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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

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Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

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

Nicaragua and Spain: draft resolution

Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: recommendations of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling its resolution 52/13 of 20 March 2009, entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”, in which it decided to establish a standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on governance and finance, in order to achieve the common objective of strengthening the performance and effectiveness of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 2009/251 of 30 July 2009, entitled “Frequency and duration of the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”, in which the Council decided that, starting in 2010, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would hold reconvened sessions on an annual basis in the second half of the year, in order to be able, pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3 of 24 April 2009, to consider the reports of and the recommendations proposed by 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.7/2017/1.



Reaffirming its role as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 54/10 of 25 March 2011, 56/11 of 15 March 2013 and 58/1 of 17 March 2015, entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: recommendations of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”,

Concerned about the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and aware of the need to continue addressing that situation in a pragmatic, results-oriented, efficient and cooperative manner,

1. *Takes note* of the work of and the 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 Crime¹ in accordance with Commission resolutions 52/13, 54/10, 56/11 and 58/1;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Co-Chairs of the working group for their work and to the Secretariat for its assistance in facilitating the work of the working group, including by providing, inter alia, updates on the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and briefings and presentations on regional and global programmes and on evaluation and oversight issues to the working group, and requests the Secretariat to continue providing such necessary assistance, bearing in mind the limited resources available to it;

3. *Welcomes* the established practice of having a clear schedule of meetings and programme of work for the working group, requests that a draft agenda for each meeting of the working group be distributed no later than 10 working days before the meeting, accompanied by all the relevant documents for the meeting, and reiterates the importance of the development of an indicative annual workplan by Member States, taking into account input from the Secretariat;

Continuous support for strengthening the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

4. *Recalls* that the working group has, on several occasions, discussed fundraising issues, so as to ensure adequate, predictable and stable funding, and has also discussed ways to achieve a sustainable balance between core and non-core funding for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, so as to ensure delivery capacity and the sustainability of its programmes;

5. *Also recalls* that the working group has been considering the implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 58/12 of 17 March 2015 and 59/9 of 2 December 2016, and of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 24/3 of 11 December 2015 and 25/4 of 2 December 2016, and has been briefed on the transition to the full cost recovery funding model and on the implementation of Umoja;

6. *Requests* the working group to continue examining and discussing the funding situation and financial management of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, inter alia, by:

(a) Receiving reports on, and facilitating, the resource mobilization process to promote global and regional programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and

¹ E/CN.7/2017/3-E/CN.15/2017/3 and Add.1.

Crime, stressing their resource requirements, and enhancing funding predictability in line with the strategic frameworks for the periods 2016-2017 and 2018-2019;

(b) Continuing to discuss with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime efforts to further encourage donors to provide general-purpose funding, including by further increasing the transparency and quality of reporting, and continuing to discuss the reasons for the low level of general-purpose funding, with a view to restoring an adequate balance between general-purpose and special-purpose funds;

(c) Continuing to consider the progress and impact of the implementation of full cost recovery and the application and allocation of programme support costs, with a view to increasing the effectiveness and results of the technical assistance programmes of the Office;

(d) Receiving reports on the impact of the implementation of Umoja on the delivery of the Office's programmes;

Continuous support for promoting an integrated programme approach

7. *Recalls* that the working group has been following the progress made by the Office in implementing an integrated programming approach aimed at strengthening the links between normative mandates and operational technical assistance and improving linkages between policy, strategic planning, evaluation, programmatic work, mobilization of resources and partnerships with all relevant stakeholders;

8. *Requests* the working group to:

(a) Continue promoting regular dialogue among all Member States, as well as with the Office, on the planning and formulation of the operational activities of the Office, especially with regard to its global and regional programmes, in line with the strategic frameworks for the periods 2016-2017 and 2018-2019;

(b) Continue receiving information from the Office on progress made in the implementation of regional and global programmes carried out within the framework of the related thematic programmes, as well as on progress made with regard to integrating lessons learned and recommendations from evaluations within and across regions, ensuring complementarities among programmes and their alignment with the strategic frameworks for the periods 2016-2017 and 2018-2019;

(c) Continue discussing with the Office the implementation of results-based management and budgeting;

Continuous support for promoting a culture of evaluation within the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation

9. *Recalls* that the working group has been shown numerous presentations on evaluation findings, on which occasions participants have reiterated the importance of having a sustainable, effective and operationally independent corporate evaluation function at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime that is focused on the implementation, performance and impact of integrated programmes and their consistency with mandates of the Office;

10. *Requests* the working group to invite the Independent Evaluation Unit to:

(a) Continue providing the working group with findings of the evaluations of the programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(b) Continue promoting a culture of evaluation throughout the Office at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation;

(c) Continue working with the Office to monitor the implementation of recommendations made by relevant oversight bodies;

(d) Continue working with the Office to increase coordination between evaluation, audit and other oversight bodies, with the aim of building a continuum of oversight of projects and programmes of the Office;

Continuous support for improved gender balance and geographical representation

11. *Recalls* that the working group has been discussing the question of geographical representation and gender balance in the composition of the staff of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as part of its efforts to improve the governance of the Office;

12. *Requests* the working group to:

(a) Continue addressing the issue of gender and geographical representation and its evolution in order to discuss possible measures for further improvement in this area by, inter alia, intensifying outreach efforts;

(b) Continue receiving updated and comprehensive information, including in a disaggregated way, on the composition of the staff and the recruitment policies of the Office;

Continuous support for gender mainstreaming in the policies and programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

13. *Recalls* that the working group has been discussing the question of gender mainstreaming in the policies and programmes of the Office, as part of its efforts to align its work with the Office's guidance note on gender mainstreaming;

14. *Requests* the working group to:

(a) Continue addressing the question of gender mainstreaming in the policies and programmes of the Office in order to discuss possible measures for further improvement in this area;

(b) Continue receiving updated and comprehensive information on the ways in which gender is mainstreamed into the policies and programmes of the Office.