

## Resolution 48/8

### Application of research in practice

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Recognizing* the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in supporting countries to work towards comparable, routine data collections relating to the supply of and demand for drugs and the development of data relating to problems and trends associated with drug use,

*Recalling* its resolution 47/1, in which it stressed the importance of the annual reports questionnaire and the biennial reports questionnaire as a basis of countermeasures and for the evaluation of the progress made in reducing the demand for and supply of illicit drugs,

*Noting* that the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Demand Reduction,<sup>1</sup> called for the development of research programmes at the national and regional levels in scientific fields concerning drug demand reduction and the wide dissemination of the results so that strategies for reducing illicit drug demand could be built on a solid scientific basis,

*Noting also* the conclusion of the Executive Director in the addendum on drug demand reduction<sup>2</sup> to his third biennial report on the world drug problem that countries need to improve their information base and evaluation capacity in order to develop better, more sound interventions,

*Recognizing* that the statistical, behavioural, criminological, sociological and clinical disciplines, among others, together with the evaluation of research and practice, all provide important information for policy makers in developing, in line with the international drug control treaties, policies for reducing the demand for and supply of illicit drugs,

*Wishing* to promote increased global attention to the development and application of knowledge in this field and to ensure that research informs the workforce of the future,

*Having regard* to the need to develop and maintain research networks, to promote collaboration in research and data collection and to disseminate findings, both within and between Member States,

*Conscious* of the existence of models of good practice in data collection and research collaboration in some Member States,

*Acknowledging* the efforts made to date, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to achieve greater international consistency in data collection,

*Reiterating* the importance of basing policies on best practices and relevant research and of the systematic evaluation of policies in relation to their output and outcome, as well as the need for evaluation models that take account of the needs in the area of drug policy in health, law enforcement, education and other prevention activities,

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<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex.

<sup>2</sup> E/CN.7/2005/2/Add.1, para. 69 (b).

*Concerned* that best practices and relevant research should be made available, in an appropriate form, to those concerned, such as policy makers and those with responsibility for law enforcement and other service delivery, to foster innovation and help target such activities in accordance with the evidence,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to identify and promote, where appropriate, strategies for international cooperation in the development and dissemination of best practices and relevant research, including monitoring of drug trends;

2. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to promote the transfer of knowledge across international borders by coordination and dissemination efforts;

3. *Requests* Member States to give attention to the development and growth of their research workforces, to collaborate in workforce development where practicable and to promote opportunities for communication of research findings between the various disciplines and vocations;

4. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to consider the role of multidisciplinary research structures in countering illicit drugs, together with the need for sound multidisciplinary evaluation models, and to promote appropriate models of good practice throughout the world;

5. *Strongly urges* all Member States to consider adopting, implementing and evaluating, in line with the international drug control treaties, best practices and relevant research-based evidence for policy and workforce development and programme delivery at all levels, in partnership with civil society and academic and research institutions, where appropriate;

6. *Commends* the efforts made by the international community to improve the scope and quality of research and evaluation relating to law enforcement and supply reduction strategies, and encourages further development along those lines;

7. *Encourages* Governments and researchers to disseminate best practices and relevant research in meaningful ways in order to enhance community understanding of the issues, thereby promoting more informed community debate.