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Item 10 of the provisional agenda*

Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Nineteenth session

Vienna, 17-21 May 2010

Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda**

Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions: work of the working group on governance and finance

Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Note by the Secretariat***

Summary

The present note has been prepared pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, in which the Commissions decided to establish a standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on governance and finance and that the working group should submit to the Commissions recommendations on administrative, programmatic and financial matters within the areas of their respective mandates. Further to the note by the Secretariat reporting to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its reconvened fifty-second session, and to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its reconvened eighteenth session, on the work of the working group since its establishment up to November 2009 (E/CN.7/2009/15-E/CN.15/2009/25), the present document contains a report on the work of the working group during the period December 2009-February 2010.

* E/CN.7/2010/1.

** E/CN.15/2010/1.

*** The second formal meeting of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was held on 5 February 2010.



I. Deliberations

1. During the period following the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held in December 2009, the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) continued to consider a variety of issues under the agreed agenda items. There was active participation by representatives of several States, discussions were fruitful and focused and there was an open exchange of views among participants. The discussions centred on the development and implementation of thematic and regional programmes and on measures to improve the governing role and functions of the Commissions.

2. At its meeting held on 5 February 2010, the working group did not adopt any recommendations for consideration by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-third session and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its nineteenth session.

II. Organizational and administrative matters

3. The working group held four informal meetings and one formal meeting during the period from 17 December 2009 to 5 February 2010. The informal meetings were held on 17 December 2009 and on 11, 19 and 22 January 2010, and the formal meeting was held on 5 February 2010.

4. A number of presentations were made by the Secretariat on such topics as core activities and functions at UNODC, the work of the Office's Terrorism Prevention Branch and the status of preparation of thematic and regional programmes. At the meeting held on 22 January, a presentation entitled "Promoting the rule of law and human security in Eastern Africa: regional programme 2009-2011" was made; and at the meeting held on 5 February, the following presentations were made: "Promoting the rule of law and human security in Central America: regional programme 2009-2011" and "The Santo Domingo Pact and Managua Mechanism: a partnership and monitoring mechanism for the Caribbean and Central America".

5. In addition to the documentation made available between October 2008 and March 2009 to the open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC established pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 51/1 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice decision 17/2, and pursuant to paragraph 7 of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, the Secretariat provided to the working group numerous documents that were also posted on the UNODC website (www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/wg-governance-finance-2.html).

III. Action by the Commissions

6. Pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13, annex, and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, annex, the Commissions should consider the renewal of the mandate of the co-chairs of the working group for a second year.
