

REVISED ELEMENTS – PROPOSED BY UNGASS BOARD TO CND FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION (2.12.2015)

Noting the efforts made by Member States to achieve the goals set in the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and reinforcing the commitment to take measures and to redouble efforts to address the world drug problem effectively;

Reaffirming the crucial importance of addressing drug related issues and implement drug policies 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 other relevant international law, including the three international drug control conventions;

Reaffirming the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity of States and non-intervention, as well as the principle of common and shared responsibility, when addressing the world drug problem;

Recalling that the three international drug control conventions are the cornerstone of international drug control policy;

Recognizing that the provisions of the drug control conventions provide flexibility to State Parties to implement national drug policies;

Noting that the drug control conventions are concerned with health and welfare of humankind;

Underlining the importance of strengthening public health responses and of upholding the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all individuals without any form of discrimination and *recognizing* that human beings are to be placed at the centre of international drug control;

Underlining also the importance of upholding the law and its enforcement for the safety and security of individuals and countries and reiterating the need for enhancing international cooperation in countering illicit trafficking in drugs, including with regard to transit countries;

Reaffirming the utmost importance of a balanced and integrated and evidence-based approach to supply and demand reduction and international cooperation as outlined in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and in the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted at the High Level Review in March 2014;

Aware of the need to address the root causes of the world drug problem as well as of the serious harm caused by drugs to individuals, families and societies;

Recognizing that there are new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem and that these need to be addressed in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

Recognizing the importance of prioritising interventions that have worked, while further strengthening research and data collection to develop, implement and evaluate evidence-based policies to successfully address the world drug problem;

Reaffirming also the need to enhance international cooperation, including technical assistance, to successfully address the world drug problem, and the need to provide sufficient resources to developing countries and to the United Nations in the period leading up to 2019, with a view to assisting Member States with the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and *noting* that the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals can contribute to addressing the world drug problem;

Reaffirming the principal role of the CND and its subsidiary bodies, together with the INCB, as the UN organs with prime responsibility for drug control matters, as well as the treaty-based role of WHO, and calling for their enhanced cooperation in successfully achieving the aims of the three international drug control conventions;

Calling upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role through implementation of the United Nations Drug Control Programme, including provision of technical assistance and capacity building assistance, and to continue to enhance cooperation and coordination across the United Nations system as well as with relevant international and regional organizations, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders;

Also calling on all other relevant UN entities to mainstream their efforts in countering the world drug problem;

Recognizing the important role civil society can play in assisting Governments in developing drug control programmes, and in providing services, including at the local level;

1. Operational recommendations on demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion

Reiterating our commitment to health, welfare and well-being of individuals and society through national and international comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives, we recommend to:

[prevention]

- Implement practical measures to protect children and young people from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by providing them with opportunities to develop life skills, enjoy equal positive opportunities and supporting parenting;
- Increase availability, coverage and quality of scientific-evidence based prevention and age-appropriate education strategies and tools, including at schools and in the media, to reduce drug initiation and delay the transition to drug use disorders;
- Enhance the capacity of teachers and education and community institutions to provide counselling and prevention services for young people,
- Promote the collection of data on drug use and epidemiology and promote the use of international standards, such as the UNODC International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, to formulate effective prevention strategies and programmes;

[treatment, including HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care]

- Recognize drug dependence as a multi-factorial health disorder; implement effective evidence-based drug treatment and care programmes, such as community based programs, and strengthen rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery of dependent drug users;
- Develop outreach programmes and campaigns to encourage drug users to seek treatment;
- Recognize the right of drug users to give an informed consent to treatment;
- Ensure non-discriminatory access to screening, treatment, including behavioural and medication-assisted treatment, and social rehabilitation, integration and recovery programmes for people affected by drug use, including access to such services in prisons and after imprisonment, giving particular attention to vulnerable members of society and gender specificities;
- Develop practices aimed at strengthening cooperation among law enforcement, justice system, health authorities and social services agencies;
- Enhance international cooperation and capacity building, including for the development of rehabilitation and recovery centres;
- Consider implementing measures aimed at minimizing the health and social consequences of drug use, with respect to national policies;
- Consider the use of existing guidelines jointly developed by WHO, UNODC and UNAIDS and international standards, such as the international standards on substance abuse treatment and provide assistance and training to health professionals;
- Adopt measures to reduce transmission of HIV and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use and enlarge access to such interventions, including in prisons and other custodial settings;

[adequate availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion]

- Establish and implement national legislative and regulatory frameworks to improve access to controlled medicines, especially in developing countries, while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking;
- Strengthen capacity of national regulatory and health authorities, including through training of health professionals on access to controlled medicines, and increase the awareness and support at the community level;
- Develop national assessments and programmes, in cooperation with UNODC, the INCB and the WHO, to remove barriers to availability, within appropriate control mechanisms outlined in the three international drug control conventions;
- Encourage a regular update of the WHO model lists of essential medicines and informed and coordinated scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;
- Enhance international cooperation and capacity building and encourage exchange of information, lessons learnt and best practices in designing and implementing regulatory, financial, educational and administrative and other related measures;
- Encourage the use of WHO Guidance for Availability and Accessibility of Controlled Medicines and the I2ES system;
- Address issues related to the affordability of controlled medicines;

2. Operational recommendations on supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation

Reiterating our commitment to safety and security of individuals and society and to strengthen our efforts in countering drug-related crime and violence, we recommend to:

[prevention of crime]

- Strengthen efforts on international, regional and national level in preventing drug-related crime and drug-related violence, manufacture, supply and trafficking of drugs, consistent with international human rights norms, and integrate such measures with law enforcement efforts;
- Promote data collection, research and sharing of information as well as best practices on criminal justice responses to drug related offences;
- Promote of a culture of lawfulness and effective role of civil society and encourage law enforcement to closely cooperate with local communities;

[international drug trafficking]

- Disrupt organized criminal groups involved in illicit drug trafficking and prevent the abuse of legitimate commercial trade for illicit activities, also in transit countries, and consider using existing operational initiatives and technical assistance activities;
- Strengthen international cooperation in criminal matters, including judicial cooperation and mutual legal assistance;
- Promote intelligence and information sharing among law enforcement and border control platforms, including through regional information centres and networks, and promote joint operations, regionally and internationally;
- Enhance the capacity of border control and law enforcement agencies through technical assistance , including through the provision of equipment and technology to monitor drug trafficking;
- Address new trafficking routes and trends;

[links with other forms of organised crime]

- Address links between drug trafficking, corruption, terrorism and its financing, gangs and youth violence as well as other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in humans, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in small arms, cybercrime, trafficking in wildlife products, and money-laundering;
- Encourage the use of existing international mechanisms to combat all forms of organized crime and enhance cooperation on transnational organised crime networks in the national, regional and sub-regional context;
- 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 United Nations counter-terrorism legal instruments, and take measures to effectively implement these international legal instruments;
- Promote/support data collection, research and intelligence sharing across regions to ensure effective policy-making,
- Enhance the capacity to counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking, to address financial havens and identify money-laundering risks linked to new technologies;
- Strengthen international and regional cooperation to enhance timeliness of freezing of assets and asset recovery;

[countering corruption]

- Ensure that measures aimed at addressing the links between corruption and drug-related crime are included in comprehensive national counter-narcotic strategies and strengthen efforts to implement such measures;

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

Reiterating our commitment to the rule of law, justice and protection of human rights in implementing drug policies, we recommend to:

[special attention to youth, women, children, members of vulnerable populations and indigenous peoples]

- Enhance targeted efforts to protect the health of human beings, in particular children and young people, by preventing them from using drugs and encourage cooperation with universities and schools as well as with relevant international organizations including UNODC, WHO, UNESCO and UNICEF in the elaboration of prevention programmes;
- Give special attention to age-specific and gender-specific needs in treatment programmes;
- Implement targeted practical measures to prevent and address the use of children, young people and women in the illicit production and drug trafficking;
- Develop interventions targeted at gangs and youth violence to provide them with alternative ways of life;

- Promote international cooperation with a view to promoting universal respect and responsibility for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to health and right to development;

[proportionate and effective criminal justice policies and legislative responses]

- Invite to consider reviewing drug sentencing policies to include alternative measures to incarceration for actions of minor, non-violent nature, taking into consideration special needs of women and first-time offenders;
- Take measures to avoid overcrowding of prisons;
- Promote consistent and proportionate sentencing, whereby the severity of penalties is consistent with the gravity of offences;
- Ensure capacity-building of authorities on proportional and adequate criminal justice responses;

[legal guarantees and safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings]

- Ensure legal guarantees and safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings, including practical measures towards the prohibition of arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and other forms of ill treatment and ensure the protection of the right of fair trial in accordance with international norms, including by implementation of independent and effective investigations to bring alleged perpetrators to justice;

4. Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions; strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation

Reiterating our commitment to address new and emerging threats posed to health and safety of individuals and society, and to strengthen our international cooperation efforts, we recommend to:

[ATS, including methamphetamine]

- Support research, data collection and analysis of scientific evidence and sharing of information on illicit trafficking in ATS including methamphetamine and develop best practices to cover supply and demand reduction;
- Strengthen international and regional cooperation in tackling ATS, including methamphetamine and promote the use of existing mechanisms, joint operations and sharing of good practices among practitioners involved in supply and demand reduction;

[NPS, precursors and pharmaceuticals]

- Strengthen national responses and take measures to reduce the demand for NPS and the misuse of pharmaceuticals and precursors;
- Develop tailored prevention and treatment policies of NPS, and actively share information on national health-related experiences and treatment models relevant to the health problems associated with NPS;
- Strengthen the use of national and international established reporting systems, such as the Early Warning Advisory, Global SMART Programme;
- Commit to implement time-effective control or regulatory measures within national legislative and administrative systems to tackle the emergence of NPS and encourage prioritising, evidence-based WHO assessment, informed scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on NPS;
- Address the use of precursors, pre-precursors and alternative precursors, including in the manufacture of ATS;
- Enhance capacity of national laboratories and law enforcement agencies for identification of NPS and promote cross-border cooperation to prevent their misuse and diversion; promote thereby the use of the ION Project implemented by INCB;
- Consider partnerships with chemical and pharmaceutical industries and encourage use of developed guidelines, such as the INCB Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry;

[use of the internet and the dark net]

- Support research, data collection and analysis of evidence and sharing of information, as well strengthen law enforcement responses aimed at reducing the misuse of the Internet, including the use of the Dark Net, for illicit drug-related purposes including the illicit trafficking and sales of drugs and encourage the use of the INCB Guidelines for Governments on Preventing the Illegal Sale of Internationally Controlled Substances through the Internet;

[the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation]

- Establish objective, reliable monitoring systems for developing evidence-based drug policies and encourage sharing of lessons learned;

Board Tasked by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with the preparations for UNGASS 2016

- Strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance and capacity building, including financial assistance, training and equipment to developing countries, including transit countries, to strengthen their demand reduction and supply reduction measures;
- Enhance north-south and south-south cooperation;

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

Reiterating our commitment to addressing vulnerabilities through implementation of a long-term, sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes and eradication programmes, we recommend to:

[alternative development]

- Address broader causes, including poverty and social marginalization, when addressing drug control;
- Encourage the promotion of economic growth, support initiatives that contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development, poverty eradication, measures for rural development, strengthening of local institutions, improving infrastructure, access to markets and the participation of local communities;
- Consider the promotion of alternative livelihoods for those involved in the production of illicit drugs in urban areas;

[partnerships and cooperation]

- Strengthen technical and financial cooperation by bilateral donors and multilateral development agencies and provide long-term support for sustainable alternative development programmes targeting the illicit cultivation of crops and addressing conditions that enable the emergence of illicit drug economics;
- Strengthen international efforts, in close cooperation with local, national and international actors, to develop and share best practices towards implementing the UN Guiding Principles of Alternative Development;
- Encourage the development of viable economic alternatives to illicit cultivation of crops and consider financial or legal incentives for communities to cooperate with authorities;
- Promote partnerships with the private sector to implement concrete measures targeted at job creation;