



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 December 2021

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Sixty-fifth session

Vienna, 14–18 March 2022

Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

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

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

Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present document has been prepared pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs 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”. In that resolution, the Commission called for collaboration among Member States represented both in the Commission and on the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) towards the promotion of better coordination and alignment of the HIV/AIDS response in order to scale up towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention, care, treatment and support services for drug users. Also in that resolution, the Commission requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to share relevant decisions of the Board with the Member States at each session of the Commission held in the first half of the year, starting with the fifty-second session, and requested UNODC to transmit relevant resolutions of the Commission each year to the Chair of the Programme Coordinating Board. The present document contains information on relevant decisions made by the Board at its forty-seventh session, held online from 15 to 18 December 2020, and at its forty-eighth session, held online from 29 June to 2 July 2021, as well as at its special session held online on 24 and 25 March 2021.

* [E/CN.7/2022/1](#).



Promoting the sharing of decisions and resolutions among Member States represented both in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and on the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

1. At its forty-seventh meeting, held online from 15 to 18 December 2020, and at its forty-eighth meeting, held online from 29 June to 2 July 2021, the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) recalled that all aspects of the work of UNAIDS were directed by the following guiding principles: they should be aligned with national stakeholders' priorities; they should be based on the meaningful and measurable involvement of civil society, especially people living with HIV and populations most at risk of HIV infection; they should be based on human rights and gender equality; they should be based on the best available scientific evidence and technical knowledge; they should promote comprehensive responses to AIDS that integrate prevention, treatment, care and support; and they should be based on the principle of non-discrimination.¹
2. In the light of the specific circumstances arising from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) health crisis, the Board agreed to hold its forty-seventh meeting online, as proposed by its Bureau at the intersessional meeting held in Geneva on 21 September 2020.
3. At its forty-seventh meeting, the Board discussed and arrived at decisions, recommendations and conclusions with regard to, inter alia, the agenda item on the report of the non-governmental organization representative. The Board urged the Joint Programme to ensure full and meaningful participation of civil society representation at the Board through the non-governmental organization delegation and requested the Joint Programme to ensure that strategies for community and civil society engagement were enshrined in the next Global AIDS Strategy.
4. At the same meeting, under the agenda item on the UNAIDS strategy beyond 2021, the Board took note of the annotated outline of the Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026 and requested the Executive Director of UNAIDS to present the Strategy at a special session of the Board no later than March 2021 for consideration and adoption.
5. Also at the same meeting, under the agenda item on the annual progress report on HIV prevention 2020, the Board requested the Joint Programme to ensure that the prevention of new HIV infections was given high priority in the new Global AIDS Strategy and the new UNAIDS Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework. The Board requested Member States and the Joint Programme to lead a vision for HIV prevention that intensified focus and investment in strategies and programmes for key and vulnerable populations with a high incidence of HIV in all regions, and noted that the Global AIDS Strategy should include a clearly defined approach to overcome financing, implementation and legal and policy barriers to HIV prevention, with a particular focus on key populations, and should equally incorporate strengthening and resourcing of community-led interventions. In addition, the Board called upon Member States to address key underlying legal, policy and structural barriers affecting key populations and adolescent girls and young women.
6. Also at its forty-seventh meeting, under the agenda item on the follow-up to the thematic segment of the forty-fifth Programme Coordinating Board meeting, the Board, inter alia, called upon Member States to prevent new vertical (mother-to-child) HIV infections by ensuring delivery of optimal diagnostic, prevention and treatment services for pregnant and breastfeeding women and to prioritize and ensure access to the most appropriate paediatric formulations for both HIV and tuberculosis.

¹ The decisions, recommendations and conclusions of the Programme Coordinating Board at its meetings are available at www.unaids.org.

7. At the same meeting, under the agenda item on COVID-19 and HIV, the Board requested the Joint Programme and Member States to monitor the health and social impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the HIV response to allow all stakeholders to understand and address the drivers and mitigate the effects. The Board requested the Joint Programme to support countries and communities to protect and enhance efforts to scale up HIV prevention, treatment and care in the context of COVID-19 by building on and sharing lessons learned, best practices and innovations, including multi-month dispensing and community engagement. The Board called upon donors and Member States to protect and intensify investments, resource allocations and social protection measures for all affected people living with and at risk of HIV, particularly vulnerable and key populations, most impacted by the dual HIV and COVID-19 pandemics.

8. In the light of the specific circumstances arising from the COVID-19 health crisis, the Board agreed that its special session in March 2021 and its forty-eighth meeting would be held online, as proposed by its Bureau at the intersessional meeting held in Geneva on 15 January 2021.

9. At the special session in March 2021, the Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026 was adopted by consensus.²

10. At its forty-eighth meeting, under the agenda item on the follow-up to the thematic segment of the forty-seventh Programme Coordinating Board meeting, the Board, inter alia, called upon Member States to adequately invest in and scale up human papillomavirus vaccination and cervical cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment and care services through integrated and multisectoral delivery platforms and community systems that address health inequalities and other vulnerabilities of girls and women, including those living with HIV and from key populations, to both HIV and cervical cancer.

11. At the same meeting, under the agenda item entitled “Update on the implementation of the HIV response for migrant and mobile populations”, the Board called upon the Joint Programme to further operationalize the provisions of the Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026 with respect to HIV among migrant and mobile populations, as well as refugees and crisis-affected populations, by collecting data on HIV among migrant and mobile populations, as well as refugees and crisis-affected populations, and by reinvigorating efforts for effective action to address HIV among migrant and mobile populations, as well as refugees and crisis-affected populations, including through strategic partnerships with other relevant actors (such as, but not limited to, the Inter-Agency Task Team on HIV in Emergencies).

² Details on the adoption of the *Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026: End Inequalities, End AIDS* can be found at www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/Decisions_PCBSS_2021_EN.pdf.