

For participants only
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Report of the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held in Addis Ababa from 15 to 19 September 2014

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

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

Recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa

1. Participants in the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Africa:

(a) Recalled the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,¹ adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, in which Member States decided, among other things, that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, should conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, recommended that the Economic and Social Council should devote a high-level segment to a theme related to the world drug problem, and also recommended that the General Assembly should hold a special session to address the world drug problem;

(b) Also recalled General Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, in which the Assembly decided to convene, in early 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments;

(c) Took note with appreciation of the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,² adopted by the Commission at its fifty-seventh session, in which achievements, challenges and priorities for further action were identified within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments;

(d) Acknowledged, in accordance with the assessment contained in the Joint Ministerial Statement, that many challenges relating to the world drug problem had persisted and that new ones had emerged in some parts of the world, and that those new challenges needed to be taken into account in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

(e) Emphasized the importance of a broad, transparent and inclusive discussion among Member States held in multilateral settings and based on scientific evidence. The discussion should take on board input from other relevant stakeholders as appropriate, focus on the most effective ways to counter the world drug problem in a manner consistent with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, and further the

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

implementation of the commitments and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

(f) Welcomed the adoption by the Commission of its resolution 57/5 on the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016. In the resolution the Commission underlined the importance of the special session as a milestone on the way to 2019, the target date set in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action for achieving targets and goals set out therein; recognized the leading role of the Commission as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters in the preparations for the special session; and decided to take all possible measures to ensure an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process with the active involvement of all relevant stakeholders;

(g) Resolved to continue to support and contribute to the preparatory process for a special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016 pursuant to resolution 56/10 of the Commission, in which it requested the meetings of its subsidiary bodies to contribute to the monitoring of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action at the regional level by discussing regional views on the progress made and by submitting regional recommendations aimed at moving forward in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

(h) Agreed to make the recommendations presented below.

1. Trends and developments regarding new psychoactive and other substances not currently under international control

2. The following recommendations were made with regard to new psychoactive and other substances not currently under international control:

(a) In the face of a growing trend in the abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and psychoactive substances, Governments must ensure that they provide adequate investment in and support for treatment facilities for stimulant abuse and initiatives to raise awareness of related public health issues to meet the needs of their communities;

(b) Governments are encouraged to undertake a study of the illicit use of plant-based stimulants and hallucinogenics, such as khat and datura, taking into consideration the extent of their abuse in their communities and the effect on public health;

(c) Governments are encouraged to focus on preventive measures to control precursor chemicals, essential chemicals and pharmaceutical preparations by strengthening the administrative procedures regulating their commercial use, sale and distribution.

2. Addressing challenges posed by the cultivation and abuse of cannabis

3. The following recommendations were made with regard to challenges posed by the cultivation and abuse of cannabis:

(a) In combating cannabis trafficking, Governments should encourage their law enforcement officials, prosecutors and judiciaries to work closely with their

neighbours and with countries throughout the region to share information, conducting joint operations and improving communication channels;

(b) Governments are encouraged to review their legislation with a view to harmonizing offences and sanctions related to cannabis trafficking;

(c) Governments are encouraged to promote sustainable alternative development initiatives as an effective means of addressing the dependence of rural communities on the illicit cultivation of cannabis for their livelihoods.

3. Responding to the current threat posed by trafficking of heroin, including by sea

4. The following recommendations were made with regard to the current threat posed by trafficking of heroin, including by sea:

(a) Given the threat to public health, the harm to the environment caused by illicit cultivation, the adverse economic effects and the negative impact on the rule of law, Governments are strongly encouraged to keep illicit drug trafficking and related organized criminal offences at the forefront of their political agendas;

(b) Governments are encouraged to strengthen collaboration, professional networking, information-sharing mechanisms and communication between their drug law enforcement authorities in order to improve the regional response to heroin trafficking;

(c) To be effective against groups and individuals engaged in heroin trafficking and related criminal activities, Governments should review their existing bilateral agreements to ensure that they meet the needs of their law enforcement and judicial authorities tasked with investigating and prosecuting such cross-border offences;

(d) Governments should consider making better use of the provisions on international cooperation contained in the three international drug control treaties.

II. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in countering drug trafficking

5. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 15 September 2014, the Meeting considered agenda item 3, entitled “Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in countering drug trafficking”. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it the report of the Secretariat on statistics on drug trafficking trends in Africa and worldwide (UNODC/HONLAF/24/2) and a conference room paper entitled “Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in countering drug trafficking” (UNODC/HONLAF/24/CRP.1). In addition, national reports were submitted by Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Togo and Zimbabwe (UNODC/HONLAF/24/CRP.2-18).

6. A representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) introduced the item and made an audiovisual presentation on drug trafficking trends in the region in the context of global drug trafficking. The presentation was based on information provided to UNODC by Governments. A representative of UNODC

made a statement regarding the organization of the working groups. The representative of the Executive Director also made a statement.

7. The representatives of Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Angola, Cameroon, Kenya, Mozambique, Botswana, South Africa and the Sudan made statements. The observers for Canada and Spain made statements. Statements were also made by the observers for the African Union and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL).

8. The Meeting discussed current drug trafficking trends in Africa, measures taken to counter drug trafficking and highlights from the country reports submitted by Governments. Several speakers referred to particular cases and to seizures made by drug law enforcement authorities in several countries. Trafficking routes, *modi operandi* of traffickers and their relation to the regional and global markets were discussed, in particular for cannabis, cocaine, heroin and precursors such as ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.

9. Several speakers emphasized that the cultivation of and trafficking in cannabis, which is consumed mainly locally, was a major concern for countries in the African region and had started to negatively affect the youth in the region.

10. The diverging approaches to addressing cannabis in various parts of the world were noted. Speakers highlighted the importance of continuing to be proactive, in accordance with the existing international legal drug control framework in order to address priority issues at the national and regional levels.

11. It was also noted that cannabis was being increasingly trafficked along the same routes as heroin. Reference was made to national efforts to eradicate illicit cannabis fields and, where possible, to plant substitute crops. It was noted that, in order to complement national efforts, consideration should be given to developing and implementing feasible alternative development programmes in the region.

12. Several speakers noted the importance of improving international cooperation at the subregional, regional and international levels in order to better address drug trafficking and ensure that criminals are brought to court. The need to further enhance national legislation and improve the exchange of information and intelligence on cross-border trafficking and individual drug traffickers was highlighted as well, as was the importance of conducting joint investigations and setting up joint investigative teams.

13. Several speakers referred to the need to adopt and improve national anti-money-laundering legislation to facilitate the forfeiture of assets of drug traffickers, and noted that judges and prosecutors required training in this regard.

14. A number of speakers referred to the emergence of new psychoactive substances, whose wider circulation through illegal pharmacies and incipient production in the region needed to be curtailed. Reference was also made to the spread of synthetic drugs and to the need to address the abuse of tramadol, Captagon tablets and prescription drugs in general.

15. A number of speakers noted the importance of prevention and awareness-raising efforts.

III. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa

16. At its 2nd meeting, on 15 September 2014, the Meeting considered item 4 of its agenda, entitled “Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa”. The Meeting had before it a paper prepared by the Secretariat (UNODC/HONLAF/24/3) on the basis of information provided by Governments in response to a questionnaire sent to all States participating in the Meeting. As of 12 August 2014, replies had been received from the Governments of Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Eritrea, Guinea, Madagascar, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania and Togo. Since that date, completed questionnaires and country reports had been submitted by Botswana, Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Namibia, the Sudan and Zimbabwe.

17. A representative of the Secretariat made an introductory statement summarizing the main issues to be reported on by Governments in implementing the recommendations at the national level. During the discussion of the item, statements were made by the representatives of Kenya, Namibia, Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Angola, the United Republic of Tanzania, Côte d’Ivoire and Botswana.

18. The observers for the Russian Federation and Canada also made statements.

19. The Meeting discussed action taken by Governments of countries in the region to implement the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-second Meeting. It highlighted action taken in relation to specific recommendations. The Meeting further addressed the following areas: effective responses to meet the challenges of illicit cultivation of, and trafficking in, cannabis; good practices and strategies in the treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers; and awareness-raising, training and building and enhancing the region’s law enforcement capacity to successfully counter drug trafficking.

20. A number of participants reported on their efforts to map and to control the cultivation of cannabis, for example by flying planes over forests and other areas under cultivation. Some countries noted that they had made efforts to counter the trafficking of cannabis into their territories by, for example, installing truck scanners at border crossings. The need to develop and secure funding for alternative development programmes was noted. Speakers highlighted the importance of close cooperation with neighbouring countries in countering the trafficking of cannabis.

21. Participants reported on their national efforts to establish specialized treatment and rehabilitation facilities for drug-dependent individuals and noted that financial and technical support from UNODC and the donor community was required in order to make progress. Some speakers referred to the utility of peer-to-peer programmes and the need to establish policy frameworks that recognized addiction as a disease. One speaker reported on the establishment of a licensing regime for treatment and rehabilitation centres and the work undertaken to ensure that insurance companies covered addiction treatments.

22. Reference was made to national efforts to raise awareness among school students, parents and teachers of the harmful effects of drugs and to offer them training, and to broaden the involvement of various government agencies, civil society and religious communities in prevention efforts.

23. Some speakers emphasized the need to continue to provide training and to build the capacity of police, customs agencies and the judiciary. Countries were encouraged to pursue the forfeiture of criminal assets. One speaker referred to the utility of the Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) in addressing the issue of precursors.

IV. Consideration of topics by working groups

24. At its 3rd to 6th meetings, held on 16 and 17 September 2014, the Meeting established working groups to examine three issues under agenda item 5, entitled "Consideration of topics by working groups". The observations made by the participants in the working groups and the conclusions they reached are presented below. The recommendations made by the participants in the working groups and adopted at the Meeting are included in section I above.

1. Trends and developments regarding new psychoactive and other substances not currently under international control

25. The working group on trends and developments regarding new psychoactive and other substances not currently under international control held two meetings on 16 September 2014. In its consideration of the topic, the working group made the following observations:

(a) There is a wide range and variety of substances such as glues, varnish, solvents, petrol, cough syrups, khat, toxic plant extracts, and tobacco products laced with stimulants or other ingredients and sold under brand names such as Shisha and Kuber, that lend themselves to being misused in harmful ways by young people;

(b) Authorities are often not aware of new psychoactive substances subject to abuse until the users present themselves for treatment;

(c) The plant datura has an accepted place in traditional African medicine in various regions, but poses a serious health threat to those who abuse it as an illicit stimulant;

(d) There is an increasing trend in the misuse of pharmaceutical preparations such as tramadol and antiretroviral drugs, and in the use of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine as precursors;

(e) The misuse of khat is a matter of concern, but not enough is known by health authorities in Africa about the serious and damaging effects of its abuse.

26. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Medical and public health-based approaches can address the negative health and social impact caused by the abuse of non-scheduled and controlled substances;

(b) There is a need for national legislation to classify psychoactive substances in broader categories or families of chemicals so as to prevent drug traffickers from evading prosecution, especially when chemical analysis of the evidence does not yield an exact match to specifically controlled drugs;

(c) The reports of adverse health effects arising from khat abuse raise serious concerns about the effect its growing popularity could have on public health and resources;

(d) More studies need to be undertaken to assess the extent of the abuse of datura and the effects and consequences of its consumption as an illicit stimulant.

2. Addressing challenges posed by the cultivation and abuse of cannabis

27. The working group addressing challenges posed by the cultivation and abuse of cannabis held two meetings on 16 and 17 September 2014. In its consideration of the topic, the working group made the following observations:

(a) Cannabis cultivation, production, trafficking and illicit use occur in all parts of Africa, making it the primary illicit drug of concern for African authorities as reflected in seizure statistics and the efforts of law enforcement;

(b) Cannabis is trafficked extensively within Africa and exported outside the continent, although not all States observe large-scale cultivation on their territories;

(c) Legislation and penalties for cannabis offences vary from country to country. Often persons engaged in cannabis trafficking take advantage of these differences to avoid prosecution;

(d) Although there are treatment and rehabilitation centres available for cannabis abusers in some countries, many public health systems are not adequately resourced to provide such services;

(e) There is a need for alternative development programmes for farmers whose livelihoods depend upon the illicit cultivation of cannabis.

28. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) The region's authorities should work together and take a joint approach to effectively tackle cannabis cultivation, trafficking and abuse;

(b) Differences in legislation and penalties between countries, including neighbours, can be exploited by cannabis traffickers, which compromises the effectiveness of the authorities' response;

(c) The efforts of law enforcement agencies must be complemented by the establishment of treatment and rehabilitation centres for cannabis addicts and those suffering from addiction to other substances;

(d) Cannabis eradication programmes must be combined with sustainable alternative development initiatives, and community education should be encouraged in areas where cannabis cultivation is a primary contributor to community livelihoods.

3. Responding to the current threat posed by trafficking of heroin, including by sea

29. The working group held two meetings on 17 September 2014. In its consideration of the topic under review, the working group made the following observations:

(a) The high levels of illicit opium production in Afghanistan have resulted in increasing amounts of heroin being trafficked into and through Africa;

(b) The *modi operandi* and trafficking routes used by criminal syndicates remain diverse and change frequently, and therefore continue to pose challenges to detection efforts undertaken by law enforcement authorities;

(c) A newly reported trend in the region is that heroin is now also being intercepted in liquid form;

(d) While the largest interceptions of heroin by volume happen at sea, the most frequent interceptions happen at airports, where heroin is carried by couriers;

(e) The growth of airline networks across the continent has had the corresponding effect of facilitating trafficking networks that transport heroin into, through and out of the continent;

(f) Legislation and penalties for heroin trafficking vary from country to country and trafficking groups often structure their operations to exploit these differences;

(g) Inter-agency cooperation at the regional and international levels can enhance the reach of law enforcement agencies by extending access to national databases and offering access to additional professional skills and operational resources.

30. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Information-sharing among national agencies and with counterparts in neighbouring countries and other countries in the region about the various *modi operandi* used in trafficking can help to identify and intercept illicit consignments and to dismantle trafficking networks;

(b) To better identify passengers acting as heroin couriers, law enforcement authorities posted at international airports need to establish good working relationships with airlines, so as to be able to access their data on passenger travel histories, routings and associates;

(c) Law enforcement authorities engaged in the prevention and investigation of heroin trafficking offences need to be better trained and equipped to meet the challenge of well-resourced and financed trafficking groups.

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

31. At its 7th meeting on 18 September 2014, the Meeting considered agenda item 6, entitled “Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016”.

32. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A) 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 on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/2014/28, chap. I, sect. C).

33. A representative of the Secretariat made an introductory statement under this agenda item. During the discussion of the item, statements were made by the representatives of Ghana, South Africa, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania, Kenya, Algeria and Burkina Faso.

34. The observer for Canada made a statement. The observer for INTERPOL made statements.

35. In its resolution 64/182, the General Assembly, welcomed the outcome of the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission, adopted the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem that was, in turn, adopted during the high-level segment of the Commission’s session, and called upon States to take the measures necessary to fully implement the actions set out therein with a view to attaining in a timely manner the goals and targets set for 2019. Member States committed themselves to effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action through resolute international cooperation in collaboration with relevant regional and international organizations.

36. Reference was made to the utility of the platform provided by the existing regional coordination bodies in the African region. The acute importance of the issue of cannabis cultivation and trafficking for the African region was highlighted.

37. Several speakers also mentioned the threat posed to the region by methamphetamines and the need to dismantle the clandestine laboratories producing them.

38. Speakers appealed to the international community to support their countries’ efforts to address the cultivation and trafficking of cannabis in the region and the production and trafficking of methamphetamines and other illicit drugs both within the continent and between Africa and other regions of the world. UNODC was

requested to provide, or continue to provide the necessary support to raise awareness within the region of the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and to provide assistance to States in establishing forensic laboratories.

39. Reference was made to the need to consider harm reduction in the context of the overall strategy of the fight against drugs. One speaker noted that harm reduction should be seen in the broader context of the drug demand reduction continuum, which ranges from treatment to rehabilitation.

40. It was noted that Member States should undertake in-depth studies of khat and datura and that consideration should be given to scheduling them.

41. Some speakers noted the linkages between drug trafficking, terrorism, corruption and related forms of transnational organized crime. Speakers also mentioned the need to train members of the judiciary in handling drug trafficking cases and the possibility of establishing special drug courts.

42. Speakers highlighted the importance of efforts undertaken at the subregional, regional and international levels and the need to promote international cooperation towards implementing the objectives of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including for the purpose of countering money-laundering, while respecting the integrity and national sovereignty of each country involved.

43. Pursuant to the request made by the Commission in its resolution 56/10, the participants agreed to submit to it the recommendations made on the basis of the deliberations of the working groups under agenda item 6 as regional recommendations aimed at moving forward in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action (see section I above).

VI. Organization of the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa

44. At its 7th meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Twenty-fourth Meeting considered agenda item 7, entitled “Organization of the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa”. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it document UNODC/HONLAF/24/4.

45. During the discussion of the item, statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, Uganda, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Cameroon and Namibia. A statement was also made by the observer for INTERPOL.

46. Several speakers proposed the following topics for discussion by the working groups at the Twenty-fifth Meeting, to be held in 2015:

(a) Cannabis eradication programmes and associated challenges, in conjunction with the design and implementation of sound alternative development programmes;

(b) Harm reduction programmes, how they work and where they are currently implemented;

(c) Illicit drug trafficking by sea, the challenges of intercepting vessels on the high seas, training and operational considerations and possible ways forward;

(d) Effective border control measures to curtail drug trafficking, including the exchange of information, inter-agency cooperation, the use of liaison officers and support by international organizations;

(e) Abuse of stimulants and pharmaceutical preparations (e.g. tramadol and cough mixtures), measures taken to identify and dismantle clandestine laboratories, and meeting the challenges in countering their abuse;

(f) Judicial challenges, including differences in national legislation, penalties and procedures; key elements required for successful investigation and prosecution.

47. The Twenty-fourth Meeting approved the following draft provisional agenda for the Twenty-fifth Meeting, to be finalized by the Secretariat in collaboration with the interested African States:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups: [*to be determined*].
6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016.
7. Organization of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report.

VII. Other business

48. Also at its 7th meeting, the Meeting considered agenda item 8, entitled “Other business”. During the discussion of the item, statements were made by the representatives of Namibia, South Africa, Cameroon, the United Republic of Tanzania, Ghana, the Sudan, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Uganda, Burkina Faso and Algeria.

49. One speaker noted that it would be useful to receive information on the interconnections between drug trafficking, poaching and wildlife trafficking and on the experiences of States with this phenomenon. Some speakers noted that any available studies or information on datura, desomorphine (also known as “krokodil”) and other new substances should be presented to the Meeting. A number of speakers commented that, where applicable, cough medicines should be

recategorized as prescription-only medicines and that the issue of codeine-containing medicines should be discussed at the next Meeting. Several speakers emphasized the need for forensic laboratories and testing kits and noted that UNODC support was required in this regard. It was noted that the newly established African Police Cooperation Organization (AFRIPOL) should be invited to future meetings of HONLEA, Africa. Reference was made to resolution 51/13 of the Commission, entitled “Responding to the threat posed by the distribution of internationally controlled drugs on the unregulated market”.

VIII. Adoption of the report

50. At its 8th meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Twenty-fourth Meeting adopted its report. The reports of the working groups and the recommendations contained therein, as orally amended, were also adopted.

IX. Organization of the Meeting

A. Opening and duration of the Meeting

51. The Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, organized by UNODC, was held in Addis Ababa from 15 to 19 September 2014. The representative of the Executive Director of UNODC made an opening statement. The Meeting viewed a video statement by the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session.

B. Attendance

52. The following States were represented at the Twenty-fourth Meeting of HONLEA, Africa: Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

53. The following States were represented by observers: Canada, Italy, the Russian Federation and Spain.

54. The African Union and INTERPOL were represented by observers.

55. UNODC served as the secretariat of the Meeting.

C. Election of officers

56. At its 1st meeting, on 15 September 2014, the Meeting elected the following officers by acclamation:

<i>Chair:</i>	William N. Okedi (Kenya)
<i>Vice-Chairs:</i>	Isak Hermias Van Zyl (Namibia)
	Belem Amadé (Burkina Faso)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Brian Oppelt (South Africa)

D. Adoption of the agenda

57. At the same meeting, the Twenty-fourth Meeting of HONLEA, Africa, adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in countering drug trafficking.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups:
 - (a) Trends and developments regarding new psychoactive and other substances not currently under international control;
 - (b) Addressing challenges posed by the cultivation and abuse of cannabis;
 - (c) Responding to the current threat posed by trafficking of heroin, including by sea.
6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.
7. Organization of the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa.

E. Documentation

58. The documents before the Twenty-fourth Meeting of HONLEA, Africa, are listed in the annex.

X. Closure of the Meeting

59. Closing remarks were made by the Chair of the Twenty-fourth Meeting.

Annex

List of documents before the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa

<i>Document number</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
UNODC/HONLAF/24/1	2	Provisional agenda, annotations and programme of work
UNODC/HONLAF/24/2	3	Statistics on drug trafficking trends in Africa and worldwide
UNODC/HONLAF/24/3	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-second Meeting of HONLEA, Africa
UNODC/HONLAF/24/4	7	Organization of the Twenty-fifth Meeting of HONLEA, Africa
UNODC/HONLAF/24/L.1 and Add.1-7	8	Draft report
UNODC/HONLAF/24/CRP.1	3	Current situation with respect to subregional and regional cooperation in countering drug trafficking
UNODC/HONLAF/24/CRP.2-18	3	Country reports