

13 October 2016

Original: English\*

---

**Report of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago from 3 to 7 October 2016**

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

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

1. The participants in the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the following recommendations, which were drawn up by its working groups. The observations and conclusions of the working groups that led to the recommendations are set out in section IV below.

**Issue 1. Regional and international initiatives to combat trafficking**

2. With regard to issue 1, “Regional and international initiatives to combat trafficking”, the following recommendations were made:

(a) Governments should ensure that inter-agency cooperation includes coordination and the regular exchange of information about trafficking groups, suspect vessels and current trends in modus operandi;

(b) To enhance the effectiveness of countermeasures to combat illicit trafficking, Governments are encouraged to support the following interregional initiatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC): the Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP), the Container Control Programme and the strengthening of criminal investigation and criminal justice along the cocaine route in Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa (CRIMJUST);

---

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



(c) Governments are encouraged to ratify the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and to update every six months any changes to their focal point details (including telephone numbers and e-mail addresses) so as to ensure the accuracy of the information available in the directory of competent national authorities;

(d) UNODC is encouraged to work with States to develop a best practices handbook for use by authorities when in receipt of a request for boarding permission;

(e) UNODC is requested to compile statistics of requests relating to article 17 of the 1988 Convention reflecting the number of requests made by countries, the countries receiving requests, the outcomes and other matters of operational interest.

**Issue 2. Comprehensive and balanced drug-related policies through cooperation and coordination mechanisms among domestic authorities at all levels**

3. With regard to issue 2, “Comprehensive and balanced drug-related policies through cooperation and coordination mechanisms among domestic authorities at all levels”, the following recommendations were made:

(a) Governments are encouraged to address the various aspects of the drug problem through intersectoral interventions at all levels as well as increased international cooperation to ensure an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach;

(b) Governments are encouraged to ensure a balanced allocation of resources to both supply and demand reduction;

(c) Governments are encouraged to promote proportionate national sentencing policies for drug-related offences and consider, where appropriate and applicable, in accordance with national legal systems, alternatives to conviction or punishment, such as measures for treatment, education, aftercare, rehabilitation and social reintegration;

(d) Governments are encouraged to promote the active involvement of law enforcement agencies in early detection and referral to treatment services of people with substance use disorders.

**Issue 3. Countering illicit traffic in new psychoactive substances, amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and precursors**

4. With regard to issue 3, “Countering illicit traffic in new psychoactive substances, amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and precursors”, the following recommendations were made:

(a) Governments are encouraged to establish collaborative relationships with their domestic chemical industries that raise the awareness and knowledge of scheduled and non-scheduled precursors and substances that may be diverted for use in the illicit manufacture of drugs;

(b) Where they are not already doing so, Governments should encourage their authorities to use the Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) system supported by the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) to confirm the legitimacy of all parties involved in international transactions in precursor chemicals, including those shipments that are in transit;

(c) Governments are encouraged to develop their forensic capacity to analyse the chemical composition of new psychoactive substances and share this information with their counterparts across the region.

**Issue 4. Mainstreaming gender perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes: a gender-responsive approach to addressing the world drug problem**

5. With regard to issue 4, “Mainstreaming gender perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes: a gender-responsive approach to addressing the world drug problem”, the following recommendations were made:

(a) Governments are encouraged to collect and analyse gender and age disaggregated data to obtain more information about the situation, role and circumstances of women drug offenders, with a view to identifying factors that continue to make women and girls vulnerable to exploitation and involvement in drug-related crime, including as couriers, in order to implement broad-based prevention, primary care, treatment and reintegration programmes;

(b) Governments are encouraged to include gender and age disaggregated data about people subject to judicial or criminal proceedings when reporting on the implementation of the recommendations made at the Heads of National Law Enforcement Agencies;

(c) Governments are encouraged to ensure non-discriminatory access to health-care services for women, including in prison, and to develop gender-sensitive prevention, primary care, treatment and reintegration policies and programmes;

(d) Governments are encouraged to amend legislation to allow for proportionate sentencing and use, where applicable and possible and according to national legal systems, of alternatives to imprisonment for women drug offenders, in particular, for pregnant women and women with caretaking responsibilities, in line with international instruments such as the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules).

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

6. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 3 October 2016, the Meeting considered agenda item 3, entitled “Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures”. For the consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it the report of the Secretariat on statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Americas and worldwide (UNODC/HONLAC/26/2) and the note by the Secretariat on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation (UNODC/HONLAC/26/3). In addition, country reports on the illicit drug trafficking situation were submitted by

Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Spain (UNODC/HONLAC/26/CRP.2-12) by 4 August 2016. After that date, country reports were submitted by the Dominican Republic, France, Guyana, Paraguay and Trinidad and Tobago.

7. A representative of UNODC introduced the item and made an audiovisual presentation on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking. The presentation was based on information provided by Governments to UNODC. Representatives of Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Spain and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements, including audiovisual presentations.

8. Several speakers informed the Meeting about recent developments relating to drug trafficking trends and countermeasures in their countries and in the region. Updated data and information on drug seizures and air and maritime trafficking routes were shared. The exponential growth of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants in the region was reported by several speakers, together with the emergence of new routes of transnational drug trafficking, including between South America and West Africa. The production, trafficking and abuse of smokable cocaine, lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) analogues and fentanyl were among the trends reported. Some speakers stressed the need to communicate with each other on a timely basis on new synthetic drugs.

9. Some speakers drew attention to the use of speedboats, chartered private aircrafts and semi-submersible vehicles. Sharing information on the modus operandi of drug traffickers was of key importance. Microtrafficking in cocaine was a major issue in some countries. Some speakers stressed the situation of their countries as transit points for drug trafficking.

10. Information was provided on national advances made in combating drug trafficking, including through the adoption of new national strategies and legislation. Other measures reported by speakers included international agreements with neighbouring countries, joint operations at borders, the creation of criminal intelligence networks and the closing down of illegal laboratories. Various speakers reported on ongoing cooperation with the Container Control Programme and AIRCOP of UNODC. The fight against the diversion of chemical precursors was seen as a shared responsibility of consuming, producing and transit countries.

11. Presentations were also made on the reduction of illicit crops, and speakers referred to their cooperation with UNODC for the monitoring of illicit crops through satellite images. Drug demand reduction policies and measures were also reported on, together with action taken against money-laundering and for the recovery of drug-related assets. Another measure reported was the conduct of national household and secondary school surveys to guide policies.

12. Drug production and trafficking, money-laundering and organized crime were referred to by several speakers as threats to the public security, stability and sovereignty of States that required bilateral, international and multilateral cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility. One speaker mentioned the socioeconomic factors underlying drug trafficking and production and referred to the implementation by his Government of social inclusion measures in order to address them, in full respect of human rights. He also welcomed the ongoing debate on how to address the world drug problem.

13. Some speakers underlined the need for a multidisciplinary and balanced approach to reducing demand and supply, with the aim of achieving the goals set in the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and a society free of drug abuse also in line with the commitments made at the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016. The three international drug control conventions and other international instruments were seen by a speaker as the cornerstone for international drug policy, as mentioned in the outcome document of the special session, and were considered to be flexible enough to adapt to the different national policies.

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

14. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 3 October 2016, the Meeting considered agenda item 4, entitled “Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean”. The Meeting had before it a note by the Secretariat (UNODC/HONLAC/26/4) prepared on the basis of information provided by Governments in response to a questionnaire sent to all States members of the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean. The note reflected the responses received by the Secretariat from Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland by 8 August 2016.

15. The Secretary of the Meeting made an introductory statement. The representative of Mexico made a statement to amend and complement information reported in the note by the Secretariat (UNODC/HONLAC/26/4). Countries that had not submitted responses to the questionnaire informed the meeting about measures taken to implement the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fifth Meeting.

16. The representative of Chile reported on measures taken to fulfil the reporting obligations to INCB. The representative also reported on how the Government responds to the evolving challenge of new psychoactive substances, including on an inter-institutional study on new psychoactive substances conducted in Chile and abroad.

17. The representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reported on measures taken in relation to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of microtrafficking and its links to transnational criminal networks, as well as on other prevention initiatives. On the issue of border management, the representative reported on national measures to strengthen the control of sea, air and land borders, including through increased regional cooperation. In relation to effectively addressing current trends in trafficking in cocaine and the curbing of access to the supply of precursor chemicals, the representative highlighted the need for training, information-sharing and cooperation, including with businesses and the chemical industry, to prevent the diversion of chemical precursors, and reiterated the

Government's firm commitment to human rights and the rule of law in its efforts to counter the world drug problem.

#### **IV. Consideration of topics by working groups**

18. At its 2nd to 7th meetings, from 3 to 6 October 2016, the Meeting considered agenda item 5, entitled "Consideration of topics by working groups". The observations and conclusions of the working groups are set out below. The recommendations of the working groups approved in plenary are set out in section I above.

##### **Observations and conclusions of the working groups**

###### **Issue 1. Regional and international initiatives to combat trafficking**

19. The working group on issue 1, "Regional and international initiatives to combat trafficking", met during the 2nd, 3rd and 5th meetings, from 3 to 5 October 2016. During its consideration of the topic in question, the working group made the following observations:

(a) Trafficking by sea remains a primary vector for the transport of illicit drugs in large quantities across the region and beyond;

(b) The constant change in strategy adopted by traffickers remains a challenge to authorities;

(c) Coordination between domestic law enforcement agencies, together with collaboration with foreign counterparts and the free-flow sharing of information about the persons involved, their vessels and detected modus operandi leads to effective countermeasures against trafficking;

(d) Operational responses such as Aircop and the Container Control Programme, which link national authorities with their regional and international counterparts, are proving effective against traffickers;

(e) The United Nations directory of competent national authorities is a valuable compilation of national focal points to contact when authorities are seeking legal permission to board foreign flagged vessels at sea.

20. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) The Aircop and Container Control Programme initiatives are proving effective because they harness existing national agencies' resources, develop the professional skills at hand and bridge the operational differences existing across the region;

(b) Coordination and regular cooperation between the regions' authorities are needed to successfully match the constant change and innovation that traffickers apply to conceal their consignments in response to drug enforcement strategies;

(c) It is important that States regularly provide details, including telephone numbers and e-mail addresses, to their focal points and update them about changes so as to maintain the accuracy of those data in the directory of competent national authorities;

(d) A common and standard approach to responding to requests for boarding permission would improve the effectiveness of the directory of competent national authorities, especially with regard to matters relating to article 17 of the 1988 Convention.

**Issue 2. Comprehensive and balanced drug-related policies through cooperation and coordination mechanisms among domestic authorities at all levels**

21. The working group on issue 2, “Comprehensive and balanced drug-related policies through cooperation and coordination mechanisms among domestic authorities at all levels”, met during the 5th and 6th meetings, on 5 October 2016. During its consideration of the topic, the working group made the following observations:

(a) Drug use disorders are a complex problem, determined by a variety of factors, and require a multidisciplinary and comprehensive response;

(b) As a variety of national institutions are involved in the design and implementation of demand and supply reduction policies and programmes, the clear definition and coordination of their roles is essential;

(c) The UNODC International Standards on Drug Use Prevention and the international standards for the treatment of drug use disorders, highlighting the importance of scientific evidence-based measures, can assist Member States in the formulation of their policies;

(d) The involvement of non-State actors, including civil society organizations and academia, in drug control activities should be promoted.

22. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Drug abuse is considered a health disorder that requires a public health response;

(b) Data collection, analysis and reporting based on targeted indicators on the impact of the policies can support Governments in developing and implementing effective drug policies;

(c) Close cooperation between law enforcement agencies and other relevant authorities is key to implementing effective, balanced and comprehensive drug control policies and national programmes;

(d) Enhanced coordination and collaboration between UNODC and all relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, is important and should be strengthened when assisting Member States in designing and implementing comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug strategies, policies and programmes.

**Issue 3. Countering illicit traffic in new psychoactive substances, amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and precursors**

23. The working group on issue 3, “Countering illicit traffic in new psychoactive substances, amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and

precursors”, met during the 6th and 7th meetings, on 5 and 6 October 2016. During its consideration of the topic, the working group made the following observations:

- (a) Synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances are a growing presence in the region;
- (b) Preventing the diversion of scheduled and non-scheduled precursors is key to reducing the illicit manufacture and supply of drugs;
- (c) Chemical control authorities and the chemical industry should work in close cooperation;
- (d) Traffickers are increasingly using new methods to commercialize illicit drugs, such as the use of the darknet, which also protects their identity.

24. The working group drew the following conclusions:

- (a) It is essential that authorities and regulatory agencies engage the assistance of the chemical industry through the development of good cooperation and a close working relationship to prevent attempts at diversion;
- (b) There is a need for authorities to adapt their drug enforcement strategies to meet the challenges of developing technologies, such as the use of the Internet, to prevent it from being used as a source for obtaining controlled substances and precursor chemicals;
- (c) Authorities are encouraged to establish national early warning systems that gather information about new psychoactive substances, including information about consumption, because of the need to improve data collection on such substances, their control and international cooperation on the subject, as well as in order to facilitate the design of policies, bearing in mind the effects of such drugs on public health;
- (d) The PEN Online system, the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS) and Project ION, supported by INCB, has proved to be a very effective mechanism for confirming the legitimacy of commercial parties involved in international transactions in precursor chemicals, and is an effective countermeasure against attempts at diversion.

**Issue 4. Mainstreaming gender perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes: a gender-responsive approach to addressing the world drug problem**

25. The working group on issue 4, “Mainstreaming gender perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes: a gender-responsive approach to addressing the world drug problem”, met during the 4th meeting, on 4 October 2016. During its consideration of the topic, the working group made the following observations:

- (a) In many countries of the region the population of women imprisoned for drug-related offences is on the rise, with most women offenders imprisoned for minor drug-related crimes. This poses a danger to the well-being and development of children, families and communities;
- (b) If involved in drug trafficking, women and adolescents are often minor players, their criminal offences often being an outgrowth of their own addiction or the result of manipulation, poverty and other socioeconomic factors, with a



significant number of women used as drug couriers to smuggle drugs across borders and into prisons;

(c) Collecting and analysing qualitative and quantitative gender disaggregated data and conducting research on gender perspectives in relation to the world drug problem is important to identify and address the risk factors that continue to make women and adolescents of both genders vulnerable to exploitation and involvement in the drug trade;

(d) Women affected by drug abuse and drug-related crime are more vulnerable and more stigmatized than men and often bear a heavy burden of violence and deprivation, with economic and social factors strongly shaping their involvement in drug-related crime;

(e) Women with substance abuse problems are often deprived of or limited in their access to health services and effective treatment that takes into account their specific needs and circumstances.

26. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) With the population of women involved in the drug trade and imprisoned for drug-related offences increasing, criminal justice systems need to be equipped to cater for the specific needs of women drug offenders;

(b) It is important to collect and analyse gender and age disaggregated data in order to design effective gender-sensitive drug policies and programmes and involve women at all stages, including during their design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;

(c) Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all goals and targets of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda;

(d) International instruments such as the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) address the specific needs and possible multiple vulnerabilities of women drug offenders when imprisoned, and could support criminal justice reform in this regard.

## **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, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016**

27. At its 7th meeting, held on 6 October 2016, participants discussed 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, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016”. For their consideration of the item, the participants had before them the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter

the World Drug Problem; 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; and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”.

28. A representative of the Secretariat made an introductory statement. Statements were made by the representatives of Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Panama, Mexico and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

29. Many speakers stressed that the world drug problem remained a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed through effective and increased international cooperation and that it demanded an integrated, multidisciplinary, balanced and comprehensive approach. It was further emphasized that the world drug problem required a response from the public health and human rights perspective, with human beings at the centre of policies and programmes.

30. Some speakers considered that the goals set in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action for the elimination or significant reduction of the cultivation, demand and supply of illicit drugs could not realistically be reached by the target date, 2019, that the review of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action should be based not only on the three pillars of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action but also on the seven chapters of the outcome document of the special session of the Assembly and that a new political declaration would have to be elaborated based on more realistic goals and targets.

31. Many delegations expressed the view that, while tangible progress had been achieved in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, the world drug problem continued to be a major problem that presented challenges to the health, safety and well-being of humanity. It was further noted that notwithstanding the magnitude of the world drug problem, the international community should continue striving to reduce significantly and measurably the different manifestations of the world drug problem and address the underlying causes and the health, socioeconomic, human rights, justice and law enforcement aspects of the problem, with a view to protecting the health and welfare of humankind.

32. Some of the speakers highlighted that the three international drug control conventions allowed sufficient flexibility to design and implement national drug policies according to their priorities and needs.

33. The need for relevant, reliable and objective data and targeted indicators based on scientific evidence, to improve the implementation of comprehensive, integrated and balanced drug control strategies, policies and programmes, was stated by a number of speakers. It was also noted that targeted progress indicators would require alignment with the seven chapters of the outcome document of the special session.

34. Some speakers highlighted the importance of addressing and countering the world drug problem in the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals, and reported on national initiatives to implement the recommendations of the outcome document.

35. One delegation reported on international and regional efforts to implement the operative recommendations contained in the outcome document and highlighted the importance of increased cooperation between UNODC and other relevant United Nations entities, including the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the Human Rights Council, within their respective mandates, in their efforts to support Member States in effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem.

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

36. At its 7th meeting, on 6 October 2016, participants discussed agenda item 7, entitled “Organization of the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean”. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it a note by the Secretariat (UNODC/HONLAC/26/5) drawing attention to certain issues to be addressed at the Twenty-seventh Meeting and containing a draft provisional agenda for that Meeting.

37. The Meeting was informed that the Twenty-seventh Meeting was scheduled to be held from 2 to 6 October 2017. The Chair invited delegations of States interested in hosting the Twenty-seventh Meeting to contact the Secretariat with a view to determining the venue as early as possible and thus facilitate preparations. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Portugal and Spain.

38. One delegation indicated that the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean should continue considering advances in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly, including on mainstreaming gender perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes and on the availability of and access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes. It also hoped that meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies would continue to count on the presence of experts from the fields of demand reduction and criminal justice, to enrich the discussion. Other delegations expressed the view that the meeting should continue to focus on developing closer operational cooperation in the response to illicit drug trafficking. Delegations proposed the following themes for consideration by working groups at the Twenty-seventh Meeting: new psychoactive substances; identifying the chemicals and pre-precursors used in the manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants and other psychoactive substances; destroying seized drugs, precursor chemicals and other related substances; alternatives to incarceration for drug users; developing secure and fast information exchange platforms between law enforcement authorities; links between illicit drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering, human trafficking,

migrant smuggling, illegal forest felling and terrorism; and addressing money-laundering and asset recovery from the proceeds of crime.

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

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups [*to be determined*].
6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016.
7. Organization of the Twenty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.

## **VII. Other business**

40. At its 7th meeting, on 6 October 2016, the Meeting considered agenda item 8, entitled "Other business". A statement was made by the representative of the Dominican Republic, who informed the meeting about an international meeting on drugs in the context of the Dominican Initiative for Quality Education, to be held in Punta Cana in May 2017.

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

41. At its 8th meeting, on 7 October 2016, the Twenty-sixth Meeting adopted its report (UNODC/HONLAC/26/L.1 and Add.1-7), including the reports of the working groups and the recommendations contained therein, as orally revised.

## IX. Organization of the Meeting

### A. Opening and duration of the Meeting

42. The Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, was held at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago from 3 to 7 October 2016. The opening was addressed by the elected Chair of the Twenty-sixth Meeting, Liza Zúñiga Collado (Chile).

### B. Attendance

43. The following States members of ECLAC were represented: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom, United States of America and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

44. The Russian Federation was represented by an observer.

45. UNODC served as the secretariat of the Meeting.

### C. Election of officers

46. At its first meeting, on 3 October 2016, the Meeting elected the following officers by acclamation:

<i>Chair:</i>	Liza Zúñiga Collado (Chile)
<i>First Vice-Chair:</i>	Braulio José de la Rosa (Dominican Republic)
<i>Second Vice-Chair:</i>	Juan Rafael Sánchez Cortés (Guatemala)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Michael Atherly (Guyana)

### D. Adoption of the agenda

47. Also at its 1st meeting, the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups:

- (a) Regional and international initiatives to combat trafficking;
  - (b) Comprehensive and balanced drug-related policies through cooperation and coordination mechanisms among domestic authorities at all levels;
  - (c) Countering illicit traffic in new psychoactive substance, amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and precursors;
  - (d) Mainstreaming gender perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes: a gender-responsive approach to addressing the world drug problem.
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, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016.
  7. Organization of the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
  8. Other business.
  9. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.

## **E. Documentation**

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

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

49. The Chair of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, made a closing statement.

## Annex

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

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
UNODC/HONLAC/26/1	2	Annotated provisional agenda
UNODC/HONLAC/26/2	3	Statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Americas and worldwide
UNODC/HONLAC/26/3	3	Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation
UNODC/HONLAC/26/4	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-fifth Meeting
UNODC/HONLAC/26/5	7	Organization of the Twenty-seventh Meeting
UNODC/HONLAC/26/L.1 and Add.1-7	9	Draft report
UNODC/HONLAC/26/CRP.1	3	Working group on mainstreaming gender perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes
UNODC/HONLAC/26/CRP.2-16	3	Country reports