Resolution 54/12

Revitalization of the principle of common and shared responsibility in countering the world drug problem

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,


Taking into account General Assembly resolution S-20/2 of 10 June 1998, adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,57

Recalling that in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, Member States stressed the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle the world drug problem58 in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance,

Recalling also its resolution 53/8 of 12 March 2010, on strengthening international cooperation in countering the world drug problem focusing on drug trafficking and related offences, in which the Commission reaffirmed that addressing the world drug problem remained a common and shared responsibility,

Taking into account that the principle of common and shared responsibility is one of the pillars on which the international drug control system is built and that the only way to achieve progress in countering the world drug problem is to strengthen joint and concerted action by Governments,

Bearing in mind that strategies to reduce illicit drug supply and demand and to counter drug trafficking are fundamental and interdependent components of the global approach to countering all aspects of the world drug problem,

Reaffirming the commitments made by Member States aimed at promoting regional, interregional and international cooperation to counter the world drug problem in all its aspects,

54 Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
55 Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
56 Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.
57 A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A.
58 The illicit cultivation of drug crops, the illicit production, manufacture, sale, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including amphetamine-type stimulants, the diversion of precursors and related criminal activities.
Recognizing that the global nature of the fight against the world drug problem requires that national efforts be supplemented by technical and financial resources from the international community,

Aware that the world drug problem undermines economies, rule of law, political stability and democratic institutions, as well as being a threat to the security of the States affected,

Recognizing that international cooperation has been instrumental in reducing illicit drug supply and demand and drug trafficking at the national level,

Recognizing also that any weakening of international cooperation in the fight against the world drug problem could affect the sustainability of the results achieved at the national level in reducing illicit drug supply and demand and drug trafficking,

Welcoming the efforts of countries that have worked over decades to counter the world drug problem and have acquired knowledge, experience and institutional capacities that they may share with other countries,

1. Reaffirms its unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction, supply reduction and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with international law, especially the Charter of the United Nations and the three international drug control conventions;

2. Calls upon the international community to engage in effective cooperation and practical action aimed at addressing the world drug problem on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility;

3. Confirms that the world drug problem requires an integrated, multidisciplinary and balanced approach under which the strategies of supply reduction and demand reduction are mutually reinforcing;

4. Reaffirms that Member States should strengthen their mechanisms for cooperation and coordination in order to achieve results in countering the world drug problem more effectively;

5. Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue facilitating the exchange of experiences and good practices among Member States with respect to strategies to reduce illicit drug supply and demand and drug trafficking and with respect to the necessary international cooperation to promote technical assistance projects aimed at addressing the world drug problem effectively;

6. Encourages Member States and relevant international and regional organizations, and invites financial institutions, to increase assistance to States to counter the world drug problem;

7. Invites Member States to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, preferably through the annual report questionnaire, with information on their cooperation activities to address the world drug problem, with a view to identifying priority areas in which such cooperation may be strengthened;

8. Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to submit to the Commission, at its fifty-sixth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.