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Twelfth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

Vienna, 27-30 June 2017

Provisional agenda and annotations**I. Provisional agenda**

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe.
5. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016.
6. Consideration of topics by working groups:
 - (a) Use of the Internet for drug-related activities;
 - (b) Alternatives to imprisonment for certain offences as demand reduction strategies that promote public health and public safety;
 - (c) Money-laundering, illicit financial flows and effective countermeasures;
 - (d) Mainstreaming gender perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes.
7. Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.
8. Organization of the Thirteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe.
9. Other business.
10. Adoption of the report of the Twelfth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe.

* Available only in English, French, Russian and Spanish, which are the working languages of the subsidiary body.



II. Annotations

1. Election of officers

Elections are held in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. In the past, Meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, have elected a Chair, two Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The draft provisional agenda for the Twelfth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, was approved at the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, held in Brussels from 22 to 25 June 2015.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the Twelfth Meeting may wish to establish a timetable and agree on its organization of work. A proposed organization of work for the consideration of the Meeting is contained in the annex to the present document.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (UNODC/HONEURO/12/1)

3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation

Participants are invited to inform the Twelfth Meeting of their States' efforts with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in areas such as joint investigations, law enforcement training and the sharing of information on and experiences with drug trafficking countermeasures.

Participants are also invited to inform the Twelfth Meeting of any practical problems impeding subregional cooperation and to suggest measures to overcome them.

Participants are requested to submit to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, prior to the holding of the Twelfth Meeting, a three-page country report informing the Meeting about trends in drug trafficking and, in line with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/10, providing information on supply and demand reduction efforts undertaken and on international cooperation to counter money-laundering and promote judicial cooperation. Only those country reports received by the date indicated in the invitation to the Twelfth Meeting will be translated into the working languages of the Meeting.

Documentation

Report of the Secretariat on statistics on drug trafficking trends in Europe and worldwide (UNODC/HONEURO/12/2)

Report of the Secretariat on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation (UNODC/HONEURO/12/3)

4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

Participants are invited to inform the Twelfth Meeting of action taken by their Governments to implement the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh Meeting. The Twelfth Meeting will have before it a note by the Secretariat based on replies received to a questionnaire concerning action taken by Governments.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the review of implementation, by States of the region, of the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe (UNODC/HONEURO/12/4)

5. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016

In its resolution 56/10, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs 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 at the regional level by discussing regional views on progress made in that regard under the agenda item entitled “Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem”.

In the same resolution, the Commission encouraged Member States to consider the expertise and composition of their delegations to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies, with a view to covering the various aspects of the world drug problem (demand, supply and international cooperation) in order to hold substantive discussions on the issue and to actively participate in the above-mentioned agenda item, and requested the meetings of the subsidiary bodies, on the basis of their deliberations, to submit regional recommendations aimed at moving forward in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

The General Assembly held a special session on the world drug problem from 19 to 21 April 2016 and adopted an outcome document entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem” (General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex).

The outcome document contains 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.

The outcome document contains a broad range of operational recommendations, covering the following seven thematic areas: (a) demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as other health-related issues; (b) ensuring the availability of and access to controlled substances exclusively for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion; (c) supply reduction and related measures, effective law enforcement, responses to drug-related crime, and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation; (d) cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, children, women and communities; (e) cross-cutting issues in addressing and countering the world drug problem: evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats, including new psychoactive substances, in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments; (f) strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility; and (g) alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; and addressing socioeconomic issues.

Member States resolved to take the steps necessary to implement the operational recommendations, in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society, and to share with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime

responsibility for drug control matters, timely information on progress made in the implementation of those recommendations.

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs has started the follow-up process to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016 with a focus on implementing the recommendations. To that end, two rounds of discussions were held on all seven thematic areas. In October 2016 the discussions focused on the sharing of experiences, lessons learned and activities already undertaken to implement the recommendations. The thematic discussions held in January 2017 concentrated on action that could be taken by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to implement the recommendations. More information on the follow-up process can be found at www.unodc.org/postungass2016/en/follow-up-process.html.

At its sixtieth session, in March 2017, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided to convene a ministerial segment to be held during its sixty-second session, to be held in Vienna in 2019, aimed at taking stock of the implementation of the commitments made to jointly address and counter the world drug problem, in particular in the light of the 2019 target date contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

Under this item, participants of the Meeting will be invited to consider the challenges posed to the States of the region with regard to the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. Participants will also be invited to discuss how they could best contribute to the follow-up by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the special session of the General Assembly held in 2016 and the implementation of the outcome document, drawing on their technical expertise and their regional experiences.

Documentation

Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (*Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. 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)

6. Consideration of topics by working groups

Ad hoc working groups will be established to consider issues of regional importance and to facilitate informal discussions and frank exchanges of views, with a view to enhancing cooperation. The working groups are invited to present their findings, conclusions and recommendations to the plenary for endorsement and inclusion in the report of the Twelfth Meeting.

On the basis of consultations on developments in the region, each working group will be invited to consider one of the issues below.

(a) Use of the Internet for drug-related activities

The Internet and related communication technologies are used by trafficking and other criminal groups to facilitate their illegal activities. Participants will be asked to share their experiences of such technologies being employed by criminal groups. The working group will seek to identify current common threats and propose recommendations on countermeasures available to law enforcement authorities to meet those threats. It will also discuss the gathering and preservation of evidence from new sources and best practices for presenting such materials as evidence in the courts. Speakers may wish to include in their overview the use of the darknet to thwart investigations, observations on the use of the bitcoin as a method of payment and successful techniques that may be deployed to counter these new developments. Participants should review the options that current legislation provides for their

agencies to act effectively in this area and come prepared to comment and make recommendations on best practices and further measures to improve effectiveness.

In addition, the working group may wish to consider the use of the Internet for prevention purposes, including through the use of social media and other social networks, aimed at protecting, in particular, children and young people from the abuse of controlled substances and new psychoactive substances.

(b) Alternatives to imprisonment for certain offences as demand reduction strategies that promote public health and public safety

The working group will examine alternatives to conviction or punishment that are available, in line with the international drug control conventions, for people with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system. Participants will be encouraged to share national experiences and challenges related to the use of alternatives at the pretrial, trial and post-trial stages, providing examples of options available and relevant criteria. Participants will be invited to reflect on the impact on public health and security of establishing alternative pathways to imprisonment. The workshop will also be focused on the interface between the criminal justice system and essential health-care and social services, and promising practices in terms of coordination and cooperation between those sectors will be highlighted.

(c) Money-laundering, illicit financial flows and effective countermeasures

The working group will look at current trends reported in criminal financial transactions in order to develop recommendations that encourage common strategies, stronger legislation and better professional training to meet those challenges. Participants will be encouraged to describe examples of the criminal economy derived from drug trafficking in their countries, share details of established measures to disrupt illicit financial flows and methods and provide information on strategies introduced to prevent the laundering of the illicit profits generated by drug trafficking. Participants will be asked to share their experiences in the collection, analysis and exchange of information on the illicit financial flows of criminal organizations engaged in drug trafficking, in the investigation of money-laundering offences and in the seizure and forfeiture of assets acquired by drug traffickers. What are the challenges that have had to be overcome in order to deprive criminals of such profits and what recommendations can be proposed to shape future collective initiatives to disrupt the criminal networks involved?

(d) Mainstreaming gender perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes¹

The working group will consider the importance of gender-sensitive measures that take into account the specific needs and circumstances of women and girls with regard to the world drug problem, in particular in the implementation of Commission resolution 59/5 and of the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly. Participants will be encouraged to share national experiences in mainstreaming a gender perspective into all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of drug policies and programmes. The workshop will also serve as a platform for sharing best practices and lessons learned regarding national initiatives to implement international instruments including the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules). Participants will also be encouraged to share national experiences on the participation of women in drug-related crimes and to discuss conditions that continue to make women and girls vulnerable to exploitation and participation in drug trafficking, including as couriers.

¹ This issue has been added in order to align the present provisional agenda with the format followed in 2016 by the other regional meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and by the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East.

7. Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1 read as follows:

In response to the invitation contained in paragraph 97 of General Assembly resolution 71/211 of 19 December 2016, and mindful of the requests contained in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/10 of 15 March 2013 and the operational recommendation contained in paragraph 6 (c) of 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”, the Commission, at its 9th meeting, on 17 March 2017, decided:

- (a) To examine how its subsidiary bodies could better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document,
- (b) To inform its subsidiary bodies of the invitation contained in paragraph 97 of General Assembly resolution 71/211,
- (c) To invite the subsidiary bodies to consider that invitation at their upcoming meetings and report back to the Commission in due course.

The Meeting will be invited to consider the invitation by the General Assembly to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to examine how its subsidiary bodies could better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document and report back to the Commission on its findings.

8. Organization of the Thirteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

The Twelfth Meeting is invited to review a draft provisional agenda for the Thirteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, including topics for discussion in working groups and possible venues for future meetings. A decision taken by the Twelfth Meeting on the venue of the Thirteenth Meeting and the topics for the working groups would greatly facilitate the preparation and organization of the Thirteenth Meeting. The secretariat will provide, upon request, a copy of the standard letter of agreement setting out the contributions of the United Nations and the host Government.

Participants are also invited to discuss any other matter related to the organization of the deliberations, with a view to improving their substantive content and follow-up.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the Thirteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe (UNODC/HONEURO/12/5)

9. Other business

Under the item entitled “Other business”, participants of the Twelfth Meeting may wish to address any other important issues, such as urgent matters reflected in the country reports.

10. Adoption of the report of the Twelfth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

The Twelfth Meeting will adopt its report, including the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the working groups, on the last day of the Meeting.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Tuesday, 27 June		
8-10 a.m.		Registration
10 a.m.-1 p.m.		Opening
	1	Election of officers
	2	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	3	Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation
3-6 p.m.	3	Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation (<i>continued</i>)
	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh Meeting
	5	Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016
Wednesday, 28 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	6	Consideration of topics by working group 1
		Consideration of topics by working group 2
3-6 p.m.	6	Consideration of topics by working group 2 (<i>continued</i>)
		Consideration of topics by working group 3
Thursday, 29 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	6	Consideration of topics by working group 3 (<i>continued</i>)
		Consideration of topics by working group 4
3-6 p.m.	5	Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016 (<i>continued</i>)
	7	Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs
	9	Other business
Friday, 30 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	8	Organization of the Thirteenth Meeting
	10	Adoption of the report of the Twelfth Meeting