



## Economic and Social Council

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### Commission on Narcotic Drugs

#### Fifty-second session

Vienna, 11-20 March 2009

Agenda item 13 (d)

**Round-table discussions of the high-level segment:  
countering illicit drug traffic and supply, and alternative  
development**

### **Outcome of the round table on countering illicit drug traffic and supply, and alternative development, submitted by the Chairman of the round table, Eduardo Medina-Mora (Mexico)**

On 12 March 2009, the outcome of the round-table discussion on countering illicit drug traffic and supply, and alternative development, was presented by the chairman of the round table, Eduardo Medina-Mora (Mexico). The outcome was as follows:

#### *Countering illicit drug traffic and supply*

1. Although concern was expressed about continuing opium production in Afghanistan, it was acknowledged that some progress has been made in combating the problem.
2. States have not succeeded in meeting many of the targets set out in the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development<sup>1</sup> adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session. Despite tremendous efforts, drug trafficking is still a major problem affecting the entire international community.
3. Inter-institutional cooperation between counter-narcotic authorities and other law enforcement agencies remains essential if authorities are to adapt to changing trends.

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<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.



4. Governments need to ensure that all resources available to States, such as the police, border agencies and the military, are utilized in a coordinated manner to combat drug trafficking.
5. Trafficking in and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants is growing at an alarming rate and States must work closely to strengthen their control regimes to combat the problem.
6. Exchanging pre-export notifications on international precursor transactions through Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) remains a valuable tool for preventing diversion.
7. New strategies for controlling precursors are being developed and are proving effective. An important step is improved coordination with the chemical industry to prevent the diversion of chemicals for use in the manufacture of illicit drugs.
8. The rise in violent crime that accompanies an increase in drug trafficking is of great concern.
9. The International Narcotics Control Board should look into misuse of the substance tramadol and the possibility of putting that substance under international control.

*Alternative development*

10. There was consensus that alternative development was a useful tool for addressing illicit drug crop cultivation from the development perspective.
11. The importance of assessing the impact of alternative development programmes through the use of human development indicators, in addition to crop reduction statistics, was emphasized.
12. It was noted that international cooperation, the support provided by the international community to countries affected by illicit drug crop cultivation and the implementation of alternative development programmes needed to be strengthened, and that all States must provide political and financial resources, on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility.
13. The importance of making environmental protection an element of comprehensive alternative development programmes was noted.
14. The attention of participants in the round table was drawn to the importance of adhering to human rights principles when planning and executing alternative development and eradication interventions.
15. The importance of involving all levels of government, in particular the local, municipal and regional levels, as well as civil society, in the design and delivery of alternative development programmes was highlighted.
16. The need to link alternative development interventions to illicit drug crop reduction strategies such as eradication, as identified in the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development and the need for alternative development interventions to be properly sequenced was noted.

17. Some speakers drew the attention of the Commission to the fact that in most cases illicit drug crop cultivation was a result of extreme poverty, marginalization and insecurity.

18. There is a need to increase international cooperation to finance, design and execute alternative development programmes.

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