

***“Tehran International Conference on Cooperation against Illicit Drugs and related Organized Crime”***  
*(Tehran, 27 February 2017)*

### **Conclusions**

On 27 February 2017, Ministers, Heads of Drug Control Agencies and senior officials from 33 countries as well as senior representatives from 7 International and regional organizations met in Tehran (I.R of Iran) at the “International Conference on Cooperation against Illicit Drugs and related Organized Crime”.

The Conference was inaugurated by H.E. Dr. Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli, Minister of Interior and Secretary-General of the Drug Control Headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran and H.E. Mr. Yury Fedotov, Under Secretary-General, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

The Conference was co-chaired by Mr. Ali Moayed Fard, Deputy Secretary-General of Drug Control Headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Mr. Aldo Lale-Demoz, Deputy Executive Director and Director for Operations of UNODC.

The Chairs while expressing their gratitude to the I.R of Iran for hosting the Conference and thanking the participating delegations for their contributions and helpful suggestions, concluded and summarized the main points of the meeting as follows:

***Express*** deep concern at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families as a result of the world drug problem, and pay special tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives fighting against drugs, in particular law enforcement and judicial personnel;

***Emphasize*** that illicit trafficking of drugs, psychotropic substances and their abuse not only undermines human health and well-being, but also threatens the socio-economic stability of individual States and the international community as a whole;

***Recognize*** that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international and regional cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach, addressing both supply and demand reduction;

***Reaffirm*** our commitment to the goals and objectives of the three international drug control conventions and express our determination to counter illicit cultivation, production, and trafficking of drugs and psychotropic substances;

***Underline*** that international cooperation in drug control takes place in the context of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly as well as the resolutions adopted at the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), in particular resolutions 52/2, 53/5 and 56/10, in which Member States expressed their full awareness that the world drug problem remained a common and shared responsibility, and requested UNODC and international donor community to support and strengthen the capacities of Afghanistan and the main transit States neighboring Afghanistan, proportionate to the challenges that each country is facing, to better address drug related problems;

**Reaffirm** the commitments assumed by Member States in the outcome document "*Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem*" of the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGASS) held in April 2016;

**Reaffirm** also the commitments assumed by Member States at the relevant international and regional meetings such as the High-level meeting of Partners for Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries (Vienna, 14 December 2015), the International meeting of the Ministers/ Heads of the Counter Narcotics Agencies on Combating Drug Trafficking: Assessment and development of drug situation in the region (Tehran, 16 February 2015); the High-level International Conference on Expansion of Anti-Drug Cooperation (Dushanbe, 27 May 2015) and the Ninth Ministerial meeting of the States parties to the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-Regional Drug Control Cooperation (Ashgabat, 5 May 2015), where the Member States expressed their political will and commitment to strengthen cooperation to combat drugs and related crimes;

**Underline** the importance of the Paris Pact Initiative as well as the Heart of Asia (Istanbul) Process as important global and regional platforms respectively for political dialogue and strengthening cooperation aimed at promoting stability in Afghanistan and the region and **Welcome** the support provided by the UNODC's Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighbouring countries for the delivery of the Counter-Narcotics Confidence-Building-Measures/activities of the Heart of Asia (Istanbul) Process;

**Reiterate** our commitment to effectively address and counter the world drug problem and to enhance cooperation in using of existing UNODC and other relevant sub-regional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms to combat all forms of drug-related crime, wherever committed, including by enhancing international and regional cooperation to successfully counter and dismantle organized criminal groups;

**Express** concern that an increased level of production of drugs in Afghanistan, mainly due to insecurity, poses an additional challenge to Afghanistan, the region and beyond and requires enhanced cooperation and comprehensive measures to counter the trafficking in drugs and the smuggling of precursors at the regional and international level, based on the relevant international legal instruments;

**Recognize** that countering drug production and trafficking contributes to peace and development in the region and that the mutual cooperation of the regional countries in collectively addressing the problem will further contribute to sustainable development and stability;

**Underline** the importance of promoting and strengthening the exchange of information and, as appropriate, drug-related criminal intelligence among law enforcement and border control agencies, including through existing regional information centres and networks, in order to better identify, disrupt and dismantle organized criminal groups operating transnationally that are involved in any activities related to the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the diversion of their precursors and related money-laundering and illicit financial flows;

**Reiterate** our commitment to enhance national, regional, sub-regional, interregional and international capacity to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, including, as appropriate, through detection, investigation and prosecution of such activities, with a view to effectively addressing safe havens, and identify and mitigate money-laundering risks linked to new technologies, as well as emerging money-laundering methods and techniques;

***Underline*** the importance of strengthening sub-regional regional, and international cooperation in criminal matters, including judicial cooperation in the areas of, inter alia, extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with the drug conventions and other relevant international legal instruments and national legislations;

***Commend*** the positive results that have already been achieved by States in the region through the relevant international and regional structures, in particular, the Triangular Initiative (Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan) and its Joint Planning Cell (JPC), AKT Initiative (Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan), and Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC), resulting in concrete exchange of information, criminal-intelligence and seizures of illicit drugs and precursor chemicals;

***Commend*** also the strategic positioning of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to promote a regional interconnected, integrated and balanced response to transnational organized crime, drug trafficking and related terrorism threats through its “One UNODC Concerted Approach for Europe, West and Central Asia”, and its support provided to the countries in Europe, West and Central Asia including under its Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe, the Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighboring Countries as well as the Programme for Central Asia and the Country Programmes for Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan, in an effort to promote enhanced and operational drug control coordination at the regional and international level;

***Recognize*** that Afghanistan and the transit countries in the region continue to face multifaceted challenges, and reaffirm the continuing need for cooperation and support, including the provision of technical assistance to, inter alia, enhance their capacities to effectively address and counter the drug problem;

***Acknowledge*** the need to strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance, including, where appropriate, adequate financial assistance and capacity building, through specialist training and operational equipment as well as strengthening of technical know-how, to the requesting countries, including transit countries, through and in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant United Nations entities and relevant international/ regional organizations, within their respective mandates, to assist Member States to better address the world drug problem;

***Request*** the international community to provide, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, sufficient financial and technical assistance and support to the countries in West and Central Asia, in order to promote the capacities of the regional States in their efforts to combat trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors more effectively, including within the framework of the UNODC Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighboring Countries as well as UNODC Programme for Central Asia and Country Programmes for Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan.

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