

DRAFT OUTCOME DOCUMENT UNGASS 2016 (REVISED 9 FEBRUARY 2016)

Our joint commitment in effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem

1. *We, heads of State and Government, Ministers, and representatives of Member States*, assembled at the United Nations, from 19 to 21 April 2016, for the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, convened in accordance with resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, to review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in addressing and countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments;

2. *We reaffirm* our aim to achieve a society free of drug abuse and *remain concerned* with individual and public health-related and social problems resulting from the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular among children and young people, and *reaffirm* our determination to prevent and combat abuse of such substances and the illicit traffic to which they give rise, while recognizing that their use is indispensable for medical and scientific purposes and that adequate provision must be made to ensure their availability for such purposes;

3. *We recognize* that while tangible and measurable progress has been made, the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, safety and the well-being of all humanity, *we reiterate* our commitment to address and effectively counter the world drug problem through a balanced, integrated and evidence-based approach, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility and *we resolve to redouble* our national efforts and further increase international cooperation;

4. *We reaffirm our commitment* to address drug related issues and implement drug policies in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

4bis. *We reaffirm* our commitment to the 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;

5. *We reaffirm* that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 remain the cornerstone of the global response to the world drug problem;

6. *We reaffirm our commitment* to implement the provisions set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action in the period leading up to 2019, set as the target date for achieving targets and goals set out therein, and in the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted at the High Level Review in March 2014;

7. *We welcome* the 2030 Development Agenda for Sustainable Development and *note* that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to address and effectively counter the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing;

8. *We recognize* that human beings are to be placed at the centre of international and national drug policies, and *underline* the importance of upholding the law and its enforcement and the rule of law for the safety and security of individuals and societies as well as of strengthening public health responses and of respecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all individuals without any form of discrimination while taking into account specific needs of, women, children and young people and the need to mainstream gender and age-perspectives in all policies and programmes related to the world drug problem;

9. *We underline* that there are new and evolving challenges, threats and realities, specific to every country, and that these shall be addressed in compliance with relevant international law, in particular the international drug control conventions, which provide to States Parties sufficient flexibility to design and implement tailored national drug policies according to their own priorities and needs, without prejudice to the objectives and purposes of the conventions;

10. *We reaffirm* the need to provide sufficient resources to assist developing countries, upon request, with the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and *reaffirm* the continuing need for

cooperation and support to transit countries to enhance their capacities to counter the world drug problem, in conformity with the 1988 Convention;

11. *We reaffirm* the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and our support and appreciation for the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for addressing the world drug problem, and we also *reaffirm* the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization;

12. *We call* upon all relevant United Nations entities and specialised agencies, relevant international and regional organizations, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders to appropriately contribute, within their mandates, to supporting Member States in achieving the objectives and purposes of the international drug control conventions

12.bis *We recognize* that civil society plays an important role in assisting Member States with the development and implementation, evaluation and monitoring of national drug control programmes;

12.ter *Being aware of* the need to address the root causes of the world drug problem and of the serious harm caused by drugs to individuals, families and societies;

12.quer *We recognize* the importance of prioritizing interventions that have worked, while further strengthening research and data collection to develop, implement and evaluate evidence-based policies to successfully address the world drug problem;

Operational recommendations on demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment as well as health related issues

13. *We reiterate* our commitment to actively promote the health, welfare and well-being of individuals and society, facilitate healthy life-styles and the well-being for all at all ages through national and international effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives, covering prevention, early detection and intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as measures aimed at preventing and minimizing the public health and social consequences of drug abuse, and *we recommend the following measures*:

Prevention of drug abuse

- (a) Take effective and practical measures to protect and prevent human beings, in particular children and young people from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by promoting opportunities to develop healthy lives, life skills, supportive parenting and family environments and by ensuring equal access to all levels of education and vocational training;
- (b) Increase the availability, coverage and quality of scientific evidence-based measures and tools, that target relevant age and risk groups, school- as well as out-of-school youth, using, among others, social media and online platforms, to prevent and reduce drug initiation and prevent transition to drug use disorders;
- (c) Involve researchers, policy makers and educators, civil society and the private sector in the development of health, education, awareness raising programmes and public prevention campaigns and involve parents, teachers, students, health professionals, the religious community, community leaders, social workers, media professionals, as appropriate, in their implementation;
- (d) Develop appropriate prevention curricula for use in the education system, covering school, college and university levels, and enhance the capacity of teachers, care people and community institutions to provide counselling and prevention services for children and young people;
- (e) Develop and improve recreational facilities and guarantee access for children and youth and arrange regular sports and cultural activities to promote healthy lifestyles;
- (f) Promote and improve systematic collection and sharing of reliable and comparable data on drug use and prevalence, and promote the use of internationally recognized standards, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, to formulate effective prevention strategies and programmes in coordination with competent actors such as UNODC and WHO;

Treatment of drug use disorders, rehabilitation and social reintegration; HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care

- (g) Recognize drug dependence as a treatable multi-factorial mental and physical health disorder, which is to be addressed through effective scientific evidence-based drug treatment, care and rehabilitation programmes, including community-based programmes, and strengthen aftercare, rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration, of dependent drug users including through, as appropriate, necessary support structures and assistance for the reintegration into the labour market;
- (h) Recognize the long-term value of voluntary participation and consent in treatment of persons who have developed substance use disorders and develop and implement outreach programmes and campaigns, including through rehabilitated drug users, where appropriate, to prevent stigmatization and marginalization and to encourage drug users to seek treatment;
- (i) Promote regional and international cooperation in developing and implementing treatment-related initiatives and enhance technical assistance and capacity building, and ensure non-discriminatory access to a broad range of interventions, including psycho-social, behavioural and medication-assisted treatment, as appropriate, as well as to rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery programmes, including access to such services in prisons and after imprisonment, giving special attention to the specific needs of women in this regard;
- (j) Develop and strengthen, as appropriate, practices aimed at strengthening the capacity of, and cooperation among law enforcement, other justice system practitioners, health authorities and social services agencies, to implement an integrated and balanced response to drug use;
- (k) Reduce drug related mortality and morbidity through overdose prevention, including by promoting access to lifesaving overdose prevention medications, providing training in their use, and ensuring timely emergency response;
- (l) Integrate into national treatment, recovery and reintegration programmes effective measures aimed at minimizing the public health and social consequences of drug abuse, including, where appropriate and in accordance with national legislation and international standards, opioid substitution treatment, needle exchange programmes, and other interventions to contain the transmission of HIV and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, such as viral hepatitis, and enlarge access to such interventions, including in treatment and outreach services, prisons and other custodial settings, and promote in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the *WHO, UNODC and UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users*;
- (m) Promote the international substance abuse treatment standards developed by UNODC and WHO and other relevant international standards, and provide assistance and training to health professionals on their use;
- (n) Intensify meaningful participation of and provide support and training, as appropriate, to community-based civil society organizations and academia involved in drug treatment services, in the framework of integrated and coordinated national drug policies, and call for increased efforts by civil society to develop support networks for prevention and treatment, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration in a balanced and inclusive manner;

Operational recommendations on ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion

14. *We reiterate our commitment* to promote and ensure the availability and affordability of, and access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking and *we recommend the following measures*:

- (a) Establish, review and implement national policies and legislative and regulatory frameworks to ensure adequate access to controlled medicines for pain relief and palliative care, s, while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking; and encourage exchange of information, lessons learnt and best practices in designing and implementing regulatory, financial, educational, administrative and other related measures;

- (b) Address issues related to impediments to availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including their affordability, and consider establishing cooperation networks with suppliers;
- (c) Strengthen health systems, including through the development of clinical guidelines on the appropriate use of controlled medicines and through the provision of capacity building and training to national regulatory, law enforcement and health professionals on access and use of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes as well as on the utilization for appropriate pain management, thereby also increasing the awareness of pain treatment and palliative care needs and remedies at the community level;
- (d) Improve the functioning of national control systems and develop national assessments and programmes, in cooperation with UNODC, the INCB, WHO and other relevant UN agencies, to identify, analyse and remove legal, regulatory, educational, health system and other impediments to availability, within appropriate control mechanisms outlined in the three international drug control conventions and the *WHO/INCB Guidance for Availability and Accessibility of Controlled Medicines*; and expedite the process of issuing import and export authorizations for controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by using this WHO/INCB Guidance, and the INCB-administered I2ES system;
- (e) Strengthen domestic data collection mechanisms in order to present the INCB with estimates on the consumption of drugs used for medical and scientific purposes, as requested in CND resolution 53/4;
- (f) Review annual estimates for medical and scientific use of controlled substances in accordance with the *INCB/WHO Guide on Estimating Requirements for Substances under International Control* and develop national supply management systems for controlled substances, comprising selection, quantification, procurement, storage, distribution and use;
- (g) Encourage a regular update of the *WHO Model Lists of Essential Medicines* as well as enhanced collaboration among the treaty bodies with scheduling responsibilities, leading to informed and coordinated scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, to ensure the objectives of the Conventions, and review national lists of controlled substances, as appropriate;

Operational recommendations on supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation

15. *We reiterate our commitment* to protect the safety and assure the security of individuals, societies and states by intensifying our efforts to prevent and counter the production, manufacture and trafficking of drugs as well as drug-related crime and violence and by addressing its social and economic consequences, and *we recommend the following measures*:

Prevention of drug-related crime

- (a) Strengthen multidisciplinary efforts at international, regional, national and local and community levels in preventing drug-related crime and violence, and integrate such measures within overall law enforcement efforts;
- (b) Promote data collection, research and sharing of information as well as exchange of best practices and encourage the launching of pilot programmes and research initiatives on prevention and countering of drug-related crime and on drug supply reduction measures and practices, in order to accelerate criminal justice reforms within the framework of the international drug control conventions;
- (c) Promote a culture of lawfulness that supports the rule of law and human rights while respecting cultural identities by developing and implementing, as appropriate, comprehensive policies and programmes aimed at addressing the multidimensional factors that contribute to drug-related crime, violence and victimization, fostering social development and inclusiveness;

Countering international drug production and trafficking, including through eradication

- (d) Increase cooperation at all levels with a view to effectively reduce or eliminate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant used for the production of narcotic drugs, within the framework of sustainable crop control measures;
- (e) Monitor current trends and trafficking routes and share experiences, in order to prevent the abuse of legitimate commercial trade, including using land, maritime and aerial routes, for illicit activities and enhance existing UNODC operational initiatives including the Containers Control Programme and AIRCOP, as well as other technical assistance activities to achieve these objectives;
- (f) Promote and strengthen exchange of intelligence and information, as appropriate, among law enforcement and border control agencies, including through UNODC multilateral portals, regional information centres and networks, and promote jointly coordinated operations, bilaterally, sub-regionally, regionally and internationally and the development of joint training platforms to facilitate such coordinated operations in order to identify, disrupt and dismantle transnational organized criminal groups involved in any illicit activities related to the illicit production and trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
- (g) Strengthen coordinated border management strategies as well as the capacity of border control and law enforcement agencies, through technical assistance, upon request, including the provision of equipment and technology along with necessary training and maintenance support, in order to prevent, monitor and counter drug trafficking, trafficking in precursors and other related illicit activities such as the trafficking in firearms and the smuggling of bulk cash;
- (h) Enhance the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in forensic science in the context of drug investigations, to gather, preserve and present forensic evidence to effectively prosecute trafficking offences through, *inter alia*, the provision of advanced detections equipment, scanners, testing kits, forensic laboratories and training;
- (i) Strengthen regional, sub-regional and international cooperation in criminal matters, as appropriate, including judicial cooperation, *inter alia*, in the areas of extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of proceedings in accordance with the international drug control conventions, and strive to appropriately resource national competent authorities including through the provision of targeted technical assistance to requesting countries;
- (j) Encourage that supply reduction efforts should primarily focus on individuals and organizations with a significant or controlling role in drug trafficking activities;

Addressing links with other forms of organised crime, money laundering and corruption

- (k) Respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and, in some cases, terrorism and money-laundering, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism by using an integrated approach, including through promoting and supporting of data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence and analysis sharing to ensure effective policy-making;
- (l) Encourage the use of existing regional and international cooperation mechanisms to combat all forms of organized crime related to drug trafficking, whether committed on land, by air or at sea, and enhance cooperation to successfully counter transnational organised criminal networks at the national, bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international levels;
- (m) Consider ratifying, as a matter of urgency, relevant international legal instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the international conventions and protocols related to countering terrorism, and call upon States Parties to take measures to more effectively implement these international legal instruments;
- (n) Develop and strengthen, as appropriate, mechanisms of domestic coordination and information sharing between institutions involved in identifying and countering drug trafficking and money-laundering, and to integrate financial investigations more thoroughly into interdiction operations to

identify individuals and companies involved in drug trafficking, precursor chemicals trafficking as well as money-laundering activities and encourage to cooperate, in accordance with national legislation, with the private sector including financial institutions, designed non-financial businesses and professions, and providers of money or value transfer services to identify financial transactions related to drug trafficking and laundering the proceeds thereof, with a view of further investigation;

- (o) Enhance national and regional capacity to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, including, as appropriate, through detection, investigation and prosecution of such activities, with a view to effectively address safe havens, and to identify money-laundering risks linked to new technologies as well as emerging money-laundering methods and techniques, by using, *inter alia*, existing UNODC technical assistance tools;
- (p) Strengthen existing regional, sub-regional and international networks for the exchange of operational information to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows, and intensify support to bodies such as the Financial Action Task Force, the Egmont Group and the Financial Action Task Force-style regional bodies, within their mandates;
- (q) Develop and strengthen bilateral, regional, sub-regional and international mechanisms to share information among competent authorities and promote their cooperation to effectively identify, trace, freeze, seize and confiscate assets and proceeds of drug-related crime and their disposal and return to the country of origin, and encourage the sharing of real time operational information among relevant law enforcement agencies and networks;
- (r) Ensure that measures aimed at addressing the links between drug trafficking and corruption of public officials, including law enforcement and border control agencies as well as obstruction of justice including through the intimidation of justice officials are covered in national counter-corruption strategies;
- (s) Improve the availability and quality of statistical information and analytical studies on drug trafficking, countering money laundering and illicit financial flows at the international level, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact of responses to it and to enhance the effectiveness of counter-drug trafficking and related programmes at the national, regional and international levels;

Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities

16. *We reiterate our commitment to uphold the inherent dignity of all individuals, the rule of law, justice and the respect for and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the development and implementation of drug control policies, and we recommend the following measures:*

Drugs and human rights, youth, women, children, vulnerable members of society and communities

- (a) Enhance targeted efforts to protect the health, safety and well-being of all human beings, through *inter alia* preventing children, young people and others at risk, from using narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and encourage cooperation with UNODC, WHO, UNESCO, UN WOMEN and UNICEF and other relevant international organizations, on providing guidance on prevention in community and school settings;
- (b) Ensure non-discriminatory access to health care services in prevention, primary care and treatment programmes, including those offered to persons in prison or pre-trial on a level equal to those available in the community, and ensure that women, including detained women, have the right to appropriate services during pregnancy;
- (c) Strengthen the knowledge of policy makers on the various aspects of the world drug problem and implement appropriate practical measures including legislative, administrative, social, economic and educational measures, to prevent and address the use of children and the participation and exploitation of the youth, women and vulnerable members of society in the illicit production, manufacturing, cultivation and trafficking of drugs;

- (d) Develop gender-sensitive and age appropriate interventions targeting youth violence and urban violence, including gang-related violence, and take appropriate measures to provide for effective socio-economic development and alternative ways of life, including through vocational training and job opportunities;
- (e) Encourage Member States to provide the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with information on human rights aspects related the development and implementation of national drug control policies;
- (f) Recognize traditional practices of the plants used by indigenous people in accordance with the international drug control conventions, taking into account the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- (g) Reiterate our commitment to protect children from illicit drug use in full accordance with Article 33 in the Convention of the Rights of the Child

Proportionate and effective policies and responses as well as legal guarantees and safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings and justice sector reform

- (h) Consider developing, adopting and using, alternative or complementary measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature, such as treatment, education, aftercare, rehabilitation or social reintegration of the offender, and ensure that such national administrative and criminal justice measures are developed and implemented in accordance the purposes and objectives of the international drug control conventions;
- (i) Consider providing the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with information on domestic measures applied to implement article 3 of the 1988 Convention, for, *inter alia*, drug-related offences of a minor nature in order to share lessons learned and experiences gained in that regard;
- (j) Promote proportionate sentencing, whereby a range of mitigating and aggravating factors are taken into account, including the circumstances enumerated in paragraph 5 of article 3 of the 1988 Conventions, and where the severity of penalties is consistent with the gravity of offences, in accordance with relevant and applicable law;
- (k) Promote reliable, disaggregated data collection, research and sharing of information as well as best practices to support the design and implementation of more effective and proportionate criminal justice responses to the world drug problem;
- (l) Encourage self-assessments of confinement facilities using the United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, including the “Nelson Mandela Rules”, implement relevant provisions, including measures to reduce and avoid prisons overcrowding and ensure access to treatment for those incarcerated, and ensure capacity building to relevant national authorities;
- (m) Ensure legal guarantees and safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings, including practical measures towards the prohibition of arbitrary arrest and detention, and of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment; and ensure the protection of the right to fair trial, in accordance with international law and taking into account international standards and norms, including by the implementation of fair and effective investigations to bring alleged perpetrators to justice and ensure adequate access to legal aid;

Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

17. *We reiterate our commitment* to address new challenges, realities and threats posed to the health and security of individuals and societies, and to strengthen our international, sub-regional and regional cooperation efforts, and *we recommend the following measures:*

Addressing new psycho-active substances, ATS, including methamphetamine, and precursors and pre-precursors and the non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals

- (a) Encourage awareness raising campaigns about the possible adverse risks and effects of NPS, ATS including methamphetamine, precursors and pre-precursors on health and safety;

- (b) Enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies for detection and identification of ATS including methamphetamine, NPS, and precursors, and promote cross-border cooperation to prevent their misuse and diversion, including through the use of existing INCB and UNODC projects;
- (c) Continue to develop tailored prevention and treatment models and policies as well as measures aimed at reducing the supply of and demand for ATS, including methamphetamine, NPS, precursors and pre-precursors, in a comprehensive and balanced manner, including measures aimed to prevent and minimize the harm caused to individuals, families, communities and societies as a whole, and actively share information and expertise on national health-related experiences including for use at emergency stations in hospitals;
- (d) Consider partnerships with chemical and pharmaceutical industries as well as other relevant private sector entities, and encourage the use of the INCB *Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry* and a model Memorandum of Understanding between governments and private sector partners, as and where appropriate;

New psycho-active substances

- (e) Strengthen national responses to the public health and safety threats resulting from the emergence of NPS, while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes, including by continuing to identify and monitor trends in their composition, production, prevalence and sales, as well as patterns of use and adverse consequences within national borders, and take measures to reduce NPS demand and supply;
- (f) Commit to implement time-effective control or regulatory measures within national legislative and administrative systems to tackle and manage the emergence of NPS, and consider the use of interim steps while substances are under review to take temporary measures or make public health announcements as well as share information and expertise on these measures;
- (g) Share relevant information with, as appropriate, and strengthen the capacity of WHO, UNODC, INCB and other relevant international and regional organizations, to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful NPS and to facilitate informed scheduling decisions by the CND;
- (h) Endorse and expand support for early warning networks and surveillance lists, increased voluntary controls and the sharing of information through the INCB, UNODC and WHO, and enhance international cooperation in the identification and reporting of NPS and incidents involving such substances and, to this end, strengthen the use of national and international established reporting systems, such as the UNODC *Early Warning Advisory* and *Global SMART Programme*;
- (i) Enhance the capacity and cooperation among national laboratories for detection and identification of NPS, including through the use of existing UNODC reference standards and assistance activities;
- (j) Endeavour to assess both, the risks to public health and safety and the actual or potential uses of NPS for medical and scientific purposes;

ATS, including methamphetamine

- (k) Support existing research, data collection and analysis of scientific evidence on ATS through UNODC's *Global Smart Programme*, strengthen international and regional cooperation in tackling ATS, including methamphetamine;
- (l) Promote the use of existing mechanisms such as INCB project *Prism* and platform *PICS* and joint operations and continue the development and sharing of good practices among practitioners aimed at reducing supply and demand of ATS, its precursors and pre-precursors, including best practices to prevent and minimize the harm caused by ATS;

Precursors and pre-precursors

- (m) Take measures to ensure national monitoring of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and take measures to more effectively prevent the diversion of those chemicals into the illicit traffic, including by using existing INCB tools, and encourage the adoption of the I2ES;
- (n) Take measures to target the deliberate misuse of precursors, pre-precursors and alternative precursors in the manufacture of ATS and NPS and make use of existing INCB tools, such as PEN Online and

PICS to that end, and take control measures and enhance voluntary efforts at national and multilateral levels;

- (o) Address the spread of pre-precursors and substitute or alternative precursors for the manufacture of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and NPS used to replace the traditional precursors under international control;

Non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals

- (p) Enhance the sharing of information on the misuse of pharmaceuticals, and the quality and consistency of reported data, including through UNODC's *Annual Report Questionnaire*;
- (q) Develop and implement counter-measures and supportive public health strategies to counter the non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals, while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes, and promote cross-border cooperation to prevent and reduce their supply from illicit sources and the diversion of those substances, including through the use of existing UNODC and INCB projects

Use of the internet

- (r) Support research, data collection and analysis of evidence and sharing of information, and strengthen law enforcement, criminal justice and legal responses as well as international cooperation, consistent with relevant and applicable law, to prevent and counter drug-related criminal activities using the Internet;
- (s) Increase provision of technical assistance and capacity building at all levels, to prevent and counter the use of technologies, including the Internet, to facilitate criminal activities, especially by drug trafficking networks and transnational criminal organizations;
- (t) Enhance capacity of national authorities, in particular law enforcement authorities for the preservation and analysis of electronic evidence related to illicit activities, including drug trafficking and money laundering, and for the monitoring of sales of illicit drugs using the internet;
- (u) Encourage the use of the INCB *Guidelines for Governments on Preventing the Illegal Sale of Internationally Controlled Substances through the Internet*;
- (v) Develop and implement, in accordance with national legislation, prevention strategies, programmes and measures, including via social media and other social networks, aimed at protecting children and young people from the potential risk associated with the illicit sale and purchase via the internet of internationally or nationally controlled substances and of new psychoactive substances;

Addressing other new challenges, realities and threats

- (w) Consider the use of existing data collection systems and establish new systems, where needed, to support the development and improvement, as appropriate, of scientific evidence-based drug control policies and programmes, including their transnational implications, and encourage sharing of best practices and lessons learnt, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in this regard;
- (x) Encourage the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the UN Statistical Commission, in coordination with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue their complementary and joint efforts in the field of statistics and, in that context, to continue to identify quantifiable indicators, where appropriate, in line with the integrated and balanced approach to address and effectively counter the world drug problem, taking into account its various aspects;
- (y) Call upon the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to consider initiating the development of new guidelines on the various aspects of the world drug problem, and updating existing ones with a view to enhancing international cooperation and the capacity of relevant national authorities;
- (z) Call upon UNODC, INCB and the WHO to provide legal advice and assistance to States, upon request, for the revision and update of their drug policies, taking into account their different national realities and needs through, among others, the promotion of exchange of information and best practices on scientific evidence-based policies adopted by States;

- (aa) Assess the social impact of drug trafficking and organized crime, including the analysis of the causes and consequences of the violence associated with it;

Operational recommendations on strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation

18. We reiterate our commitment to support each other in our efforts, based on common and shared responsibility, to address and effectively counter the world drug problem, and to enhance international cooperation and to that end, we recommend the following measures:

- (a) Strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance, including adequate financial assistance, training, equipment and technological know-how, including through UNODC, WHO and other United Nations entities and intergovernmental organizations having relevant technical expertise to provide targeted capacity building and training to requesting countries and jurisdictions including transit countries, related to the various aspects of the world drug problem;
- (b) Enhance north-south, south-south and triangular cooperation among concerned Member States in addressing and effectively countering the world drug problem;
- (c) Strengthen regular exchange of information, good practices and lessons learnt at all levels among and in-between national practitioners involved in all aspects of the world drug problem, and call upon the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to facilitate meaningful discussion among these practitioners towards the adoption of practical and operational recommendations pertinent to each region, including at its subsidiary level;
- (d) Encourage Member States to use the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as a forum to gather information concerning their progress toward achieving the SDGs related to the world drug problem, and make that information available to the High Level Political Forum through the appropriate institutional framework;
- (e) Encourage all relevant United Nations entities and specialized agencies to further increase their involvement in the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with a view to enhancing system-wide coherence towards supporting Member States in effectively addressing the world drug problem;

Operational recommendations on alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socio-economic issues

19. We reiterate our commitment to address the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and related socio-economic issues, including through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug policies and programmes, such as alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, including as part of comprehensive crop-control strategies, and we recommend the following measures:

Socio-economic issues and alternative development

- (a) Target illicit cultivation and production of crops used for the production and manufacture of illicit drugs, and address related factors by alleviating poverty, by strengthening the rule of law and institutional frameworks as appropriate, and by promoting sustainable development aimed at enhancing the welfare of the population;
- (b) Encourage the promotion of economic growth and support initiatives that contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development, poverty eradication, measures for rural development, improving infrastructure, addressing negative consequences of illicit crop cultivation on the environment, incorporation and participation of local communities and consider taking voluntary and pragmatic measures to promote alternative development products to gain access to market, in so far as these contribute to the reduction of drug abuse and illicit drug production and trafficking;
- (c) Elaborate and implement comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes to prevent and significantly and measurably reduce illicit crop cultivation, based on empowerment and ownership of affected local communities, and consider their integration into national and regional

development policies and action plans, in order to contribute to the building of inclusive and just societies envisaged by the SDGs;

- (d) Strengthen international cooperation, in close coordination with all stakeholders at local, national and international levels, to develop and share best practices towards implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, and consider lessons learned and good practices presented during the Second International Conference on Alternative Development, in so far as these impact demand and supply reduction of illicit drugs;
- (e) Consider the development of sustainable urban development initiatives for those affected by illicit drug related activities, to foster community cohesion and safety, and to stimulate innovation and employment;

Technical and financial cooperation for comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug policies and viable economic alternatives

- (f) Urge relevant international financial institutions, UN organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to increase their alternative development support for regions and populations affected by the illicit cultivation of drug crops through long-term and flexible funding, and encourage affected States, to the extent possible, to remain strongly committed to financing alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes;
- (g) Strengthen research by States with relevant expertise, UNODC, FAO and other relevant United Nations and international and regional organizations, to better understand factors contributing to illicit crop cultivation, taking into account local and regional specificities, and to improve impact assessment of alternative development programmes so that they are also measured by using human development indicators, criteria related to environmental sustainability and other measurements in line with the SDGs;
- (h) Encourage the development of viable economic alternatives to illicit cultivation of crops and to the involvement in other illicit drugs-related activities and consider financial or legal incentives, such as access to land for communities;
- (i) Promote partnerships with the private sector to implement concrete measures by sharing innovative approaches, expertise, skills and providing financial and technical support targeted at job creations in areas and among communities particularly affected by illicit drug trafficking and consumption as well as to provide marketing assistance for alternative development programmes.

20. *We express appreciation* for the important contributions received from so many stakeholders in support of the preparations for the Special Session;

21. *We reaffirm our determination to effectively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity, and to that end;*

22. *We resolve to take all necessary steps to implement the above-listed operational recommendations, in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society and to provide the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, timely with information on progress made with the implementation of these recommendations in preparation for the review of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action in 2019.*