



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
2 November 2010

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Reconvened fifty-third session

Vienna, 2 December 2010

Agenda item 10

Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Reconvened nineteenth session

Vienna, 3 December 2010

Agenda item 8 (a)

Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions: work of the working group on governance and finance

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

Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present note has been prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2009/251, in which the Council established a standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, in the annexes to which it was recommended that the working group submit recommendations to the Commissions. Reports on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group were submitted to the Commissions at their sessions held in 2009 and 2010 (E/CN.7/2009/15-E/CN.15/2009/25 and E/CN.7/2010/16-E/CN.15/2010/16). The present note contains a report on the work of the working group during the period 6 February-29 October 2010.



I. Deliberations

1. During the period 6 February-29 October 2010, the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) continued to consider issues under the agreed agenda items pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3 and in accordance with the terms of reference annexed to those resolutions. There was active participation by representatives of several States, and discussions centred on the development and implementation of thematic and regional programmes, on measures to improve funding for UNODC and on the evaluation function.
2. Presentations were made by representatives of the Secretariat on such topics as the status of preparation of thematic and regional programmes, the financial situation of UNODC and its funding model and the work of the Independent Evaluation Unit. At a meeting held on 3 June 2010, a representative of the Secretariat gave an audio-visual presentation entitled “Thematic programme: Action against corruption and economic crime (2010-2011)”.
3. At the meeting held on 29 October 2010, the working group did not adopt any recommendations for transmittal to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for consideration at its reconvened fifty-third session and to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for consideration at its reconvened nineteenth session.

II. Organizational and administrative matters

4. The working group held two informal meetings in the period from 6 February to 29 October 2010: one on 3 June and one on 29 October 2010. Further informal meetings of the working group were planned to be held on 25 November and 7 December 2010.
5. The representatives of Argentina and Germany, in consultation with the Co-Chairs, jointly convened informal discussions on 3 February, 2 March, 14 and 15 June and 5 October 2010, with a view to formulating recommendations for consideration by the working group and subsequent transmittal to the Commissions at their reconvened sessions in December 2010, in accordance with the working group’s terms of reference. The participants in those discussions examined a working paper on improving the dialogue on the thematic and regional programmes and measures to improve the governing role and functioning of the Commissions, though no consensus could be reached on a set of recommendations to present to the working group.
6. In addition to the documentation made available between October 2008 and March 2009 to the working group pursuant to paragraph 7 of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and paragraph 7 of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, the Secretariat made available to the working group numerous documents in print and electronic format; a number of those documents were also posted on the UNODC dedicated web page set up

and maintained by the Secretariat (www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/wg-governance-finance-2.html).

III. Action by the Commissions

7. Pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13, annex, and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, annex, the Commissions at their fifty-third and nineteenth sessions, respectively, renewed the mandate of Norma Goicochea Estenoz (Cuba) and Ignacio Baylina Ruíz (Spain) as Co-Chairs of the working group until the sessions of the Commissions to be held in the first half of 2011.
