

19 October 2015

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**Report of 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**

**I. Matters calling for action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs or brought to its attention**

**Recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean**

1. The participants in the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Latin America and the Caribbean:

(a) Recalled the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted during the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182, in which Member States recommended that the General Assembly should hold a special session to address the world drug problem;

(b) Also recalled General Assembly resolution 67/193, in which the Assembly 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, 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;

(c) Took note with appreciation of the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted by the Commission at its fifty-seventh session, in which achievements,

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



challenges and priorities for action within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments were identified;

(d) Welcomed the decision made by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/200 that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs 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;

(e) Resolved to continue to support and contribute to the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 2016, in view of the request made by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in its resolution 56/10, to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission 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;

(f) Submitted the following regional recommendations made by the working groups, aimed at moving forward in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

**Issue 1. Prevention, investigation and prosecution of microtrafficking and its links to transnational criminal networks**

2. With regard to issue 1, “Prevention, investigation and prosecution of microtrafficking and its links to transnational criminal networks”, the following recommendations were made:

(a) In developing an effective law enforcement response to microtrafficking, Governments should ensure that authorities apply all the specialist law enforcement responses available to them when investigating and prosecuting those who have been acting with impunity to profit from it;

(b) To be effective in combating microtrafficking, Governments must take steps to introduce demand reduction programmes, apply effective law enforcement controls and establish programmes for sustainable social development in those communities most at risk;

(c) Governments should be encouraged to address microtrafficking by adopting an integrated multi-agency response in which local government, criminal justice agencies, community organizations and youth organizations work with groups and communities at risk.

**Issue 2. Border management**

3. With regard to issue 2, “Border management”, the following recommendations were made:

(a) Growing trade volumes, passenger numbers and numbers of international vessel movements should encourage Governments to develop border management strategies that will support inter-agency cooperation and best utilize existing legislative powers, professional experience and operational resources of their law enforcement authorities;

(b) In response to the use of light aircraft to transport illicit drugs across the region's international borders, Governments should take steps to develop a rapid response platform for operational cooperation with neighbouring States and regional counterparts to enable their law enforcement and security services to coordinate quickly and respond appropriately;

(c) Governments of the region are encouraged to develop closer cooperation and coordination in managing their maritime and land borders.

**Issue 3. Acting effectively to address current trends in trafficking in cocaine, and curbing access to the supply of precursor chemicals**

4. With regard to issue 3, "Acting effectively to address current trends in trafficking in cocaine, and curbing access to the supply of precursor chemicals", the following recommendations were made:

(a) Where they have not already done so, Governments are encouraged to establish a collaborative relationship with their domestic chemical industry and associated distributors in order to foster the ready communication of information needed by authorities to maintain controls over precursor chemicals;

(b) Governments must encourage their drug law enforcement authorities to forge relationships of trust with their operational counterparts across the region and develop strategies and procedures with them, so as to better target the movement of cocaine and the persons responsible for its transport;

(c) Governments are encouraged to act to better fulfil their reporting obligations to the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and provide information on seizures and on stopped and suspicious shipments of chemicals included in Tables I and II of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, and on seizures and on stopped and suspicious shipments of non-controlled substances, so as to identify the source of the chemicals and their point of diversion.

**Other recommendations**

5. The following additional recommendations were made:

(a) The efforts Member States have made to achieve the goals set by the Political Declaration and Plan of Action should be acknowledged, given that difficulties and challenges persist in fully reaching those goals and in eliminating or reducing significantly and measurably by the target date of 2019 the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant, in full respect of traditional licit uses, as well as the illicit production, manufacture, marketing and distribution of psychotropic substances;

(b) Governments should develop clear and quantifiable indicators that show progress made and results achieved in the field of drug supply reduction; such indicators should not be limited to the quantity of drugs seized or the number of arrests made, and should be balanced by an evaluation related to demand reduction-related objectives;

(c) Governments should enhance their efforts to counter the use by drug traffickers of new technologies, including the Internet, in compliance with the

Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

(d) Governments should conduct additional studies to understand the structural causes underlying the world drug problem, including conditions of vulnerability and aggravating factors such as poverty, marginalization and violence that affect sustainable human development and have a negative impact on the social fabric;

(e) Governments should consider innovative approaches to the evolving challenge of new psychoactive substances and synthetic drugs, without prejudice to the availability of and access to controlled medicines;

(f) Governments should consider enhancing the balanced approach to demand and supply reduction referred to in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, with regard to themes such as human rights, gender perspective, corruption, access to justice, and new forms of organized crime;

(g) Governments should strengthen their efforts to reduce violence related to illicit drug trafficking, by remedying the vulnerabilities that aggravate the structural causes of the world drug problem;

(h) A multidisciplinary and participatory approach should be followed that includes the input and participation of various international and regional organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, such as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), in order to reinforce coherence and synergies;

(i) In implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, Governments should take into account the human rights, security and development pillars of General Assembly resolution 70/1 entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. Doing so could also support the international strategy against drugs.

## **II. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures**

6. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 5 October 2015, the Meeting considered item 3 of its agenda, entitled “Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures”. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it two notes prepared by the Secretariat, “Statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Americas and worldwide” (UNODC/HONLAC/25/2) and “Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation” (UNODC/HONLAC/25/3). In addition, country reports on the illicit drug trafficking situation were submitted by Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Italy, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Spain and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (UNODC/HONLAC/25/CRP.1-9) by 5 August 2015. After that date, country reports were submitted by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, and Trinidad and Tobago.

7. A representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) introduced the item and made an audiovisual presentation on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking. The presentation was based on information provided by Governments to UNODC. Representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico and Spain made statements and/or gave audiovisual presentations.

8. Many participants informed the Meeting about recent developments relating to drug trafficking trends and the drug control situation in their countries and in the region and provided information and data on national advances and achievements made in combating drug trafficking. Updated data and information on drug seizures, methods of concealment, air and maritime trafficking routes and the arrest and extradition of significant individuals were also shared. Reference was also made to the eradication of illicit crops, the dismantling of drug laboratories and the seizure of small aircraft used by traffickers. Among current trends reported were the trading of liquid cocaine and the appearance in the region of new psychoactive substances. New psychoactive substances were a source of concern because most countries did not have adequate legislation in place to address them.

9. Some speakers drew attention to the latest threats posed by drug trafficking by sea, highlighting the increased use of semi-submersible vehicles, fast boats, radio equipment, the Global Positioning System (GPS) and tracking equipment to monitor surveillance.

10. Reports were made on exchanges of intelligence and on several joint cross-border land, sea and air operations that had resulted in seizures of cocaine destined for North American and European markets. Various countries reported undertaking multilateral initiatives, such as with UNODC, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Police Community of the Americas (AMERIPOL), the Financial Action Task Force, and the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units. Various speakers reported on enhanced screening, conducted with the support of the UNODC/World Customs Organization (WCO) Container Control Programme, of containers in transit through ports.

11. In some countries, drug trafficking had a strong impact on homicide rates and was linked to gangs. Some speakers noted that a lack of employment opportunities, combined with an insufficient law enforcement presence, drove young people towards drug trafficking. Drug trafficking was fed by poverty, and had an impact on the peace and security of citizens.

12. Some speakers underlined that their countries were transit points situated between primary producer and consumer markets. In some cases economic contraction, lack of investments and unemployment could result in more violence and a weakened rule of law. There was a need to address organized crime and violence through education, health and social services.

13. One country reported having introduced new legislation to enable the extradition of nationals who have committed offences in foreign countries and to curb communication within prisons to prevent the coordination of criminality. Laws to recover the proceeds of crime and drug trafficking had been introduced in several countries, which had resulted in the confiscation of goods and the seizure of homes and other real estate. In some cases legislation had been amended to distinguish between drug use and drug trafficking. One Government reported having introduced

legislative reforms to differentiate between amounts for personal consumption and amounts for trafficking.

14. Other measures reported by speakers included precursor seizures and the destruction of clandestine landing strips. Some speakers reported on multi-agency responses by ministries of public health, education, and social welfare, together with non-governmental organizations, to combat drug trafficking.

15. Some delegations reported on their programmes to reduce drug demand, which included preventive education, advice and care. Telephone hotlines provided confidential guidance to users about drug treatment. Other measures included outreach activities and attempts to make early contact with drug users, and teaching users to make wise decisions and consider the consequences of their choices.

16. Some speakers referred to alternatives for farmers who grow illicit crops and their families, to be combined with interdiction efforts targeting the criminal organizations that sponsor them. Some delegations noted that, as an alternative to forced eradication, there was a need to introduce new farming techniques and products to end farmers' dependence on illicit crops. It was also important to maintain an enforcement presence in the affected areas to discourage recidivism. One delegation reported on a policy to eliminate illicit crops based on what it referred to as "social control" and human rights. Manual eradication had replaced aerial spraying in some countries.

### **III. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean**

17. At its 2nd meeting, on 5 October 2015, the Meeting considered item 4 of its agenda, entitled "Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean". The Meeting had before it a note by the Secretariat (UNODC/HONLAC/25/4) prepared on the basis of information provided by Governments in response to a questionnaire sent to all States members of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean. The document reflected the answers received by the Secretariat from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) by 13 August 2015.

18. The Secretary of the Meeting made an introductory statement. The representatives of Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador and Mexico made statements to amend information reported in UNODC/HONLAC/25/4 that did not fully reflect the replies provided in the questionnaires, or to expand on or update the information. Some of the updates concerned changes in legislation or institutional frameworks that had taken place since the replies had been provided.

## IV. Consideration of topics by working groups

19. At its 3rd to 6th meetings, from 6 to 7 October 2015, the Meeting considered item 5 of its agenda, entitled “Consideration of topics by working groups”. The observations and conclusions of the working groups are presented below. For the recommendations of the working groups approved in the plenary meeting, see section I above.

### Observations and conclusions of the working groups

#### Issue 1. Prevention, investigation and prosecution of microtrafficking and its links to transnational criminal networks

20. The working group on issue 1, “Prevention, investigation and prosecution of microtrafficking and its links to transnational criminal networks”, held two meetings, on 6 October 2015. During its consideration of the topic in question, the working group made the following observations:

(a) An effective response to microtrafficking, i.e. the small, regular movement of illicit drugs, requires the development of strategic and operational responses to a wide range of trafficking methods that should include targeting domestic transport and distribution networks and combating cross-border drug trafficking;

(b) In many countries across the region, illicit drugs are trafficked, distributed and marketed by gangs and other organized criminal groups that often contest each other’s territory. The resultant crime and violence exact a high price on the safety and security of the poorer local communities that live in the middle of active illicit drug markets;

(c) Police intervention at critical points is essential but not sufficient if it is not accompanied by social measures and demand reduction initiatives;

(d) When designing intervention strategies, it is important to understand the impact law enforcement has on the communities, persons and groups involved in microtrafficking.

21. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) The responses of law enforcement agencies to microtrafficking can have an impact beyond the groups or persons immediately targeted and affect the economy and the security of the whole community;

(b) Policies against microtrafficking should include not only measures to reduce supply, but also community development initiatives to reduce demand for drugs among youth;

(c) An effective law enforcement response to microtrafficking should include all the specialist law enforcement responses available to authorities, including special investigation techniques, anti-money-laundering legislation and the recovery of illicit assets, to target those persons who have been acting with impunity to profit from microtrafficking.

**Issue 2. Border management**

22. The working group on issue 2, “Border management”, held one meeting, on 6 October 2015. During its consideration of the topic, the working group made the following observations:

(a) The operational strategies of the region’s border enforcement agencies should encourage and support close inter-agency cooperation;

(b) Trafficking groups transporting cocaine by sea continue to invest heavily in new technologies and specialized equipment in their attempts to evade detection;

(c) The Container Control Programme helps States to exercise effective management and control over freight consignments crossing their national sea and air borders;

(d) Commercial flights and light aircraft continue to be popular means for moving illicit drugs across the region’s international borders.

23. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Law enforcement agencies must take effective measures to counter cross-border trafficking;

(b) To be effective against the evolving practices of drug trafficking organizations, and counter their investments in new technologies and specialized, purpose-built transport, Governments must be prepared to make similar investments in the preparedness of their law enforcement agencies;

(c) An integrated agency response that includes law enforcement coordination with the military and the security services is essential if States with extensive land, sea and air borders are to apply effective controls against illicit drug trafficking;

(d) Support should be lent to initiatives within the region to develop coast guard expertise, skills in port management and container handling, and to coordinate the exchange and analysis of information on maritime vessel movements.

**Issue 3. Acting effectively to address current trends in trafficking in cocaine, and curbing access to the supply of precursor chemicals**

24. The working group on issue 3, “Acting effectively to address current trends in trafficking in cocaine, and curbing access to the supply of precursor chemicals”, met during the 5th and 6th meetings, held on 7 October 2015. During its consideration of the topic, the working group made the following observations:

(a) Many countries in the region have large chemical industries producing a wide range of the precursors and substances necessary for illicit drug production;

(b) Authorities should engage directly with domestic chemical manufacturers and their distributors and offer them an easy-to-use platform for the exchange of information needed to maintain precursor controls;

(c) The growth in the number of clandestine laboratories detected each year across the region is being fed by diverted chemicals;

(d) The potency and toxicity of precursors used in clandestine laboratories heightens the risk to the health and safety of staff mandated with their detection and dismantling;

(e) While the quantities of cocaine seized vary from year to year, all countries of the region report that cocaine is trafficked through their territories either to be sold on the domestic market or to be shipped onward to larger foreign markets.

25. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) There is a need for closer dialogue between administrative and control authorities on one hand and the chemical industry in their country on the other, so that they can work together to prevent the diversion of chemical precursors;

(b) More effort is needed to gather information about the chemicals recovered from clandestine laboratories so as to investigate their origin and point of diversion;

(c) The authorities of the region should make use of the tools, guidelines and technical support available through INCB, UNODC and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States;

(d) To be effective against the trafficking networks operating throughout the region, law enforcement authorities must develop collaborative networks of trusted counterparts with whom to exchange information and coordinate countermeasure operations.

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

26. At its 6th and 7th meetings, held on 7 and 8 October, participants discussed item 6, 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 preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016”. For their consideration of the item, the participants had before them the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

27. The Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with the preparations for the 2016 special session also addressed the meeting in a video message. The Secretary of the Meeting made an introductory statement. Statements were made by the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico and Spain. The representative of the Organization of American States also made a statement.

28. Some speakers referred to the debate on possible new approaches to the world drug problem currently taking place in the region. The debate had been started by some Governments that considered that the efforts conducted so far to solve the drug problem had not been effective or sufficient.

29. Some speakers considered that the goals set in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action for the elimination or significant reduction of the cultivation, demand and supply of illicit drugs could not realistically be reached by the target date, in 2019. Others stressed that, notwithstanding the magnitude of the world drug problem, the international community should continue striving to reduce significantly and measurably the world drug problem's different manifestations, with the ultimate goal of protecting the health and welfare of mankind.

30. Some speakers indicated that in spite of national, regional and international efforts, illicit drugs continued to be a major problem. Their consumption continued unabated, and new challenges had appeared, such as new psychoactive substances not subject to international control, new forms of drug-related transnational crime and new trafficking routes. The drug problem had exacted a heavy toll in numbers of victims, particularly among the poorest segments of the population. Attacking the structural causes of drug consumption and countering the social impact of illicit drugs and drug-related violence was the joint responsibility of Governments and society. Demand and supply could not be reduced without addressing the socioeconomic factors underlying the world drug problem.

31. Some speakers took the view that, while in the Political Declaration, Member States had reiterated that the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility requiring a comprehensive and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction, it was for individual Member States to determine what constituted a balanced approach. It was also noted that the increasing importance being given internationally to demand reduction should not come at the expense of supply reduction.

32. In the view of some delegations there had been progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action, but some areas required additional efforts. Several speakers stressed the need for clear and quantifiable data to allow policies to be evaluated. In their view, to rely on the quantity of drugs seized as an indicator of progress was not sufficient, and work needed to be done to develop other, better indicators, with the assistance of the United Nations where appropriate.

33. Some speakers stressed the need for an approach to drug control based on human rights and health that included the decriminalization of drug consumption and the social inclusion of drug users. Reference was also made to the need for placing the drug issue in the context of the newly adopted Sustainable Development Goals. In this connection, cooperation between UNODC and entities such as UNDP, WHO, UNAIDS and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) should be strengthened, in order to reach coherence and synergy within the United Nations system.

34. Speakers agreed with the proposal of the Chair to include a preamble to the recommendations of the Meeting, that makes reference to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and to the preparation process for the 2016 special session, in line with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/10. It was also proposed to

submit the recommendations for consideration by the Board tasked by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with the preparations for the 2016 special session.

## **VI. Organization of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean**

35. At its 7th meeting, held on 8 October, participants discussed item 7, entitled “Organization of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean”. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it a note by the Secretariat (UNODC/HONLAC/25/5) drawing attention to certain issues to be addressed at the Twenty-sixth Meeting and containing a draft provisional agenda for that Meeting.

36. The Secretary informed the Meeting that the Twenty-sixth Meeting was scheduled to be held from 3 to 7 October 2016. The Chair invited delegations of States interested in hosting the Twenty-sixth Meeting to contact the Secretariat in order to determine the venue of the Meeting as early as possible and thus facilitate preparations. Statements were made by the representatives of Colombia, Cuba and Mexico.

37. One delegation indicated that Governments of the region should reinforce their programmes for the prevention of drug abuse and examine the mechanisms currently in place to tackle the growing and complex phenomenon of new psychoactive substances. One delegation proposed that HONLEA meetings look at integrated and effective initiatives to stop the illicit drug markets. One delegation proposed that the Twenty-sixth Meeting should also focus on reviewing the results of the 2016 special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem. The Secretariat indicated that that proposal would be reflected in the annotations for item 6 of the provisional agenda.

38. The Meeting took note of the proposals and requested the Secretariat to finalize the issues to be discussed by working groups prior to the Twenty-sixth Meeting. On that basis, the following draft provisional agenda for the Twenty-sixth Meeting was approved:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups [*to be determined*].
6. 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.

7. Organization of the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.

## **VII. Other business**

39. At its 7th meeting, on 8 October 2015, the Meeting considered item 8 of its agenda, entitled "Other business". Statements were made by the representatives of Ecuador and Peru.

40. The representative of Peru made a presentation on the drug trafficking trends in his country, also providing information and data on advances and achievements made in combating drug trafficking.

41. The representative of Ecuador informed the meeting about a road running competition for the general population organized by the police of his country and aimed at raising awareness of the drug problem. The race was held annually to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (26 June), and similar events were now held by other countries in the region. He invited other interested countries to join the initiative.

## **VIII. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean**

42. At its 8th meeting, on 9 October 2015, the Twenty-fifth Meeting adopted its report (UNODC/HONLAC/25/L.1 and Add.1-6), including the reports of the working groups and the recommendations contained therein, as orally revised.

## **IX. Organization of the Meeting**

### **A. Opening and duration of the Meeting**

43. The Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, was held in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, from 5 to 9 October 2015. The inaugural ceremony was held on 5 October 2015 and was addressed by the President of Honduras, Juan Orlando Hernández, the Minister of Security, Julián Pacheco Tinoco, and the representative of the Executive Director of UNODC and of the UNODC Regional Office for Central America and the Caribbean in Panama, Amado de Andrés.

## B. Attendance

44. The following States members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean were represented: Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
45. Sint Maarten was represented by observers.
46. INCB and the Organization of American States were also represented by observers.
47. UNODC served as the secretariat of the Meeting.

## C. Election of officers

48. At its 1st meeting, on 5 October 2015, the Meeting elected the following officers by acclamation:

<i>Chair:</i>	Salvador Valeriano Pineda (Honduras)
<i>First Vice-Chair:</i>	Claudio Inocente Ramos Borrego (Cuba)
<i>Second Vice-Chair:</i>	Liza Zuñiga Collado (Chile)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Calvin Small (Jamaica)

## D. Adoption of the agenda

49. At the same meeting, the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted the following agenda:
1. Election of officers.
  2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
  3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
  4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
  5. Consideration of topics by working groups:
    - (a) Prevention, investigation and prosecution of microtrafficking and its links to transnational criminal networks;
    - (b) Border management;
    - (c) Acting effectively to address current trends in trafficking in cocaine, and curbing access to the supply of precursor chemicals.

6. 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 preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016.
7. Organization of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.

#### **E. Documentation**

50. The documents before the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, are listed in the annex.

#### **X. Closure of the Meeting**

51. The Chair of the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, made a closing statement. A closing statement was also made by the Minister of Security of Honduras.

## Annex

### List of documents before the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
UNODC/HONLAC/25/1	2	Annotated provisional agenda
UNODC/HONLAC/25/2	3	Statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Americas and worldwide
UNODC/HONLAC/25/3	3	Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation
UNODC/HONLAC/25/4	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fourth Meeting
UNODC/HONLAC/25/5	7	Organization of the Twenty-sixth Meeting
UNODC/HONLAC/25/L.1 and Add.1-6	9	Draft report
UNODC/HONLAC/25/CRP.1-15	3	Country reports