

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

Vienna, 10–14 March 2025

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Implementation of the international drug control treaties: challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations****Colombia: draft resolution****Strengthening the global drug control framework: a path to effective implementation***The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,**Underscoring* that the main purpose of the international drug conventions is to protect and guarantee the health and well-being of humankind,*Noting with grave concern* that, year after year, the production, trafficking and consumption of illicit drugs has continued to be an increasingly global problem affecting millions of people and an increasingly complex challenge, in particular to the health, welfare and security of the public, including law enforcement personnel, as illustrated in the *World Drug Report*,*Recognizing* that the *World Drug Report 2024*<sup>1</sup> lays bare the ever-evolving challenges of the global situation and paints a stark picture of suffering, death and violence linked to the illicit drug trade, and expressing deep concern that the global demand for and supply of illicit drugs are steadily growing and that the most vulnerable populations are the most affected,*Taking note* of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2024,<sup>2</sup> which alerts Member States to the fundamental reshaping of drug markets,*Recalling* the executive summary of the *World Drug Report 2023*,<sup>3</sup> in which it is stated that drug overdoses accounted for a quarter of drug-related deaths and that opioids, when used non-medically, continue to be the group of substances with the highest contribution to severe drug-related harm, including fatal overdoses,*Stressing with grave concern* the increase in the number of overdose deaths associated with the use of drugs, including synthetic drugs, and the urgent need to

\* E/CN.7/2025/1.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations publication, 2024.<sup>2</sup> E/INCB/2024/1.<sup>3</sup> United Nations publication, 2023.

raise awareness of and improve access to the prevention and treatment of drug overdose,

*Conscious* that, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs has historically been inattentive to deaths caused by drug-related violence, notwithstanding its responsibility as the main United Nations body for addressing all matters pertaining to the control of narcotic drugs,

*Expressing condolences* to the families that have lost members owing to drug overdoses, and to societies that have disproportionately suffered violence owing to the fight against the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs,

*Recalling* the need, as identified by the International Narcotics Control Board, to better safeguard human rights protections and place people at the heart of drug policies in order to improve the implementation of the international drug control conventions and their human rights dimensions,

*Bearing in mind* its mandate to consider what changes may be required in the existing machinery for the international control of narcotic drugs and submit proposals thereon to the Council,

*Recalling* the functions entrusted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs under the international drug control conventions, including the making of recommendations regarding the implementation of the aims and provisions of those conventions,

*Considering* the need to continue providing technical assistance to Member States so as to, inter alia, review and update legal frameworks and law enforcement institutions, taking into account applicable international human rights obligations,

*Bearing in mind* the operational recommendation contained in paragraph 5 (w) of the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, on the world drug problem, held in 2016,<sup>4</sup> in which Member States encouraged the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in cooperation with relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, to consider, as appropriate, reviewing existing guidelines and, where required, developing new ones on the various aspects of the world drug problem, with a view to enhancing the capacity of relevant national authorities and strengthening international and inter-agency cooperation,

*Bearing in mind also* the operational recommendation contained in paragraph 5 (y) of the outcome document of the thirtieth of special session of the General Assembly, on the world drug problem, in which Member States called 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 international drug control conventions, taking into account their national priorities and needs through, among others, the promotion of the exchange of information and best practices on scientific evidence-based policies adopted by States,

*Underscoring* the important role played by all relevant stakeholders, including law enforcement, judicial and healthcare personnel, civil society, the scientific community and academia, as well as the private sector, in supporting the efforts to implement the joint commitments at all levels, and underscoring the importance of promoting relevant partnerships,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a multidisciplinary high-level panel of independent and eminent persons to undertake a comprehensive review of the international drug control system with a view to enhancing its effective implementation within the framework of the relevant conventions;

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<sup>4</sup> General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex.

2. *Invites* the above-mentioned high-level panel to present a clear, specific and actionable set of recommendations to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sixty-ninth session, for its consideration and further action;
  3. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the capacity of Member States and relevant United Nations entities to effectively respond to emerging drug-related phenomena;
  4. *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.
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