meeting on 13 March, the extended Bureau had called on the chairmen of the regional groups to conduct further consultations within their groups and to communicate the outcome of those consultations to the Chairman of the Commission. A revised draft proposal reflecting the views of the regional groups emerging from those consultations was submitted to the Commission.

149. It was decided that the fifty-second session of the Commission should have a duration of five days when it convened in March 2009, plus a further two days devoted to the high-level segment. In addition, it was agreed that the general debate of the high-level segment would focus on the progress achieved and difficulties encountered by Member States in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, including challenges for the future. It was proposed that round-table discussions should be held in parallel with the general debate and that those discussions should focus on the various aspects covered at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, namely: (a) current and emerging challenges, new trends and patterns of the world drug problem and possible improvements to the evaluation system; (b) strengthening international cooperation in countering the world drug problem using shared responsibility as a basis for an integrated, comprehensive, balanced and sustainable approach in the fight against drugs through domestic and international policies; (c) demand reduction, treatment and prevention policies and practices; and (d) countering illicit drug traffic and supply and alternative development.
B. Action taken by the Commission

150. At its 10th meeting, on 14 March 2008, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2008/L.6/Rev.1), as orally amended; the resolution was sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Japan, Norway, Peru, Serbia, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), Switzerland, Ukraine and the United States. (For the text, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/4.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of such adoption. (For the text, see annex VII.)
Chapter X

Provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

151. At its 10th meeting, on 14 March, the Commission considered agenda item 11, entitled “Provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Commission”. For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the draft provisional agenda prepared by the extended Bureau of the Commission (E/CN.7/2008/L.1/Add.3).

Action taken by the Commission

152. At its 10th meeting, on 14 March 2008, the Commission considered the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Commission (E/CN.7/2008/L.1/Add.3). At the same meeting, the Commission approved the draft provisional agenda, as orally amended. (For the text, see chapter I, section B, draft decision I.)
Chapter XI

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-first session

153. At its 10th meeting, on 14 March, the Commission considered agenda item 13, entitled “Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-first session”. The Rapporteur introduced the draft report (E/CN.7/2008/L.1 and Add.1-8).

154. At its 10th meeting on 14 March 2008, the Commission adopted the report on its fifty-first session, as orally amended.
Chapter XII

Organization of the session and administrative matters

A. Informal pre-session consultations

155. At its reconvened fiftieth session, held on 27 and 28 November 2007, the Commission decided that its fifty-first session should be preceded by informal consultations to consult on draft resolutions made available in advance.

156. Two informal pre-session consultations, chaired by the Chairman, Eugenio María Curia (Argentina), were held on 7 March 2008, at which the Commission conducted a preliminary review of draft resolutions that had been submitted in advance of the session.

B. Opening and duration of the session

157. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its fifty-first session in Vienna from 10 to 14 March 2008. The Chairman of the Commission opened the session. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, the Commission was addressed by its Chairman, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the representatives of Pakistan (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States) and Argentina (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) and the observer for Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union). Statements were also made by the Minister for Counter-Narcotics of Afghanistan, the Minister of Justice, Security and Human Rights of Argentina, the Minister of Justice of Cuba, the Minister of Justice of Guinea-Bissau, the Adviser to the President and Secretary-General of the Drug Control Headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Minister for Social Solidarity of Italy, the President and Executive Director of the National Commission for Development and Life without Drugs of Peru, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Bolivia and the Deputy Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy of the United States. A statement was also made by the representative of Ukraine on behalf of GUAM.

C. Attendance

158. The session was attended by representatives of 49 of the 53 States members of the Commission. 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 annex I to the present report.
D. Election of officers

159. In section I of its resolution 1999/30 of 28 July 1999, the Economic and Social Council decided that, with effect from the year 2000, the Commission should, at the end of its session, elect its bureau for the subsequent session and encourage it to play a more active role in the preparations of the regular as well as the informal intersessional meetings of the Commission, so as to enable the Commission to provide continuous and effective policy guidance to the drug programme of UNODC.

160. In the light of that decision and in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission, after the closing of its reconvened fiftieth session, on 28 November 2007, opened its fifty-first session for the sole purpose of electing the Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and the Rapporteur for that session. At that meeting, the Commission elected the Chairman and the First and Second Vice-Chairmen for its fifty-first session. Subsequently, at its intersessional meeting held on 3 March 2008, the Commission was informed of the officer designated Rapporteur of the Bureau.

161. At its 1st meeting, on 10 March 2008, the Commission endorsed the designated Rapporteur and elected the Third Vice-Chairman.

162. The officers of the Commission at its fifty-first session were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional group</th>
<th>Elected officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chairman</strong></td>
<td>Eugenio María Curia (Argentina)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group of Latin American and Caribbean States</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Vice-Chairman</strong></td>
<td>Omar Zniber (Morocco)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group of African States</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Second Vice-Chairman</strong></td>
<td>Shahbaz (Pakistan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group of Asian States</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Third Vice-Chairman</strong></td>
<td>Victor Postolachi (Moldova)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group of Eastern European States</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rapporteur</strong></td>
<td>Nicola Rosenblum (Australia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group of Western European and other States</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

163. A group composed of the Chairmen of the five regional groups (the representatives of Argentina, Estonia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Sudan and Sweden), the representative of Pakistan (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and the observer for Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union) 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 of 21 June 1991. During the fifty-first session of the Commission, the extended Bureau met on 12, 13 and 14 March 2008 to consider matters related to the organization of work.
E. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

164. At its 1st meeting, on 10 March 2008, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda (E/CN.7/2008/1), which had been finalized at its intersessional meetings pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2007/242 of 25 July 2007. The agenda was as follows:

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

Normative segment

3. Thematic debate on the follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly: general overview and progress achieved by Governments in meeting the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008 set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session.

4. Drug demand reduction:
   (a) Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;
   (b) World situation with regard to drug abuse.

5. Illicit drug traffic and supply:
   (a) World situation with regard to drug trafficking and action taken by subsidiary bodies of the Commission;
   (b) Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly:
      (i) Measures to promote judicial cooperation (extradition, mutual legal assistance, controlled delivery, trafficking by sea and law enforcement cooperation, including training);
      (ii) Countering money-laundering;

6. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:
   (a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
   (b) International Narcotics Control Board;
   (c) Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly:
      (i) Measures to prevent the illicit manufacture, import, export, trafficking, distribution and diversion of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
      (ii) Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors;
   (d) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.
Operational segment


8. Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body.

9. Administrative and budgetary questions.

* * *

10. Preparations for the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission:
    (a) Thematic focus, format and arrangements;
    (b) Envisaged outcome.

11. Provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Commission.

12. Other business.

13. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-first session.

F. Documentation

165. The documents before the Commission at its fifty-first session are listed in annex VIII of the present report.

G. Closure of the session

166. At its 10th meeting, on 14 March 2008, a closing statement was made by the Chairman of the Commission.
Annex I

Attendance

Members*

Argentina
Aníbal Fernández, José Ramón Granero,
Eugenio María Curia, Ricardo Carlos Roselli,
Mónica Perlo Reviriego, Gabriela Parini,
Marina Souto Zabaleta, Alberto Calabrese,
Adriana Vigione, Ariel W. González,
Diego González Alazard, Miguel Ángel Zacarias,
Julio de Orué

Australia
Virginia Hart, Peter Shannon, Catherine Peachey,
George Thomas, Peter Scott, Neil McFarlane,
Julia Thwaite, Demetrio Veteri, Ramzi Jabbour,
Frank Hansen, Margaret Hamilton, Robert Ali,
Richard Mattick, Nicola Rosenblum, Peter Patmore

Austria
Gabriela Sellner, Johann Brieger, Maria Holzmann,
Anita Zielowski, Roland Linzatti, Philip Lehner,
Franz Pietsch, Johanna Schopper, Raphael Bayer,
Wolfgang Pfneisl, Claudia Rafling, Fritz Zeder,
Ingrid Sonnleitner, Christian Kroschl, Gerhard Stadler,
Christian Mader, Sabine Haas, Stefan Dobias

Belgium
Cristina Funes-Noppen, Sibille de Cartier,
Claude Gillard, Bernard Vandenbosch, Céline Romijn,
Kris Boers, Kurt Doms

Bolivia
Hugo Alfredo Fernández Araoz,
Felipe Ladislao Cáceres García, Horacio Bazoberry,
Angélica Navarro, Christian Inchauste Sandoval,
Froilán Castillo, María Lourdes Espinoza Patiño,
Paul Marca Paco, Jessica Elio Mansilla,
Julio Lázaro Mollinedo Claros, Ruddy Ampuero

Cameroon
Flore Ndembiyembe, Alexandre Bahana Basson,
Jean Pierre Robins Ghoumo, Féliicien René Mballa

Canada
Ray Edwards, Marie Gervais-Vidricaire,
Carole Bouchard, Theresa LaDouceur, Kuan Li,
Mike MacLean, Mark Edwards, Terry Wood,
David Nelson, Gail Czukar, Doug Beirness,
Michel Perron, Taunya Goguen

China
Tang Guoqiang, An Guojun, Jia Guide, Wang Youmei,
Zhao Wanpeng, Jiang Meng, Qiao Huijun, Li Weihua,
Zhao Wenzhong, Cui Cunde, Zheng Wei,

* Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Senegal and Uganda were not represented at the session.
Wong David Fuk Loi, Ip Peng Kin, Vong Yim Mui, Wu Chunlai

Colombia
Rosso José Serrano Cadena, Adriana Mejía Hernández, Sabas Pretelt, Álvaro Caro, Victoria Eugenia Restrepo Uribe, Alba Rocio Rueda, Alejandro Vélez, Carlos Medina, Ruth Mery Cano Aguillón, Julián Pinto, Amelia Velasco Corredor, Néstor Pongutá, Jenny Londoño

Cuba
María Esther Reus, Norma Goicochea, Julio Alfonso, Antonio Israel Ybarra Suárez, Leonor Enrique Menéndez, Irma Espinosa Marrero, Javier Sánchez Azcuy, Juan Antonio Quintanilla Román

Czech Republic
Ivan Počuch, Martin Moulis, Kamil Kalina, Jiří Sadilek, Petr Havlík, Ludmila Slabá, Marek Ženišek, Eva Marešová, Aleš Borovička, Marek Sokol, David Mašek, Pavel Sladký, Pavel Novotný, Daniel Dárek, Stanislava Pánová, Tomáš Vejdvokský, Vladimír Červený

El Salvador
Hugo Mario Córdova Benitez, Vanessa Interiano

Ethiopia
Kongit Sinegiorgis, Bethel-Belay Tadesse

Finland
Tapani Sarvanti, Pirjo Lillsunde, Elina Kotovirta, Reijo Pöyhönen, Stefan Gerkman

Germany

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Israel
Ruth El-Roy, Eli Ben-Tura, Sonia Hizi

Italy
Paolo Ferrero, Gabriele De Ceglie, Rodolfo Ronconi, Fabio Cristiani, Alessandro Azzoni, Alessandro Mastrogregori, Enrico Valvo, Giusto Sciacchitano, Diego Petriccione, Alessandro Donati, Sebastianao Vitali, Guido Caldiron, Leopoldo Grosso, Giuseppe Cerni, Stefania Pizzolla, Francesco Troja, Domenica Tisba, Grazia Zuffa, Giovanni Cangelosi, Isabella Periotto,
Claudio Malknecht, Nicola Antonio Laurelli, Silvia Zanone

Jamaica
Orane Bailey, Carlton Wilson

Japan
Yukiya Amano, Shigeki Sumi, Okinobu Hirai, Tomoaki Onizuka, Yukio Matsui, Satomi Konno, Takashi Hashimoto, Kuniharu Akishino, Ryo Amaysu, Teruyoshi Ebara, Satoshi Takeda, Sho Sasaki, Rieko Motouchi, Naoyuki Yasuda, Katsutoshi Ishikawa

Kazakhstan
Kairat Abdrakhmanov, Murat Tashibaev, Altay Abibullayev, Olzhas Idrisov

Lithuania
Audronė Astrauskiene, Rytis Paulauskas, Edvardas Sileris, Jovilė Vingraitė, Giedrius Kazakevicius, Irina Dubinienė

Mexico

Moldova
Victor Postolachi

Morocco
Omar Zniber, Dina Bennani, Boutaina Ben Moussa, Abderrahman Fyad, Nadya Talmi, Mohamed el-Orch,Jamal Lakrimat, Adil Elhajli, Mimoun el-Maghraoui

Namibia
Selma Ashipala-Musavyi, Pendapala A. Naanda

Netherlands
Justus J. de Visser, Annemieke van Bolhuis, Jacqueline de Jager, Marcel de Kort, Huib Mijnarends, Jean Luc Luijs, Martin Jelsma, Alain Ancion

Niger
Idrissa Daouda Karidio

Nigeria
Alhaji A. Giade, Biodun Owoseni, K. L. Ekedede, O. Maiyegun, Mu’azu Umar, Ngozi Ogugiafor, E. O. Oguntuyi

Pakistan
Shahbaz, Hasan Mahmood, Khalid Amir Jaffery, Zaigham Khan, Muzzamil Hussain, Muhammad Usman Iqbal Jadoon

Peru
Rómulo Pizarro, Carlos Higueras Ramos, Julio Florian, María Elvira Velásquez Rivas Plata, Luis Luna
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Piotr Jabłoński, Janusz Rydzkowski, Łukasz Jędruszał, Piotr Szumowski, Waldemar Krawczyk, Marcin Karnaś, Marcin Kołakowski, Piotr Fijałkowski, Wojciech Szczęśniak, Dominika Krois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>Fahad bin Affas al-Otaibi, Abdallah bin Saad Aldayel, Salem bin Abdallah Alrakubi, Saleh bin Fayhan al-Otaibi, Abdallah Alhoryes, Mohammed bin Abdalah Shawoush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>José Roselló, Carmen Moya García, Francisco Pérez Pérez, Ignacio Baylina Ruiz, José Andrés Pérez López, Julia Esteban Gómez, Rosa Esteban Gómez, José Antonio de la Puente Martin, Alejandro Abelló Gamazo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>Sayed Galal Eldin Elsayed Elamin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Bernhard Marfurt, David Best, Diane Steber, Pia Weber, Caroline Bodenschatz, Isabella Kaufmann, Peter Reuter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>Vaysidin Azamatov</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trinidad and Tobago  
Dennis Francis, Serena Rose Joseph-Harris

Turkey  

Ukraine  
T. Durdynets, M. Khobzey, O. Herasymenko, I. Grynenko, Oleh Shutyak, A. Karnakhova

United Arab Emirates  

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
Peter Storr, Simon Smith, Gabriel Denvir, Alison Crocket, James Marmion, Sarah Hearn, David Jones, Tony Buck, Gerry Stimson, Damon Barrett, Chris Humphrey

United States of America  
Scott Burns, Thomas Schweich, Scott Harris, Gregory L. Schulte, Richard Baum, Brian Blake, Christine Cline, Denise Curry, Jennifer Devallance, James Hunter, Scott Masumoto, Brian Morales, Colleen Neville, Kathleen Pala, Virginia Prugh, Christine Sannerud, Charlotte Sisson, June Sivilli, Soching Tsai, Lena Watkin, Daniel Weisfield, Stephanie Wickes

Uruguay  
Jorge Vázquez, Milton Romani Gerner, Adriana Berro

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)  

Yemen  

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand,
Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saint Lucia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

**Non-member States represented by observers**
Holy See

**Entities represented by observers**
Palestine

**United Nations Secretariat**
United Nations Office at Vienna, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**United Nations bodies and programmes**
International Narcotics Control Board, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

**Specialized agencies and other organizations in the United Nations system**
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, World Health Organization

**Other intergovernmental organizations represented by observers**

**Other entities maintaining permanent observer offices**
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Sovereign Military Order of Malta

**Non-governmental organizations**


_Roster:_ International Society of Addiction Medicine
Annex II

Financial statement on the revised draft resolution entitled “Assistance to States affected by the transit of illicit drugs”*

1. The present statement is made in accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

2. In operative paragraphs 2 and 4 of revised draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.10/Rev.1, as orally amended, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs would:

   (a) Call on Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to strengthen initiatives to provide assistance and technical support to States affected by the transit of illicit drugs, especially developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and invite Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

   (b) Request 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.

3. Should the Commission adopt revised draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.10/Rev.1, as orally amended, additional extrabudgetary resources would be required for the provision of legislative assistance, training of the judiciary and regional legal training workshops for law enforcement and judicial officers to enhance cooperation. It is estimated that in order to provide for eight legislative assistance/national training missions and a series of six regional training workshops, additional extrabudgetary resources in the amount of $760,000 would be required.

4. As concerns the provisions contained in operative paragraph 4, resources for the relevant substantive activities are already included in the programme of work of section 16 (“International drug control, crime prevention and criminal justice”) of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009.

5. By its resolution 62/237 A of 22 December 2007, the General Assembly approved regular budget resources totalling $36,819,000 under section 16 of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. At the time of approval of the resolution, the Assembly was informed that extrabudgetary resources for section 16 were projected at $290,160,000 for the same period.


* For the text of the revised draft resolution, which originally appeared under the symbol E/CN.7/2008/L.10/Rev.1, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/7.
Annex III

Financial statement on the revised draft resolution entitled “Provision of international assistance to the most affected States neighbouring Afghanistan”*

1. The present statement was made in accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

2. In operative paragraphs 5, 7, 12 and 13 of revised draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.12/Rev.1, as orally amended, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs would:

   (a) Call upon all Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide the technical assistance and support needed for strengthening the initiatives and efforts of Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan to fight drug trafficking, thereby also reducing the deleterious impact of illicit drugs in all parts of the world, and invite Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

   (b) Encourage Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance and support needed for strengthening the efforts of States neighbouring Afghanistan to fight drug trafficking, and invite Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

   (c) Urge the international partners, all relevant agencies of the United Nations and in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and invite international financial and development institutions to assist transit States, in particular the States neighbouring Afghanistan that are most affected by the transit of illicit drugs, by providing them with adequate technical assistance to effectively address the drug trafficking problem through a comprehensive and integrated shared plan, and invite Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

   (d) Request the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

3. Should the Commission adopt revised draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.12/Rev.1, as orally amended, it is envisaged that additional extrabudgetary resources would be required for the implementation of the provisions contained in operative paragraphs 5, 7 and 12, namely the execution of technical assistance activities under the comprehensive, integrated strategy known as the Rainbow Strategy. That concerted operational regional strategy to tackle the threat posed by the production of, trafficking in and abuse of opium from Afghanistan was approved by policymakers at the meeting of the Paris Pact Policy

* For the text of the revised draft resolution, which originally appeared under the symbol E/CN.7/2008/L.12/Rev.1, see chapter I, section A, draft resolution II.
Consultative Group held in Vienna in December 2007, and is made up of the following seven action plans:

(a) An action plan that aims to increase the number of provinces free of opium poppy and to improve governance in Afghanistan (referred to as the “blue paper”). No additional extrabudgetary resources are expected to be required during the biennium 2008-2009 for the implementation of the related activities;

(b) An action plan to enhance border management cooperation in drug control among Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan (the “green paper”), for which the overall resource requirements for implementation amount to approximately 28 million United States dollars, which amount is currently partially funded. It is envisaged that the continued implementation of this action plan will require additional extrabudgetary resources during the biennium 2008-2009;

(c) An action plan aimed at securing the borders between Afghanistan and its Central Asian neighbours (the “yellow paper”), structured around three pillars: (i) intelligence analysis and sharing, for which the overall resource requirements amount to approximately $10.7 million and are currently partially funded; (ii) establishment of border liaison offices; and (iii) development of mobile interdiction teams, for which the overall resource requirements amount to approximately $30 million and are currently partially funded. It is envisaged that the continued implementation of this action plan will require additional extrabudgetary resources during the biennium 2008-2009;

(d) An action plan to promote cross-border cooperation in counter-narcotics enforcement in the Caspian Sea region and among Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Turkmenistan (the “purple paper”), currently still in formulation. It is envisaged that the implementation of this action plan will require additional extrabudgetary resources during the biennium 2008-2009;

(e) An action plan to target the smuggling of acetic anhydride in and around Afghanistan (the “red paper”), which calls for the launch in 2008 of a time-bound operation targeting the smuggling of acetic anhydride in Afghanistan, China, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, the United Arab Emirates and Uzbekistan, in collaboration with several Paris Pact partners. In 2008, UNODC was carrying out this operation through existing law enforcement and precursor control projects in the region. No additional extrabudgetary resources are envisaged for the implementation of the related activities during the biennium 2008-2009;

(f) An action plan on opium production and trafficking and financial flows to and from Afghanistan, currently being developed and expected to be finalized and reviewed by Paris Pact partners in October or November 2008. The implementation of this action plan in 2009 may require additional extrabudgetary resources;

(g) An action plan to combat opiate addiction and the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Afghanistan and neighbouring States, to be developed and reviewed by Paris Pact partners in December 2008. It is envisaged that the implementation of this action plan in 2009 will require additional extrabudgetary resources.

4. By its resolution 62/237 A of 22 December 2007, the General Assembly approved regular budget resources totalling $36,819,000 under section 16 (“International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice”)
of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. At the time of approval of the resolution, the Assembly was informed that extrabudgetary resources for section 16 were projected at $290,160,000 for the same period.

5. Hence, adoption of revised draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.12/Rev.1, as orally amended, would not entail any additional appropriation under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009.
Annex IV

Financial statement on the revised draft resolution entitled “Combating the illicit cultivation of and trafficking in cannabis”*

1. The present statement was made in accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

2. In operative paragraph 1 of revised draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.9/Rev.1, as orally amended, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs would request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support the establishment or strengthening of national strategies and action plans to eliminate the illicit cultivation of cannabis, and invite Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

3. Should the Commission adopt revised draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.9/Rev.1, as orally amended, it is envisaged that additional extrabudgetary resources in the amount of $75,000 would be required by UNODC for a period of one year to implement the activities relating to the establishment or strengthening of national strategies and action plans in two States. The level of resource requirements would provide for consultant services ($45,000) and travel ($30,000).

4. By its resolution 62/237 A of 22 December 2007, the General Assembly approved regular budget resources totalling $36,819,000 under section 16 (“International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice”) of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. At the time of approval of the resolution, the Assembly was informed that extrabudgetary resources for section 16 were projected at $290,160,000 for the same period.


* For the text of the revised draft resolution, which originally appeared under the symbol E/CN.7/2008/L.9/Rev.1, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/6.
Annex V

Financial statement on the draft resolution entitled “Strengthening international support for States in West Africa in their efforts to combat drug trafficking”*

1. The present statement was made in accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

2. In operative paragraph 9 of draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.25, as orally amended, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs would request the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to facilitate the coordination of efforts, in consultation with the States in West Africa and international partners, to address the problem of the smuggling of cocaine through West Africa, within the framework of the drug control component of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, emanating from the Round Table for Africa held in Abuja on 5 and 6 September 2005, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/248 of 22 July 2005.

3. Should the Commission adopt draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.25, as orally amended, it is envisaged that additional extrabudgetary resources would be required for the implementation of the activities relating to the provisions contained in operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution. The level of resource requirements would depend on the nature and size of the assistance programmes.

4. By its resolution 62/237 A of 22 December 2007, the General Assembly approved regular budget resources totalling $36,819,000 under section 16 (“International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice”) of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. At the time of approval of the resolution, the Assembly was informed that extrabudgetary resources for section 16 were projected at $290,160,000 for the same period.


* For the text of the draft resolution, which originally appeared under the symbol E/CN.7/2008/L.25, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/18.
Annex VI

Financial statement on the revised draft decision entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”*

1. The present statement was made in accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

2. In paragraph (e) of revised draft decision E/CN.7/2008/L.22/Rev.1, as orally amended, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs would request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide the working group with the necessary assistance to facilitate its work.

3. Should the Commission adopt revised draft decision E/CN.7/2008/L.22/Rev.1, as orally amended, it is understood that in order to facilitate the work of the working group, conference services would be provided on an “if available” basis, including interpretation services for the opening and closing sessions, for a total of four meetings, provided that the dates for the holding of the working group are determined in consultation between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs secretariat and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat. The meetings of the working group would constitute an addition to the established calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2008-2009 and, as such, would require the approval of the Committee on Conferences of the General Assembly.


* For the text of the revised draft decision, which originally appeared under the symbol E/CN.7/2008/L.22/Rev.1, see chapter I, section C, decision 51/1.
Annex VII

Financial statement on the revised draft resolution entitled “Preparations for the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, relating to the follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly”*

1. The present statement was made in accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

2. In operative paragraphs 1, 2, 6 and 7 of revised draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.6/Rev.1, as orally amended, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs would:

   (a) Decide to establish pursuant to its resolutions 49/1 and 49/2 open-ended, intergovernmental expert working groups to work in a coordinated manner, on the following topics, which correspond to the subjects of the action plans, declarations and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session:

      (i) Drug demand reduction;

      (ii) Supply reduction (manufacture and trafficking);

      (iii) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation;

      (iv) International cooperation on the eradication of illicit drug crops and on alternative development;

      (v) Control of precursors and of amphetamine-type stimulants;

   (b) Decide that each of the working groups would meet once for three days and with interpretation services, to assess the achievement of the goals and targets set by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, as well as areas requiring further action, and to draw conclusions for further intersessional discussions;

   (c) Decide that intersessional meetings would be held during the second half of 2008 to prepare recommendations for the decisions to be adopted by the Commission at its fifty-second session, such intersessional meetings to take into account, inter alia, the conclusions of the working groups in order to provide material on which to base the drafting of the outcome of the high-level segment of its fifty-second session;

   (d) Decide also that, in addition to the five days usually scheduled for its sessions in the first half of the year, two days would be devoted to the high-level segment of its fifty-second session.

3. As concerns the requests contained in operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of revised draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.6/Rev.1, as orally amended, the narrative of subprogramme 2 (“Services for policymaking and treaty adherence”) of section 16

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* For the text of the revised draft resolution, which originally appeared under the symbol E/CN.7/2008/L.6/Rev.1, see chapter I, section C, resolution 51/4.
of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/62/6 (Sect. 16)) would need to be modified in order to reflect the provisions contained therein. Subject to the decision of the Commission, the following additional outputs would be included in paragraph 16.44 (a) (viii) c, on ad hoc expert groups: "drug demand reduction (2); supply reduction (manufacture and trafficking) (2); countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation (2); international cooperation on the eradication of illicit drug crops and on alternative development (2); control of precursors and of amphetamine-type stimulants (2). Moreover, the meetings of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working groups would constitute an addition to the established calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for the period 2008-2009 and, as such, would require the approval of the Committee on Conferences of the General Assembly.

4. It is estimated that resources in the amount of $407,000 would be required under section 2 ("General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management") of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/62/6 (Sect. 2)) in order to provide conference servicing for five open-ended intergovernmental expert working groups, meeting for a total of 30 meetings, with interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations and translation and printing of pre-session and post-session documentation (10 pages each). The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat has indicated that the requirements could be met on an "if available" basis if the timelines for the submission and processing of documentation, as well as the dates for the holding of the working groups are determined in consultation between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs secretariat and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, and on the understanding that no two working groups would meet simultaneously.

5. By its resolution 62/237 A of 22 December 2007, the General Assembly approved regular budget resources totalling $36,819,000 under section 16 ("International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice") of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. The Assembly approved under subprogramme 2 ("Services for policymaking and treaty adherence") of section 16 substantive servicing of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for a total of 32 plenary meetings and 10 intersessional meetings of the bureau of the Commission and consultations with permanent missions for the biennium 2008-2009 (paragraph 16.44 (a) (iv) a of document A/62/6 (Sect. 16)). Therefore, concerning the requests contained in operative paragraphs 6 and 7 of revised draft resolution E/CN.7/2008/L.6/Rev.1, as orally amended, it should be noted that implementation will be undertaken within the number of meetings already programmed for the biennium 2008-2009. Accordingly, no additional conference servicing resources would be required with regard to the implementation of the provisions contained in operative paragraphs 6 and 7.

Annex VIII

List of documents before the Commission at its fifty-first session

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