



**United Nations**

# **Commission on Narcotic Drugs**

**Report on the sixty-fifth session  
(10 December 2021 and 14–18 March  
2022)**

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(10 December 2021 and 14–18 March 2022)**



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*Note*

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

The report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-fifth session, to be held on 8 and 9 December 2022, will be issued as *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2022, Supplement No. 8A* (E/2022/28/Add.1).

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## Contents

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Page</i>
Executive summary .....	v
I. Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention	1
A. Draft decisions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council .....	1
I. Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-fifth session and provisional agenda for its sixty-sixth session .....	1
II. Report of the International Narcotics Control Board .....	2
B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council .....	2
Resolution 65/1 Promoting alternative development as a development-oriented drug control strategy, taking into account measures to protect the environment .....	2
Resolution 65/2 Strengthening international cooperation to address the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking ...	7
Resolution 65/3 Intensifying efforts to address the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors .....	10
Resolution 65/4 Promoting comprehensive and scientific evidence-based early prevention .....	16
Decision 65/1 Inclusion of buprenorphine in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol .....	21
Decision 65/2 Inclusion of metonitazene in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol ...	21
Decision 65/3 Inclusion of eutylone in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 .....	21
Decision 65/4 Inclusion of 4-AP in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 .....	21
Decision 65/5 Inclusion of 1-boc-4-AP in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 .....	22
Decision 65/6 Inclusion of norfentanyl in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 .....	22
II. General debate .....	23
III. Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions .....	28
A. Deliberations .....	28
B. Action taken by the Commission .....	29
IV. Implementation of the international drug control treaties .....	31
A. Deliberations .....	32
B. Action taken by the Commission .....	35
V. Follow-up to the implementation at the national, regional and international levels of all commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem .....	37

A.	Deliberations .....	38
B.	Action taken by the Commission .....	41
VI.	Inter-agency cooperation and coordination of efforts in addressing and countering the world drug problem .....	42
	Deliberations .....	42
VII.	Recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission .....	45
	Deliberations .....	45
VIII.	Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution <a href="#">72/305</a> , including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development .....	46
	Deliberations .....	46
IX.	Provisional agenda for the sixty-sixth session of the Commission .....	47
	Action taken by the Commission .....	47
X.	Other business .....	48
XI.	Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixty-fifth session .....	49
XII.	Organization of the session and administrative matters .....	50
	A. Informal pre-session consultations .....	50
	B. Opening and duration of the session .....	50
	C. Attendance .....	50
	D. Election of officers .....	50
	E. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters .....	51
	F. Documentation .....	52
	G. Closure of the session .....	52

### *Executive summary*

The present summary has been prepared pursuant to the annex to General Assembly resolution 68/1, entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”, in which it is stated that the subsidiary bodies of the Council should, inter alia, include in their reports an executive summary.

The present document contains the report on the sixty-fifth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which was held from 14 to 18 March 2022. Chapter I contains the text of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission or recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Economic and Social Council.

During its session, the Commission considered strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions; the implementation of the international drug control treaties; the follow-up to the implementation at the national, regional and international levels of all commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem; inter-agency cooperation and coordination of efforts in addressing and countering the world drug problem; recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission; and matters relating to the Economic and Social Council, including the follow-up to and the review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Commission decided to include bupropion and metonitazene in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol. The Commission also decided to include eutylone in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substance of 1971. The Commission further decided to include 4-AP, 1-boc-4-AP and norfentanyl in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.

The Commission recommended the following decisions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council: “Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-fifth session and provisional agenda for its sixty-sixth session” and “Report of the International Narcotics Control Board”.

The Commission adopted resolution 65/1, entitled “Promoting alternative development as a development-oriented drug control strategy, taking into account measures to protect the environment”; resolution 65/2, entitled “Strengthening international cooperation to address the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking”; resolution 65/3, entitled “Intensifying efforts to address the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors”; and resolution 65/4, entitled “Promoting comprehensive and scientific evidence-based early prevention”.



## Chapter I

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

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

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

#### **Draft decision I**

#### **Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-fifth session and provisional agenda for its sixty-sixth session**

The Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Takes note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-fifth session;
- (b) Also takes note of Commission decision 55/1;
- (c) Approves the provisional agenda for the sixty-sixth session set out below.

#### **Provisional agenda for the sixty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs**

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

#### *Operational segment*

4. Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:
  - (a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
  - (b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
  - (c) Working methods of the Commission;
  - (d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.

#### *Normative segment*

5. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:
  - (a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
  - (b) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;
  - (c) International Narcotics Control Board;
  - (d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;
  - (e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

6. Follow-up to the implementation at the national, regional and international levels of all commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem.
7. Inter-agency cooperation and coordination of efforts in addressing and countering the world drug problem.
8. Recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.
9. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolutions [75/290 A](#) and [75/290 B](#), including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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10. Preparations for the mid-term review, to be held in 2024, of progress made in implementing all international drug policy commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem.
11. Provisional agenda for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission.
12. Other business.
13. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixty-sixth session.

## **Draft decision II**

### **Report of the International Narcotics Control Board**

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2021.<sup>1</sup>

## **B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council**

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

### **Resolution 65/1**

#### **Promoting alternative development as a development-oriented drug control strategy, taking into account measures to protect the environment**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Recognizing* that the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity, and resolving to tackle such challenges in order to help ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity,

*Underscoring* that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>2</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971<sup>3</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic

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<sup>1</sup> E/INCB/2021/1.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

Substances of 1988,<sup>4</sup> together with other relevant international instruments, constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system,

*Underscoring also* that in accordance with the 1988 Convention, each party shall take appropriate measures to prevent illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic or psychotropic substances, such as opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plants, cultivated illicitly in its territory, and that the measures adopted shall respect fundamental human rights and shall take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historic evidence of such use, as well as the protection of the environment,

*Reaffirming* that drug policies and programmes, including in the field of development, should be undertaken in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>5</sup> 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, as well as the principle of common and shared responsibility, recalling the Sustainable Development Goals, and taking into account the specific situations of countries and regions,

*Recalling* the commitments related to alternative development contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem<sup>6</sup> of 2009 and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,<sup>7</sup> as well as the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held in 2016, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”,<sup>8</sup> in which Member States reiterated their commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies,

*Recalling also* the Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>9</sup> adopted at the ministerial segment of the sixty-second session of the Commission, in 2019, in which Member States reiterated their resolve, in the framework of existing policy documents, inter alia, to address drug-related socioeconomic issues related to illicit crop cultivation and the production and manufacture of and trafficking in drugs, including through the implementation of long-term comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes,

*Emphasizing* that the implementation of alternative development programmes should also be considered in the framework of sustainable crop control strategies, which may include, inter alia, eradication and law enforcement, in accordance with the national context, in the light of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

<sup>5</sup> General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>6</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>7</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>8</sup> General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex.

<sup>9</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 8 (E/2019/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.

World Drug Problem and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, and taking into consideration the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,<sup>10</sup>

*Recalling* the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/196 of 18 December 2013,

*Reaffirming* that alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops and an effective measure to counter the world drug problem and other drug-related crime challenges, as well as a choice in favour of promoting a society free of drug abuse, that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production and that it is an integral part of efforts made by Governments to achieve sustainable development within their societies,

*Recalling* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>11</sup> and stressing that the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development should be aligned with the efforts to achieve those relevant objectives within the Sustainable Development Goals that are related to the issue of alternative development, which falls within the mandate of the Commission, and that the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

*Recalling also* that alternative development programmes should include measures to protect the environment at the local level, according to national and international law and policies, through the provision of incentives for conservation, proper education and awareness programmes, so that the local communities can improve and preserve their livelihoods and mitigate negative environmental impacts,

*Recalling further* that the impact of alternative development programmes should be assessed by taking into account their contribution to the control of illicit crop cultivation, including the eradication of such crops, and through estimates based on human development indices, socioeconomic and environmental indicators and impartial and accurate evaluations,

*Recalling* the work of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the work conducted under the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>12</sup> and the work conducted under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

*Noting that* the forthcoming edition of the *World Drug Report* of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime will contain a special booklet on drugs and the environment,

*Recalling* its resolution 63/4, on promoting the involvement of youth in drug prevention efforts, in which the Commission reaffirmed its determination to give priority attention to the promotion of youth and their interests, and calling for increased participation of youth and youth-based organizations in the formulation of, as appropriate, local, national, regional and international development strategies and policies, which is particularly relevant to youth engagement in the prevention of non-medical use of drugs,

*Reiterating* its commitment to respecting, protecting and promoting all human rights, fundamental freedoms and the inherent dignity of all individuals and the rule of law in the development and implementation of drug policies,

*Recognizing* the ongoing challenges posed by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic at the international, regional and national levels, which may have increased unemployment, weakened social support systems, deepened inequality

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<sup>10</sup> General Assembly resolution 68/196, annex.

<sup>11</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

<sup>12</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

and affected the livelihoods of people vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, as well as other illicit drug-related activities that may lead to increases in such illicit cultivation and in drug-related crimes, and may have impeded the progress of alternative development efforts, and stressing the importance of international cooperation to continue to comprehensively address and counter these challenges on the basis of common and shared responsibility,

*Welcoming* the holding of the virtual expert group meeting on alternative development, on the theme “Promoting sustainability in alternative development”, hosted by Germany, Peru, Thailand and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on 26 and 27 January 2022, involving the participation of Member States, international organizations, representatives of civil society and academia,

*Recognizing* that alternative development programmes can contribute to the efforts of Member States to address human vulnerabilities, including poverty, unemployment, a lack of opportunities, discrimination and social marginalization, as well as mutually reinforce endeavours to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda,

1. *Encourages* Member States to increase efforts in promoting alternative development programmes to support populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, including through a market-driven approach, which may contribute to efforts to build back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, utilizing best practices and lessons learned from the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, and reiterates in that regard that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing;

2. *Recognizes* the need for increasing national, regional and international efforts to promote viable economic alternatives, in particular for communities affected by or at risk of the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs, as well as other illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas, including through comprehensive alternative development programmes, and to this end encourages Member States to consider development-oriented interventions, while ensuring that all people benefit equally from them;

3. *Acknowledges* the importance of data collection, research and the exchange of information and expertise on efforts, achievements, challenges and best practices for identifying causes and factors driving illicit drug crop cultivation and addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs, including the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and invites relevant stakeholders to make contributions in this regard;

4. *Encourages* Member States to develop policies and programmes that take into account an evidence- and science-based assessment of the potential impact of alternative development on the illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and on rural and socioeconomic development, including the gender dimension related thereto, and the environment;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to examine and address, within the efforts of alternative development, the harmful impact of the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs on the environment, which may lead to deforestation and the pollution of soil and water, and to seize the opportunities offered by alternative development with regard to the conservation and sustainable use of the environment and the protection of biodiversity;

6. *Further encourages* Member States to take into account and strengthen climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity conservation and other policies and measures to protect the environment when implementing alternative development programmes and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development

programmes in the context of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies;

7. *Encourages* Member States to design and implement alternative development programmes, as appropriate, in ways that also reduce negative impacts on the environment and contribute to conservation efforts and to take note of opportunities for communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of narcotic plants, as appropriate, to access public and private investment, climate finance, as well as of carbon credit schemes and payments for ecosystem services, in accordance with domestic legislation;

8. *Also encourages* Member States to improve the assessment of the impact of alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes, as appropriate, with a view to increasing the effectiveness of such programmes, including through the use of relevant human development indicators, criteria related to environmental sustainability and other measurements in line with the Sustainable Development Goals;

9. *Invites* Member States, in implementing alternative development programmes, to consider the importance of community-based agreements that enable communities to sustain their development;

10. *Encourages* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into and ensure the involvement of women in all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of alternative development programmes, and to develop and disseminate gender-sensitive and age-appropriate measures that take into account the specific needs of and circumstances faced by women and girls with regard to the illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas;

11. *Recognizes* the important role and contribution of men and boys to gender equality in alternative development programmes, and encourages Member States to promote the active participation of men and boys in the implementation of policies aimed at mainstreaming a gender perspective in alternative development programmes;

12. *Encourages* Member States to support the empowerment and participation of local communities, including youth, in the design and implementation of alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, to contribute to the sustainability of communities;

13. *Invites* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to consider increasing their support, including through long-term and flexible funding, for the implementation of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives, in particular alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, based on identified needs and national priorities, for areas and populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, with a view to its prevention, reduction and elimination, and encourages States, to the extent possible, to stay strongly committed to financing such programmes;

14. *Takes note* of the conference room paper submitted jointly by Germany, Peru and Thailand and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled “Promoting sustainability in alternative development”, bearing in mind its non-binding nature and that it does not necessarily reflect the position of all participants;

15. *Encourages* Member States to continue sharing lessons learned, best practices and expertise, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and enhancing dialogues on development-oriented drug control policies and programmes, including on the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

16. *Also encourages* Member States to engage in and promote partnerships with each other, as well as with all relevant stakeholders, including regional and international organizations, the private sector, civil society and financial institutions, in the implementation of alternative development projects and programmes;

17. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

## **Resolution 65/2**

### **Strengthening international cooperation to address the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Recognizing* 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, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach,

*Deeply concerned* that drug-traffickers are heavily arming themselves with illicitly trafficked firearms, exposing people and law enforcement personnel to significant levels of violence and harm,

*Noting with concern* that drug traffickers accept or demand firearms as payment in kind for illicitly trafficked drugs, and concerned that as a result of that trade they are able to increase their capabilities by accessing a wide variety of illicitly trafficked firearms and pose a significant threat to law enforcement entities,

*Expressing* deep concern at the high price paid by society and by individuals and families as a result of the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit trafficking in firearms, and paying special tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives, in particular law enforcement and judicial personnel, and to the health-care and civil society personnel and volunteers who dedicate themselves to countering and addressing this threat,

*Recalling* the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,<sup>13</sup> in the preamble to which the parties to the Convention recognized the importance of strengthening and enhancing effective legal means for international cooperation in criminal matters for suppressing the international criminal activities of illicit traffic,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution [76/188](#) of 16 December 2021, entitled “International cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem”, in which the Assembly called upon Member States to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking 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,

*Recalling further* that in its resolution 51/11 of 14 March 2008 on the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking, it had reaffirmed the determination of Member States to combat the scourge of drug trafficking and related criminal activities, including illicit trafficking in firearms and ammunition,

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

*Recalling* all commitments related to addressing the challenges posed by the links between illicit trafficking in drugs and illicit trafficking in firearms, as contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>14</sup> the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>15</sup> and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”,<sup>16</sup> as well as the Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>17</sup> adopted at the ministerial segment of the sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held in Vienna on 14 and 15 March 2019,

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

*Noting* that the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,<sup>18</sup> in which the States participating in the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001, expressed their concern about the close link between, inter alia, organized crime, trafficking in drugs and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

*Acknowledging* the efforts carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to analyse the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking and the assistance given, upon request, to Member States to address those challenges,

*Taking note* of the *Global Study on Firearms Trafficking 2020*,<sup>19</sup> in which links between firearms trafficking and drug trafficking are considered,

*Recognizing* that efforts to effectively address the world drug problem and the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>20</sup> including Goal 16, on peace, justice and strong institutions, are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

1. *Underlines* the importance of addressing in an integrated manner the global challenge posed by the multifaceted links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit trafficking in firearms, while recognizing the specific and increasing challenges faced in different regions of the world;
2. *Emphasizes* that preventing and combating links between illicit trafficking in drugs and illicit trafficking in firearms contributes to undermining the capabilities of drug traffickers;
3. *Encourages* Member States to better address the human dimension of the challenges posed by the links between illicit trafficking in drugs and illicit trafficking in firearms, and recognizes the importance of considering the situation of the victims

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<sup>14</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>15</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>16</sup> General Assembly resolution [S-30/1](#), annex.

<sup>17</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 8 (E/2019/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>18</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15)*, chap. IV, para. 24.

<sup>19</sup> United Nations publication, 2020.

<sup>20</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

of those crimes, including the families of law enforcement personnel who lost their lives;

4. *Encourages* States to take appropriate measures consistent with their domestic legal frameworks and their respective obligations under the international instruments to which they are a party, as well as other relevant international commitments, as appropriate, to prevent and combat the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit trafficking in firearms;

5. *Invites* Member States, as appropriate, to take full advantage of international and regional drug control conventions and instruments addressing illicit trafficking in firearms to which they are a party and to accelerate their efforts towards the implementation of the respective international obligations and the achievement of their commitments made in relevant policy documents on these issues, in accordance with domestic legislation;

6. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and strengthen coordinated border management strategies, if needed, as well as increase the capacity of border control and law enforcement agencies, including through technical assistance, in particular for developing countries, upon request, including and where appropriate, the provision of equipment and technology, along with necessary training and maintenance support, in order to prevent, monitor and counter illicit drug trafficking and illicit trafficking in firearms;

7. *Also encourages* Member States to strengthen national, regional and international measures and, as appropriate, rules and regulations aimed at enhancing operational cooperation to prevent drug traffickers from illicitly trafficking in firearms;

8. *Calls upon* Member States, consistent with their domestic legal frameworks, to continue to exchange information and provide judicial cooperation to identify and investigate possible links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit trafficking in firearms;

9. *Recognizes* the need to further address the negative impact of the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit trafficking in firearms on the lives of women, men, girls and boys, calls on Member States, in accordance with domestic legislation, to mainstream a gender perspective in preventing, combating and eradicating those crimes, bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and political commitments on these issues;

10. *Invites* relevant international and regional organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, the academic community and civil society to raise awareness of the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit trafficking in firearms and to contribute, as appropriate, to efforts by States in addressing these challenges;

11. *Underlines* that efforts to combat drug trafficking can be complemented by providing training in combating illicit firearms trafficking for law enforcement personnel responsible for investigating such activities, where appropriate and consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative frameworks, and encourages Member States with experience in that area to promote and increase bilateral and multilateral cooperation, including, where useful, through programmes administered by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime focused on capacity-building and training, and to exchange experiences and best practices;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue providing assistance to Member States, upon request, with regard to data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence- and analysis-sharing to disclose the extent of the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking and to continue its already existing research on these links, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

13. *Invites* Member States to foster cooperation, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as appropriate, on their responses to threats

related to technological developments and the changing *modi operandi* of illicit drug trafficking and illicit trafficking in firearms;

14. *Decides* to further discuss and better address the challenges posed by the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking;

15. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

16. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to make the present resolution available to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

## **Resolution 65/3**

### **Intensifying efforts to address the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Reaffirming* its commitment to achieving the goals and objectives of, and implementing the obligations arising from, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>21</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971<sup>22</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,<sup>23</sup>

*Reiterating* its deep concerns about the magnitude of and rising trend in the illicit production and manufacture of, demand for and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, which pose a serious threat to the health, welfare and safety of human beings and adversely affect the economic, cultural and political foundations of society,

*Reaffirming* its unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures, 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,<sup>24</sup> 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,

*Reaffirming also* its commitment to strengthening efforts in addressing and countering emerging and persistent challenges and threats of all aspects of the world drug problem, and note the need to effectively respond to the evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances through comprehensive, integrated and balanced drug control policies and programmes that take into account their transnational implications and that are in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, and to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation,

*Recognizing* 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,

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<sup>21</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

<sup>24</sup> General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

mutually reinforcing, balanced, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach,

*Reiterating* its resolve, in the framework of existing policy documents, inter alia, to prevent, significantly reduce and work towards the elimination of the diversion of and illicit trafficking in precursors,

*Acknowledging* that non-scheduled chemicals are chemicals which are not included in Table I or Table II of the 1988 Convention, some of which may be used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and may also include designer precursors, which are close chemical relatives of controlled precursors that are purpose-made to circumvent controls, can easily be converted into a controlled substance and usually do not have any recognized legitimate use and are not widely traded,

*Concerned* by the challenges that uncontrolled chemicals, including designer precursors, pose to international drug control efforts, and recognizing that while adding priority chemicals to the tables of the 1988 Convention remains the most effective measure to achieve global action in this regard, international scheduling is often followed by a decrease in the number of seizure incidents involving those chemicals and the emergence of alternative uncontrolled precursors,

*Taking into account* the challenges arising from, inter alia, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and those faced by some Member States in addressing and countering the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors, as well as the rising trend in the illicit production of, demand for and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

*Taking note* of the *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2021*,<sup>25</sup> in which the Board recognized that there were virtually no limitations to the range of chemicals and manufacturing methods that could potentially be employed in illicit drug manufacture, especially synthetic drug manufacture, and that the persisting appearance of non-scheduled chemicals and designer precursors in illicit drug manufacture is widely understood as a key challenge to the international precursor control system,

*Mindful* that under article 21 of the 1988 Convention, the Commission is authorized to consider all matters pertaining to the aims of the Convention and, in particular, that it is to review the operation of the Convention on the basis of the information submitted by the parties to the Convention in accordance with article 20, may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of the information received from the parties, may call the attention of the International Narcotics Control Board to any matters which may be relevant to the functions of the Board, shall take action as it deems appropriate on any matter referred to it by the Board under article 22, paragraph 1(b), may amend Table I and Table II in conformity with the procedures laid down in article 12, and may draw the attention of non-parties to decisions and recommendations which it adopts under the Convention with a view to their consideration of taking action in accordance therewith,

*Mindful also* of the treaty-mandated responsibility of the Commission under article 12 of the 1988 Convention, including its paragraph 13, to periodically review the adequacy and propriety of Table I and Table II,

*Underscoring*, in accordance with article 2, paragraph 8, of the 1961 Convention as amended and article 2, paragraph 9, of the 1971 Convention, that the parties to those conventions shall use their best endeavours to apply to substances which do not fall under those conventions, but which may be used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and psychotropic substances, respectively, such measures of supervision as may be practicable,

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<sup>25</sup> E/INCB/2021/1.

*Underscoring also*, in accordance with article 3 of the 1988 Convention, that each party to that Convention shall adopt such measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences under its domestic law, when committed intentionally, inter alia, the manufacture, transport or distribution of equipment, materials or of substances listed in Table I and Table II, knowing that they are to be used in or for the illicit cultivation, production or manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances,

*Underscoring further*, in accordance with article 13 of the 1988 Convention, that the parties to the Convention shall take such measures as they deem appropriate to prevent trade in and the diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and shall cooperate to this end,

*Recalling* article 12, paragraph 4, of the 1988 Convention, which stipulates that if the International Narcotics Control Board, taking into account the extent, importance and diversity of the licit use of the substance and the possibility and ease of using alternate substances both for licit purposes and for the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, finds that a substance is frequently used in the illicit manufacture of a narcotic drug or psychotropic substance, or that the volume and extent of the illicit manufacture of a narcotic drug or psychotropic substance creates serious public health or social problems so as to warrant international action, it shall communicate to the Commission an assessment of that substance, including the likely effect of adding the substance to either Table I or Table II on both licit use and illicit manufacture, together with recommendations of monitoring measures, if any, that would be appropriate in light of its assessment, while also bearing in mind article 22 of the 1988 Convention, which outlines the functions of the International Narcotics Control Board under the 1988 Convention,

*Recalling* the Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>26</sup> adopted at the ministerial segment of its sixty-second session, in 2019, in which Member States expressed their concern, inter alia, that the abuse, illicit cultivation and production and manufacture of narcotic drugs, as well as the illicit trafficking in those substances and in precursors, had reached record levels, and that the illicit demand for and the domestic diversion of precursor chemicals were on the rise,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held in 2016, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”,<sup>27</sup> in particular the recommendation to take appropriate measures to address the diversion and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in as well as misuse of precursors under international control and to tackle the misuse of pre-precursors and substitute or alternative precursors for illicit drug manufacturing, and enhance voluntary efforts, including voluntary codes of conduct in cooperation with relevant industries and commerce at the national, regional and international levels, including through the use of relevant International Narcotics Control Board tools,

*Recalling also* the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>28</sup> in which the Commission noted that diversion of precursor chemicals, including pharmaceutical preparations containing those chemicals, continued to be a major challenge in curbing the illicit production and manufacture of drugs, emphasized the need to further

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<sup>26</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 8 (E/2019/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>27</sup> General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex.

<sup>28</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

strengthen control of precursor chemicals by Member States and highlighted the need for Member States to work more closely with the International Narcotics Control Board by exchanging information on trafficking in precursor chemicals and other non-scheduled substances used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, including on new methods for their diversion, as mandated in article 12, paragraph 12, of the 1988 Convention, and to increase monitoring of trade in non-scheduled substances listed in the Board's limited international special surveillance list of non-scheduled substances,

*Recalling further* the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem<sup>29</sup> of 2009, in which Member States recognized, inter alia, that non-controlled precursor chemicals and/or substitute chemicals, as well as pharmaceutical preparations containing precursors, have been used in the illicit synthesis of drugs, and recommended that Member States should further strengthen mechanisms, as appropriate, for the timely identification, collection and exchange of information on non-scheduled substances, including derivatives specifically designed to circumvent existing controls, especially by making use of the updated international special surveillance list of non-scheduled substances, and focus greater attention on the use of non-scheduled substances and substitute chemicals for the manufacture of traditional precursors, used in the manufacture of heroin and cocaine,

*Acknowledging* the efforts of the International Narcotics Control Board, within its treaty-mandated functions, to bring to the attention of the Commission the challenges related to non-scheduled precursors, and noting in this regard the document entitled "Proliferation of non-scheduled chemicals and designer precursors: options for global action",

*Taking note with appreciation* of the Synthetic Drug Strategy of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

*Recalling* its resolution 60/5 of 17 March 2017 on increasing international coordination relating to precursors and non-scheduled precursor chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in which it expressed concern that worldwide efforts to reduce the illicit supply of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and maintain effective control of scheduled substances were being undermined by drug traffickers, who were increasingly using non-scheduled precursor chemicals as substitutes for scheduled substances in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and invited Member States to take a range of forward-looking measures with respect to non-scheduled precursor chemicals,

*Recalling also* its resolution 62/1 of 22 March 2019, on strengthening international cooperation and comprehensive regulatory and institutional frameworks for the control of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in which it urged Member States to further strengthen national legislation, administrative measures and institutional frameworks relating to the control of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, pursuant to the 1988 Convention, and emphasized the need for Member States to strengthen monitoring and control systems, including at the domestic distribution level and at the points of entry and exit of precursor chemicals, and to adopt measures to promote the secure transport of such substances,

*Recalling further* its resolution 63/1 of 6 March 2020 on promoting efforts by Member States to address and counter the world drug problem, in particular supply reduction-related measures, through effective partnerships with private-sector entities, in which it noted with concern that drug traffickers continued to exploit tools of modern commerce, including financial transfer services and platforms, to traffic in precursors, pre-precursor chemicals and synthetic drugs, and welcomed efforts by the

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<sup>29</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

private sector to safeguard their supply chains, products and platforms from such exploitation,

*Recognizing* that the existing scheduling system established under the 1988 Convention has been effective in preventing the diversion of known precursors to illicit channels, while noting that controlled precursors can be replaced by an almost infinite number of substitutes, including many with no legitimate uses and designed purely to circumvent controls, and acknowledging the challenges associated with including an ever-growing number of chemicals in the tables of the 1988 Convention,

*Welcoming* the cooperation of Member States with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and, within its treaty-mandated role, the International Narcotics Control Board, as well as with other relevant international and regional organizations and entities, as appropriate, to implement proactive and innovative approaches to address the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify their efforts to address, as appropriate, the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors;

2. *Also calls upon* Member States, in accordance with article 3 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, to adopt such measures as may be necessary to establish as a criminal offence under its domestic law, when committed intentionally, the manufacture, transport or distribution of equipment, materials or of substances listed in Table I and Table II of the Convention, knowing that they are to be used in or for the illicit cultivation, production or manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances;

3. *Further calls upon* Member States to take such measures as they deem appropriate, in accordance with article 13 of the 1988 Convention, to prevent trade in and the diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and to cooperate to this end;

4. *Encourages* Member States to make use of the recommendations contained in the International Narcotics Control Board guidance document entitled “Proliferation of non-scheduled chemicals and designer precursors: options for global action” in the design and implementation of national drug control strategies and to share best practices, challenges and the results of those efforts, on a voluntary basis, in accordance with national legislation or regulations;

5. *Invites* the International Narcotics Control Board, when communicating to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs its assessment of a substance which it recommends be placed in Table I or Table II of the 1988 Convention, to simultaneously provide the Commission, in a manner and format that corresponds to the sensitivity of the matter, with relevant information, if any, about derivatives and related chemicals which may readily be converted to or used in place of that substance during illicit manufacture, as well as recommendations of monitoring measures for these chemicals, if any, that would be appropriate in the light of its assessment, while bearing in mind possible impacts on legitimate manufacturing and research, as appropriate;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to implement, within their national legal and regulatory frameworks, the scheduling decisions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs under the 1988 Convention related to the international control of precursors, which become fully effective with respect to each party 180 days after being communicated by the Secretary-General, as provided for in article 12, paragraph 6, of the Convention;

7. *Encourages* Member States, when placing domestic controls on a substance pursuant to a decision by the Commission to add that substance to Table I or Table II, to consider also taking domestic measures, where appropriate, on related

chemicals that may readily be converted or substituted for that substance, in accordance with national legislation, and taking into account any information provided by the International Narcotics Control Board on those chemicals, as well as possible impacts on legitimate manufacturing and research;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance data collection on precursors and to continue developing and using mechanisms to communicate those data with other Member States, in accordance with domestic law, to understand emerging trends, such as the use of substitute chemicals, and to identify the use of any substance not included in Table I or Table II of the 1988 Convention in illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, and to share the results of such data collection in a timely manner, including with the International Narcotics Control Board in accordance with article 12, paragraph 12, of the 1988 Convention, and through the annual report questionnaire;

9. *Invites* Governments to consider, on a voluntary basis, a variety of approaches such as rapid scheduling procedures, the compiling of lists of non-scheduled precursor chemicals with no known legitimate uses but known to be used for illicit drug manufacture, the adoption of provisions which would allow Governments to take action on such non-scheduled precursor chemicals when there is sufficient evidence that they will be used for illicit drug manufacture and other innovative legislative, regulatory or administrative approaches;

10. *Encourages* Member States to continue making use of the *Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry*,<sup>30</sup> the limited international special surveillance list of non-scheduled substances of the International Narcotics Control Board and any similar lists maintained by Member States, as appropriate, as well as the Board's model memorandum of understanding between Governments and private sector partners, in order to promote responsible commercial practices and sale of chemicals and to prevent the diversion of chemicals into illicit drug manufacturing channels;

11. *Also encourages* Member States to consider applying the "Guidelines to prevent and investigate the diversion of materials and equipment essential for illicit drug manufacture in the context of article 13 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988", developed by the International Narcotics Control Board;

12. *Further encourages* Member States to continue to make active use of the Pre-Export Notification Online system for pre-export notifications of precursor chemicals developed by the International Narcotics Control Board, and takes note of the efforts of the Board to make available a similar system for the sharing of information about planned exports of chemicals not under international control, on a voluntary basis, which Member States are encouraged to use for the export of such substances from their territories, where appropriate;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to take appropriate measures to strengthen international cooperation and the exchange of information regarding the identification of, inter alia, new routes and the *modi operandi* of organized criminal groups involved in the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors, including by registering with and using the Precursors Incident Communication System of the International Narcotics Control Board as a means of systematically sharing information on incidents involving precursor chemicals;

14. *Encourages* Member States to use existing subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms to address the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors, including by enhancing international cooperation to successfully

<sup>30</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. 09.XI.17.

counter and dismantle organized criminal groups, including those operating transnationally;

15. *Also encourages* Member States, with the assistance of the International Narcotics Control Board, as appropriate, to provide adequate training to the relevant staff of competent authorities about the information tools developed by the International Narcotics Control Board through which competent authorities may learn about the extent and level of legal controls in participating States, as made available by the Board, and invites the competent authorities of Member States to provide such information as they deem appropriate to the relevant stakeholders in the chemical industry, with a view to increasing their level of awareness of the legal and regulatory requirements of other Member States;

16. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close cooperation with Member States and in consultation with the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant United Nations entities, as appropriate and within their existing mandates, to continue to develop the United Nations Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs in order to include information and resources on measures to address the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors, and to operationalize and disseminate the information about the interventions included in the Toolkit by incorporating it, as appropriate, into the technical assistance and capacity-building programmes of the Office;

17. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to provide capacity-building, recommendations and assistance to Member States upon request, including with regard to making use of the recommendations contained in the International Narcotics Control Board guidance document entitled “Proliferation of non-scheduled chemicals and designer precursors: options for global action”, in accordance with domestic law, in order to take appropriate measures to address the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors, and invites the International Narcotics Control Board, within its treaty-based mandate, to continue providing assistance to Member States in this regard;

18. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States, upon request, in addressing their challenges in addressing the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors by providing technical assistance, equipment and technology, along with necessary training;

19. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

## **Resolution 65/4**

### **Promoting comprehensive and scientific evidence-based early prevention**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Reaffirming* its commitment to achieving the goals and objectives of, and implementing the obligations arising from, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>31</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971<sup>32</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

*Deeply concerned* by the threat to the health and welfare of humankind posed by narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and the steadily increasing inroads into various social groups made by illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and particularly by the fact that children are used in many parts of the world as an illicit drug consumers market and for purposes of illicit production, distribution and trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, which entails a danger of incalculable gravity,

*Reaffirming* its unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures, 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,<sup>34</sup> 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,

*Underscoring*, in particular, articles 25 and 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which state that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for their health and well-being, including necessary social services, and that everyone has the right to education,

*Recalling* the commitments made by States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>35</sup> in article 33 of which it is stated that States parties should take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as defined in the relevant international treaties, and to prevent the use of children in the illicit production of and trafficking in such substances,

*Acknowledging* that young people may be at increased risk of adverse consequences when exposed to the non-medical use of drugs by others, and reiterating the need to develop healthy and secure family and social environments,

*Recalling* the commitment of Member States in the Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem<sup>36</sup> of 2019 to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, which requires concerted and sustained action at the national and international levels, including accelerating the implementation of existing drug policy commitments,

*Recalling* the commitments contained in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held in 2016, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”,<sup>37</sup> the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem<sup>38</sup> and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem<sup>39</sup> of 2009,

<sup>34</sup> General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>35</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>36</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 8 (E/2019/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>37</sup> General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex.

<sup>38</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>39</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

*Recalling also* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>40</sup> in particular Sustainable Development Goal 3, on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages, and noting that efforts to strengthen drug prevention address this Goal and constitute a step forward in its implementation,

*Recalling also* its resolution 57/3 of 21 March 2014, in which it highlighted that prevention based on scientific evidence and on a process of adaptation to local culture and socioeconomic circumstances is the most cost-effective approach to preventing drug use and other risky behaviours and is therefore an investment in the well-being of children, adolescents, youth, families and communities,

*Recalling further* its resolution 61/2 of 16 March 2018 on strengthening efforts to prevent drug abuse in educational settings, in which it noted with appreciation the ongoing efforts by Member States to prevent drug use among children and youth in educational settings, including through effective, scientific evidence-based and context-sensitive awareness-raising and prevention programmes and recognized the need to intensify those efforts, and invited Member States to increase, within their capacity, the availability, coverage and quality of gender-sensitive, scientific evidence-based prevention measures and tools in multiple settings reaching children and youth through drug abuse prevention programmes and public awareness-raising campaigns,

*Reiterating* that in its resolution 61/9 of 16 March 2018, it had reaffirmed that taking appropriate measures to protect children from the dangers, risks and consequences of the use of illicit drugs and trafficking is conducive to the development and well-being of children, and invited Member States to consider the use of the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention* and the scientific evidence base to formulate effective drug use prevention programmes and strategies aimed at children,

*Recalling* its resolution 63/4 of 6 March 2020, in which it acknowledged the contribution of young people and youth-based associations and volunteer organizations in the prevention of non-medical use of drugs, and underlined the importance of taking their experience into consideration in the development, implementation and evaluation of relevant scientific and evidence-based national programmes and strategies,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 63/2 of 6 March 2020 on promoting and improving the collection and analysis of reliable and comparable data to strengthen balanced, integrated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary and scientific evidence-based responses to the world drug problem, in which it called upon Member States to analyse their policies and responses, including, inter alia, regarding demand reduction and cross-cutting issues such as drugs and human rights, youth, women, children, vulnerable members of society and communities, by gathering scientifically robust data on their effectiveness and efficiency in addressing and countering the world drug problem,

*Recalling* its resolution 64/3 of 16 April 2021 on promoting scientific evidence-based, quality, affordable and comprehensive drug prevention, treatment, sustained recovery and related support services, in which it underlined the importance of increasing the availability, coverage, quality and affordability of scientific evidence-based prevention,

*Acknowledging* the important advances made in prevention science, establishing prevention as one of the main components of comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand-reduction initiatives to address the non-medical use of controlled drugs, and also acknowledging that effective early prevention strategies and measures focused on addressing, inter alia, adverse childhood experiences as well as individual and environmental, including social, risk and protective, factors, contribute significantly to the positive engagement of children, youth and adults with their families and in educational settings, workplaces and communities,

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<sup>40</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

*Reaffirming* the determination of Member States to address and counter the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to help to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity, and also reaffirming their determination to address public health, safety and social problems resulting from drug abuse,

*Noting with appreciation* the publication of the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention*, developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in collaboration with the World Health Organization, and welcoming the second updated edition, while noting that the general aim of substance use prevention is the healthy and safe development of children and youth so that they can realize their talents and potential by developing skills and opportunities to choose healthy lifestyles and that effective prevention contributes significantly to the positive engagement of children, youth and adults with their families and in their schools, workplaces, communities and society as a whole,

*Expressing appreciation* for the ongoing work and initiatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, such as the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention* and capacity-building initiatives that seek to promote family-, school- and community-based prevention programmes, such as the “Families UNited” and “Strong families” programmes and the Youth Initiative, including the annual Youth Forum, held since 2012 on the margins of the sessions of the Commission, and the “Listen first” initiative,

*Noting with appreciation* the ongoing work and initiatives of other relevant international organizations and civil society, such as the universal prevention curriculum, to support Member States, as applicable, in the development and implementation of scientific evidence-based programmes and policies on early prevention,

*Noting also with appreciation* the publication in 2020 by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the “Handbook on youth participation in drug prevention work”, which seeks to motivate Member States to provide opportunities for young people to become involved, as appropriate, in the development and implementation of appropriate scientific evidence-based drug use prevention programmes that affect youth, as part of a comprehensive substance use prevention system,

1. *Encourages* Member States to provide appropriate resources for and put greater emphasis on scientific evidence-based early prevention, encompassing prenatal care, infancy and early and middle childhood, including through a cross-sectoral, multidisciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach, as appropriate, and taking into account gender- and age-specific needs as well as the impacts of individual and environmental, including social, risk and protective, factors, on health, using the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention* to formulate effective early prevention programmes and strategies aimed at children by identifying and reducing risk factors and enhancing protective factors through the systematic inclusion of social and emotional learning interventions that cover family and parenting skills, early childhood education and personal and social skills education, and prevention education based on social competence and influence, targeting children and youth in multiple settings and reaching young people in educational settings and through family or community interventions aimed at promoting a healthy environment;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to facilitate access to comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction services and related measures, including early prevention, and to expand their capacity and availability to vulnerable members of society, especially children, in socially and economically marginalized situations and in the context of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, as well as in situations of armed conflict or humanitarian disaster, while increasing possibilities to promote healthy lifestyles and addressing individual and environmental, including social, risk and protective, factors, through broader social policy in accordance with national legislation;

3. *Encourages* Member States to ensure, where possible, that all children at particular risk of initiating drug use, including those of parents and carers with substance use disorders, are provided with direct support and given access to appropriate early prevention and health-care services, while promoting non-stigmatizing attitudes, in order to secure the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and increased equity in health, and to develop preventive health care guidance for parents and carers, family planning education and services and prenatal and postnatal health care, in accordance with their domestic legislation and national drug control programmes and strategies;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to take appropriate measures to prevent the use of children in drug-related crime;

5. *Encourages* Member States to apply the key guidance and recommendations, including on early prevention, contained in the latest edition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and World Health Organization *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention*, in the development, implementation and evaluation of relevant scientific evidence-based national programmes and strategies;

6. *Invites* Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue monitoring and evaluating early prevention policies and services aimed at protecting the health, safety, welfare and well-being of individuals, families, communities and society as a whole through effective age-appropriate and gender-sensitive prevention interventions and policies, taking into account the specific needs of children and youth, with full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the inherent dignity of all individuals in the context of drug programmes, strategies and policies;

7. *Invites* Member States to develop and implement early prevention policies and programmes which promote healthy and secure family skills, social contexts and environments that protect young people from, and help prevent adverse consequences of exposure to, the non-medical use of drugs of others;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue, upon request, to support Member States by providing technical assistance and capacity-building for programmes in family, community, educational and other health- and social-care settings for the purpose of early prevention, and also requests the Office to assist Member States in conducting and promoting research and data collection in educational settings in this regard to better understand the challenge of drug use initiation among children and youth, including protective and risk factors, and respond to it more effectively;

9. *Also encourages* Member States, in cooperation with universities, schools and other educational institutions, as well as civil society and relevant United Nations entities, international organizations and programmes, in accordance with their mandates, to develop and implement scientific evidence-based prevention programmes, including through the universal prevention curriculum, that target early childhood and the family context and include guidance on effective early prevention strategies in families, communities and other health-care, educational and social-care settings;

10. *Encourages* Member States to promote the exchange of scientific evidence-based good practices, challenges and experiences in early prevention, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to facilitate such exchange;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into the development, implementation and evaluation of drug prevention and health promotion efforts within the framework of domestic policies relating to early prevention;

12. *Decides* to further discuss and better address areas in early prevention where scientific knowledge is still limited, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders,

to develop guidelines and recommendations to help Member States and other relevant international and civil society organizations, including youth-led organizations, to make best use of the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention for the promotion and implementation of scientific evidence-based early prevention programmes, in particular those focused on addressing the impact of adverse childhood experiences, as well as individual and environmental, including social risk and protective, factors, with a focus on early prevention responses and interventions;

13. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sixty-sixth session on the measures taken and on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

### **Decision 65/1**

#### **Inclusion of bupropion in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol**

At its 9th meeting, on 16 March 2022, the Commission decided by 49 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include bupropion in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol.

### **Decision 65/2**

#### **Inclusion of metonitazene in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol**

At its 9th meeting, on 16 March 2022, the Commission decided by 49 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include metonitazene in Schedule I of the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol.

### **Decision 65/3**

#### **Inclusion of eutylone in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971**

At its 9th meeting, on 16 March 2022, the Commission decided by 49 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include eutylone in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.

### **Decision 65/4**

#### **Inclusion of 4-AP in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988**

At its 9th meeting, on 16 March 2022, the Commission decided by 49 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include 4-AP in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.

### **Decision 65/5**

#### **Inclusion of 1-boc-4-AP in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988**

At its 9th meeting, on 16 March 2022, the Commission decided by 49 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include 1-boc-4-AP in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.

### **Decision 65/6**

#### **Inclusion of norfentanyl in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988**

At its 9th meeting, on 16 March 2022, the Commission decided by 48 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include norfentanyl in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.

## Chapter II

### General debate

3. At its 1st to 5th and 8th meetings, on 14, 15 and 16 March 2022, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 3, entitled “General debate”. Statements were made by 97 officials, in person, online or by way of pre-recorded video messages.<sup>41</sup>

4. At the 1st meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on 14 March, the following persons made statements:

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations (Vienna) (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States) (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations (Vienna) (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) (online)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations (Vienna) (on behalf of the Group of African States) (in person)

Minister of Health of France and the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations (Vienna) (on behalf of the European Union and its member States<sup>42</sup>) (pre-recorded video and in person)

Minister for Crime, Police and Probation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (pre-recorded video)

Minister of Justice and Law of Colombia (online)

Minister for Communications and Information and Second Minister for Home Affairs of Singapore (pre-recorded video)

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Social Affairs and Health of Belgium (pre-recorded video)

Minister for Health and Social Affairs of Sweden (pre-recorded video)

Minister for Health of Spain and the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations (Vienna) (pre-recorded video and in person)

Minister of Health of Lithuania (pre-recorded video)

Minister of Health of Slovenia (pre-recorded video)

Minister for Youth Policies of Italy (pre-recorded video)

5. At the 2nd meeting, on 14 March, the following persons made statements:

Minister of Health and Social Services of Namibia and the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Namibia to the United Nations (Vienna) (online and in person)

Minister of Health and Care Services of Norway (pre-recorded video)

Minister of Health of New Zealand (pre-recorded video)

Minister for Social Justice and Solidarity, the Family and Children’s Rights of Malta (pre-recorded video)

Minister of Family Affairs and Social Services, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health of Finland (pre-recorded video)

<sup>41</sup> The statements made at the general debate of the sixty-fifth session of the Commission have been posted on the website of UNODC ([www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org)).

<sup>42</sup> Also on behalf of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine.

Minister and Executive Secretary, National Anti-Drug Secretariat of Paraguay (pre-recorded video)

Minister of Cabinet and Director of the Drug Control Agency of Tajikistan (in person)

Minister of the Eastern Region of Ghana (pre-recorded video)

Secretary General of the Drug Control Headquarters of Iran (Islamic Republic of) (in person)

Chairman of the Dangerous Drugs Board of the Philippines (pre-recorded video)

Police Commissioner General, Head of the National Narcotics Board of Indonesia (pre-recorded video)

Pro-Secretary of the Presidency, President of the National Drug Board of Uruguay (pre-recorded video)

Secretary of State, Secretariat of Comprehensive Policies on Drugs of Argentina (pre-recorded video)

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (pre-recorded video)

Executive Secretary-General of the National Narcotics Control Commission of China (online)

Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the United States of America (in person)

National Coordinator on Drugs, Drug Addiction and the Harmful Use of Alcohol of Portugal (online)<sup>43</sup>

Assistant Minister of Interior and Coordination of Kenya (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Deputy Minister of Interior of Albania (online)

Executive President, National Commission for Development and Life without Drugs of Peru (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Vice-Minister of Justice of Cuba (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations (Vienna) (online)

National Drug Coordinator of Czechia (online)

Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Burkina Faso to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

6. At the 3rd meeting, on 14 March, the following persons made statements:

Vice-Minister of Security of Honduras (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board, Ministry of Justice of Thailand (pre-recorded video)

National Anti-Drugs Superintendent, Ministry of the People's Power for the Interior, Justice and Peace of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (in person)

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<sup>43</sup> Also delivered a statement on behalf of the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe.

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations (Vienna) (online)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Deputy Director, General Directorate of Narcotics Control of Saudi Arabia (in person)

Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations (Vienna) (online)

Additional Secretary, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance of India (in person)

Charge d'Affaires a.i., Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

President, National Drugs Council of the Dominican Republic (pre-recorded video)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations (Vienna) (online)

Deputy Director, National Office for Combating Drugs and Drug Addiction of Algeria (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Director General of the Federal General Department of Anti-Narcotics of the Ministry of Interior of the United Arab Emirates (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Assistant Minister of Interior and Head of the Anti-Narcotics General Administration of Egypt (in person)

National Drug Coordinator and Director of the National Bureau for Drug Prevention, Ministry of Health of Poland (in person)

Head of Delegation (m), Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of Switzerland to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Executive Director, Anti-Narcotic Commission of El Salvador (pre-recorded video)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

7. The representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

8. At the 4th meeting, on 14 March, the following persons made statements:

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Director, National Service for the Prevention and Rehabilitation of Drug and Alcohol Consumption of Chile (pre-recorded video)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations (Vienna) (online)

Secretary of Anti-Drug Council, Head of Public International Law, Ministry of Justice of Georgia (online)

National Coordinator for Addressing Drugs, General Secretariat of the Prime Minister of Greece (in person)

Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Turkmenistan (pre-recorded video)

Acting Director, Department for Combating Drug Crime, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Kazakhstan (pre-recorded video)

Director, Office of Controlled Substances, Ministry of Health of Canada (online)

Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations (Vienna) (pre-recorded video)

Minister Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations (Vienna) (online)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Director General, Department of Narcotics Control (online) and Minister/Deputy Chief of Mission of the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Chair, National Drug Council, Ministry of National Security of Trinidad and Tobago (pre-recorded video)

Director-General of National Drug Control, Ministry of the Interior of the Sudan (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations (Vienna) (online)

First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

First Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations (Vienna) (online)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Tanzania to the United Nations (Geneva and Vienna) (online)

Chair, Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs (in person)

Representative of the Open Society Institute (in person)

9. At the 5th meeting, on 15 March, the following persons made statements:

Commissioner of the Federal Government for Drug and Addiction Policy, Federal Ministry of Health of Germany (in person)

President of the National Addictions Authority of Cyprus (in person)

Vice-Minister of Social Defence and Controlled Substances of the Plurinational State of Bolivia (online)

Director-General/Secretary, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency of Nigeria (online)

Chairperson, National Dangerous Drugs Control Board of Sri Lanka (online)

Human Rights Officer, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (in person)

Director, Department of Global HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexually Transmitted Infections Programmes of the World Health Organization (WHO) (pre-recorded video)

Representative of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (pre-recorded video)

Executive Director, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (pre-recorded video)

Representative of the Pakistan Youth Organization (online)

10. The representative of Turkey and the observer for Cyprus made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

11. At the 8th meeting, on 16 March, the following persons made statements:

First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Viet Nam to the United Nations (Vienna) (in person)

Executive Secretary, Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States (pre-recorded video)

## Chapter III

### Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions

12. At its 5th, 6th and 12th meetings, on 15 and 17 March 2022, the Commission considered agenda item 4, which read as follows:

“Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:

“(a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

“(b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

“(c) Working methods of the Commission;

“(d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.”

13. For its consideration of item 4, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2022/2-E/CN.15/2022/2](#));

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2022/3-E/CN.15/2022/3](#));

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the draft proposed programme plan for 2023 and programme performance for 2021 ([E/CN.7/2022/12-E/CN.15/2022/12](#)).

14. An introductory statement was made by the Director of the Division for Management of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

15. The observer for Costa Rica, in his capacity as Vice-Chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, reported on the deliberations of the working group.

16. Statements were made by the representatives of Japan (in person), China (online), Pakistan (in person), Kenya (in person), the United States (in person), the Russian Federation (online), Jamaica (in person) and South Africa (in person).

17. The observer for Burkina Faso (in person) made a statement.

18. The observer for Centro de Estudios de Derecho, Justicia y Sociedad (online) also made a statement.

#### A. Deliberations

19. Several speakers commended UNODC on successfully responding to the challenges posed by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and welcomed the efforts and flexibility of the Office in continuing programme delivery and in fulfilling its mandates with regard to the pandemic, including in the areas of research, normative work and technical assistance.

20. Several speakers mentioned the UNODC Strategy 2021–2025 as an important instrument to reaffirm the Office’s mission, improve efficiency and enhance trust among stakeholders. They also welcomed the UNODC Strategic Vision for Africa 2030 and the UNODC Strategic Vision for Latin America and the Caribbean 2022–2025. It was noted that the three international drug control conventions continued to form the basis for the Office’s work in the area of drug control, complemented by the

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed frameworks.

21. The efforts of UNODC to increase funding and partnerships were recognized, while the financial situation of the Office was again noted with concern. It was highlighted that sustainable funding was required for the Office to fulfil its mandates. Emphasis was placed on the need to further address the funding model and budget shortfalls and at the same time increase unearmarked contributions. The need for a balanced distribution of programme support costs was also mentioned.

22. Many speakers welcomed the extension of the mandate and the new format of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC as it was an important mechanism for improved information-sharing, transparency and communication between the Secretariat and Member States on budgetary and management issues. The interactive dialogue with the Executive Director was welcomed by several speakers.

23. Several speakers expressed their support for the continued efforts by UNODC to improve gender parity among staff and staff diversity, including geographical representation. UNODC was encouraged to improve geographical representation in the recruitment of international staff. It was at the same time emphasized that the basis for candidate selection should be merit and competence, as enshrined in Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations.

24. Some speakers welcomed the efforts of UNODC in mainstreaming gender and age perspectives into drug-related policies and programmes. The importance of cross-cutting commitments linked to human rights, gender equality and youth empowerment was also underscored.

## **B. Action taken by the Commission**

25. At the 5th meeting, on 15 March 2022, the representative of the Russian Federation moved for the adjournment of the debate under agenda item 4 (a) in relation to the composition of the newly established Bureau of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC (see Economic and Social Council decision 2022/316).

26. The representative of the Russian Federation proposed to defer a decision until the reconvened sixty-fifth session of the Commission, expressing the view that the submission of the candidature of Latvia for the position of Vice-Chair of the Bureau on 11 March 2022 took place in breach of the regular procedure and that the Group of Eastern European States had not had sufficient time for due consideration of the issue. Another speaker asked whether there had been any breach of the rules of procedure, which was answered in the negative. Reference was thereby made to the decision, taken at the meeting of the joint extended bureaux in the morning of 15 March 2022, to submit the candidature of Latvia to the Commission.

27. Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation (online), Canada (in person), the United States (in person), Ukraine (in person), the United Kingdom (in person), Brazil (in person), Sweden (in person), the Netherlands (in person), the Islamic Republic of Iran (in person) and Lithuania (in person). The observers for Chile (in person), Guatemala (in person) and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (in person) also made statements. The observer for Latvia exercised the right of reply (in person).

28. At the 6th meeting, on 15 March 2022, the Commission voted on the motion presented by the representative of the Russian Federation within the terms of rule 49 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. Of the 43 members of the Commission present and voting, 5 members voted in favour of the motion, 30 voted against and 8 abstained. The representative of Pakistan (in person) provided an explanation of vote. The representative of the Russian Federation (online) also made a statement.

29. At the 6th meeting, on 15 March 2022, the Commission endorsed the nominations by acclamation of the following officers of the Bureau of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Regional group</i>	<i>Officer</i>
Chair	Western European and other States	Corinne Kitsell (United Kingdom)
First Vice-Chair	African States	Robinson Njeru Githae (Kenya)
Vice-Chair	Asia-Pacific States	Muhammad Abdul Muhith (Bangladesh)
Vice-Chair	Latin American and Caribbean States	Alejandro Solano Ortiz (Costa Rica)

30. At the 6th meeting, on 15 March 2022, the Chair announced that an election by secret ballot would be held for the one vacant position of Vice-Chair on 17 March 2022 at 2 p.m. Nominated for the position were Dmitry Podlesnykh (Russian Federation) and Katrina Kaktina (Latvia).

31. At the 12th meeting, on 17 March 2022, the Commission elected Ms. Kaktina to the vacant position of Vice-Chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC from the Eastern European States. Before the election, statements were made by the representative of the Russian Federation and the observer for Latvia. Of the 53 members of the Commission, 48 were present and participated in the election. Six votes were cast in favour of Mr. Podlesnykh, 33 votes were cast in favour of Ms. Kaktina, and there were 9 abstentions.

32. The representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

## Chapter IV

### Implementation of the international drug control treaties

33. At its 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th meetings, on 15 and 16 March 2022, the Commission considered agenda item 5, which read as follows:

“Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

- “(a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
- “(b) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;
- “(c) International Narcotics Control Board;
- “(d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;
- “(e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.”

34. For its consideration of item 5, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on changes in the scope of control of substances: proposed scheduling recommendations by the World Health Organization ([E/CN.7/2022/10](#));

(b) Note by the Secretariat on changes in the scope of control of substances under the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 ([E/CN.7/2022/13](#));

(c) Note by the Secretariat containing comments by States parties on proposed scheduling recommendations by the World Health Organization ([E/CN.7/2022/CRP.4](#)).

35. Introductory statements were made by the Chief and by a representative of the Laboratory and Scientific Service of UNODC (in person), as well as by the Chief of the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section of UNODC (in person). Introductory statements were also made by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) (in person) and by observers for WHO (online).

36. Statements were made by the representatives of Japan (online), the United States (online), South Africa (online), China (online), Pakistan (in person), the Russian Federation (online), Thailand (pre-recorded), Spain (in person), Belgium (in person), Algeria (online) and Australia (online).

37. Statements were made by the observers for the European Union (also on behalf of its member States)<sup>44</sup> (online), India (in person), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (in person), Armenia (in person), Mexico (in person), Argentina (online) and Indonesia (online).

38. Statements were also made by the observers for the Turkish Green Crescent Society (online), the International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (online), Fields of Green for All (online), Smart Approaches to Marijuana (online), DRCNet Foundation (online) and the Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development (in person).

<sup>44</sup> Also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Serbia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

## **A. Deliberations**

### **1. Changes in the scope of control of substances**

#### **(a) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place brorphine in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention**

39. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that brorphine was a synthetic opioid that was closely related to the opioid bezitramide, which was currently controlled under Schedule I of the 1961 Convention. In common with other opioids, brorphine was an opioid receptor agonist that produced analgesia. Its potency was greater than that of morphine but less than fentanyl. The observer stated that based on its mechanism of action, brorphine was highly likely to be abused and had the potential to produce dependence similar to other opioids. As a potent opioid, brorphine had the potential to produce other typical opioid effects such as respiratory depression and sedation. It had been associated with a number of deaths in a range of countries. Deaths commonly occurred after use of brorphine in combination with other opioids or with benzodiazepines. Brorphine had been detected in seizures in countries in several regions. It had no therapeutic use. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that, as brorphine had the potential for similar abuse and dependence and produced ill effects similar to many other opioids placed in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention, the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence had recommended that brorphine be placed in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention.

#### **(b) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place metonitazene in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention**

40. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that metonitazene was a synthetic opioid that was closely related to the opioids etonitazene and clonitazene, which were currently controlled under Schedule I of the 1961 Convention. In common with other opioids, metonitazene was an opioid receptor agonist that produced analgesia and other typical opioid adverse effects, including sedation, respiratory depression, nausea and vomiting. Its potency was greater than that of hydromorphone and fentanyl. The observer stated that based on its mechanism of action, metonitazene was highly likely to be abused and had the potential to produce dependence similar to other opioids. As a potent opioid, metonitazene had the potential to produce death through respiratory depression, and its use had been associated with a number of deaths in a range of countries. In many of those cases, metonitazene had been used in combination with other opioids or benzodiazepines. Metonitazene had been detected in seizures in countries in several regions. It had no therapeutic use. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that, as metonitazene had potential for similar abuse and dependence and produced ill effects similar to many other opioids placed in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention, the Committee recommended that metonitazene be placed in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention.

#### **(c) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place eutylone in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention**

41. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that eutylone was a synthetic cathinone with a mechanism of action and effects similar to those of other cathinones such as methylone and *N*-ethylnorpentylone, which were currently controlled under Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. Eutylone produced effects such as euphoria, tachycardia, agitation, anxiety, delirium and psychosis that were similar to the effects of other cathinones and to stimulants such as methamphetamine. It was likely to be abused and it had the potential to produce dependence in a manner similar to methamphetamine. The observer stated that deaths had been reported as a result of eutylone use. Reported severe adverse events in these cases included hyperthermia, hypertension and seizures. Eutylone had been detected in seized materials in several countries in several regions. It had no therapeutic use. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that, because eutylone had the potential for similar abuse and produced ill effects similar to other cathinones placed in Schedule II of the 1971

Convention, the Committee recommended that eutylone be placed in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

**(d) Consideration of proposals from the International Narcotics Control Board to place 4-AP, 1-boc-4-AP and norfentanyl in Table I of the 1988 Convention**

42. The President of INCB stated that the substances which INCB had recommended for scheduling were precursors, meaning chemicals used to produce fentanyl and some of its analogues. Fentanyl and a number of those analogues were included in the schedules of the 1961 Convention. They were very potent narcotic drugs, typically 10 to 100 times stronger than heroin. Their high potency continued to result in overdose deaths in users and in the inadvertent exposure of law enforcement personnel and other personnel who came in contact with those narcotic drugs in the course of their duties.

43. The President of INCB informed the Commission that 4-AP was a substitute chemical for *N*-phenethyl-4-piperidone (NPP) to synthesize 4-anilino-*N*-phenethylpiperidine (ANPP), which itself was an immediate precursor for the manufacture of fentanyl and some of its analogues. NPP and ANPP had been included in Table I of the 1988 Convention in 2017.

44. The President of INCB further informed the Commission that 1-boc-4-AP was a chemically protected derivative of 4-AP, which could be converted to 4-AP, norfentanyl or a number of norfentanyl analogues. All these substances could then further be converted to fentanyl and several of its analogues.

45. The President of INCB further informed the Commission that norfentanyl was an immediate precursor of fentanyl and a number of fentanyl analogues.

46. The President of INCB stated that in making its assessment pursuant to article 12, paragraph 4, of the 1988 Convention, the Board had found that 4-AP, 1-boc-4-AP and norfentanyl were substances that were very suitable for the illicit manufacture of fentanyl and a number of fentanyl analogues. Evidence existed, including from forensic profiling analysis, that most illicitly manufactured fentanyl was manufactured via synthesis methods involving those chemicals. Legitimate manufacture and use of 4-AP, 1-boc-4-AP and norfentanyl were limited to small amounts, typically for research, analysis and reference purposes, and there was no known legitimate trade in the three substances other than small amounts for the above-mentioned purposes.

47. The President of INCB informed the Commission that 64 Governments and the European Commission had provided comments on all three proposals. Of those, 63 Governments had stated that they did not foresee any difficulty placing the three substances in the tables of the 1988 Convention. In the light of its findings, the Board recommended adding 4-AP, 1-boc-4-AP and norfentanyl to Table I of the 1988 Convention. International control of the three substances would limit their availability for illicit drug manufacture and subsequently reduce the quantity of fentanyl and fentanyl analogues manufactured illicitly from them. The President of INCB stated that the Board was of the view that the proposed controls would have no adverse effect on the availability of the three substances for any of the limited known legitimate uses. Placement in Table I would provide Governments with the possibility of requesting pre-export notifications as a means of monitoring shipments entering their territory.

**2. Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations**

48. Several speakers mentioned the continued global challenge posed by the rapid proliferation of new psychoactive substances and non-scheduled precursors and underscored the need to strengthen national, regional and international efforts to address that threat. In that regard, responses by the international community to control

such substances in a timely manner were commended. Support was expressed for the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, WHO and INCB in scheduling substances under the 1961 Convention, the 1971 Convention and the 1988 Convention. Some speakers also referred to various national and regional legislative strategies on this matter.

49. The importance of early warning and the exchange of scientific evidence-based data and expertise, among Member States as well as with the support of the private sector, was highlighted by a number of speakers. The significant role of the UNODC early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances in informing the international community about developments relating to new psychoactive substances was also noted.

50. Several speakers acknowledged that continued emergence of designer precursors with no known legitimate use was an area of concern and stressed that the diversion of and trafficking in precursors, in particular of designer precursors, was a global phenomenon that required action at the global level, including measures to anticipate the emergence of substances that were not under international control but that could potentially be used in the illicit manufacture of controlled substances. Appreciation was expressed for the guidance document entitled “Proliferation of non-scheduled chemicals and designer precursors: options for global action”, developed through consultations with Member States, led by INCB, which provided a basis for strengthening international cooperation in that respect.

### **3. International Narcotics Control Board**

51. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the work of INCB and welcomed the annual report of the Board for 2021, as well as the report on precursors (E/INCB/2021/4) and the technical reports (E/INCB/2021/2 and E/INCB/2021/3). The importance and relevance of the thematic chapter, contained in the annual report, on illicit financial flows related to drug trafficking and their impact on development and security was highlighted by many speakers. Some speakers shared their views on various aspects of those reports, including the importance of human rights, a health-based approach and international cooperation. The importance of the distinction between countries identified as sources of illicit drugs and transit countries was highlighted.

52. Some speakers reiterated the commitment of their countries to the international drug control conventions. The importance of international cooperation in preventing and addressing trafficking in internationally controlled substances was highlighted, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility. Some speakers emphasized that human rights, the rule of law and the principle of proportionality with respect to drug-related crimes were important for drug control. Some speakers also referred to the challenges posed by specific substances such as fentanyl, ketamine and tramadol, as well as opioids, precursors and designer precursors.

53. Some speakers mentioned the importance of capacity-building and technical assistance. In that regard, reference was made to INCB global programmes, namely INCB Learning and the Global Rapid Interdiction of Dangerous Substances (GRIDS) Programme. The valuable contribution of those projects to enhancing global cooperation in implementing the three international drug control conventions was highlighted, and appreciation was expressed for the Board’s efforts in supporting Member States in carrying out their treaty obligations.

54. Several speakers expressed concern about legislation permitting the use of cannabis for non-medical purposes in some parts of the world. The INCB initiative to develop minimum common standards for the control and reporting requirements related to cannabis and cannabis-related substances for medical and scientific purposes was welcomed.

**4. International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion**

55. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the work carried out by UNODC, WHO and INCB in relation to the goal of the international drug control conventions of ensuring the adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing diversion and non-medical use. Reference was made to the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic was a further impediment to the achievement of that goal, including with regard to treatment services and medications for people affected by drug use disorders.

56. Challenges regarding access to and the availability of internationally controlled substances in crisis areas were noted, and the importance of using the simplified procedures suggested by INCB to deliver needed medications in such situations was highlighted.

57. The global disparity in the levels of availability of controlled substances was mentioned by a number of speakers as a matter of ongoing concern. A number of speakers referred to the commitments, made in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, to address that imbalance and improve access and availability globally, in particular in countries that reported inadequate levels of consumption of controlled substance for medical purposes.

58. A number of legal and administrative actions taken by Governments were described, including the training of health professionals, the improvement of procurement processes, the use of telemedicine and the use of digital tools to facilitate the prescribing of medicines and monitor consumption and to prevent diversion and non-medical use. Reference was made to regulatory actions related to the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure the availability of controlled substances for the treatment of affected patients. A number of speakers noted their countries support to countries with low levels of consumption, through the provision of medication, support to local production and capacity-building and training for health professionals.

**5. Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties**

59. Some speakers made reference to the three international drug control conventions, which, together with other international instruments, constituted the cornerstone of the international drug control system, and stated that the legalization of controlled substances for recreational purposes was in contradiction with those conventions.

60. It was noted that under the 1988 Convention, States parties were required to carry out treaty obligations in a manner consistent with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations.

**B. Action taken by the Commission**

61. At its 9th meeting, on 16 March 2022, the Commission decided by 49 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include buprenorphine in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 65/1.)

62. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 49 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include metonitazene in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 65/2.)

63. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 49 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include eutylone in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 65/3.)

64. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 49 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include 4-AP in Table I of the 1988 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 65/4.)

65. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 49 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include 1-boc-4-AP in Table I of the 1988 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 65/5.)

66. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 48 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include norfentanyl in Table I of the 1988 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 65/6.)

67. Statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Kenya, the United States and El Salvador. A statement was also made by the observer for Senegal.

68. At its 15th meeting, on 18 March 2022, the Commission was informed that draft resolution [E/CN.7/2022/L.6](#) had been withdrawn by Australia.

69. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a draft resolution ([E/CN.7/2021/L.7](#)), as revised, entitled “Intensifying efforts to address the diversion of non-scheduled chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and the proliferation of designer precursors”, sponsored by Australia, Canada, Colombia, France (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Honduras, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Paraguay, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay. (For the text of the resolution, see chap. I sect. B, resolution 65/3.) Upon the adoption of the draft resolution as revised, the representative of the United States made a statement.

70. Also at the same meeting, the Commission adopted a draft resolution ([E/CN.7/2021/L.5](#)), as revised, entitled “Promoting comprehensive and scientific evidence-based early prevention”, sponsored by Andorra, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, El Salvador, France (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Honduras, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States. (For the text of the resolution, see chap. I sect. B, resolution 65/4.) Upon the adoption of the draft resolution as revised, the representatives of Slovenia and France made statements.

## Chapter V

### **Follow-up to the implementation at the national, regional and international levels of all commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem**

71. At its 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th meetings, on 16 and 17 March 2022, the Commission considered agenda item 6, which read as follows:

“Follow-up to the implementation at the national, regional and international levels of all commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem”.

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

(a) Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem<sup>45</sup> of 2009;

(b) Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem;<sup>46</sup>

(c) Outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem” (General Assembly resolution [S-30/1](#), annex);

(d) Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem;<sup>47</sup>

(e) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2022/2-E/CN.15/2022/2](#));

(f) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse ([E/CN.7/2022/4](#));

(g) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking ([E/CN.7/2022/5](#));

(h) Report of the Executive Director on progress made in the implementation of all international drug policy commitments to address and counter the world drug problem ([E/CN.7/2022/6](#));

(i) Report of the Executive Director on responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users ([E/CN.7/2022/7](#));

(j) Report of the Secretariat on strengthening international cooperation in combating illicit opiates originating in Afghanistan through continuous and reinforced support to the Paris Pact initiative ([E/CN.7/2022/11](#));

(k) Chair’s summary on the thematic discussions on the implementation of all international drug policy commitments, following up to the 2019 Ministerial Declaration (19–21 October 2021) ([E/CN.7/2022/CRP.1](#));

<sup>45</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>46</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>47</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 8 (E/2019/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.

(l) Note by the Secretariat on the implementation of all international drug policy commitments, following up to the 2019 Ministerial Declaration (E/CN.7/2022/CRP.2).

73. Introductory statements were made by the Secretary of the Commission, a representative of the secretariat of the Commission, the Chief of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch, the Chief of the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section, the Chief of the UNODC HIV/AIDS Section, the Chief of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch and the Chief of the Sustainable Livelihoods Unit of UNODC (online). In addition, representatives of the UNODC Youth Forum (online) and representatives of the scientific community (online/pre-recorded video) made statements.

74. Statements were made by the representatives of China (online), Japan (online), Thailand (pre-recorded video), Kenya (in person), Pakistan (in person), Slovenia (in person), Algeria (online), Spain (online), the United States (in person), the Russian Federation (online), Canada (online), Mexico (online) and Australia (online).

75. A statement was made by the observer for the European Union (in person, on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Andorra, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine).

76. Statements were also made by the observers for Singapore (online), India (online), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (in person), Indonesia (online) and Argentina (in person).

77. Statements were also made by the observers for the Slum Child Foundation (online), Students for Sensible Drug Policy (online), the International Harm Reduction Association (online), the Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (online), the International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (pre-recorded video) and the DRCNet Foundation (online).

## **A. Deliberations**

78. Many speakers highlighted the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on joint efforts to address and counter all aspects of the world drug problem, and stressed, in that regard, the importance of living up to the commitment to accelerate the implementation of international drug policy commitments and ensure that no one affected by the world drug problem was left behind. The principal roles of the Commission as the policymaking body and of UNODC as the leading entity in the United Nations system for drug-related matters were recalled, while UNODC and the secretariat of the Commission were commended for the support that they had provided to Member States. A number of speakers reaffirmed their commitment to the three international drug control conventions, which, together with other relevant international instruments, constituted the cornerstone of the international drug control system. Speakers reaffirmed the commitment of their Governments to international cooperation in addressing and countering the world drug problem and to the principle of common and shared responsibility. Many speakers shared information on national efforts to foster the implementation of the 2009, 2014 and 2016 policy documents as envisaged in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019.

79. Several speakers highlighted the importance of ensuring a balanced, integrated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary and evidence-based approach to both supply and demand reduction efforts, while respecting, protecting and promoting health, the rule of law, human rights and the fundamental freedoms of individuals in the development and implementation of drug policies. In addition, the importance of mitigating the negative public health and social consequences of drug use and protecting the health and well-being of societies was underlined. Some speakers reported on the promotion of a zero-tolerance stance against the non-medical use of controlled substances. A

number of speakers underlined the need to invest in research, innovation and preparedness as essential elements of effective drug policies.

80. Speakers underscored that drug-related challenges had been amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic, and they provided information on how the pandemic had affected the delivery of demand reduction services and interventions. A number of speakers reported on measures to address challenges and disruptions in the provision of services and shared good practices that had emerged as a result of the pandemic, such as remote counselling and take-home doses of opioid agonist medications. The need to adopt future-oriented approaches and to anticipate related challenges was stressed.

81. With regard to prevention initiatives, speakers shared examples of national programmes and interventions, including community-driven advocacy, awareness-raising, social media campaigns and prevention programmes for individuals, families and communities. Reference was made to the effective cooperation with UNODC through its family skills programmes, among other examples. A number of speakers described good practices in relation to the use of technology and the Internet, in particular with a view to reaching young people, for prevention purposes, including through the development of dedicated mobile phone applications, outreach programmes based on videoconferencing, digital platforms for service delivery and online courses. In addition, speakers mentioned examples of programmes and good practices aimed at community empowerment, curricula and initiatives in educational settings, life skills programmes in school and workplace settings and alternative development programmes in urban and rural areas.

82. Several speakers underlined the need to address the health and social consequences of drug use and to implement multipronged, multisectoral and humane approaches for the treatment of drug use disorders. In that regard, the need to enhance the quality of and access to treatment based on scientific evidence and with due consideration of human rights was underlined. Some speakers noted that the pandemic had disproportionately affected vulnerable members of society, including people who use drugs. Speakers reported on services and interventions offered in their countries, including initiatives focused on the promotion of community-based rehabilitation through the provision of skills training, job support and counselling, on the expansion of the coverage of drug treatment services, including for people who inject drugs and people with co-occurring mental health disorders, and on training opportunities for health-care personnel. Other national practices included the establishment of opioid agonist treatment programmes in some countries and the introduction of social protection programmes to address the specific needs of people who use drugs and vulnerable members of society. Some speakers reported a high prevalence of HIV and hepatitis C among people who inject drugs and shared information on national policies and programmes to minimize the adverse public health and social consequences of drug use as part of a comprehensive package of services and interventions, including through the implementation of guidance received from UNODC, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and WHO.

83. The need to ensure access to and the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including for pain management and palliative care, while preventing their diversion, was stressed by several speakers. It was underscored that the lack of access to vital medicines for the relief of pain and suffering was a serious concern that required the Commission's urgent attention. In that regard, the importance of identifying and addressing barriers that undermined access to essential medicines, including for drug use disorders, was stressed. It was highlighted that disparities in the availability of and access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes had been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, with transport restrictions creating additional barriers.

84. Several speakers reported on emerging and persistent challenges related to national supply reduction efforts. The need to strengthen international cooperation and information-sharing among relevant authorities at the national and international

levels was underscored, including with a view to countering drug trafficking and disrupting the activities of organized criminal groups. Many speakers reported on successful regional and international cooperation initiatives and joint supply reduction operations with other Member States. Reference was made in that regard to cooperation on the United Nations Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs and the Global Rapid Interdiction of Dangerous Substances (GRIDS) Programme of the International Narcotics Control Board. In the light of the illicit manufacture, trafficking and misuse of synthetic drugs, UNODC was commended for the development of its Synthetic Drug Strategy.

85. A number of speakers referred to the growing links between drug trafficking and other forms of transnational organized crime, as well as corruption, trafficking in persons and firearms, fraud, money-laundering, cybercrime and terrorism, and described examples of activities undertaken at the national, regional and international levels to address those links. It was highlighted by some speakers that organized criminal groups were highly flexible and able to adapt to changing circumstances across borders, making international cooperation and coordination at all levels indispensable for the effective detection, disruption and prevention of such crimes.

86. In addition, the criminal misuse of information and communications technologies for drug-related activities was reported to be a growing challenge. Some speakers underscored that organized criminal groups were continuously developing their methods to bypass law enforcement detection, including by using encrypted communications, while many of those groups had shifted their operations to the surface web and dark web, exploiting postal and courier services to access a global customer base. It was noted that those developments would make the work of law enforcement agencies even more difficult and that keeping up to date on technologies associated with drug-related activities continued to be an ongoing challenge for those agencies. National and regional priorities mentioned by many speakers included addressing challenges posed by synthetic drugs, precursor chemicals and the opioid crisis.

87. A number of speakers recalled that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 3 and 16, and to effectively address the world drug problem were complementary and mutually reinforcing. Several speakers reiterated their support for the Commission's multi-year workplan, adopted in June 2019, welcoming the annual thematic discussions and the single-track approach that provided a forum for the exchange of good practices and lessons learned in the follow-up to the Ministerial Declaration of 2019. A number of speakers underscored the need to address emerging trends and persistent challenges, including through the Commission's thematic discussions.

88. Reference was made to a national workshop organized by the secretariat of the Commission in 2020 on the implementation of all international drug policy commitments, following up on the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, which had been held in an online format because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

89. Many speakers underscored the importance of enhanced technical assistance, capacity-building and increased financial assistance for Member States in order to effectively address and counter the world drug problem. In addition, the importance of data collection, analysis and sharing was highlighted, with speakers providing information on the establishment of national drug observatories, as well as on the conduct of national surveys to support informed drug policy decisions. Reference was made to the introduction of a watch list at the domestic level for precursors that are used in the production of synthetic drugs but are also frequently used in industry.

90. Several speakers also reported on national strategies and initiatives to establish institutions and multi-agency task forces and to develop, implement and review legislative, policy and administrative frameworks. In addition, several speakers underscored the importance of regularly evaluating and monitoring the implementation of national policies in order to be able to adapt to the changing needs of the recipients of services.

## **B. Action taken by the Commission**

91. At its 15th meeting, on 18 March 2022, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution entitled “Promoting alternative development as a development-oriented drug control strategy, taking into account measures to protect the environment” ([E/CN.7/2022/L.2/Rev.1](#)), sponsored by Andorra, Colombia, France (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Guatemala, Honduras, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the United States and Uruguay. (For the text of the resolution, see chap. I, sect. B, resolution 65/1.) Upon the adoption of the revised draft resolution, the representatives of Germany, Peru and Thailand made statements.

92. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a draft resolution ([E/CN.7/2022/L.4](#)), as revised, entitled “Strengthening international cooperation to address the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking”, sponsored by Brazil, Canada, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay and Slovenia. (For the text of the resolution, see chap. I, sect. B, resolution 65/2.) Upon the adoption of the revised draft resolution, the representative of Mexico made a statement.

93. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation requested that the consideration of draft resolution [E/CN.7/2022/L.3](#) be deferred until the sixty-sixth session of the Commission. The representative highlighted that the issue addressed in the draft resolution was the most topical aspect of the worldwide narcotic drug threat. Throughout the pandemic, narcotic drugs had become more accessible through digital trafficking. The representative stated that any delay in agreeing on joint measures played into the hands of drug traffickers; however, the sponsor of the draft resolution found itself in an unprecedented situation in which a number of countries had decided to block the negotiation process without providing substantive comments on the text. The representative stated that the sponsor had to take this decision in the interest of the Commission. The representative called on the international community to further take a unified stand towards the world drug problem. The Commission did not take action on the proposal contained in [E/CN.7/2022/L.3](#).

## Chapter VI

### **Inter-agency cooperation and coordination of efforts in addressing and countering the world drug problem**

94. At its 10th and 11th meetings, on 16 and 17 March 2022, the Commission considered agenda item 7, entitled “Inter-agency cooperation and coordination of efforts in addressing and countering the world drug problem”.

95. For its consideration of item 7, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (E/CN.7/2022/8);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on inter-agency cooperation and coordination of efforts in addressing and countering the world drug problem (E/CN.7/2022/CRP.3);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the inaugural meeting of the Interagency Technical Working Group on Prevention of Drug Use and Treatment and Care of Drug Use Disorders (E/CN.7/2022/CRP.11).

96. Introductory remarks were delivered by the Chief of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch and the Chief of the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section of UNODC.

97. Statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom, the United States, Pakistan, Colombia, Switzerland, Kenya, China (online), the Netherlands, the Russian Federation (online), Algeria, Uruguay, Mexico, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Canada.

98. Statements were made by the observer for the European Union (in person) (on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Andorra, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine) and the observers for Indonesia (online), the Republic of Korea (online), Cuba and Singapore.

99. Statements were also made by the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the Human Rights Council and the observer for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (online).

100. Statements were further made by the observers for the International Drug Policy Consortium, Médecins du Monde (online), Youth RISE (online), the Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development and the Center for Innovative and Pragmatic Development Initiative (online).

### **Deliberations**

101. Several speakers stressed that the COVID-19 pandemic had exacerbated the challenges of the world drug problem and had at the same time demonstrated the importance of multilateralism, the coordination of efforts and inter-agency cooperation. It was underscored that the world drug problem remained a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective cooperation at all levels. The principal roles of the Commission as the policymaking body of the United Nations in drug-related matters and the role of UNODC as the leading entity in the United Nations system for drug-related matters were recalled by many speakers. The importance of strengthening cooperation with other United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, while avoiding duplication of efforts, was also underscored by a number of speakers.

102. Several speakers also recalled the commitment of Member States to implementing all international drug policy commitments in a single track, in line with the commitments made in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, and some speakers reiterated that the three international drug control conventions constituted, together with other international instruments, the cornerstone of international drug policy. UNODC was commended for facilitating regional and international collaboration as outlined in the policy documents of 2009, 2014 and 2016 and the three international drug control conventions. Reference was also made to the upcoming mid-term review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation of the international drug policy commitments, to be held in 2024.

103. Many speakers underscored the importance of enhancing cooperation at the local, national, regional and international levels to effectively address all aspects of the world drug problem. A number of speakers reported on national and regional initiatives such as joint cross-border operations including with neighbouring States, joint implementation of capacity-building projects, exchanging liaison officers and sharing real-time investigative information. Some speakers reported on national efforts to contribute to the international data collection and information-sharing processes, including the *World Drug Report* published by UNODC and the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme. The need to increase technical and financial assistance to build the national capacity and foster the implementation of the joint commitments was underscored in that context. A number of speakers referred to specific challenges, including illicit trafficking in controlled substances and the increased use of the Internet for drug-related activities, in particular during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some speakers shared information on national supply and demand reduction efforts, including initiatives related to the legislative and organizational frameworks.

104. Several speakers noted the importance of the contributions of relevant United Nations entities, international financial institutions and relevant regional and international organizations, within their respective mandates, to the work of the Commission, and the need to strengthen international and inter-agency cooperation and enhance coherence within the United Nations system. In that regard, several speakers welcomed the cooperation of UNODC with, inter alia, WHO, INCB, UNAIDS, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN-Women and the United Nations Children's Fund. It was noted with appreciation that, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, UNODC had increased its cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies and stakeholders. Some examples of cooperation were highlighted, including the UNODC-WHO programme on drug dependence treatment and care, which last year had celebrated a decade of effective and humane treatment for people with drug use disorders; cooperation related to the UNODC Synthetic Drug Strategy; the "International guidelines on human rights and drug policy"; and the UNODC Treatnet training project.

105. Several speakers highlighted the importance of coherence and cooperation within the United Nations system at all levels with regard to the world drug problem, including in support of the United Nations system common position on drug-related matters and the work of the related United Nations system coordination task team. One speaker underscored that inter-agency cooperation should support the implementation of international drug policy and the work of the Commission and not transfer the policymaking function of the Commission to task teams or other mechanisms established to enhance United Nations system-wide collaboration. Some other speakers affirmed that the common position on drug-related matters was an internal United Nations system document and that neither the document nor the task team had been mandated by the Commission and that the common position had not been developed in consultation with Member States and did not reflect the political commitments agreed by consensus in the Commission or those contained in the international drug control conventions. One speaker underlined that the Secretariat was to refrain from making independent policy decisions related to addressing the world drug problem.

106. Reference was made by a number of speakers to the presentation of the study of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, entitled “Arbitrary detention relating to drug policies” (A/HRC/47/40). Several speakers welcomed the study and the presentation by the Chair-Rapporteur under the agenda item and expressed support for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the study, as well as the discussion on the subject matter in the Commission. The active participation of relevant United Nations bodies, including those mandated to work on human rights issues, was encouraged by several speakers. A number of speakers made reference to ongoing human rights violations related to drug policies in some countries. A number of speakers noted that the study of the Working Group would have benefited from more objective and balanced resources, noting that substantive written submissions by Member States had not been taken into consideration in the preparation of the study. Reference was also made to a joint statement made by 15 Member States at the reconvened sixty-fourth session, in which they questioned the methodology and content of the study. A number of speakers stated that the study went beyond the mandate of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, a body of the Human Rights Council, and cautioned that there was a need for a balanced approach to addressing the world drug problem.

107. The importance of respecting the rights of Member States by developing country-specific demand and supply reduction measures, within the international framework, was highlighted. Different opinions were expressed on the decriminalization of drug use and on the use of capital punishment for drug-related offences.

## Chapter VII

### Recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission

108. At its 12th meeting, on 17 March 2022, the Commission considered agenda item 8, entitled “Recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission”.

109. For its consideration of item 8, the Commission had before it the report of the Secretariat on action taken by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission ([E/CN.7/2022/9](#)).

110. An introductory statement was made by a representative of the Secretariat to the Governing Bodies of UNODC.

111. Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand (pre-recorded video), Kenya (in person), Spain (in person), the United States (online), the Republic of Korea (online) and Mexico (online).

### Deliberations

112. Speakers expressed appreciation for the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and highlighted their role in the promotion of regional and international cooperation.

113. Appreciation was also expressed for the holding of extraordinary sessions of the subsidiary bodies in 2021, which had enabled the real-time exchange of information on current trends and challenges in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as on the topics of the 2021 thematic discussions of the Commission on the implementation of all international drug policy commitments to address the challenges identified in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019.

114. Several speakers highlighted issues discussed during the extraordinary sessions, including the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime, the proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities.

115. Some speakers reported on the efforts of national law enforcement authorities to adapt to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, including through the use of technology and online platforms for law enforcement activities, and underlined the importance of regional and international cooperation.

116. The representative of Kenya (in person) reaffirmed the commitment of the Government of Kenya to host the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, in 2022.

## Chapter VIII

### **Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 72/305, including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

117. At its 13th meeting, on 17 March 2022, the Commission considered agenda item 9, entitled “Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 72/305, including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

118. For its consideration of item 9, the Commission had before it a conference room paper containing a note by the Secretariat on inter-agency cooperation and coordination of efforts in addressing and countering the world drug problem (E/CN.7/2022/CRP.3).

119. The Chief of the Secretariat to the Governing Bodies of UNODC (in person) and the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs of UNODC (in person) made introductory statements.

120. Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand (pre-recorded video), the United States (in person), Canada (online) and Mexico (online).

121. A statement was made by the observer for Cuba (in person).

122. The observers for the Fazaldad Human Rights Institute (online) and the Transform Drug Policy Foundation (pre-recorded video) also made statements.

### **Deliberations**

123. The Commission was commended for successfully increasing cohesion among United Nations entities during its 2021 thematic discussions on the implementation of all international drug policy commitments to address the challenges identified in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, which were focused on the linkages between drug trafficking and other forms of crime, including organized crime, corruption, money-laundering, cybercrime, trafficking in firearms and persons, and terrorism. The Commission was called upon to continue to develop new and creative ways to involve other United Nations entities, civil society and the private sector in its work.

124. The Commission was also commended for its commitment to ensuring that the COVID-19 pandemic did not halt its important work, and it was noted that the adoption of hybrid meeting modalities had facilitated the engagement of delegates, experts and others for whom participation might not have otherwise been feasible.

125. The need to improve the quality and availability of drug statistics was highlighted. It was noted that the Commission was well placed to promote expanding data collection on target 3.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, namely, to strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and the harmful use of alcohol, as well as on target 16.4, in particular with regard to the link between drug trafficking, organized crime and illicit financial flows.

126. Some speakers noted that drug policies grounded in an evidence- and human rights-based public health approach could support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. It was further noted that gender-responsive approaches to drug policies, as well as approaches that took into consideration the needs of young people, were crucial to enabling effective and sustainable responses to the current pandemic and accelerating progress towards achieving the Goals.

## Chapter IX

### **Provisional agenda for the sixty-sixth session of the Commission**

127. At its 14th meeting, on 18 March 2022, the Commission considered agenda item 10, entitled “Provisional agenda for the sixty-sixth session of the Commission”. For its consideration of item 10, the Commission had before it a draft decision entitled “Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-fifth session and provisional agenda for its sixty-sixth session” ([E/CN.7/2022/L.8](#)).

#### **Action taken by the Commission**

128. At its 14th meeting, on 18 March 2022, the Commission decided to recommend for adoption by the Economic and Social Council the draft decision containing the draft provisional agenda for the sixty-sixth session of the Commission ([E/CN.7/2022/L.8](#)). (For the text of the draft decision, see chap. I, sect. A, draft decision I.)

## Chapter X

### **Other business**

129. At its 14th meeting, on 18 March 2022, the Commission considered agenda item 11, entitled “Other business”.

130. The representative (m) of Pakistan made a statement (in person).

131. The observer for the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs also made a statement (in person) in reference to the process of non-governmental organizations attaining consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

## Chapter XI

### **Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixty-fifth session**

132. At its 15th meeting, on 18 March 2022, the Commission considered agenda item 12, entitled “Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixty-fifth session”. The Rapporteur introduced the draft report.

133. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the report on its sixty-fifth session, as orally amended.

## Chapter XII

### Organization of the session and administrative matters

#### A. Informal pre-session consultations

134. At the pre-session consultations chaired by the Chair of the Commission, Ghislain d'Hoop (Belgium), held on 11 March 2022, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs conducted a preliminary review of draft proposals that had been submitted by the deadline of 14 February 2022, pursuant to Commission decision 55/1, and dealt with organizational matters of the sixty-fifth session. The Chair also provided an overview of the organization of the programme of work of the session.

#### B. Opening and duration of the session

135. The Commission held its sixty-fifth session in Vienna from 14 to 18 March 2022. The Chair of the Commission opened the session. The President of the Economic and Social Council addressed the Commission in a video message. The Executive Director of UNODC made an opening statement. The Commission was then addressed by the Director-General of WHO in a video message. A statement was also made by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board. The Executive Director of UNAIDS addressed the Commission in a video message.

136. Opening statements were made by the observer for India (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States) (in person), the representative of Morocco (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) (online), the representative of Egypt (on behalf of the Group of African States) (in person) and the representative of France (on behalf of the European Union and its member States and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine) (in person and pre-recorded video).

#### C. Attendance

137. The arrangements for the organization of the sixty-fifth session had been endorsed by the Commission by means of a silence procedure on 7 February 2022, subsequently revised on 2 March. In accordance with those arrangements, the session was conducted in a hybrid format. Delegates of all States Members of the United Nations and representatives of a limited number of United Nations entities, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council had the opportunity to participate in person.

138. The session was attended by representatives of 53 States members of the Commission. Also attending were observers for 79 other States Members of the United Nations, as well as non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations.

#### D. Election of officers

139. In section I of its resolution 1999/30, the Economic and Social Council decided that, with effect from the year 2000, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should, at the end of each session, elect its Bureau for the subsequent session and should encourage it to play an active role in the preparations for the regular as well as the intersessional meetings of the Commission, so as to enable the Commission to provide continuous and effective policy guidance to the drug programme of UNODC.

140. In accordance with that resolution and rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission, at the end of its reconvened sixty-fourth session, on 10 December 2021, opened its sixty-fifth session for the purpose of electing its Bureau for that session. At that meeting, the Commission elected the Chair, the First Vice-Chair and Second Vice-Chair.

141. On 11 January 2022, the Group of Asia-Pacific States nominated Rahat Bin Zaman (Bangladesh) for the office of Third Vice-Chair. At its 1st meeting, on 14 March 2022, the Commission elected Rahat Bin Zaman (Bangladesh) as Third Vice-Chair and agreed that the Second Vice-Chair, Suleiman Dauda Umar (Nigeria), would also act as Rapporteur ad interim, pending a nomination by the Group of Eastern European States for the position of Rapporteur.

142. In view of the rotation of offices based on regional distribution, the officers of the Commission at its sixty-fifth session and their respective regional groups were as follows:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Regional group</i>	<i>Officer</i>
Chair	Western European and other States	Ghislain d’Hoop (Belgium)
First Vice-Chair	Latin American and Caribbean States	Miguel Camilo Ruíz Blanco (Colombia)
Second Vice-Chair	African States	Suleiman Dauda Umar (Nigeria)
Third Vice-Chair	Asia-Pacific States	Rahat Bin Zaman (Bangladesh)
Rapporteur	Eastern European States	(to be elected)

143. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/39 and established practice, a group composed of the Chairs of the five regional groups, the Chair of the Group of 77 and China and the representative of or observer for the State holding the Presidency of the European Union assists the Chair of the Commission in dealing with organizational matters. That group, together with the officers, constitutes the extended Bureau foreseen in Council resolution 1991/39.

144. During the sixty-fifth session of the Commission, the extended Bureau met on 15, 16 and 17 March 2022 to consider matters related to the organization of work.

## **E. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters**

145. At its 1st meeting, on 14 March 2022, the Commission adopted by consensus its provisional agenda and organization of work (E/CN.7/2022/1), pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2021/251. The agenda was as follows:

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

### *Operational segment*

4. Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:
  - (a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
  - (b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

- (c) Working methods of the Commission;
- (d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.

*Normative segment*

- 5. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:
    - (a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
    - (b) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;
    - (c) International Narcotics Control Board;
    - (d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;
    - (e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.
  - 6. Follow-up to the implementation at the national, regional and international levels of all commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem.
  - 7. Inter-agency cooperation and coordination of efforts in addressing and countering the world drug problem.
  - 8. Recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.
  - 9. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution [72/305](#), including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
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- 10. Provisional agenda for the sixty-sixth session of the Commission.
  - 11. Other business.
  - 12. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixty-fifth session.

## **F. Documentation**

146. The documents before the Commission at its sixty-fifth session are listed in document E/CN.7/2022/CRP.15.

## **G. Closure of the session**

147. At the 15th meeting, on 18 March 2022, a closing statement was made by the Executive Director of UNODC. The Chair of the Commission made closing remarks.

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