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Agenda item 6

Drug demand reduction: world situation with regard to drug abuse

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela: draft resolution

Poppers as an emerging trend in drug abuse

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Mindful of the need to raise awareness of new patterns of drug use and substances consumed,

Recalling the strategy for the period 2008-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,¹ in which it is stated that scientific and forensic findings enrich policy and trend analysis by providing the basis for accurate information in specific areas,

Recalling also its resolution 48/1, on promoting the sharing of information on emerging trends in the abuse of and trafficking in substances not controlled under the international drug control conventions,

Bearing in mind the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,² in which States are urged to assess the causes and consequences of the misuse of all substances,

Reaffirming the commitment to ensure that drug demand reduction measures are based on drug use trends in the community and are revised periodically on the basis of new trends, feedback and monitoring and evaluation processes, as stated in the Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,³

¹ Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/12, annex.

² General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex.

³ A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A.



Reiterating the fact that in recent years in several regions there has emerged a trend of abuse of a number of substances not under international control that may pose a public health threat comparable with the threat posed by substances under international control,

Concerned that those substances of abuse may be distributed by various means, including the Internet,

Noting that, pursuant to article 39 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,⁴ article 23 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971⁵ and article 24 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,⁶ parties to those conventions are not precluded from adopting domestic measures of control that are stricter than those provided for in those conventions,

Concerned about the scale of the problem of the use of substances not currently under international control that are commonly used in the manufacture of poppers, including butyl alcohol, amyl alcohol and isobutyl alcohol,

Aware of the well-documented consequences of the use of poppers on human health, namely, methemoglobinemia, which can lead to generalized or tissue hypoxia, among other disorders and pathological conditions,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to address the emerging problem of the use of poppers, which affects some Member States, by adopting measures such as the enhancement of public awareness;
2. *Also calls upon* Member States, as appropriate and consistent with their national legal frameworks, to consider subjecting to control substances used in the manufacture of poppers that are not currently under international control;
3. *Invites* Member States concerned to share information on best practices and lessons learned to counter this emerging trend.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.