



# Economic and Social Council

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## Commission on Narcotic Drugs

### Fifty-ninth session

Vienna, 14-22 March 2016

## Annotated provisional agenda

### Provisional agenda

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

#### *Operational segment*

3. 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:
  - (a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;
  - (b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:
    - (i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
    - (ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions;
  - (c) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.

#### *Normative segment*

4. Round-table discussions.<sup>1</sup>
5. Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to

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<sup>1</sup> The substance of agenda item 4 will be subsumed under the special segment.



Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016:

- (a) Demand reduction and related measures;
  - (b) Supply reduction and related measures;
  - (c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.
6. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:
- (a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;
  - (b) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
  - (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.
7. World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.
8. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1.

*Special segment*

9. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.<sup>2</sup>

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10. Provisional agenda for the sixtieth session of the Commission.
11. Other business.
12. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-ninth session.

## **Annotations**

### **1. Election of officers**

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

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<sup>2</sup> The preliminary provisional agenda for the special segment is set out in Commission decision 58/15.

provide continuous and effective policy guidance to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

In accordance with section I of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 and rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission, at the end of its reconvened fifty-eighth session, on 11 December 2015, opened its fifty-ninth session for the sole purpose of electing its Bureau for that session. At that meeting, the Commission elected the Chair, three Vice-Chairs and the Rapporteur.

In view of the rotation of offices based on regional distribution, the officers of the Commission at its fifty-ninth session and their respective regional groups are as follows:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Regional group</i>	<i>Officer</i>
Chair	Eastern European States	Vladimir Galuška (Czech Republic)
First Vice-Chair	Western European and other States	Bente Angell-Hansen (Norway)
Second Vice-Chair	Latin American and Caribbean States	Evandro De Sampaio Didonet (Brazil)
Third Vice-Chair	African States	Adelakun Abel Ayoko (Nigeria)
Rapporteur	Asia-Pacific States	Yong Il Lee (Republic of Korea)

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.

In order to ensure continuity with respect to its work preparing for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, the Commission established at its reconvened fifty-seventh session, in December 2014, in its decision 57/2, a Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session. The members of the Board, who were elected on the basis of the regional distribution of officers of the Bureau of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission, participate in the meetings of the extended Bureaux and assist the Commission and the Chairs of the respective sessions in fulfilling their mandates.

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

In section I of its resolution 1999/30, the Economic and Social Council decided that the normative functions of the Commission should be made distinct from its role as

the governing body of the drug programme of UNODC and that, to that end, the agenda of the Commission should be structured in two distinct segments, as follows:

(a) A normative segment, during which the Commission would discharge its treaty-based and normative functions, including mandates received from the General Assembly and the Council, and deal with emerging drug control issues;

(b) An operational segment, during which the Commission would exercise its role as the governing body of the drug programme of the Office and consider issues related to the provision of policy guidance to the Office.

The provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission has been structured to comply with Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30.

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that the Commission shall, at the beginning of each session, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

In its decision 2015/238, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on its fifty-eighth session and approved the provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission.

In its resolution 69/200, the General Assembly decided that the Commission, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, should lead the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner. In response to that request, the Commission decided, in its resolution 58/8, to continue to take all possible measures to ensure an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process for the special session by using its existing meeting and reporting entitlements in the most efficient manner, bearing in mind the decision by the General Assembly, in its resolution 67/193, to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing regular budget resources. The General Assembly decided, in its resolution 70/181, that the special session would be held from 19 to 21 April 2016 and would consist of a general debate and five interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables conducted in parallel with the plenary.

At its reconvened fifty-eighth session, held from 9 to 11 December 2015, the Commission decided, in accordance with its resolution 58/8, that it would devote six meetings during its fifty-ninth session to the preparations for the special session. The Commission also decided that the fifty-ninth session would be held from Monday, 14 March to Tuesday, 22 March 2016, with the special segment to be held from Monday, 14 March to Wednesday, 16 March 2016. Furthermore, the Commission decided that its reconvened fifty-ninth session would be held on 1 and 2 December 2016.

In accordance with Commission decision 55/1, the firm deadline for the submission of draft resolutions is one month in advance of the commencement of the session. The Commission decided that the deadline would be set for Monday, 15 February 2016, at noon.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the Commission may wish to establish a timetable and agree on the organization of work for the fifty-ninth session. A proposed organization of work is contained in the annex to the present document.

## **Documentation**

Annotated provisional agenda (E/CN.7/2016/1)

### **Operational segment**

- 3. 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**
- (a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives**
- (b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**
  - (i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**
  - (ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions**
- (c) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters**

In section I of its resolution 1999/30, the Economic and Social Council decided that the agenda of the Commission should be structured in two distinct segments, including an operational segment during which the Commission would exercise its role as the governing body of the drug programme of UNODC and consider issues related to the provision of policy guidance to the Office.

For its consideration of item 3, the Commission will have before it the report of the Executive Director on the activities of UNODC (E/CN.7/2016/2-E/CN.15/2016/2), which contains an overview of the activities of the Office during 2015, inter alia, in the areas of drug prevention, treatment and reintegration and the prevention and treatment of drug-related HIV/AIDS; countering drug trafficking; alternative development; countering transnational organized crime and corruption; preventing terrorism; crime prevention and criminal justice; and research, trend analysis and scientific and forensic support. The report also contains information on Commission resolution 56/6, on intensifying the efforts to achieve the targets of the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS among people who use drugs, in particular the target to reduce HIV transmission among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015; Commission resolution 56/9, on strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility as the basis for guiding international action in combating the world drug problem with a comprehensive and balanced approach; Commission resolution 58/4, on promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development; Commission resolution 58/7, on strengthening cooperation with the scientific community, including academia, and promoting scientific research in drug demand and supply reduction policies in order to find effective solutions to various aspects of the world drug problem; and Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/23, on strengthening international cooperation in addressing the smuggling of migrants.

The Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2015/234, entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental

working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”, decided to renew the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime until the part of the sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to be held in the first half of 2017, at which time the Commissions should carry out a thorough review of the functioning of the working group and consider the extension of its mandate. The terms of reference of the working group are contained in Commission resolution 52/13.

At its reconvened fifty-eighth session, the Commission elected Hernán Estrada Román (Nicaragua) and Ignacio Baylina Ruíz (Spain) as Co-Chairs of the working group. At its fifty-ninth session, the Commission will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the work of the working group (E/CN.7/2016/3-E/CN.15/2016/3).

At its reconvened fifty-eighth session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted resolution 58/12, entitled “Budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme”. At the same session, the Commission considered the report of the Executive Director on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for UNODC (E/CN.7/2015/17-E/CN.15/2015/20).

Also at its reconvened fifty-eighth session, the Commission reviewed the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 for UNODC. The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretariat transmitting the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (E/CN.7/2016/12-E/CN.15/2016/12).

Under sub-item (c) (“Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters”), the Secretariat will report to the Commission on the relevant provisions of Commission resolution 58/12, in which the Commission requested UNODC, while upholding article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, to intensify its efforts to ensure the recruitment of staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in particular in the Professional and higher categories, and to intensify its efforts to achieve the goal of a 50/50 gender balance within the Professional and higher categories, including for field representatives, by, inter alia, intensifying outreach efforts, and to report on the progress of such measures to the Commission at its next session.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2016/2-E/CN.15/2016/2)

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.7/2016/3-E/CN.15/2016/3)

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (E/CN.7/2016/12-E/CN.15/2016/12)

## Normative segment

### 4. Round-table discussions

The substance of agenda item 4 will be subsumed under the special segment.

### 5. Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

In the Political Declaration, Member States committed themselves to effectively implementing the Political Declaration and its Plan of Action through resolute international cooperation, in collaboration with relevant regional and international organizations, with the full assistance of the international financial institutions and other relevant agencies and in cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as the private and public sectors, and to report biennially to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the efforts to fully implement the Political Declaration and the Plan of Action, and also considered it necessary for the Commission to include on its agenda a separate item on follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. At its reconvened fifty-sixth session, the Commission decided to add to the item on implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action the following: “Follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016”.

In addition to the third biennial report of the Executive Director on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action (E/CN.7/2016/6), the Commission will have before it a number of documents for its consideration, as set out below.

#### (a) Demand reduction and related measures

In its resolution 53/16, the Commission requested the Executive Director to continue to submit to it the annual reports on trends in global drug abuse and the illicit supply of drugs, in accordance with the reporting mandates of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971. Furthermore, in its resolution 54/9, the Commission requested the Executive Director to provide an overview of measures and activities undertaken by UNODC to enhance the scientific quality of its reporting mechanisms and the support given to Member States in developing their capacity for data collection and analysis. A report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse is contained in document E/CN.7/2016/4.

Pursuant to Commission resolution 51/14, entitled “Promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS”, UNODC transmitted to the secretariat of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) the report on the fifty-eighth session of the Commission, which contains relevant resolutions and decisions. Also pursuant to Commission resolution 51/14, relevant decisions of

the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS are transmitted to the Commission in a note by the Secretariat on promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission and the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS (E/CN.7/2016/7).

The Commission will also have before it a report of the Executive Director on responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users (E/CN.7/2016/8).

**(b) Supply reduction and related measures**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2016/5), which includes information on the implementation of resolution 53/16, in which the Commission requested the Executive Director to continue to submit to it the annual reports on trends in global drug abuse and the illicit supply of drugs. The report provides an overview of the latest trends in illicit drug production and trafficking worldwide.

In its resolution 58/4, entitled “Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development”, the Commission requested the Executive Director of UNODC to report to it on the implementation of the resolution. The Secretariat will provide an oral report to the Commission at its fifty-ninth session.

The Government of Thailand hosted an International Seminar Workshop on the Implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and the Second International Conference on Alternative Development in Bangkok from 19 to 24 November 2015. The Commission will have before it a note verbale dated 14 January 2016 from the Permanent Mission of Thailand transmitting the report on the outcome of that workshop and conference (E/CN.7/2016/13).

**(c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation**

Pursuant to Commission resolution 56/3, entitled “Strengthening international cooperation in combating illicit opiates originating in Afghanistan through continuous and reinforced support to the Paris Pact initiative”, UNODC will report to the Commission on the progress achieved and measures taken to implement the fourth phase of the Paris Pact initiative (E/CN.7/2016/11).

Pursuant to Commission resolution 58/6, entitled “Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking, from the anti-money-laundering perspective”, UNODC will report to the Commission on the progress made in the implementation of that resolution (E/CN.7/2016/14).

**Documentation**

Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2016/2-E/CN.15/2016/2)

Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse (E/CN.7/2016/4)



Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2016/5)

Report of the Executive Director on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/CN.7/2016/6)

Note by the Secretariat on promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (E/CN.7/2016/7)

Report of the Executive Director on responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users (E/CN.7/2016/8)

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.7/2016/11)

Note verbale dated 14 January 2016 from the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations (Vienna) addressed to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2016/13)

Report of the Executive Director on strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking, from the anti-money-laundering perspective (E/CN.7/2016/14)

## **6. Implementation of the international drug control treaties**

Under item 6, the Commission is called upon to carry out its treaty functions under the provisions of various articles of the international drug control treaties.

### **(a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations**

The sub-item entitled “Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations”, was added to the provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission and maintained on the agendas of the subsequent sessions, in order to assist Member States in applying the existing scheduling procedures contained in the three international drug control conventions.

Under that sub-item, the Commission will address the ongoing challenge in the identification and detection of new psychoactive substances. In its resolutions 58/9 and 58/11, the Commission invited the World Health Organization (WHO), with the support of UNODC and other relevant international and regional organizations, to continue reviewing and to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances, based on the conclusions of the joint UNODC and WHO expert consultation on new psychoactive substances held in Vienna from 9 to 11 December 2014. Also in its resolution 58/11, the Commission encouraged Member States, in the context of a comprehensive and balanced approach to addressing the world drug problem, to continue to consider a wide variety of legislative, regulatory and administrative measures to tackle the

emergence of new psychoactive substances, which may include temporary control measures, laws on controlled substance analogues and actions in the area of public health, including those relating to pharmaceutical products, consumer protection and hazardous substances.

Reference is made to the importance and relevance of the UNODC early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances, which enables emerging trends in new psychoactive substances to be monitored and allows data collection and information-sharing with Member States. To further assist in generating and analysing data on the situation with respect to amphetamine-type stimulants and new psychoactive substances, UNODC continues to implement the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme. Information and expertise is provided to WHO to support the prioritization and assessment of substances to be placed under international control.

**(b) Changes in the scope of control of substances**

Pursuant to article 3, paragraphs 1, 3 and 5, of the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol and article 2, paragraphs 1, 4 and 6, of the 1971 Convention, the Director-General of WHO notified the Secretary-General in her communication of 7 December 2015 of the following recommendations:

(a) Acetylfentanyl should be placed in Schedules I and IV of the 1961 Convention as amended;

(b) MT-45 should be placed in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention as amended;

(c) *para*-Methoxymethylamphetamine (PMMA) should be placed in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention;

(d)  $\alpha$ -Pyrrolidinovalerophenone ( $\alpha$ -PVP), *para*-methyl-4-methylaminorex (4,4'-DMAR) and methoxetamine (MXE) should be placed in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention;

(e) Phenazepam should be placed in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention.

In the same communication, reference was made by the Director-General of WHO to Commission decision 58/2, in which the Commission decided to postpone the consideration of the proposal concerning the recommendation to place ketamine in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention and to request additional information from WHO and other relevant sources. The Director-General informed the Secretary-General that an update review paper on ketamine had been commissioned and provided to the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence. Following its deliberations, the Committee had unanimously agreed that it found nothing in the updates, nor in what had been disclosed during its deliberations, that would give it reason to recommend a new pre-review or critical review of ketamine with a view to potentially changing its standing recommendation of 2014 that ketamine should not be placed under international control. The current standing recommendation was consistent with the recommendation made in 2012.

In accordance with the provisions of article 3, paragraph 2, of the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol and article 2, paragraph 2, of the 1971 Convention, the Secretary-General, in a note dated 30 December 2015, transmitted the

notification and its annex to all Governments and invited them to submit their comments on economic, social, legal, administrative or other factors that they considered relevant to the possible scheduling of the substances that WHO had recommended for placement under the 1961 Convention as amended and the 1971 Convention.

The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the scope of control of substances (E/CN.7/2016/9), containing the comments received by Governments on the proposed international scheduling of acetylfentanyl, MT-45, *para*-methoxymethylamphetamine (PMMA),  $\alpha$ -pyrrolidinovalerophenone ( $\alpha$ -PVP), *para*-methyl-4-methylaminorex (4,4'-DMAR) and methoxetamine (MXE). The note also contains relevant extracts of the report of the thirty-seventh meeting of the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, containing its recommendations and the assessments and findings on which they are based.

No recommendation has been received pursuant to article 12, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.

**(c) International Narcotics Control Board**

The annual report of the International Narcotics Control Board is submitted to the Economic and Social Council through the Commission, in accordance with the provisions of the international drug control treaties. The Commission may make such comments on the report as it sees fit. In addition, article 8 of the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol, article 17 of the 1971 Convention and article 21 of the 1988 Convention authorize the Commission to call the attention of the Board to any matters that may be relevant to the functions of the Board. The report of the Board for 2015 (E/INCB/2015/1) will be before the Commission.

Article 12, paragraph 13, of the 1988 Convention requires the Board to report annually to the Commission on the implementation of that article. It is suggested that the report of the Board for 2015 on the implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention (E/INCB/2015/4) should be considered at the same time as the report of the Board for 2015 (E/INCB/2015/1), in line with the recent practice of the Commission.

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

The Board decided to issue a supplement to its annual report and prepared a special report entitled *Availability of Internationally Controlled Drugs: Ensuring Adequate Access for Medical and Scientific Purposes* (E/INCB/2015/1/Supp.1). The special report describes in detail the major impediments to the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control, as identified by Member States. The report includes a set of recommendations to assist Governments in achieving the goals of the international drug control conventions in relation to ensuring the availability of controlled substances.

**(e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties**

Following the regular fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held in March 2015, and in view of the decisions taken by the Commission on the changes in the scope of control of substances, the multilingual dictionaries on narcotics drugs and precursors have been updated. In addition, the newly scheduled substances have been included in the UNODC proficiency tests to be used by national drug control laboratories.

To further assist Member States in the implementation of the decisions on changes in the scope of control of substances taken at the fifty-eighth session of the Commission, in September 2015, UNODC published a manual entitled *Recommended Methods for the Identification and Analysis of Synthetic Cathinones in Seized Materials* (ST/NAR/49). The manual provides practical guidance to national authorities and drug analysts by describing recommended methods for use in forensic laboratories. Similar manuals, published in 2013, are also available for piperazines and for synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists.

The Commission will also have before it, for information, the latest issue of the publication entitled *Competent National Authorities under the International Drug Control Treaties* (ST/NAR.3/2015/1), which provides information to facilitate cooperation between competent national authorities that are empowered to issue certificates and authorizations for the import and export of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and that regulate or enforce national controls over precursors and essential chemicals in accordance with the international drug control treaties. In order to facilitate electronic access to the information contained in that publication, UNODC has created an online directory, available through its website ([www.unodc.org/compauth\\_dct/en/index.html](http://www.unodc.org/compauth_dct/en/index.html)). Access to the directory is limited to the competent national authorities and requires registration and the issuance of a password.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat on the scope of control of substances: proposed scheduling recommendations by the World Health Organization (E/CN.7/2016/9)

*Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2015* (E/INCB/2015/1)

*Report of the International Narcotics Control Board on the Availability of Internationally Controlled Drugs: Ensuring Adequate Access for Medical and Scientific Purposes* (E/INCB/2015/1/Supp.1)

*Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2015 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (E/INCB/2015/4)

*Competent National Authorities under the International Drug Control Treaties* (ST/NAR.3/2015/1)

## **7. World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission**

In its resolution 61/183, the General Assembly requested UNODC to include in its report on drug trafficking an updated, objective and comprehensive assessment of worldwide trends in the illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means of improving the capacity of States along those routes to address all aspects of the drug problem. A report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking is contained in document E/CN.7/2016/5.

In its resolution 67/193, the General Assembly encouraged the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation. The Commission will be informed of recent trends in drug trafficking worldwide, including methods and routes used, and of the results of the meetings of its subsidiary bodies held since the fifty-eighth session. In its resolution 56/10, the Commission requested the meetings of its subsidiary bodies to contribute to the monitoring 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 at the regional level by discussing regional views on progress made in that regard.

The Commission is invited to consider the recommendations made at the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, held in Brussels from 22 to 25 June 2015, the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held in Algiers from 14 to 18 September 2015, the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, held in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, from 5 to 9 October 2015, the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 19 to 22 October 2015 and the fiftieth session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, held in Abu Dhabi from 8 to 12 November 2015, with a view to taking any required follow-up action. A report of the Secretariat on action taken by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission is contained in document E/CN.7/2016/10.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2016/5)

Report of the Secretariat on action taken by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/CN.7/2016/10)

## **8. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1**

At its fifty-eighth session, in March 2015, the Commission decided to include a standing item on its agenda, focusing on its contributions to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1. Pursuant to that resolution, the Council is expected to, inter alia, ensure the

harmonization and coordination of the agendas and work programmes of the functional commissions by promoting a clearer division of labour among them and providing clear policy guidance to them. In accordance with that same resolution, the Commission has been contributing, as appropriate, to the work of the Council relating to the common themes of the annual framework of the Council. The theme for the 2016 session of the Council is: “Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results”.

In September 2015, the Assembly adopted resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda. In paragraph 85 of the outcome document, Heads of State and Government and High Representatives envisaged that thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, including cross-cutting issues, would take place at the high-level political forum on sustainable development and that those reviews would be supported by reviews by the functional commissions of the Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums. The high-level political forum, which has a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes, would hold annual meetings under the auspices of the Council, which would pave the ground for the forum’s quadrennial meetings under the auspices of the General Assembly. To support the forum, the Commission might wish to consider identifying among the Sustainable Development Goals and the targets of the Goals, those Goals and targets that are most closely related and relevant to its mandates. The Commission might further wish to consider amending the title of its standing agenda item to include an explicit reference to “follow-up, review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and to define the documentation needed to discuss that item effectively.

### **Special segment**

The substance of agenda item 4 will be taken up during the special segment, in the context of agenda item 9.

## **9. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016**

The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/193, decided to convene, early in 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments.

In its resolution 69/200, the General Assembly decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, should lead the preparatory process for the special session of the Assembly by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner and invited the President of the Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the process.

Also in that resolution, the General Assembly invited organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks, other relevant international organizations, including the International Narcotics Control Board, and regional organizations to contribute fully to the preparations for the special session in 2016, in particular by submitting to the Commission, through the Executive Director of UNODC, specific recommendations on the issues to be addressed at the special session. The Assembly recognized the important role played by civil society and the need for its active involvement in the preparations for the special session, as well as the need for its effective, substantive and active involvement during the special session, in accordance with the rules of procedure and practice developed for other special sessions of the General Assembly.

Further to its resolution 57/5, and to ensure an adequate inclusive and effective preparatory process, the Commission established a website for the special session of the General Assembly ([www.ungass2016.org](http://www.ungass2016.org)) to enable global dialogue in an inclusive and transparent manner. All relevant United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations have been invited to send written contributions to the Secretariat. All contributions received are posted on the website, along with presentations made during intersessional meetings and interactive informal discussions and side events.

At its reconvened fifty-seventh session, in December 2014, the Commission adopted decision 57/2, pursuant to which a Board tasked by the Commission with preparations for the special session was established. The Board is in charge of organizing all actions to be taken by the Commission in preparation for the special session; addressing all organizational and substantive matters, in an open-ended manner, in preparation for and during the special segments of Commission sessions devoted to the preparations for the session; and facilitating the participation of all States Members and observers of the United Nations, along with organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks and other relevant international and regional organizations, parliamentarians, the scientific community and civil society in its preparations for the special session.

On 17 December 2015, the General Assembly adopted resolution 70/181, defining the modalities of the special session on the world drug problem, as contained in Commission resolution 58/8. The Assembly decided that the special session would be held from 19 to 21 April 2016 at United Nations headquarters in New York and would consist of a general debate and interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables conducted in parallel with the plenary. The Commission, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session, was requested to address in an open-ended manner, supported and guided by the President of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements, including chairing arrangements, speakers and participation, for five round tables, while considering the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, in line with General Assembly resolutions 67/193 and 69/201. The themes of the round tables are the same as the themes of the interactive discussions held during the fifty-eighth session of the Commission.

At its reconvened fifty-eighth session, the Commission adopted decision 58/16, entitled “Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016”, defining the organizational arrangements for the five round tables to be held at the special session. In its decision, the Commission

specified the schedule, chairing arrangements, speakers for and participation in the round tables.

The Assembly, in its resolution 70/181, also requested the Commission to produce a short, substantive, concise and action-oriented document comprising a set of operational recommendations, based upon a review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements as well as ways to address long-standing and emerging challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments. That document, to be recommended for adoption at the plenary of the special session, would, *inter alia*, address measures to reach an effective balance between supply and demand reduction and address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice and security fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility.

The Commission, with the support of the Board tasked with the preparations for the special session, undertook an intensive process towards producing the outcome document. At the intersessional meeting held on 24 September 2015, the Board presented the Commission with a paper reflecting the main elements, as they had been identified in the many contributions received from Member States. From September to December 2015, the Commission further fine-tuned the main elements to be included in the outcome document and undertook discussions on the operational recommendations envisaged.

In January 2016, the Commission started work on a zero draft, prepared by the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session. The text was the subject of further negotiation during the intersessional period and will be submitted for adoption by the Commission at its fifty-ninth session and onwards transmittal to the General Assembly.

At its fifty-eighth session, in its decision 58/15, the Commission approved the preliminary provisional agenda for the special segment to be held during the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, on preparations for the special session. In accordance with that agenda, the special segment will be conducted as follows:

1. Opening of the special segment.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016:
  - (a) Consideration of the draft provisional agenda of the special session, including preparations for the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables;
  - (b) Consideration of the outcome of the special session;
  - (c) Consideration of any other matters.
4. Other business.
5. Outcome and closure of the special segment.



The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretariat on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (E/CN.7/2016/15).

The Commission will also have before it the contribution of the Executive Director of UNODC to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (UNODC/ED/2016/1).

Also during the special segment, the Commission will have before it the report of the Executive Director of UNODC on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/CN.7/2016/6).

### **Documentation**

Contribution of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (UNODC/ED/2016/1)

Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on actions taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/CN.7/2016/6)

Note by the Secretariat on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (E/CN.7/2016/15)

## **10. Provisional agenda for the sixtieth session of the Commission**

Under agenda item 10, the Commission should devote time to the consideration of any further enhancements that it may deem appropriate to the provisional agenda for its sixtieth and subsequent sessions. The Commission should also continue its review of its methods of work with a view to making any necessary adjustments and enhancements that it may deem appropriate, including with regard to arrangements for the duration of its sessions held in the first half of each year, deadlines for draft resolutions to be considered at its sessions held in the first half of each year and the content and length of its reports, taking into consideration its decision 55/1, entitled “Organization of work for the future sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs”.

## **11. Other business**

No issues that need to be raised under item 11 have come to the attention of the Secretariat and no documentation on the item is currently foreseen.

## **12. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-ninth session**

It is expected that the Commission will adopt the report on the March part of its fifty-ninth session in the afternoon of 22 March 2016, the last day of that part of the session.

## Annex

### Proposed organization of work

1. In its resolution 1991/39, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should establish a committee, the membership of which should be open to all States members of the Commission, to perform such functions as requested by the Commission in order to assist it in dealing with its agenda and to facilitate its work.
2. In accordance with its practice, the Commission, at its reconvened fifty-eighth session, held from 9 to 11 December 2015, agreed that informal consultations would be held on Friday, 11 March 2016.
3. In accordance with established practice, the Commission will first consider draft resolutions in the Committee of the Whole before they are submitted to the plenary. Pursuant to Commission decision 55/1, the formal deadline for submission of draft resolutions to be considered at the fifty-ninth session is four weeks prior to the commencement of the session, i.e. Monday, 15 February 2016, at 12 noon. States members of the Commission intending to submit draft resolutions for consideration at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission are requested to submit them to the Secretariat as early as possible and at the latest by the formal deadline.
4. The proposed organization of work is subject to approval by the Commission. As soon as discussion on an item or sub-item has been concluded, the following one will be taken up, time permitting. Suggested meeting times are from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

### Informal pre-session consultations, 11 March 2016

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*Date and time*

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#### **Friday, 11 March**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Informal consultations
3-6 p.m.	Informal consultations

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### Proposed organization of work for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, 14-22 March 2016, including its special segment

#### **Regular segment**

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Committee of the Whole</i>
<b>Monday, 14 March</b>		
10 a.m.	Opening of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs	
	<i>Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters</i>	

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### Special segment, 14-16 March 2016

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Committee of the Whole</i>
<b>Monday, 14 March</b>		
10.15 a.m.	Opening of the special segment Adoption of the organization of work for the special segment and other organizational matters	
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016: (a) Consideration of the draft provisional agenda of the special session, including preparations for the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables (b) Consideration of the outcome of the special session (c) Consideration of any other matters	
3-6 p.m.	Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 ( <i>continued</i> )	
<b>Tuesday, 15 March</b>		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 ( <i>continued</i> )	
3-6 p.m.	Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 ( <i>continued</i> )	
<b>Wednesday, 16 March</b>		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Other business	
3-6 p.m.	Outcome and closure of the special segment	Consideration of draft resolutions

### Regular segment (*continued*)

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Committee of the Whole</i>
<b>Thursday, 17 March</b>		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	<i>Item 2.</i> Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters ( <i>continued</i> )	Consideration of draft resolutions ( <i>continued</i> )
	<b>Normative segment</b>	
	<i>Item 5.</i> Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016: (a) Demand reduction and related measures (b) Supply reduction and related measures (c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation	
3-6 p.m.	<i>Item 6.</i> Implementation of the international drug control treaties: (a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the	Consideration of draft resolutions ( <i>continued</i> )

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Committee of the Whole</i>
	<p>review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations</p> <p>(b) Changes in the scope of control of substances</p> <p>(c) International Narcotics Control Board</p> <p>(d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion</p> <p>(e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties</p>	
<b>Friday, 18 March</b>		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	<i>Item 6. Implementation of the international drug control treaties (continued)</i>	Consideration of draft resolutions (continued)
3-6 p.m.	<p><b>Operational segment</b></p> <p><i>Item 3. 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:</i></p> <p>(a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives</p> <p>(b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime</p> <p>(i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime</p> <p>(ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions</p> <p>(c) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters</p>	Consideration of draft resolutions (continued)
<b>Monday, 21 March</b>		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	<i>Item 7. World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission</i>	Consideration of draft resolutions (continued)
3-6 p.m.	<i>Item 8. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1</i>	Consideration of draft resolutions (continued)
<b>Tuesday, 22 March</b>		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	<i>Item 10. Provisional agenda for the sixtieth session of the Commission</i>	Consideration of draft resolutions (continued)
	<i>Item 11. Other business</i>	
3-6 p.m.	<i>Item 12. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-ninth session</i>	