

**Commission on Narcotic Drugs****Sixty-seventh session**

Vienna, 14–22 March 2024

Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

**Follow-up to the implementation at the national,
regional and international levels of all
commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial
Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the
world drug problem****Germany, Peru and Thailand: draft resolution****Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the United Nations
Guiding Principles on Alternative Development: effective
implementation and future perspectives***The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,**Recalling* the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/196 of 18 December 2013,*Underscoring* that in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,¹ each party shall take appropriate measures to prevent illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic or psychotropic substances, such as opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plants, cultivated illicitly in its territory, and that the measures adopted shall respect fundamental human rights and shall take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historic evidence of such use, as well as the protection of the environment,*Expressing concern* that the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain serious challenges, and recognizing the need to strengthen sustainable crop control strategies 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 enhanced and better-coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges in a timely and efficient manner,*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* [E/CN.7/2024/1](#).¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Human Rights² 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, recalling the Sustainable Development Goals, and taking into account the specific situations of countries and regions,

Reaffirming also that alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production and that it is an integral part of efforts made by Governments to achieve sustainable development within their societies,

Recognizing the progress and contributions of alternative development programmes in addressing human vulnerabilities, including poverty, unemployment, a lack of opportunities, discrimination and social marginalization, as well as in mutually reinforcing endeavours to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,³

Recalling all United Nations resolutions on alternative development, including all relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reiterating its commitment to respecting, protecting and promoting all human rights, fundamental freedoms and the inherent dignity of all individuals and the rule of law in the development and implementation of drug policies,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda, and stressing that the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development should be aligned with the efforts to achieve those relevant objectives within the Sustainable Development Goals that are related to the issue of alternative development, which falls within the mandate of the Commission, and that the efforts to achieve the Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

Noting with appreciation the holding of the expert group meeting on alternative development, on the theme “Joining international efforts on alternative development”, in Lima on 11 and 12 October 2023, and its contributions with regard to alternative development, as well as the programme of events marking the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, held on the margins of the first intersessional meeting of the sixty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, from 23 to 25 October 2023,

Noting with appreciation also the announcement by the Government of Thailand of the upcoming international conference on the theme “From alternative development to the Sustainable Development Goals: empowering alternative development to address global challenges”, to be held in Thailand in 2024, which will provide a platform, open to all interested parties, for furthering collaboration on alternative development,

Noting with concern the findings of booklet 5, on drugs and the environment, of the *World Drug Report 2022*,⁴ aimed at providing a comprehensive overview of the current state of research on the direct and indirect impact of drug crop cultivation, drug manufacture and related crimes, including regional developments, as well as drug policy responses, on the environment, and the findings reported in booklet 2 of the *World Drug Report 2023*⁵ on the nexus between drugs and crimes that affect the environment and convergent crime in the Amazon Basin,

1. *Welcomes* the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development in 2023, and strongly encourages Member States, international organizations and all relevant stakeholders

² General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

³ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

⁴ United Nations publication, 2022.

⁵ Ibid., 2023.

to continue and expand the implementation of the Guiding Principles, including through the promotion of partnerships with each other and through the sharing of experiences, best practices and challenges relating to the implementation of alternative development projects and programmes;

2. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations and all relevant stakeholders to consider actively participating in the international conference on the theme “From alternative development to the Sustainable Development Goals: empowering alternative development to address global challenges”, to be hosted by the Government of Thailand in 2024, in order to share knowledge and experience regarding alternative development with a view to accelerating the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

3. *Encourages* Member States to increase their national, regional and international efforts in promoting viable economic alternatives through comprehensive and inclusive alternative development programmes, taking into account relevant measures to protect the environment, in order to accelerate progress towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

4. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations and all relevant stakeholders to continue to take into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, as a crucial instrument for effective and sustainable development-oriented interventions, to address drug-related challenges and trends;

5. *Encourages* Member States to examine and address, within their efforts to implement the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, the harmful impact of the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs on the environment, which may lead to deforestation and the pollution of soil and water, and to seize the opportunities offered by alternative development with regard to the conservation and sustainable use of the environment and the protection of biodiversity;

6. *Also encourages* Member States, within their efforts to implement the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, to mainstream a gender perspective into and ensure the involvement of women in all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of alternative development programmes, and to develop and disseminate gender-sensitive and age-appropriate measures that take into account the specific needs of and circumstances faced by women and girls with regard to the illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas;

7. *Further encourages* Member States, within their efforts to implement the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, to take into account land rights and other related land management resources when designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating alternative development programmes and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, including those of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, in accordance with domestic law;

8. *Encourages* Member States, within their efforts to implement the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, to engage Indigenous Peoples and local communities affected by illicit drug crop cultivation in the development and implementation of policies and actions aimed at promoting sustainable alternative development, taking into account their culture, knowledge and traditions;

9. *Also encourages* Member States to increase efforts in promoting alternative development programmes to support populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops and other drug-related crime challenges, and to develop legal products 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, utilizing best practices and lessons learned from the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

10. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to discuss and provide recommendations at the forthcoming expert group meetings on alternative development and other relevant international meetings on further strengthening the effective implementation, as well as on a possible review and future perspectives, of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, taking into account the latest scientific evidence, good practices, and decisions taken by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and other relevant bodies of the United Nations;

11. *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.
