

substances listed in Schedules III and IV is to be prevented,

Recalling targets 8 and 10 of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control,⁹³

Bearing in mind the Political Declaration and the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session,⁹⁴ in particular the section of the Global Programme of Action on the control of the supply of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Reiterating its request, contained in its resolutions 1985/15 of 28 May 1985 and 1987/30 of 26 May 1987, to all Governments, to the extent possible, voluntarily to extend the system of import and export authorizations provided for in article 12, paragraph 1, of the Convention to cover international trade in substances listed in Schedules III and IV,

Recalling its resolution 1981/7 of 6 May 1981, in which it invited all Governments to assess from time to time their medical and scientific requirements for substances listed in Schedule II of the Convention,

Noting with satisfaction that the system of assessment of annual medical and scientific requirements for substances listed in Schedule II of the Convention has contributed effectively to the prevention of diversion of those substances from licit international trade into illicit channels,

Having considered the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1990,⁹⁵ in particular paragraph 38, concerning the successful operation of the simplified estimate system with regard to substances listed in Schedule II of the Convention,

1. *Invites* all Governments to extend the system of voluntary assessments of annual medical and scientific requirements for substances listed in Schedule II to include also substances listed in Schedules III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971;

2. *Calls upon* importing countries to exercise continuing vigilance to ensure that imports of psychotropic substances are in accordance with requirements for medical and scientific purposes and to cooperate with exporting countries and with the International Narcotics Control Board in order to prevent the diversion of such substances into illicit channels;

3. *Invites* all Governments to communicate from time to time their assessments of annual medical and scientific requirements for substances listed in Schedules III and IV of the Convention to the International Narcotics Control Board for publication, with a view to providing guidance for manufacture and export;

4. *Also invites* all Governments to develop mechanisms to ensure that exports of psychotropic substances are in line with the assessments of importing countries and, if necessary, to consult with the Governments of such countries or with the International Narcotics Control Board on such matters;

⁹³ See *Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17-26 June 1987* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. A.

⁹⁴ General Assembly resolution S-17/2, annex.

⁹⁵ E/INCB/1990/1 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XI.3). For a summary of the report see E/1991/11.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to all Governments and to invite them to bring it to the attention of the competent national authorities in order to ensure the implementation of its provisions.

15th plenary meeting
21 June 1991

1991/45. Implementation of the International Drug Abuse Assessment System

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind that the parties to the international drug control treaties have an obligation to submit to the Secretary-General an annual report on the workings of the treaties within their territories,

Recognizing that an assessment of the nature and extent of drug abuse constitutes the basis of drug demand reduction policies and programmes at the local, national and international levels,

Recalling Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 3 (S-X) of 19 February 1988⁹⁶ on the establishment of an international drug abuse assessment system,

Recalling also that the General Assembly, in paragraph 13 of the Global Programme of Action annexed to its resolution S-17/2 of 23 February 1990, requested States to establish databases consistent with the international drug abuse assessment system being developed by the Division of Narcotic Drugs of the Secretariat,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its thirty-fourth session,⁹⁵

1. *Urges* all States to give high priority to the collection of quality drug abuse data for use, *inter alia*, in annual reports to the Secretary-General;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the work done by the Division of Narcotic Drugs of the Secretariat, with the expert assistance of and in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, the World Health Organization and other international and regional organizations, on the development of the International Drug Abuse Assessment System;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to Governments that have contributed to the development and field testing of the International Drug Abuse Assessment System;

4. *Endorses* Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 1 (XXXIV) of 9 May 1991,⁹⁷ in which the Commission decided to use, beginning with the annual reports questionnaire for the calendar year 1991, the revised version of part B of the annual reports questionnaire, incorporating the changes recommended by the Expert Group Meeting on the Establishment of an International Drug Abuse Assessment System, held at Vienna from 29 to 31 October 1990;⁹⁸

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to revise also other parts of the annual reports questionnaire and, using modern presentation techniques, to make such

⁹⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1988, Supplement No. 3* (E/1988/13), chap. X, sect. A.

⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, 1991, Supplement No. 4 (E/1991/24), sect. XIV.B.

⁹⁸ See E/CN.7/1991/23

changes in format as may be appropriate to achieve optimum acceptability and to facilitate its use;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to allocate adequate resources from existing regular budget appropriations, as of the biennium 1992-1993, to implement the International Drug Abuse Assessment System and to ensure its continued viability;

7. *Invites* the specialized agencies, as well as other relevant intergovernmental and regional organizations, to contribute to the provision of data to the International Drug Abuse Assessment System and to collaborate with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in its implementation;

8. *Encourages* all Governments to support and to participate actively in the implementation of the International Drug Abuse Assessment System.

*15th plenary meeting
21 June 1991*

1991/46. Reduction of the demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the crucial importance of demand reduction as part of a balanced approach to combat the drug problem,

Welcoming the work currently being undertaken in demand reduction by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the specialized agencies and the establishment by the World Health Organization of its Programme on Substance Abuse,

Recognizing the important role that regional and intergovernmental organizations can play in the development of demand reduction programmes adapted to specific regional conditions,

Noting the results being achieved by the Declaration⁹⁹ and the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control⁹³ adopted by the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Global Programme of Action⁹⁴ adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session and the Declaration adopted at the World Ministerial Summit to Reduce the Demand for Drugs and to Combat the Cocaine Threat, held in London from 9 to 11 April 1990,¹⁰⁰

Recalling its earlier resolutions on the subject, especially resolution 1989/14 of 22 May 1989,

Welcoming the analysis of the replies to the questionnaire on the implementation of the seven targets set out in chapter I of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the review of drug abuse and measures to reduce illicit demand,¹⁰¹

Recognizing the benefits of sharing information on demand reduction strategies and their effectiveness,

Welcoming the establishment of mechanisms such as

⁹⁹ See Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17-26 June 1987 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. B.

¹⁰⁰ A/45/262, annex.

¹⁰¹ E/CN.7/1991/19.

the United Kingdom demand reduction task force announced at the World Ministerial Summit,

Noting the development in some countries of needle exchange schemes as a means of harm reduction, particularly the containment of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, and the claims of some countries that this approach is of value,

Considering the importance of education in helping young people and others to resist the pressures to take drugs and the fact that such education is best set in the context of continuing progressive programmes of preventive health education and health promotion,

Recognizing the major role that non-governmental organizations continue to play in the development and implementation of demand reduction strategies,

1. *Urges* all Governments, particularly Governments of countries where serious problems of drug misuse exist, to consider adopting or further developing national strategies for demand reduction and to give such strategies at least the same priority as those to combat the illicit traffic in drugs;

2. *Recognizes* the importance of giving due attention to the underlying causes of the demand for drugs, in particular the disadvantages that youth and other groups at risk often experience in inner-city areas;

3. *Encourages* all Governments to continue to develop education through schools, colleges and youth organizations and, in the wider community, to enable young people and others to acquire the necessary information, skills and attitudes to resist pressures to take drugs, and to live healthy lives;

4. *Urges* all Governments to provide or support preventive education and training opportunities for teachers, youth leaders and other professionals who work with young people in order to equip them to educate and otherwise help young people who are at risk because of current or likely drug use;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing information and education materials to encourage and to help parents to understand their own influence as role models and to help promote the health of their children;

6. *Emphasizes also* the grave impact of drug-taking on health, safety and costs in the workplace;

7. *Invites* all Governments to encourage employers and employees to develop joint action programmes which publicize information in the workplace, warning of the risks of drug use, and which help employees to obtain advice and appropriate treatment;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of coordinated and consistent action between governmental and non-governmental organizations at the local and national levels in fostering education, training and treatment initiatives;

9. *Stresses* the need to develop comprehensive treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration options, including services tailored to the specific needs of different groups of drug users;

10. *Urges* all Governments to reflect in education campaigns the serious implications of drug-injecting for the spread of HIV infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS);