

DRAFT OUTCOME DOCUMENT UNGASS 2016 (REVISED 25 FEBRUARY 2016)
Our joint commitment in effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem

1. *We, heads of State and Government, Ministers, and representatives of Member States*, assembled at the United Nations, from 19 to 21 April 2016, for the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, convened in accordance with resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, to review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments;

2. *We recall* the goals and objectives of the international drug control conventions and, *remaining* concerned with the health and welfare of humankind and individual and public health-related, social and safety problems resulting from the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and drug-related crime, in particular among children and young people, *we reaffirm* our determination to prevent the abuse of such substances and counter their illicit traffic;

3. *We recognize* that while tangible and measurable progress has been made in several areas, the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, safety and the well-being of all humanity, and *we resolve to reinforce* our national and international efforts and further increase international cooperation;

4. *We reaffirm* our determination to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity;

5. *We note* with concern that the availability of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, particularly for the relief of pain and for palliative care, remains low to non-existent in many countries of the world, and *we highlight the need* to address that situation by promoting measures to ensure their availability and accessibility for medical and scientific purposes, in accordance with national legislation, while simultaneously preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to realize the aims of the three international drug control conventions;

6. *We are fully aware* that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced and comprehensive approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

7. *We reaffirm* our unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction, supply reduction and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 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, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States;

8. *We underscore* that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 concerned with the health and welfare of mankind, and other relevant international instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system;

9. *We reaffirm* our commitment to implement the provisions set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action in the period leading up to 2019, set as the target date for achieving targets and goals set out therein, and to address the general challenges and priorities for action identified in the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted at the High Level Review in March 2014;

10. *We welcome* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and *we note* that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to address and effectively counter the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing;

11. *We recognize* that all human beings, their families and societies are to be placed at the centre of international and national drug policies, and *we underline* the importance of upholding the law, its implementation and enforcement and the rule of law for the safety and security of individuals and societies as well as of strengthening public health responses and of respecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all individuals without any form of discrimination;

12. *We especially take into account* specific needs of women, children and young people and the need to mainstream gender and age-perspectives in all policies and programmes related to the world drug problem;

13. *We recognize* that there are persistent, new and evolving challenges, threats and realities, some of them specific to countries or regions, and that these shall be addressed in compliance with relevant international law, in particular the international drug control conventions, which provide sufficient flexibility to State Parties to design and implement national drug policies according to their priorities and needs, consistent with the principle of common and shared responsibility;

14. *We reaffirm* the need to provide adequate resources to assist developing countries, upon request, to effectively address and counter the world drug problem and in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

15. *We recognize* that transit States continue to face multifaceted challenges, and reaffirm the continuing need for cooperation and support, including the provision of technical assistance, to, *inter alia*, enhance their capacities to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, in conformity with the 1988 Convention;

16. *We reaffirm* the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and our support and appreciation for the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for addressing the world drug problem, and we also *reaffirm* the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization;

17. *We call upon* all relevant United Nations entities and specialised agencies, to continue to enhance their cooperation and coordination, along with relevant international and regional organizations, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders to appropriately contribute, within their mandates, to supporting Member States in achieving the objectives and purposes of the international drug control conventions, while fully complying with their provisions;

18. *We recognize* that civil society, including the scientific community and academia, plays an important role in assisting and advising Member States in effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem, and note that representatives of affected populations and civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the development and implementation, evaluation and monitoring of drug control policies and programmes;

19. *We express deep concern* at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families in effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem, and pay special tribute to the law enforcement and judicial personnel who have sacrificed their lives to addressing this phenomenon;

20. *We reaffirm* the need to address the social and economic causes and negative consequences of the world drug problem and of serious harm caused by drug abuse to individuals, families and societies and encourage holistic policy interventions in order to significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death everywhere;

21. *We stress the importance* of Member States prioritizing drug policy interventions that have proven to be effective, while further strengthening research and data collection, including gender-related data, to develop, implement and evaluate evidence-based policies to successfully address the world drug problem;

Operational recommendations on demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment as well as other health related issues

22. *We reiterate our commitment* to actively promote the health, welfare and well-being of individuals and society, facilitate healthy life-styles and the well-being for all at all ages through national, regional and global effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives, covering prevention, early detection and intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as, in accordance with national legislation and the international drug control conventions, measures aimed at preventing and minimizing the harmful public health and social consequences of drug abuse, and *we recommend the following measures*:

Prevention of drug abuse

(a) Take effective and practical measures to protect and prevent human beings, in particular children and young people from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, by providing them with information about the risks of the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, by promoting opportunities to develop healthy lives, life skills, supportive parenting and family environments and by ensuring equal access to all levels of education and vocational training;

(b) Increase the availability, coverage and quality of scientific evidence-based measures and tools, that target relevant age and risk groups in all relevant settings, reaching school- as well as out-of-school youth, among others, through prevention of drug abuse awareness campaigns using social media and online platforms, and develop and implement prevention curricula and programmes for use in the education system at all levels as well as vocational training at the work place, and enhance the capacity of teachers and other relevant professionals to provide or recommend counselling, prevention and care services;

(c) Involve, as appropriate, policy makers and educators, civil society including the scientific community, academia, recovered drug users and their families, as well as the private sector in the development and implementation of prevention campaigns and programmes that aim at raising awareness of the dangers associated with the abuse of all drugs, and involve parents, care services providers, teachers, peer groups, health professionals, the religious communities, community leaders, social workers, sports associations, media professionals, entertainment industries, as appropriate, in their implementation;

(d) Develop and improve recreational facilities, including through the recovery and improvement of public spaces and provide access for children and youth, and foster regular sports, cultural activities to promote healthy lifestyles, and promote the exchange of experiences in this field to further enhance effective preventive interventions;

(e) Promote and improve systematic collection and sharing at national and international levels of reliable and comparable data on drug use and epidemiology, and promote, as appropriate, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Assembly the use of internationally recognized standards, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, and best practices, to formulate effective prevention strategies and programmes in coordination with competent actors, such as UNODC and WHO;

Treatment of drug use disorders, rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration; prevention, treatment and care of HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne infectious diseases

(f) Recognize drug dependence as a treatable multi-factorial health disorder, which is to be addressed through effective scientific evidence-based drug treatment, care and rehabilitation programmes, including community-based programmes, and strengthen aftercare, rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration, of dependent drug users including through, as appropriate, assistance for the productive reintegration into the labour market and other support services;

(g) Recognize the long-term value of voluntary participation and informed consent in treatment of dependent drug users, and develop and implement outreach programmes and campaigns, including through drug users in long-term recovery, where appropriate, to prevent stigmatization and marginalization, as well as to encourage drug users to seek treatment and care, and take measures to facilitate access to treatment

(h) Promote and strengthen regional and international cooperation in developing and implementing treatment-related initiatives and enhance technical assistance and capacity building, and ensure non-discriminatory access to a broad range of interventions, including psycho-social, behavioural and medication-assisted treatment, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, as well as to rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery-support programmes, including access to such services in prisons and after imprisonment, giving special attention to the specific needs of women, children and youth in this regard;

(i) Develop and strengthen, as appropriate, the capacity of, and cooperation among, law enforcement, other justice system practitioners, health authorities and social services agencies, to implement effective, integrated and balanced responses to drug use;

(j) Reduce drug related mortality and morbidity through overdose prevention, including by promoting access to lifesaving overdose treatment medications, including naloxone, providing training in their use, and ensuring timely emergency response, and collect data, as appropriate, on this matter;

(k) Integrate, into national treatment, recovery and reintegration programmes, as part of comprehensive treatment efforts, effective measures aimed at minimizing the harmful public health and social consequences of drug abuse, including, where appropriate and in accordance with national legislation and international standards, opioid substitution treatment, syringe exchange programmes, and other interventions to contain the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, and enlarge access to such interventions, including in treatment and outreach services, prisons and other custodial settings, and promote in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the *WHO, UNODC and UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users*;

(l) Promote and implement the international substance abuse treatment standards developed by UNODC and WHO and other relevant international standards, and provide assistance and training to health professionals on their use, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation and the international drug control conventions;

(m) Intensify meaningful participation of and provide support and training to, as appropriate, community-based civil society organizations involved in drug treatment services, in the framework of integrated and coordinated national drug policies, and encourage efforts by civil society to develop support networks for prevention and community-based treatment, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration in a balanced and inclusive manner;

Operational recommendations on ensuring the availability of and access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes and promoting their affordability, while preventing their diversion

23. *We reiterate our commitment* to ensure the availability of and access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, and promote their affordability, while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking and *we recommend the following measures*:

(a) Establish, and where appropriate, consider reviewing legislation and regulatory systems to facilitate access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes for the relief of pain and suffering, as required by the international drug control conventions, while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, and encourage exchange of information, lessons learnt and best practices in designing and implementing regulatory, financial, educational, administrative and other related measures;

(b) Improve the functioning of national control systems and develop national assessments and programmes, in cooperation with the INCB, UNODC, WHO and other relevant UN system agencies, to identify, analyse and remove impediments to availability, accessibility and affordability, within appropriate control mechanisms outlined in the three international drug control conventions and the *WHO/INCB Guidance for Availability and Accessibility of Controlled Medicines*; and expedite the process of issuing import and export authorizations for controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by using this WHO/INCB Guidance, and the INCB-administered I2ES system;

(c) Address issues related to impediments to availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes in cooperation with the private sector, suppliers and distributors and including through strengthening national certification systems for bio-equivalent alternatives, and encouraging the pharmaceutical industry to manufacture high quality pharmaceutical preparations that are more cost effective;

(d) Provide capacity building and training to competent national authorities and health care professionals on access to, and use of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, and encourage the development, dissemination and wider implementation of clinical guidelines on the appropriate use of controlled medicines, and increase the awareness and acceptability of pain treatment and palliative care needs and remedies;

(e) Develop national supply management systems for controlled substances, comprising selection, quantification, procurement, storage, distribution and use, and strengthen the capacity of competent national authorities to adequately estimate and assess the need for controlled substances, taking due note of the INCB/WHO *Guide on Estimating Requirements for Substances under International Control*, and enhance domestic data collection mechanisms in order to present the INCB with estimates on the consumption of drugs used for medical and scientific purposes;

(f) Encourage a regular update of the *WHO Model Lists of Essential Medicines* as well as enhanced collaboration among Member States and the treaty bodies with scheduling responsibilities, leading to informed and coordinated scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, to ensure the objectives of the Conventions, and review national lists of controlled substances, as appropriate;

Operational recommendations on supply reduction and related measures, effective law enforcement; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering, and promoting judicial cooperation

24. *We reiterate our commitment* to protect the safety and assure the security of individuals, societies and communities by intensifying our efforts to prevent and counter the illicit cultivation, production, manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as well as drug-related crime and violence through, *inter alia*, more effective law enforcement measures, and to address social and economic consequences, and *we recommend the following measures*:

Prevention of drug-related crime

(a) Strengthen multidisciplinary measures at international, regional, national and local and community levels in preventing drug-related crime, violence, victimization and corruption, fostering social development and inclusiveness, and integrate such measures within overall law enforcement efforts and comprehensive policies and programmes, and promote a culture of lawfulness that supports the rule of law and human rights, while respecting cultural identities through awareness raising and education;

(b) Promote data collection, research and sharing of information as well as exchange of best practices and encourage the implementation of programmes and research initiatives on prevention and countering of drug-related crime and on drug supply reduction measures and practices, in order to strengthen criminal justice responses within the framework of applicable international and national law;

Countering international illicit drug production and trafficking, including through eradication

(c) Increase cooperation at all levels to prevent and significantly, measurably and continually reduce or eliminate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant used for the production, manufacture, marketing and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as well as the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs, within the framework of sustainable crop control strategies and measures;

(d) Monitor current trends and trafficking routes and share experiences, best practices and lessons learnt, in order to prevent the misuse of commercial trade for illicit activities, and utilize UNODC operational initiatives, including the Containers Control Programmes as well as other technical assistance activities to achieve these objectives;

(e) Promote and strengthen exchange of intelligence and information, as appropriate, among law enforcement and border control agencies, including through UNODC multilateral portals, regional information centres and networks, and promote jointly coordinated operations, bilaterally, sub-regionally, regionally and internationally and the development of joint training platforms to facilitate such coordinated operations in order to identify, disrupt and dismantle transnational organized criminal groups involved in any activities related to the illicit production and trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the diversion of their precursors;

(f) Strengthen coordinated border management strategies as well as the capacity of border control and law enforcement agencies, through technical assistance, upon request, including, where appropriate, the provision of equipment and technology along with necessary training and maintenance support, in order to prevent, monitor and counter drug trafficking, trafficking in precursors and other related crime such as the trafficking in firearms, the illicit financial flows, smuggling of bulk cash and drug-related money-laundering;

(g) Enhance the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in forensic science in the context of drug investigations, including the quality of drug analysis laboratories to gather, preserve and present forensic evidence to effectively prosecute drug-related offences through, *inter alia*, the provision of advanced detections equipment, scanners, testing kits, reference samples, forensic laboratories and training;

(h) Strengthen regional, sub-regional and international cooperation in criminal matters, as appropriate, including judicial cooperation, *inter alia*, in the areas of extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of proceedings based on the international drug control conventions and other international legal instruments, and strive to appropriately resource national competent authorities including through the provision of targeted technical assistance to requesting countries;

(i) Maximize the effectiveness of law enforcement measures focusing on individuals and organizations with a significant or controlling role in drug trafficking activities and related illicit activities;

Addressing links with other forms of organised crime, including money laundering and corruption as well as other criminal activities

(j) Respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and money-laundering, and in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism by using an integrated multidisciplinary approach, such as through promoting and supporting of reliable data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence and analysis sharing to ensure effective policy-making and interventions;

(k) Encourage the use of existing regional and international cooperation mechanisms to combat all forms of organized crime related to drug trafficking, wherever committed, and enhance cooperation to successfully counter and dismantle transnational organised criminal networks at the national, bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international levels;

(l) Consider ratifying relevant international legal instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the international conventions and protocols related to countering terrorism, and call upon States Parties to take measures to more effectively implement these international legal instruments and to apply international standards against money-laundering and terrorism financing;

(m) Develop and strengthen, as appropriate, mechanisms of domestic coordination and information sharing between institutions involved in identifying and countering drug trafficking and money-laundering, and to integrate financial investigations more thoroughly into interdiction operations to identify individuals and companies involved in drug trafficking, precursor chemicals trafficking as well as money-laundering activities and encourage to cooperate, in accordance with national legislation, with the private sector including financial institutions, designated non-financial businesses and professions, and providers of money or value transfer services to identify transactions related to drug trafficking and laundering the proceeds thereof, with a view of further investigation;

(n) Enhance national, regional, sub-regional and interregional capacity to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, including, as appropriate, through detection, investigation and prosecution of such activities, with a view to effectively address safe havens, and to identify and mitigate money-laundering risks linked to new technologies as well as emerging money-laundering methods and techniques, by using, *inter alia*, existing UNODC technical assistance tools;

(o) Use existing regional, sub-regional and international networks for the exchange of operational information to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows, such as the Egmont Group of financial intelligence units, and intensify support to bodies such as the Financial Action Task Force, and the Financial Action Task Force-style regional bodies, within their mandates;

(p) Develop and strengthen bilateral, regional, sub-regional and international mechanisms to share information among competent authorities and promote their cooperation to effectively and timely identify, trace, freeze, seize and confiscate assets and proceeds of drug-related crime and their disposal and return in accordance with the 1988 Convention, and encourage the sharing of real time operational information among relevant law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies and networks;

(q) Ensure that measures aimed at addressing the links between drug trafficking and corruption of public officials, as well as obstruction of justice including through the intimidation of justice officials, are covered in national anti-corruption and counter-narcotics strategies;

(r) Improve the availability and quality of statistical information and analysis on illicit drug production and manufacturing, drug trafficking, money laundering and illicit financial flows, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact and further improve responses to these, and to enhance the effectiveness of counter-drug trafficking and related programmes at the national, regional and international levels;

Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, children women, and communities

25. *We reiterate our commitment* to uphold the inherent dignity of all individuals, the rule of law, justice and the respect for and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in the development and implementation of drug control policies, and *we recommend the following measures*:

Drugs and human rights, youth, women, children, vulnerable members of society and communities

(a) Strengthen the knowledge of policy makers on the various aspects of the world drug problem, and enhance targeted efforts to protect the health, safety and well-being of all human beings and societies, through, *inter alia*, preventing abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and encourage cooperation with UNODC and other relevant UN agencies within their mandates, including WHO, OHCHR, UN WOMEN, UNICEF, UNESCO and UNAIDS and as well as civil society, on providing guidance on drug abuse prevention;

(b) Ensure non-discriminatory access to health care and social services in prevention, primary care and treatment programmes, including those offered to persons in prison or pre-trial on a level equal to those available in the community, and ensure that women, including detained women, have the right to appropriate services during pregnancy;

(c) Implement appropriate practical measures, including legislative, administrative, social, economic and educational measures, to prevent and address the use of children and the participation and exploitation of the youth, women and vulnerable members of society in the illicit production, manufacturing, cultivation and trafficking of drugs and other forms of drug related crime, and, as State Parties, fully implement the obligations stemming from Article 33 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(d) Mainstream gender perspective into the formulation and implementation of drug control policies and programmes, and develop and disseminate gender-sensitive and age appropriate interventions targeting urban crime, and violence associated with illicit drug use and trafficking, in particular youth violence and gang-related violence, and take appropriate measures to provide for effective socio-economic development, including through education vocational training and decent job opportunities;

(e) Consider providing the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, when informing about national drug control policies, information on human rights aspects, and encourage UNODC to make such information available, including through the World Drug Report;

(f) Ensure that measures to prevent illicit cultivation of and eradication of plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances shall respect fundamental human rights and shall take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historic evidence of such use, in full compliance with the international drug control conventions, and take note in this regard of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

Proportionate and effective policies and responses as well as legal guarantees and safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings and justice sector

(g) Consider developing, adopting and implementing alternative or complementary measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature, such as treatment, education, aftercare, rehabilitation or social reintegration of the offender, and ensure that such national administrative and criminal justice measures are developed and implemented in accordance with the purposes and objectives of the international drug control conventions;

(h) Consider providing the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with information on domestic measures applied to implement article 3 of the 1988 Convention, for, *inter alia*, drug-related offences of a minor nature in order to share lessons learned, experiences and best practices gained in that regard;

(i) Promote proportionate sentencing regarding drug-related offences, whereby both mitigating and aggravating factors are taken into account, including the circumstances enumerated in paragraph 4 and 5 of article 3 of the 1988 Convention, taking due account of other provisions of that Convention, and where the severity of penalties is consistent with the gravity of offences, in accordance with relevant and applicable law;

(j) Promote reliable, disaggregated data collection, research and sharing of information as well as best practices to support the design and implementation of more effective and proportionate criminal justice responses to the world drug problem;

(k) Ensure effective oversight and encourage self-assessments of confinement facilities using the UN standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, including the “Nelson Mandela Rules”, implement relevant provisions, including measures to reduce and avoid prisons overcrowding and ensure access to treatment for those incarcerated, and ensure capacity building to relevant national authorities;

(l) Ensure legal guarantees and safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings when addressing drug related offences, including practical measures towards the prohibition of arbitrary arrest and detention, and of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; and ensure the protection of the right to fair trial, in accordance with relevant and applicable international law and taking into account international standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, including by implementing effective investigations to bring alleged perpetrators to justice and ensure adequate access to legal aid;

Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats, trends, priorities, perspectives and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the international drug control conventions;

26. *We reiterate our commitment* to address new challenges, trends, priorities, perspectives, realities and threats posed to the health and security of human beings and societies, recognizing that national and regional situations are of an evolving nature and can have transnational implications and consequences, and to strengthen our international, sub-regional and regional cooperation efforts, and *we recommend the following measures:*

Addressing new psychoactive substances, ATS, including methamphetamine, and diversion of precursors and pre-precursors and the non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

(a) Encourage the development and implementation of comprehensive prevention programmes, including, as appropriate, awareness raising campaigns about the possible adverse risks and effects on health and safety caused by NPS, ATS including methamphetamine, and non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and take necessary measures to develop treatment models and policies, as well as actively sharing information and expertise on national health-related experiences, including for use at emergency stations in hospitals;

(b) Enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies for detection and identification of NPS, ATS including methamphetamine, and promote cross-border cooperation to prevent their misuse and diversion, including through the use of existing INCB and UNODC tools and projects;

(c) Establish and strengthen partnerships and information exchange with industries, in particular with chemical and pharmaceutical industry and other relevant private sector entities, and encourage the use of INCB *Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry*, and INCB model Memorandum of Understanding between governments and private sector partners, as and where appropriate, bearing in mind the useful role these industries can play in addressing the world drug problem;

New psycho-active substances

(d) Develop and strengthen national legislative, regulatory and administrative responses to the public health and safety threats resulting from the challenge of NPS, including by continuing to identify and monitor trends in their composition, production, prevalence and distribution, as well as patterns of use and adverse consequences, and assess the risks to public health and safety and the potential uses of NPS for medical and scientific purposes;

(e) Commit to implement time-effective control or regulatory measures within national legislative and administrative systems to tackle and manage the challenge of NPS, and consider the use of interim steps while substances are under review to take temporary measures or make public health announcements as well as share information and expertise on these measures;

(f) Share relevant information with, as appropriate, and strengthen the capacity of WHO, UNODC, INCB and other relevant international and regional organizations, to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful NPS and to facilitate informed scheduling decisions by the CND;

(g) Actively promote support for early warning networks and surveillance lists, increased voluntary controls and the sharing of information through the INCB, UNODC and WHO, and enhance bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international cooperation in the identification and reporting of NPS and incidents involving such substances and, to this end, strengthen the use of national, regional and international established reporting and information exchange systems, such as the UNODC *Early Warning Advisory* and *Global SMART Programme* and *INCB project ION*;

(h) Enhance the capacity of national laboratories and promote national and regional cooperation among them, as appropriate, for detection and identification of NPS, including through the use of existing UNODC reference standards and assistance activities;

ATS, including methamphetamine

(i) Support existing research, collection and scientific analysis of data on ATS through UNODC's *Global Smart Programme* and relevant INCB tools, strengthen international and regional cooperation in tackling ATS, including methamphetamine;

(j) Promote the use of existing mechanisms and joint operations and continue the development and sharing of good practices among practitioners aimed at reducing supply and demand of ATS, including best practices to prevent and minimize the harm caused by ATS;

Precursors and pre-precursors

(k) Strengthen national, regional and international monitoring of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and NPS, towards more effectively preventing the diversion of those chemicals into the illicit

traffic, while ensuring that the legitimate trade in and use of those chemicals are not adversely affected including by using national and international reporting systems and INCB tools such as project *Prism*, platform *PICS*, *PEN Online* and *I2ES*;

(l) Take control measures to address the diversion of traditional precursors, pre-precursors and substitute or alternative precursors, and enhance voluntary efforts, including voluntary codes of conduct in cooperation with the concerned industries at national, regional and international levels;

Non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals

(m) Enhance the sharing of information on the misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and the quality and consistency of reported data, including through UNODC's *Annual Report Questionnaire*;

(n) Develop and implement counter-measures and supportive public health strategies to effectively address and counter the non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals which contain narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes, and promote national sub-regional, regional and international cooperation to prevent their abuse, diversion and trafficking, including through the use of existing WHO, UNODC and INCB projects and tools;

Use of the internet in relation to drug-related activities

(o) Support research, data collection and analysis of evidence and sharing of information, and strengthen law enforcement, criminal justice and legal responses as well as international cooperation, consistent with relevant and applicable law, to prevent and counter drug-related criminal activities using the Internet;

(p) Increase provision of technical assistance and capacity building at all levels to Member States, upon request, to prevent and counter the use of technologies, including the Internet, by drug trafficking networks and transnational criminal organizations, to facilitate drug-related activities;

(q) Enhance capacity of national authorities, in particular law enforcement authorities for the preservation and analysis of electronic evidence related to illicit activities, including drug trafficking and money laundering, and for the monitoring of sales of illicit drugs using the internet;

(r) Encourage the use of the INCB *Guidelines for Governments on Preventing the Illegal Sale of Internationally Controlled Substances through the Internet*, as appropriate;

(s) Develop, implement and promote, in accordance with national legislation, prevention strategies, programmes and measures, including via social media and other social networks, aimed at protecting children and young people from the potential risk associated with the illicit sale and purchase via the internet of internationally or nationally controlled substances and of new psychoactive substances;

Addressing other new challenges, threats, trends, priorities, perspectives and realities

(t) Consider the use of data collection, analysis, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to support the development and improvement, as appropriate, of scientific evidence-based drug control policies and programmes as well as to achieve a better understanding of domestic situations and their transnational implications, in full conformity with the international drug control conventions, and encourage sharing of best practices and lessons learnt, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(u) Encourage the CND and the UN Statistical Commission, with the support of UNODC, to continue their complementary and joint efforts in the field of statistics and, in that context, to continue to identify quantifiable indicators, where appropriate, in line with the integrated and balanced approach to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, taking into account its various aspects, including the causes and consequences of the violence associated with it;

(v) Encourage the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to consider, as appropriate, initiating the development of new guidelines on the various aspects of the world drug problem, and updating existing ones with a view to enhancing international cooperation and the capacity of relevant national authorities;

(w) Call upon UNODC, INCB, WHO and other United Nations entities with pertinent technical and operational expertise, within their mandates, to continue to provide, upon request, advice and assistance to States that are reviewing and updating their drug policies, taking into account their national priorities and needs through, among others, the promotion of exchange of information and best practices on scientific evidence-based policies adopted by States;

Operational recommendations on strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility

27. *We reiterate our commitment* to support each other in our efforts, based on common and shared responsibility, to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, and to enhance international cooperation and to that end, *we recommend the following measures:*

(a) Strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance, including adequate financial assistance, training, equipment and technological know-how, including through UNODC, WHO and other United Nations entities and intergovernmental organizations having relevant technical expertise to provide targeted capacity building and training to requesting countries and jurisdictions including transit countries, related to the various aspects of the world drug problem;

(b) Enhance north-south, south-south and triangular cooperation among concerned Member States in effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem;

(c) Strengthen regular exchange of information, good practices and lessons learnt at all levels among and in-between national practitioners to effectively implement an integrated and balanced approach, and call upon the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to have its subsidiary bodies facilitating meaningful discussion at the regional level among these practitioners towards the adoption of practical and operational recommendations on all aspects of the world drug problem;

(d) Encourage the CND to contribute to the global follow-up and review of the SDGs related to the world drug problem, and make that information available to the High Level Political Forum through the appropriate institutional framework;

(e) Encourage all relevant United Nations entities and specialized agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions to further strengthen their cooperation and coordination, and to increase, within their respective mandates, their involvement in the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with a view to enhancing system-wide coherence towards supporting Member States in effectively addressing the world drug problem through an integrated and balanced approach;

Operational recommendations on alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socio-economic issues

28. *We reiterate our commitment* to address drug-related socio-economic issues, in particular the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and illicit manufacture and production of drugs, including through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, such as alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, and *we recommend the following measures:*

Socio-economic issues and alternative development

(a) Target illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of drugs, and address related factors, by implementing comprehensive strategies aimed at alleviating poverty, strengthening the rule of law and institutional frameworks as appropriate, and by promoting sustainable development aimed at enhancing the welfare of the affected population through licit alternatives;

(b) Encourage the promotion of inclusive economic growth and support initiatives that contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development, poverty eradication, and develop measures for rural development, improving infrastructure, addressing negative consequences of illicit crop cultivation, manufacture and production on the environment, incorporation and participation of local communities, and consider taking voluntary and pragmatic measures to promote alternative development products,

including preventive alternative development, to gain access to markets, consistent with national and international obligations and taking into account applicable multilateral trade rules, in so far as these contribute to the reduction of drug abuse and illicit drug cultivation, production and trafficking;

(c) Elaborate and implement comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes to prevent and significantly, durably and measurably reduce illicit crop cultivation and other illicit drug related activities, based on empowerment, ownership and responsibility of affected local communities, including farmers and their agriculture cooperatives, in cooperation with the UNODC, FAO, ILO, UNDP and other relevant international organizations, and consider their integration into national and regional development policies and action plans, in order to contribute to the building of peaceful inclusive and just societies, in accordance with the SDGs and in compliance with national laws;

(d) Strengthen regional and international cooperation to support sustainable alternative development programs including preventive alternative development, in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders at local, national and international levels, and to develop and share best practices towards implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, taking into account all the lessons learned and good practices by countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, including those presented during the Second International Conference on Alternative Development, in so far as these impact demand and supply reduction of illicit drugs;

(e) Strengthen research by States with relevant expertise, United Nations and international and regional organizations and civil society, to better understand factors contributing to illicit crop cultivation, taking into account local and regional specificities, and to improve impact assessment of alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, so that they are also measured, as appropriate, by using human development indicators, criteria related to environmental sustainability and other measurements in line with the SDGs;

Technical and financial cooperation for comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug policies and viable economic alternatives

(f) Urge relevant international financial institutions, UN organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to increase their support for the deployment of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives, in particular alternative development support, for areas and populations affected by the illicit cultivation of drug crops through long-term and flexible funding, and encourage affected States, to the extent possible, to remain strongly committed to financing such programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes;

(g) Encourage the development of viable economic alternatives to illicit cultivation of crops and to the involvement in other illicit drugs-related activities, and consider development-oriented financial or legal incentives, such as access and legal titles to land, as appropriate to prevent, reduce or eliminate illicit drug-related activities;

(h) Consider the development of sustainable urban development initiatives for those affected by illicit drug related activities, to foster community cohesion, protection and safety, and to stimulate innovation and employment;

(i) Promote partnerships with the private sector and civil society to create more conducive conditions for productive investments, targeted at job creation, in areas and among communities particularly affected by illicit drug production, manufacturing, trafficking and consumption, and share innovative approaches, expertise and skills in this regard.

29. We express appreciation for the contributions received from a wide range of stakeholders in support of the preparations for the Special Session;

30. We reaffirm our determination to promote a society free of drug abuse in order to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity, and to that end,

31. We resolve to take all necessary steps to implement the above-listed operational recommendations, in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society and

to provide the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, timely with information on progress made with the implementation of these recommendations in preparation for the review of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action in 2019.