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International drug control

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Edgar Andrés **Molina Linares** (Guatemala)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled “International drug control” and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Third Committee held a general discussion on the item jointly with item 107, entitled “Crime prevention and criminal justice”, at its 5th and 6th meetings, on 4 October 2017, and considered proposals and took action on the item at its 43rd and 49th meetings, on 7 and 17 November. An account of the Committee’s discussion is contained in the relevant summary records.¹
3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation against the world drug problem (A/72/225).
4. At its 5th meeting, on 4 October, the Committee heard an introductory statement, via video link, by the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, who responded to questions raised and comments made by the representative of Mexico.

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.5](#)

5. By its resolution 2017/20 of 6 July 2017, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled “Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on

¹ [A/C.3/72/SR.5](#), [A/C.3/72/SR.6](#), [A/C.3/72/SR.43](#) and [A/C.3/72/SR.49](#).



Alternative Development and related commitments on alternative development and regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented, balanced drug control policy addressing socioeconomic issues”. The draft resolution was reproduced in a note by the Secretariat ([A/C.3/72/L.5](#)), which was brought to the attention of the Committee at its 5th meeting, on 4 October.

6. At its 43rd meeting, on 7 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.5](#) (see para. 10, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.8/Rev.1](#)

7. At its 49th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “International cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem” ([A/C.3/72/L.8/Rev.1](#)), which replaced draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.8](#) and was submitted by Costa Rica, Honduras, Iceland, Israel, Liberia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. Subsequently, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

8. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement.

9. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.8/Rev.1](#) (see para. 10, draft resolution II).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

10. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and related commitments on alternative development and regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented, balanced drug control policy addressing socioeconomic issues

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that drug policies and programmes, including in the field of development, should be undertaken in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States, as well as the principle of common and shared responsibility and the Sustainable Development Goals,² and taking into account the specific situations of countries and regions,

Reaffirming also that the world drug problem must be addressed in accordance with the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,³ the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971⁴ and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,⁵ which, together with other relevant international instruments, constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system,

Reaffirming further the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session⁶ and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,⁷

Reaffirming the commitments contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,⁸ adopted at 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 of 18 December 2009, and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission,⁹

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² See resolution 70/1.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

⁶ Resolution S-20/2, annex.

⁷ Resolution S-20/4 E.

⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 2014, *Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

Reaffirming also 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”,¹⁰ in its entirety, and reiterating that the operational recommendations contained therein are integrated, indivisible, multidisciplinary and mutually reinforcing and are aimed at a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

Reaffirming further its commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies,

Recalling its resolution 68/196 of 18 December 2013, in which it adopted the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and encouraged Member States, international organizations, international financial institutions, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take into account the Guiding Principles when designing and implementing alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes,

Considering the importance of taking into account the local know-how of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, in the implementation of development projects,

Recalling Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 52/6 of 20 March 2009,⁸ 53/6 of 12 March 2010,¹¹ 54/4 of 25 March 2011,¹² 55/4 of 16 March 2012,¹³ 57/1 of 21 March 2014⁹ and 58/4 of 17 March 2015,¹⁴

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,² and stressing that the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development should be aligned with the efforts to achieve those objectives within the Sustainable Development Goals that are related to the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recognizing the efforts of Member States to promote the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development by organizing international seminars and workshops that draw on best practices, lessons learned and local wisdom in alternative development programmes, such as those discussed at the Second International Conference on Alternative Development,¹⁵ which focused on enhancing individual and community resilience and recognized alternative development programmes as an example of the sufficiency economy philosophy of King Rama IX of Thailand,

Reaffirming that alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, that it is an effective measure to counter the world drug problem, including illicit drug-related activities, and that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production,

¹⁰ Resolution S-30/1, annex.

¹¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2010, Supplement No. 8 (E/2010/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

¹² *Ibid.*, 2011, *Supplement No. 8 (E/2011/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

¹³ *Ibid.*, 2012, *Supplement No. 8 (E/2012/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 2015, *Supplement No. 8 (E/2015/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

¹⁵ E/CN.7/2016/13, annex.

Expressing concern that the illicit cultivation of drug crops and illicit drug production, manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain major challenges in countering the world drug problem, and recognizing the need to strengthen sustainable crop control strategies that may include, inter alia, alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures, for the purpose of preventing and significantly and measurably reducing the illicit cultivation of drug crops, and the need to intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of appropriate preventive tools and measures, enhanced and better-coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges,

Noting with concern that overall financial support for alternative development projects and programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development projects and programmes, has accounted for only a minor share of official development assistance and has reached only a minor percentage of communities and households involved in illicit drug crop cultivation at the global level,

1. *Urges* Member States, when designing alternative development interventions, to take into due consideration the section entitled “Operational recommendations on alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug policy; addressing socioeconomic issues” 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”,¹⁰

2. *Reiterates its commitment* to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies;

3. *Urges* Member States to strengthen regional and international cooperation to support sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders at the local, national and international levels, and to develop and share best practices towards implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,¹⁶ taking into account all the lessons learned and good practices, in particular those of countries with extensive expertise in alternative development;

4. *Reaffirms* the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, which highlight that alternative development, as an integral component of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production, is an important, viable and sustainable option for preventing, eliminating or significantly and measurably reducing the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through tackling poverty and providing livelihood opportunities;

5. *Urges* Member States to consider strengthening the development perspective as part of comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug policies and programmes so as to tackle the related causes and consequences of the illicit

¹⁶ Resolution 68/196, annex.

cultivation, manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs by, inter alia, addressing risk factors affecting individuals, communities and society, which may include a lack of services, infrastructure needs, drug-related violence, exclusion, marginalization and social disintegration, in order to contribute to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies;

6. *Also urges* Member States to consider elaborating and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes, as appropriate, that support sustainable crop control strategies to prevent and significantly, durably and measurably reduce illicit crop cultivation and other illicit drug-related activities, ensuring the empowerment, ownership and responsibility of affected local communities by taking into account their vulnerabilities and specific needs;

7. *Stresses* that, when designing and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes and projects, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes and projects, the focus should be on empowering and encouraging ownership by local communities, including women, children and young people, taking into account their specific needs, and on strengthening local capacities, as ensuring the effective cooperation of all stakeholders in the entire alternative development process is crucial for the success of alternative development;

8. *Also stresses* that comprehensive and sustainable alternative development, as one of the tools available for tackling the world drug problem, increases the State's presence, builds trust between communities and government, strengthens local governance and institutions and promotes peaceful and inclusive societies, which, under Sustainable Development Goal 16,² includes the promotion of the rule of law;

9. *Encourages* further discussions on the relationship and potential links between alternative development and the promotion of the rule of law by individuals and communities, as well as on the wide range of challenges affecting the livelihoods and well-being of people, in order to further develop measures to address the root causes of such challenges;

10. *Encourages* Member States to ensure the proper and coordinated sequencing of development interventions when designing alternative development programmes;

11. *Also encourages* Member States to promote inclusive economic growth and support initiatives that contribute to poverty eradication and the sustainability of social and economic development, develop measures for rural development, improving infrastructure and social inclusion and protection and addressing the consequences of illicit crop cultivation and the manufacture and production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for the environment, with the incorporation and participation of local communities, and consider taking voluntary measures to promote products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, to gain access to markets, consistent with applicable multilateral trade rules and national and international law, within the framework of comprehensive and balanced drug control strategies;

12. *Stresses* that access to productive land and land rights, such as legal titles to land for farmers and local communities, should be promoted and protected in the implementation of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, in a manner that is consistent with domestic law and regulations and with the full participation of and in consultation with local communities;

13. *Encourages* the development of strategies consistent with domestic legal frameworks, including the utilization of local expertise, capacity-building and entrepreneurship, to develop products through alternative development programmes identified on the basis of market demand and value added production chains, as well as secure and stable markets with fair prices for producers, in accordance with international trade rules, including the required infrastructure and a conducive environment, including roads, the establishment of farmer associations and the use of special marketing regimes, for example, those based on fair trade principles and commercialization of organic products;

14. *Encourages* the international community, including civil society, the scientific community and academia, to work with affected communities to develop recommendations focusing on specific alternative development strategies, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development strategies, that take into account demographic, cultural, social and geographical conditions and include ideas for supporting and promoting new products;

15. *Calls upon* Member States to apply the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development when designing, implementing and evaluating alternative development programmes and projects, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes and projects, and calls upon Member States with experience in this area to share outcomes, assessments of implemented projects and lessons learned, thereby contributing to the dissemination and application of the Guiding Principles;

16. *Urges* Member States to sustain political will and a long-term commitment with regard to implementing alternative development programmes and strategies, and to continue to engage in awareness programmes and in dialogue and cooperation with all relevant stakeholders;

17. *Encourages* the development of viable economic alternatives, particularly for communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas, including through comprehensive alternative development programmes, and to this end encourages the consideration of development-oriented interventions, while ensuring that both men and women benefit equally from them, including through job opportunities, improved infrastructure and basic public services and, as appropriate, access and legal titles to land for farmers and local communities, which will also contribute to preventing, reducing or eliminating illicit cultivation and other drug-related activities;

18. *Urges* Member States to consider the development of sustainable urban development initiatives for those affected by illicit drug-related activities, to foster public participation in crime prevention, community cohesion, protection and safety and to stimulate innovation, entrepreneurship and employment;

19. *Urges* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to consider increasing their support, including through long-term and flexible funding, for the implementation of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives, in particular alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, based on identified needs and national priorities, for areas and populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, with a view to its prevention, reduction and elimination, and encourages States, to the extent possible, to stay strongly committed to financing such programmes;

20. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen intragovernmental coordination when designing and implementing alternative development projects and programmes;

21. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations entities and specialized agencies to further increase their interaction with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to support Member States in effectively implementing alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, with a view to further enhancing coherence and coordination within the United Nations system;

22. *Encourages* development agencies, donors and financial institutions, the private sector, civil society and academia to share information, experiences and best practices, promote research and increase efforts relating to the promotion of alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development;

23. *Encourages* Member States to promote partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society and international financial institutions to create conditions more conducive to productive investments targeted at job creation in areas and among communities affected by or at risk of illicit drug cultivation, production, manufacturing, trafficking and other illicit drug-related activities, in order to prevent, reduce or eliminate those activities, and to share best practices, lessons learned, expertise and skills in this regard;

24. *Recognizes* that more research is needed to better understand and identify factors contributing to the emergence of illicit crop cultivation and to improve impact assessments of alternative development programmes;

25. *Reiterates* that, in addition to estimates of illicit cultivation and other illicit activities related to the world drug problem, indicators related to human development, socioeconomic conditions, rural development and the alleviation of poverty, as well as institutional and environmental indicators, should be used when assessing alternative development programmes, and, as appropriate, preventive alternative programmes, in order to ensure that the outcomes are in line with national and international development objectives, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that they reflect accountable use of donor funds and truly benefit affected communities;

26. *Calls upon* Member States and other donors to consider providing long-term support to alternative development programmes and projects, including preventive alternative development programmes and projects, as appropriate, that target the illicit cultivation of drug crops, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication, including through enhanced development-oriented approaches that implement measures for rural development, strengthen local governments and institutions, improve infrastructure, including the provision of public services such as water supply, energy, health and education in areas acutely impacted by the illicit cultivation of drug crops, promote the participation of local communities, enhance the empowerment of people and strengthen the resilience of communities;

27. *Encourages* Member States to maintain and strengthen international, North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in accordance with the operational recommendation contained in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, as an essential part of successful crop control strategies, in order to increase the positive outcomes of such programmes,

especially in areas affected by or at risk of the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

28. *Encourages* Member States with extensive expertise in alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, to continue to share best practices upon request, promote research to better understand factors contributing to illicit crop cultivation and foster and strengthen international cooperation, including cross-continental, interregional, subregional and regional technical cooperation on integral and sustainable alternative development, which in some cases includes preventive alternative development;

29. *Recognizes* the importance of gender, social inclusion and cultural identity in the design and implementation of alternative development projects and programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, and likewise also recognizes the importance of the participation of communities affected by illicit cultivation of crops in decision-making processes;

30. *Encourages* affected States and relevant development stakeholders to examine innovative ways to promote alternative development programmes, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, that are environmentally friendly;

31. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Draft resolution II

International cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming 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”,¹ in its entirety, reiterating that the operational recommendations contained therein are integrated, indivisible, multidisciplinary and mutually reinforcing and are aimed at a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

Reaffirming also the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem² 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,³ and recalling the resolutions adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,⁴

Recalling other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 71/211 of 19 December 2016,

Recalling also all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sixtieth session,⁵

Underscoring that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,⁶ the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,⁷ the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988⁸ and other relevant international instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system,

Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁹ and noting that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming its commitment to the goals and objectives of the three international drug control conventions, including concern about the health and welfare of humankind as well as the individual and public health-related, social and safety problems resulting from the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular among children and young people, and drug-related crime, and reaffirming its determination to prevent and treat the abuse of such substances and prevent and counter their illicit cultivation, production, manufacturing and trafficking,

Reaffirming its unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures, and

¹ Resolution S-30/1, annex.

² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

³ *Ibid.*, 2014, Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

⁴ Resolutions S-20/1, S-20/2, S-20/3 and S-20/4 A-E.

⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 8 (E/2017/28)*, chap. I.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 141152.

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

⁸ *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

⁹ Resolution 70/1.

international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹⁰ with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States,

Recognizing that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach,

Reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in developing an effective and comprehensive approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

Reaffirming also the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and reaffirming further the support and appreciation of the General Assembly for the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem, and reaffirming further the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization,

Recognizing the role of the United Nations Development Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, among other agencies within their respective mandates,

Recognizing also that civil society, as well as the scientific community and academia, play an important role in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and noting that affected populations and representatives of civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation, implementation and provision of relevant scientific evidence in support of, as appropriate, the evaluation of drug control policies and programmes, and recognizing further the importance of cooperation with the private sector in this regard,

Reaffirming the determination of Member States to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to help to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity, and reaffirming also the determination of Member States to address public health, safety and social problems resulting from drug abuse,

Reaffirming also the need to address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice, public security and law enforcement fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility, and recognizing the value of comprehensive and balanced policy interventions, including those in the field of promotion of sustainable and viable livelihoods,

Expressing its appreciation for the results already achieved by the initiatives at the bilateral, regional and international levels, and recognizing that further positive results can be achieved with sustained and collective efforts through international cooperation in reducing the demand and supply of illicit drugs,

¹⁰ Resolution 217 A (III).

Recognizing that, while tangible progress has been achieved in some fields, the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity, and resolving to reinforce national and international efforts and further increase international cooperation to face those challenges,

Recognizing also, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem, that appropriate emphasis should be placed on individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, with a view to promoting and protecting the health, safety and well-being of all humanity,

Expressing deep concern at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families as a result of the world drug problem, and paying special tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives, in particular law enforcement and judicial personnel, and to the health-care and civil society personnel and volunteers who dedicate themselves to countering and addressing this phenomenon,

Noting with concern that the availability of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering, remains low to non-existent in many countries of the world, and highlighting the need to enhance national efforts and international cooperation at all levels to address that situation by promoting measures to ensure their availability, affordability and accessibility for medical and scientific purposes, within the framework of national legal systems, while simultaneously preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to fulfil the aims and objectives of the three international drug control conventions,

Reaffirming equally that reducing drug abuse requires efforts to reduce demand, which must be demonstrated by sustained widespread demand reduction initiatives that are age- and gender-sensitive and integrate a comprehensive public health approach spanning the spectrum of prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support and the rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions,

Welcoming continued efforts to enhance coherence within the United Nations system at all levels,

Reaffirming the need to strengthen cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, in their efforts to support Member States in the implementation of international drug control treaties in accordance with applicable human rights obligations and to promote protection of and respect for human rights and the dignity of all individuals in the context of drug programmes, strategies and policies,

Recognizing that successfully addressing and countering the world drug problem requires close cooperation and coordination among domestic authorities at all levels, particularly in the health, education, justice and law enforcement sectors, taking into account their respective areas of competence under national legislation,

Stressing the importance of enhancing international cooperation in the identification and voluntary reporting of and response to new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances,

Noting with grave concern the increased abuse of certain drugs and the proliferation of new substances worldwide, which are a possible threat to public health and are not controlled under the three international drug control conventions,

Noting with grave concern also the increasing sophistication of the transnational criminal groups engaged in the illicit manufacture and distribution of

amphetamine-type stimulants worldwide, as well as the proliferation and diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recognizing the importance of appropriately mainstreaming gender and age perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes,

Expressing concern that aspects of the world drug problem associated with illicit drug production can cause serious harm to the environment, including deforestation, soil erosion and degradation, the loss of endemic species, contamination of the soil, groundwater and waterways and the release of greenhouse gases,

Reaffirming that alternative development policies are an important component in enhancing development in States affected by, or in some cases at risk of, the illicit cultivation of crops used for illicit drug production and manufacture, and that they play an important role in national, regional and international development policies and in comprehensive policies of poverty reduction and cooperation,

Reaffirming also the commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies,

Reaffirming further the need to mobilize adequate resources to address and counter the world drug problem, and calling for the enhancement of assistance to developing countries, upon request, in effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the operational recommendations contained in the annex to resolution [S-30/1](#) of 19 April 2016,

Recognizing that there are persistent, new and evolving challenges that should be addressed in conformity with the three international drug control conventions, which allow for sufficient flexibility for States parties to design and implement national drug policies according to their priorities and needs, consistent with the principle of common and shared responsibility and applicable international law,

Encouraging Member States to develop and strengthen, as appropriate, mechanisms of domestic coordination and timely and efficient information-sharing between authorities involved in identifying and countering drug trafficking, diversion of precursors and related money-laundering, to integrate financial investigations more thoroughly into interdiction operations so as to identify individuals and companies involved in such activities, and to encourage, in accordance with national legislation, cooperation with the private sector, including financial institutions, designated non-financial businesses and professions, as well as providers of money or value transfer services, to identify suspicious transactions, with a view to further investigating and disrupting the drug trafficking business model,

Recalling the adoption, by its resolution [64/182](#) of 18 December 2009, of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and its decision, in resolution [67/193](#) of 20 December 2012, to convene a special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem that would 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,

1. *Recalls* the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 21 April 2016, at which the Assembly reviewed the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, 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, takes note of the discussions held during the session, and reaffirms in its entirety the outcome document entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”;¹

2. *Emphasizes* that the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,² 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 Action³ and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem” which thus represents the most recent consensus, represent the commitments made by the international community over the preceding decade to addressing and countering, in a balanced manner, the world drug problem, and recognizes that those documents are complementary and mutually reinforcing;

3. *Reiterates its call upon* Member States to take, in a timely manner, the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, and to address the general challenges and priorities for action identified in 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;

4. *Reaffirms* that addressing and countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, that it requires an integrated and balanced approach and that it must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other provisions of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹⁰ and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action on human rights and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, for the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

5. *Reiterates* that the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address and counter the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing, and recognizes the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in contributing to the global follow-up and in supporting the thematic review of progress on the Goals related to its mandate, and in this regard encourages the Commission to continue to provide input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, including by providing relevant data, as implementation of the recommendations contained in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly may contribute to the attainment of the related Goals;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to engage in effective cooperation and practical action aimed at addressing and countering the world drug problem on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility;

7. *Encourages* Member States to enhance North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in cooperation with the international development community and other key stakeholders, in order to effectively address and counter the world drug problem;

8. *Reiterates its commitment* to promoting the health, welfare and well-being of all individuals, families, communities and society as a whole and to facilitating healthy lifestyles through effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives at all levels, covering, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse;

9. *Also reiterates its commitment* to protect the safety and assure the security of individuals, societies and communities by intensifying efforts to prevent and counter the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as drug-related crime and violence, through, inter alia, more effective drug-related crime prevention and law enforcement measures, as well as by addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities, mindful of their social and economic causes and consequences;

10. *Underlines* the need for Member States to cooperate closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other international and regional organizations, as well as the scientific community, including academia, in contributing to the scientific assessment of drug demand and supply reduction policies, drug markets and drug-related crime;

11. *Recognizes* that transit States continue to face multifaceted challenges, and reaffirms the continuing need for cooperation and support, including the provision of technical assistance, to, inter alia, enhance their capacities to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, in conformity with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;⁸

12. *Urges* Member States to address the relevant socioeconomic factors that relate to the world drug problem through a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach that incorporates drug policies in a broader socioeconomic development agenda, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions;

13. *Invites* Member States to consider strengthening a development perspective as part of comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug policies and programmes so as to tackle the related causes and consequences of the illicit cultivation, manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs by, inter alia, addressing risk factors affecting individuals, communities and society, which may include a lack of services, infrastructure needs, drug-related violence, exclusion, marginalization and social disintegration, in order to contribute to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies;

14. *Encourages* the development of viable economic alternatives, particularly for communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas, including through comprehensive alternative development programmes, and to this end encourages

Member States to consider development-oriented interventions, while ensuring that both men and women benefit equally from them, including through job opportunities, improved infrastructure and basic public services and, as appropriate, access and legal titles to land for farmers and local communities, which will also contribute to preventing, reducing or eliminating illicit cultivation and other drug-related activities;

15. *Emphasizes* the need to strengthen, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and, as appropriate, its subsidiary bodies, the regular exchange of information, good practices and lessons learned among national practitioners from different fields and at all levels to effectively implement an integrated and balanced approach to the world drug problem and its various aspects and the need to consider additional measures to further facilitate meaningful discussion among those practitioners;

16. *Reiterates its call* to mainstream a gender perspective into and ensure the involvement of women in all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of drug policies and programmes, to develop and disseminate gender-sensitive and age-appropriate measures that take into account the specific needs and circumstances faced by women and girls with regard to the world drug problem and, as States parties, implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;¹¹

17. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to support Member States, upon request, in mainstreaming a gender perspective in their policies and programmes related to the world drug problem, and invites the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other relevant United Nations entities, within their mandates, to cooperate with the Office in this regard;

18. *Urges* Member States to increase the availability, coverage and quality of scientific evidence-based prevention measures and tools that target relevant age and risk groups in multiple settings, reaching youth in school as well as out of school, among others, through drug abuse prevention programmes and public awareness-raising campaigns, including by using the Internet, social media and other online platforms, to develop and implement prevention curricula and early intervention programmes for use in the education system at all levels, as well as in vocational training, including in the workplace, and to enhance the capacity of teachers and other relevant professionals to provide or recommend counselling, prevention and care services;

19. *Invites* Member States to consider enhancing cooperation among public health, education and law enforcement authorities when developing prevention initiatives;

20. *Also invites* Member States to promote and improve the systematic collection of information and gathering of evidence as well as the sharing, at the national and international levels, of reliable and comparable data on drug use and epidemiology, including on social, economic and other risk factors, to promote, as appropriate, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Assembly, the use of internationally recognized standards, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, and the exchange of best practices, and to formulate effective drug use prevention strategies and programmes in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities;

¹¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

21. *Recognizes* drug dependence as a complex, multifactorial health disorder characterized by a chronic and relapsing nature, with social causes and consequences, that can be prevented and treated through, inter alia, effective scientific evidence-based drug treatment, care and rehabilitation programmes, including community-based programmes, and also recognizes the need to strengthen capacity for aftercare for and the rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration of individuals with substance use disorders, including, as appropriate, through assistance for effective reintegration into the labour market and other support services;

22. *Encourages* Member States to promote the inclusion in national drug policies, in accordance with national legislation and as appropriate, of elements for the prevention and treatment of drug overdose, in particular opioid overdose, including the use of opioid receptor antagonists, such as naloxone, to reduce drug-related mortality;

23. *Invites* Member States to promote cooperation with and technical assistance to the States most affected by the transit of drugs in developing and implementing comprehensive and integrated policies to address, where appropriate, the impact of illicit drug trafficking on increasing drug use in such States, including by reinforcing national programmes aimed at prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation and social reintegration;

24. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue to strengthen cooperation with the World Health Organization and other competent United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to strengthening health and social welfare measures in addressing the world drug problem, including through effective prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration, in cooperation, as appropriate, with civil society and the scientific community, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs appropriately updated;

25. *Welcomes* the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization in February 2017, which will facilitate increased collaboration and coordination between these two entities, within their mandates, in advancing efforts to address and counter the world drug problem, and encourages the Office to continue to strengthen its collaboration with the World Health Organization and to explore, as appropriate, cooperation arrangements with other relevant United Nations agencies and entities and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs appropriately updated;

26. *Encourages* Member States to involve, as appropriate, policymakers, parliamentarians, educators, civil society, the scientific community, academia, target populations, individuals in recovery from substance use disorders and their peer groups, families and other co-dependent people, as well as the private sector, in the development of prevention programmes aimed at raising public awareness of the dangers and risks associated with drug abuse, and involve, inter alia, parents, care services providers, teachers, peer groups, health professionals, religious communities, community leaders, social workers, sports associations, media professionals and entertainment industries, as appropriate, in their implementation;

27. *Also encourages* Member States to consider alternatives to incarceration, conviction and punishment where appropriate and in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, noting that, in appropriate cases of a minor nature, States may provide, as alternatives to conviction or punishment, measures such as education, rehabilitation or social reintegration, as well as, when the

offender has a drug abuse disorder, treatment and aftercare, as well as support for recovery;

28. *Encourages* the development, adoption and implementation, with due regard for national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems, of alternative or additional measures with regard to conviction or punishment in cases of an appropriate nature, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and taking into account, as appropriate, relevant United Nations standards and rules, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules);¹²

29. *Also encourages* the consideration of the specific needs and possible multiple vulnerabilities of women drug offenders when imprisoned, in line with the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);¹³

30. *Invites* Member States to consider reviewing their drug sentencing policies and practices in order to facilitate collaboration between justice and public health authorities in the development and implementation of initiatives that utilize alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature, subject to the legal frameworks of Member States;

31. *Emphasizes* the need to enhance the knowledge of policymakers and the capacity, as appropriate, of relevant national authorities on various aspects of the world drug problem in order to ensure that national drug policies, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach, fully respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and protect the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, vulnerable members of society, communities and society as a whole, and to that end encourages the cooperation of Member States with, and cooperation among, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, including those relevant to the above-mentioned issues, and relevant regional and international organizations, as well as with civil society and the private sector, as appropriate;

32. *Urges* Member States to ensure non-discriminatory access to health, care and social services in prevention, primary care and treatment programmes, including those offered to persons in prison or pretrial detention, which are to be on a level equal to those available in the community, and to ensure that women, including detained women, have access to adequate health services and counselling, including those particularly needed during pregnancy;

33. *Encourages* Member States to promote effective supervision of drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities by competent domestic authorities so as to ensure adequate quality of drug treatment and rehabilitation services and prevent any possible acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in accordance with domestic legislation and applicable international law;

34. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance access to treatment for drug use disorders for those who are incarcerated and promote effective oversight and encourage, as appropriate, self-assessments of confinement facilities, taking into consideration the United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),¹⁴ implement, where

¹² Resolution 45/110, annex.

¹³ Resolution 65/229, annex.

¹⁴ Resolution 70/175, annex.

appropriate, measures aimed at addressing and eliminating prison overcrowding and violence, and provide capacity-building to relevant national authorities;

35. *Encourages* Member States to promote proportionate national sentencing policies, practices and guidelines for drug-related offences, whereby the severity of penalties is proportionate to the gravity of offences and both mitigating and aggravating factors are taken into account, including the circumstances enumerated in article 3 of the 1988 Convention and other relevant and applicable international law, and in accordance with national legislation;

36. *Calls for* the promotion of bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation, aimed at addressing and countering the world drug problem more effectively, in particular by encouraging and supporting such cooperation by those States most directly affected by illicit crop cultivation and the illicit production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

37. *Encourages* Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive policies and programmes that, by fostering social development, are aimed at the prevention of crime and violence and that address the multiple factors that contribute to marginalization, crime and victimization, in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including civil society, and based on scientific evidence and taking into account good practices;

38. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to review and, if necessary, strengthen coordinated measures, enhance capacity-building to counter money-laundering arising from drug trafficking and improve legal cooperation, including judicial cooperation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels, to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking, in order to provide for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of the perpetrators of such crimes;

39. *Underlines* the need to strengthen regional, subregional and international cooperation in criminal matters, as appropriate, including judicial cooperation in the areas of, inter alia, extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and other international legal instruments and national legislation, and to strive to provide appropriate resources to national competent authorities, including through the provision of targeted technical assistance to requesting countries;

40. *Notes* the importance of an integrated approach in drug policies, including by strengthening partnerships between the public health, development, human rights, justice and law enforcement fields and by facilitating inter-agency cooperation and communication, where appropriate;

41. *Encourages* the promotion, where appropriate, in the framework of international cooperation, of the use of law enforcement techniques, consistent with national legislation and international law, including applicable human rights obligations, in order to ensure that drug traffickers are brought to justice and that major criminal organizations are disrupted and dismantled;

42. *Reiterates* the strong commitment of Member States to improving access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by appropriately addressing existing barriers in this regard, including those related to legislation, regulatory systems, health-care systems, affordability, the training of health-care professionals, education, awareness-raising, estimates, assessment and reporting, benchmarks for consumption of substances under control and international

cooperation and coordination, while concurrently preventing the diversion and abuse of and trafficking in such substances;

43. *Recognizes* the effectiveness of law enforcement measures against organized criminal groups and individuals involved in drug-related crimes, and the need to place appropriate focus within the respective jurisdictions of Member States on those responsible for illicit activities of a larger scale or more serious nature;

44. *Recalls* the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 June 2016;¹⁵

45. *Invites* relevant national authorities to consider, in accordance with their national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, including in national prevention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures and programmes, in the context of comprehensive and balanced drug demand reduction efforts, effective measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, including appropriate medication-assisted therapy programmes, injecting equipment programmes as well as antiretroviral therapy and other relevant interventions that prevent the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, and to consider ensuring access to such interventions, including in treatment and outreach services, prisons and other custodial settings, and promoting in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

46. *Urges* Member States and other donors to continue to provide bilateral and other funding for the global drug problem response, including in particular the HIV/AIDS response, including to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and to strive to ensure that such funding contributes to addressing the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic among people who inject drugs, and HIV/AIDS in prison settings, in the spirit of the pledge made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁹ to leave no one behind;

47. *Acknowledges* the continuing efforts made and the progress achieved in countering the world drug problem, and stresses the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle the global challenges related to the world drug problem in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance;

48. *Takes note with appreciation* of the 2016 report of the International Narcotics Control Board¹⁶ and the supplementary reports thereto;

49. *Invites* Member States to strengthen, as appropriate, the proper functioning of national control systems and domestic assessment mechanisms and programmes, in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations system agencies, to identify, analyse and remove impediments to the availability and accessibility of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, within appropriate control mechanisms, as required by the three international drug control conventions and taking into account the publication entitled “Ensuring Balance in National Policies on Controlled

¹⁵ Resolution 70/266, annex.

¹⁶ International Narcotics Control Board, document E/INCB/2016/1.

Substances: Guidance for Availability and Accessibility of Controlled Medicines”, and, for that purpose, to consider the provision of technical and financial assistance, upon request, to developing countries;

50. *Urges* all Member States to enact comprehensive measures aimed at stemming the abuse, diversion and misuse of prescription drugs, in particular through the establishment of awareness-raising initiatives targeting the general public and health-care providers;

51. *Recognizes* that it is necessary for Member States, under the three international drug control conventions and the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation, to consider, where appropriate:

(a) Regularly reviewing and assessing their drug control policies, ensuring that they are effective, comprehensive, balanced and aimed at promoting the health and well-being of individuals, families, communities and society as a whole;

(b) Providing, as appropriate, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and measures aimed at minimizing the negative public health and social impacts of drug abuse, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole;

52. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other United Nations entities with pertinent technical and operational expertise, within their mandates, to continue to provide, upon request, advice and assistance to States that are reviewing and updating their drug policies, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions, taking into account their national priorities and needs through, among other things, the promotion of the exchange of information and best practices on scientific evidence-based policies adopted by States;

53. *Calls upon* Member States to promote and strengthen the exchange of information and, as appropriate, drug-related criminal intelligence among law enforcement and border control agencies, including through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime multilateral portals and regional information centres and networks, and to promote joint investigations and coordinate operations, in conformity with national legislation, and training programmes at all levels, in order to identify, disrupt and dismantle organized criminal groups operating transnationally that are involved in any activities related to the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the diversion of their precursors and related money-laundering;

54. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to share relevant information with, as appropriate, and strengthen the capacity of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant international and regional organizations to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances and to facilitate informed scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

55. *Encourages* Member States to enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies to detect and identify new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and promote cross-border cooperation and information-sharing to prevent their abuse and diversion, including through the use

of existing International Narcotics Control Board and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime tools and projects;

56. *Also encourages* Member States to establish and strengthen partnerships and information exchange with industries, in particular with chemical and pharmaceutical industries and other relevant private sector entities, and encourage the use of the *Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry*, issued by the International Narcotics Control Board, and the Board's model memorandum of understanding between Governments and private sector partners, as and where appropriate, bearing in mind the important role these industries can play in addressing and countering the world drug problem;

57. *Calls upon* Member States to commit to implementing timely, scientific evidence-based control or regulatory measures within national legislative and administrative systems to tackle and manage the challenge of new psychoactive substances, and to consider the use of interim steps while substances are under review, such as provisional measures of control, or to make public health announcements, as well as share information and expertise on those measures;

58. *Invites* Member States to support existing research, collection and scientific analysis of data related to amphetamine-type stimulants through the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme and relevant International Narcotics Control Board tools, such as Project Prism, and strengthen cooperation at all levels in tackling amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine;

59. *Also invites* Member States to promote the use, as appropriate, of relevant existing programmes, mechanisms and coordinated operations at all levels and continue the development and sharing of best practices and lessons learned among practitioners with regard to a balanced and integrated approach to the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants;

60. *Calls upon* Member States to continue efforts to identify and monitor trends in the composition, production, prevalence and distribution of new psychoactive substances, as well as patterns of use and adverse consequences, and assess the risks to the health and safety of individuals and society as a whole and the potential uses of new psychoactive substances for medical and scientific purposes, and on that basis to develop and strengthen domestic and national legislative, regulatory, administrative and operational responses and practices by domestic and national legislative, law enforcement, judiciary, social and welfare, educational and health authorities;

61. *Invites* Member States to target the illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of drugs and address related factors by implementing comprehensive strategies aimed at alleviating poverty and strengthening the rule of law, accountable, effective and inclusive institutions and public services and institutional frameworks, as appropriate, and by promoting sustainable development aimed at enhancing the welfare of the affected and vulnerable population through licit alternatives;

62. *Encourages* the promotion of inclusive economic growth and support for initiatives that contribute to poverty eradication and the sustainability of social and economic development, and encourages Member States to develop measures for rural development, improving infrastructure and social inclusion and protection, addressing the consequences of illicit crop cultivation and the manufacture and production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on the environment, with the incorporation and participation of local communities, and to consider taking voluntary measures to promote products stemming from alternative development,

including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, to gain access to markets, consistent with applicable multilateral trade rules and with national and international law, within the framework of comprehensive and balanced drug control strategies;

63. *Expresses concern* that the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain serious challenges in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and recognizes the need for strengthening sustainable crop control strategies that may include, inter alia, alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures, for the purpose of preventing and significantly and measurably reducing the illicit cultivation of crops, and the need to intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of appropriate preventive tools and measures, enhanced and better-coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges;

64. *Invites* Member States to consider elaborating and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, that support sustainable crop control strategies to prevent and significantly, durably and measurably reduce illicit crop cultivation and other illicit drug-related activities, ensuring the empowerment, ownership and responsibility of affected local communities, including farmers and their cooperatives, by taking into account the vulnerabilities and specific needs of communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant international organizations, bearing in mind national and regional development policies and action plans, with a view to contributing to the building of peaceful, inclusive and just societies, consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals and in compliance with relevant and applicable international and national law;

65. *Also invites* Member States to strengthen subregional, regional and international cooperation to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, as an essential part of successful prevention and crop control strategies to increase the positive outcome of such programmes, especially in the areas affected by and at risk of illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;¹⁷

66. *Urges* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to consider increasing their support, including through long-term and flexible funding, for the implementation of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives, in particular alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, based on identified needs and national priorities, for areas and populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, with a view to its prevention, reduction and elimination, and encourages States to the extent possible to stay strongly committed to financing such programmes;

67. *Urges* Member States to promote partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society and international

¹⁷ Resolution 68/196, annex.

financial institutions to create conditions more conducive to productive investments targeted at job creation in areas and among communities affected by or at risk of illicit drug cultivation, production, manufacturing, trafficking and other illicit drug-related activities in order to prevent, reduce or eliminate them, and share best practices, lessons learned, expertise and skills in this regard;

68. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that measures to prevent the illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances respect fundamental human rights, take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historical evidence of such use, and of the protection of the environment, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, and also take into account, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;¹⁸

69. *Reiterates its commitment* to strengthen regional and international cooperation to support sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders at the local, national and international levels, and to develop and share best practices towards implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, taking into account all the lessons learned and good practices, in particular by countries with extensive expertise in alternative development;

70. *Welcomes* resolution [71/210](#) of 19 December 2016, entitled “Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development”, and encourages Member States, international organizations, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take due account of the Guiding Principles when designing and implementing alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes, as appropriate;

71. *Urges* Member States to increase cooperation at all levels and enhance measures to prevent and significantly and measurably reduce or eliminate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including through eradication, within the framework of sustainable crop control strategies and measures;

72. *Reiterates its commitment* to strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance, including, where appropriate, adequate financial assistance, training, capacity-building, equipment and technological know-how, to requesting countries, including transit countries, through and in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, so as to help Member States to effectively address the health, socioeconomic, human rights, justice and law enforcement aspects of the world drug problem;

73. *Calls upon* Member States to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and money-laundering, and, in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, by using an integrated, multidisciplinary approach, such as through promoting and supporting reliable data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence- and analysis-sharing to ensure effective policymaking and interventions;

¹⁸ Resolution [61/295](#), annex.

74. *Invites* Member States to enhance national, regional, subregional, interregional and international capacity to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, including, as appropriate, through the detection, investigation and prosecution of such activities, with a view to effectively addressing safe havens, and to identify and mitigate money-laundering risks linked to new technologies, as well as emerging money-laundering methods and techniques, by using, inter alia, existing United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime technical assistance tools;

75. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen coordinated border management strategies, as well as the capacity of border control and law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, including through technical assistance, upon request, including, and where appropriate, the provision of equipment and technology, along with necessary training and maintenance support, in order to prevent, monitor and counter trafficking in drugs, trafficking in precursors and other drug-related crimes, such as trafficking in firearms, illicit financial flows, smuggling of bulk cash and money-laundering;

76. *Also encourages* Member States to use existing subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms to combat all forms of drug-related crime, wherever committed, including, in some cases, violent crimes related to gangs, including by enhancing international cooperation to successfully counter and dismantle organized criminal groups, including those operating transnationally;

77. *Calls upon* Member States to also consider, when developing comprehensive policies to tackle the world drug problem, measures, programmes and actions that address the needs of those affected by drug-related violence and crime;

78. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its field offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and encourages the Office to maintain an effective level of support for national and regional efforts in countering the world drug problem;

79. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to collaborate with relevant intergovernmental, international and regional organizations involved in addressing the world drug problem, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and scientific standards and to maximize the benefits from their unique comparative advantage;

80. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close cooperation with Member States and pertinent United Nations entities, intergovernmental and regional organizations and, when appropriate, the scientific community and civil society, to continue to support Member States, upon request, in strengthening their capacity to develop their reporting mechanisms, including by identifying gaps in the current drug statistics and by exploring possibilities to strengthen existing data-collection and analysis tools at the national level;

81. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close cooperation with Member States, to reflect on possibilities to strengthen and streamline its existing data-collection and analysis tools, including improving and strengthening the quality, response rate and effectiveness of the annual report questionnaire, and to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on possible ways to enhance these, for consideration by the Commission at its sixty-second session, and invites Member States to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes;

82. *Welcomes* Statistical Commission decision 48/110 on statistics on drugs and drug use¹⁹ and further encourages collaboration between the Statistical Commission and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, within their mandates, to exchange information on the latest data trends on the world drug problem and stresses the need for national statistical capacity-building to support Member States in improving the quality and availability of drug statistics and also to respond effectively to data collection requests from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and invites international and regional organizations to support Member States in this regard, upon their request;

83. *Invites* Member States to invest, where necessary and taking into account specific needs and available resources, in capacity-building and quality-enhancing activities for the collection and reporting of information, to participate in joint cooperation efforts organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by other national, regional or international organizations and bodies, aimed at the exchange of technical knowledge of experts in the area of data collection, analysis and evaluation and of practical experience in the area of drug data, and to regularly report data and information relating to all aspects of the world drug problem to the Office through the annual report questionnaires, and invites the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body of the United Nations system on drug-related matters, to strengthen the capacity of the Office to collect, analyse, use and disseminate accurate, reliable, objective and comparable data and to reflect such information in the *World Drug Report*;

84. *Encourages* Member States to promote data collection, research and the sharing of information, as well as the exchange of best practices on preventing and countering drug-related crime and on drug supply reduction measures and practices, in order to enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses, within the framework of applicable law;

85. *Invites* Member States to consider the need to review the set of national drug policy metrics and tools for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable, disaggregated, comprehensive and comparable data to measure the effectiveness of programmes to address all relevant aspects of the world drug problem, including, as appropriate, as related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

86. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to improve the availability and quality of statistical information and analysis of illicit drug cultivation, production and manufacturing, drug trafficking, money-laundering and illicit financial flows, including for appropriate reflection in reports of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact of such crimes and to further enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses in that regard;

87. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts to support States in establishing, upon request, the operational frameworks essential for communication within and across national borders and to facilitate the exchange of information on and analysis of drug trafficking trends, with a view to increasing knowledge about the world drug problem at the national, regional and international levels, recognizes the importance of integrating laboratories and providing scientific support to drug control frameworks and of treating quality analytical data as a primary source of information worldwide, and urges coordination with other international entities, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

¹⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 4 (E/2017/24-E/CN.3/2017/35)*, chap. I, sect. C.

88. *Requests* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base, as appropriate, and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities, including with a view to assisting Member States with the full implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly;

89. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

90. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to address the above-mentioned issues within the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office in order for the Office to fulfil its mandate effectively, efficiently and with the appropriate resources;

91. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, 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, and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

92. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen national and international action to address the emerging challenge of new psychoactive substances, including their adverse health consequences, and the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, underscores the importance of enhancing information-sharing and early warning networks, developing appropriate national legislative, prevention and treatment models and supporting scientific evidence-based review and scheduling of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful substances, and notes the importance of preventing the diversion and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and precursors while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes;

93. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,⁶ the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,⁷ the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,⁸ the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto²⁰ and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;²¹

94. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the International Narcotics Control Board, as may be appropriate, adequate support and technical assistance to Governments in all regions so as to enable them to implement and fully meet their obligations under

²⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

²¹ *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

conventions and give adequate follow-up to subsequent resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, including for the strengthening of regulatory authorities and controls, provision of information and fulfilment of reporting requirements, and urges donors to contribute to the Office for those purposes;

95. *Takes note* of the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sixtieth session⁵ and the *World Drug Report 2017*;

96. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen international and regional cooperation and coordination to counter the threat to the international community caused by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, especially those in the opioid group, as well as other aspects of the world drug problem, and to continue to take concerted measures within the framework of the Paris Pact and other relevant regional and international initiatives and mechanisms, in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchange, with a view to countering drug trafficking, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other international and regional organizations;

97. *Urges* Member States to continue to actively cooperate with the International Narcotics Control Board in the exercise of its mandate, and reiterates the need to ensure that an appropriate level of resources is made available to the Board to enable it to engage with Governments to effectively monitor compliance by States parties with the three international drug control conventions;

98. *Encourages* the continued contribution of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation and in this regard welcomes the discussions conducted in Vienna from 27 to 30 June 2017, Hurgada, Egypt, from 18 to 22 September 2017, Guatemala City from 2 to 6 October 2017, Beirut from 13 to 17 November 2017 and Bangkok from 27 to 30 November 2017;

99. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation in addressing the world drug problem and to seek effectiveness and comprehensiveness in the strategies and policies undertaken by regional and subregional organizations and transregional initiatives;

100. *Reiterates its call upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities and other international organizations, and invites international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream efforts to counter the world drug problem into their programmes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role by providing relevant information and technical assistance;

101. *Reiterates its call upon* Member States to take the steps necessary to implement the operational recommendations set out in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society, the scientific community and academia, 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 the recommendations;

102. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to identify operational recommendations in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly that fall within their area of specialization and to commence implementing the recommendations made in the outcome

document that are within their existing mandates, in collaboration and cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, keeping the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed of programmes and progress made to achieve goals set out in the outcome document, and requests the Office to include, within its existing reporting obligations, a chapter regarding collaboration and coordination across the United Nations system in the global efforts to implement the recommendations adopted at the thirtieth special session;

103. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further increase cooperation and collaboration with all relevant United Nations entities and international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, when assisting Member States in designing and implementing comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug strategies, policies and programmes;

104. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase efforts to pursue joint initiatives at the policy and programmatic levels with other relevant United Nations agencies and entities, within their existing mandates, as well as regional organizations, and to update and report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on progress, including on joint initiatives, at its upcoming sessions;

105. *Welcomes* the commencement of the follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations set out in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session through the intersessional process of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, encourages the Commission to continue working on and supporting Member States in the implementation and sharing of best practices corresponding to the seven thematic areas of the outcome document, and invites the Commission to examine how its subsidiary bodies can better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document, including by ensuring that the Commission is informed of regional and domestic concerns, developments and best practices arising from all stakeholders, including contributions from the scientific community, academia and civil society;

106. *Also welcomes* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 60/1 of 17 March 2017 on preparations for the sixty-second session of the Commission in 2019,⁵ in which it decided, inter alia, to convene a ministerial segment during the sixty-second session of the Commission to take stock of the implementation of the commitments made to jointly address and counter the world drug problem in the light of the 2019 target date set out in the Political Declaration, and encourages the Commission to keep the General Assembly informed of developments in the process;

107. *Encourages* all Member States to actively participate in the discussions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in preparation for the 2019 ministerial segment to foster an in-depth exchange of information and expertise on efforts, achievements, challenges and best practices to address and counter the world drug problem;

108. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to include in its report to the Economic and Social Council a section on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly;

109. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,²² and requests that he submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

²² [A/72/225](#).