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Drug demand reduction: world situation with regard to drug abuse

Promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The present note has been prepared pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 51/14, entitled “Promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS”. In that resolution, the Commission called for collaboration among Member States represented both in the Commission and on the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) towards the promotion of better coordination and alignment of the HIV/AIDS response in order to scale up towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention, care, treatment and support services for drug users; requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to share relevant decisions of the Programme Coordinating Board with the Member States at each session of the Commission held in the first half of the year, starting with the fifty-second session; and requested UNODC to transmit relevant resolutions of the Commission each year to the Chairman of the Programme Coordinating Board.

* E/CN.7/2010/1.



II. Promoting the sharing of decisions and resolutions among Member States represented both in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and on the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

2. Relevant resolutions of the Commission were transmitted to the Chairman of the Programme Coordinating Board on 9 June 2009.

3. The Programme Coordinating Board, at its twenty-fourth meeting, held in Geneva from 22 to 24 June 2009, recalled that all aspects of UNAIDS work were directed by the following guiding principles: (a) they should be aligned to national stakeholders' priorities; (b) they should be based on the meaningful and measurable involvement of civil society, especially people living with HIV and populations most at risk of HIV infection; (c) they should be based on human rights and gender equality; (d) they should be based on the best available scientific evidence and technical knowledge; (e) they should promote comprehensive responses to AIDS integrating prevention, treatment, care and support; and (f) they should be based on the principle of non-discrimination.

4. At its twenty-fourth meeting, the Programme Coordinating Board discussed and made decisions, recommendations and conclusions with regard to, inter alia, agenda item 3, entitled "HIV prevention among injecting drug users". The Programme Coordinating Board requested the UNAIDS secretariat and the co-sponsors, in particular UNODC, to significantly expand and strengthen the work with Governments to address the uneven and relatively low coverage of services among injecting drug users and to develop comprehensive models of appropriate service delivery for injecting drug users in line with relevant national circumstances and the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users*, published by the World Health Organization in 2009.

5. Also at its twenty-fourth meeting, the Programme Coordinating Board requested the UNAIDS secretariat and the co-sponsors, in particular UNODC, to support national authorities in aligning policies, clarifying roles and responsibilities of various national entities — including drug control, the penitentiary system, public health and civil society — and supporting increased capacity and resources for provision of a comprehensive package of services for injecting drug users, including harm reduction programmes in relation to HIV as enumerated in the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide*.

6. At its twenty-fifth meeting, held in Geneva from 8 to 10 December 2009, the Programme Coordinating Board requested UNAIDS to strengthen its focus on gender and human rights and, specifically, inter alia, to strengthen global leadership and advocacy with regards to key populations and to convene an inter-agency task force involving UNODC, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund and other key stakeholders in order to ensure policy and programming coherence and effective coordination of work with key populations.

7. Pursuant to Commission resolution 51/14, the decisions, recommendations and conclusions adopted by the Programme Coordinating Board at its twenty-fourth¹ and twenty-fifth² meetings will be made available to the Commission at its fifty-third session.

¹ Available from
http://data.unaids.org/pub/InformationNote/2009/20091005_24thpcbreport_final_en.pdf.

² Available from
http://data.unaids.org/pub/BaseDocument/2009/20091211_25thpcb_decisions_final_en.pdf.