

**REVISED ELEMENTS - PROPOSED BY THE UNGASS BOARD TO THE CND
FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION - STATUS 4 November 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 to address the world drug problem effectively and to redouble efforts to face the challenges that have persisted and emerged;

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, concerned with health and welfare of mankind, are the cornerstone of international drug control policy, and that in their interpretation and implementation human beings are to be placed at the center;

Reaffirming the utmost importance of a balanced and integrated 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;

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 that there is sufficient flexibility within the provisions of the Conventions to accommodate national and regional drug policies;

Aware of the need to address the serious harm caused by drugs to individuals, families and societies;

Underlining the importance of strengthening public health and of upholding the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all individuals without any form of discrimination;

Underlining also the importance of upholding the law and its enforcement for the safety and security of human beings;

Underlining further the importance of addressing the specific needs of various groups in society, including the youth and women, in all aspects of drug control policies;

Calling upon Member States to align drug policy with the broader United Nations agenda, in particular the agreement reached by the international community on the Agenda 2030, including Sustainable Development Goals 3, 4, 8 and 16, and reiterating the call on Member States to achieve the targets set in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

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;

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;

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 capacity building assistance, thereby stressing the need to provide the Office with adequate and sufficient support so that it can fulfil its mandates and can ensure enhanced cooperation and coordination across the United Nations system as well as with relevant international and regional organizations, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders;

Stressing the role of civil society, academia and scientific community in formulating and implementing drug programmes, including at the local level;

Recognizing the importance of strengthening scientific research and data collection to develop, implement and evaluate evidence-based policies towards successfully addressing the world drug problem;

Operational recommendations on demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment as well as health-related issues, including HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care:

Welfare and socio-economic well-being of individuals and society at the centre of national and international comprehensive demand reduction initiatives that effectively address the world drug problem and reduce adverse health and social consequences⁽¹⁾ / Scientific-evidence based prevention strategies/ targeted prevention programmes,

- *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;*
- *Ensure communication in a child friendly and age appropriate manner;*
- *Strengthen comprehensive prevention efforts;*
- *Increase availability, coverage and quality of scientific-evidence based prevention and education strategies to reduce drug initiation and delay the transition to drug use disorders;*
- *Target individual and environmental vulnerabilities to risky behaviour at different developmental stages of growth;*
- *Develop appropriate educational tools;*

Drug dependence as a multi-factorial health disorder that can be prevented and treated⁽²⁾/ effective treatment in a health-based approach that promotes the full spectrum of services/ preventing marginalization and stigmatization of drug users / equitable non-discriminatory access to different scientific-evidence and best-practice-based voluntary treatment options, care and support services/ rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery of dependant drug users/ increased access to measures to reduce transmission of HIV, hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use,

- *Ensure non-discriminatory access to screening, treatment, including behavioural and medication-assisted treatment, post-treatment, and social rehabilitation and integration programmes for people affected by drug use, including access to such services in prisons and after imprisonment, and giving particular attention to vulnerable members of society;*
- *Develop practices aimed at strengthening cooperation among law enforcement, justice system, health authorities and social services agencies ;*
- *Provide support for the implementation of effective evidence-based drug treatment programmes, such as community based programs, and strengthen treatment, rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery of dependent drug users;*
- *Agree on /implement international standards on substance abuse treatment and provide assistance and training to health professionals;*
- *Implement measures aimed at minimizing the health and social consequences of drug use and increase their coverage within treatment programmes, with respect to national policies;*
- *Adopt measures to reduce transmission of HIV and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use - implementation of a comprehensive package of evidence-based interventions [WHO, UNAIDS, UNODC] and enlarge access to such interventions, including in prisons and other custodial settings*

Operational recommendations on ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion:

Adequate availability, accessibility and affordability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while protecting from diversion, abuse and trafficking, in accordance with the UN conventions⁽³⁾/ indispensability of narcotic drugs, including opiates, for pain relief and palliative care/ Importance of UN-wide cooperation, multi-sectorial efforts, inter-agency collaboration,

- *Ensure better access to controlled essential medicines;*
- *Establish national legislative and regulatory frameworks to ensure adequate access to controlled medicines while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking – through enhanced international cooperation and capacity building;*

¹ Giving consideration to SDG 3.5 and 4, including 4.a

² Giving consideration to SDG 3.5 and 3.c

³ Giving consideration to SDG 3.8 and 3c

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- *Ensure effective implementation of those measures and strengthen capacity of national regulatory and health authorities; train health professionals and increase the awareness and support at the community level;*
- *Develop country assessments and programmes [in cooperation with UNODC, the INCB and the WHO] to ensure availability of narcotic drugs and other controlled substances for medical or scientific purposes while preventing their diversion and misuse, within appropriate control mechanisms outlined in the three international drug control conventions;*
- *Encourage regular update of the model lists of essential medicines [WHO];*
- *Promote exchange of information and best practices in designing and implementing regulatory, financial, educational, administrative and other related measures*

Operational recommendations on supply reduction and related measures: domestic, regional and cross-regional responses to drug-related crime:

Drug related-crime being a threat to safety, rule of law and well-being of people; importance of addressing drug related crime and drug related violence,

- *Strengthen efforts on international, regional and national level in addressing drug-related crime and drug-related violence and supporting its victims;*
- *Promote data collection, research and sharing of scientific information and best practices on criminal justice responses to drug related offences;*
- *Promotion of a culture of lawfulness and effective role of civil society in measures to enhance crime prevention and criminal justice;*
- *Strengthen efforts to prevent drug-related crime, Have police closely operating with local communities;*

Illicit drug trafficking and involvement of organized criminal groups; abuse of legitimate commercial trade for illicit activities; effective international cooperation, intelligence and information sharing and capacity building; adequate response(s) to new trafficking routes, trends and challenges⁴),

- *Disrupt organized criminal groups involved in illicit drug trafficking and prevent the abuse of legitimate commercial trade for illicit activities;*
- *Strengthen international cooperation in criminal matters, including judicial cooperation and mutual legal assistance;*
- *Ensure capacity-building of border control and law enforcement agencies, also in transit countries, including provision of equipment;*
- *Highlight role of existing operational initiatives and technical assistance activities [e.g. on maritime cooperation];*
- *Address new trafficking routes and trends;*
- *Promote intelligence and information sharing among law enforcement and border control platforms, including through capacity building and regional workshops, regional information centers and networks, and promote joint operations, regionally and internationally*

Operational recommendations on countering money laundering and promoting international cooperation:

Comprehensive approach to address drug-related violence; links with corruption, money-laundering, terrorism and other forms of organized crime⁵),

- *Address existing links between drug trafficking, corruption, terrorism, gangs and youth violence as well as other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in humans, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime, trafficking in wildlife products, and money-laundering;*
- *Consider ratifying relevant international legal instruments including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and the United Nations counter-terrorism legal instruments, and – for State Parties – take measures to effectively implement these international legal instruments;*
- *Promote/support data collection, research and intelligence sharing across regions to ensure effective policy-making;*
- *Measures to counter drug-associated crimes as part of national counter-narcotic strategies;*
- *Strengthen capacity-building activities to combat money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking;*
- *Combating financial havens and identifying money-laundering risks linked to new technologies (internet, virtual money etc);*

⁴ Giving consideration to SDG 16, including 16.a

⁵ Giving consideration to SDG 16, including 16.1, 16.3, 16.4, as well as 16.a

Operational recommendations on drugs and human rights, youth, women, and children:

Special attention to the rights of youth, women, and children,

- Enhance targeted efforts to protect children and young people and prevent them from using drugs;
- Give special attention to the needs of young people and women in treatment programmes;
- Implement practical measures to prevent the use of children and young people in the illicit production and drug trafficking;
- Implement practical measures to address the involvement of women in illicit production and drug trafficking;
- Develop interventions targeted at gangs and youth violence to provide them with alternative ways of life;

Importance of criminal justice policies and legislative responses that are effective and proportionate ⁽⁶⁾,

- Practical measures towards prohibition of arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and other forms of ill treatment and protection of the right of fair trial in accordance with international norms;
- Ensure implementation of independent and effective investigations to bring alleged perpetrators to justice;
- Invite to consider reviewing drug sentencing policies to include alternative measures to incarceration for actions of minor, non-violent nature;
- Promote consistent and proportionate sentencing; severity of penalties consistent with gravity of offences; ensure legal guarantees and safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings;
- Ensure capacity-building of authorities on proportional and adequate criminal justice responses

Operational recommendations on addressing emerging issues, including new psychoactive substances, precursors and the misuse of the internet:

Addressing new psychoactive substances (NPS), amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), including methamphetamine, precursor chemicals and misuse of pharmaceuticals; cooperation and implementation of time-effective control measures; research and scientific evidence for the assessment of abuse liability, dependence potential and associated individual and public health risks,

- Develop tailored prevention and treatment policies of NPS;
- Commit to implement time-effective control measures within national legislative and administrative systems ;
- Strengthen law enforcement responses, preventing diversion of NPS, including sales through the Internet;
- Support research, data collection and analysis of scientific evidence and sharing of information on illicit trafficking in NPS, and on their effects on human health through UNODC, INCB and WHO; develop best practices to cover supply and demand reduction;
- Address the use of precursors, pre-precursors and alternative precursors;
- Enhance capacity of national laboratories and law enforcement agencies for identification of NPS and promote cross-border cooperation to prevent their misuse and diversion; role of INCB and ION Project;
- Address prioritisation; evidence-based WHO assessments, informed scheduling decisions by the CND;
- Take measures to address the misuse of pharmaceuticals;
- Consider partnerships with chemical and pharmaceutical industries;

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

Addressing vulnerabilities that drive and enable/ Comprehensive development-oriented drug control strategy addressing illicit drug crop cultivation and production within the broader framework of poverty reduction and sustainable development/ Effective, sustainable, integral alternative development programmes, long-term investments ⁽⁷⁾,

- Address broader causes, including poverty and social marginalization, when addressing drug control;
- 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 governments and institutions, improving infrastructure, access to markets and promoting the participation of local communities;
- Encourage development of viable economic alternatives to illicit cultivation of crops

⁶ Giving consideration to SDG 16.3 and 16 a

⁷ Giving consideration to SDG, including target 8.3

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- *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;*
- *Consider long-term support for alternative development programmes targeting the illicit cultivation of crops and addressing conditions that enable the emergence of illicit drug economics;*
- *Strengthen technical and financial cooperation – by bilateral donors and multilateral development agencies - for alternative development programmes;*
- *In partnership with the private sector, implement concrete measures that would create job opportunities*

Operational recommendations on strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and enhancing international cooperation, including technical assistance:

Strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and enhancing international cooperation, including technical assistance,

- *Addressing demand reduction and supply reduction together in an integrated and balanced approach;*
- *Strengthening information exchange and sharing of good practices, at the national, regional and international levels; among practitioners involved in demand reduction; among practitioners involved in supply reduction; and “between” demand reduction and supply reduction practitioners;*
- *Giving special consideration to the needs of developing countries, including transit countries;*
- *Enhancing of south-south cooperation;*
- *Strengthening of specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance.*