

Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

Pursuant to paragraph 3 (f) of General Assembly resolution 70/181 of 17 December 2015, in which the Assembly decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session of the Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, should address in an open-ended manner, supported and guided by the President of the Assembly, the organizational arrangements, including chairing arrangements, speakers and participation, for the five interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables to be conducted during the special session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided on the following arrangements for the round tables:

(a) The five interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables shall be scheduled as follows:

(i) 19 April 2016, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.;

(ii) 20 April 2016, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.;

(iii) 21 April 2016, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.;

(b) All States Members of the United Nations, as well as observer States and observers, including relevant international organizations with observer status and entities of the United Nations system, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations, representatives of civil society and the scientific community, academia, youth groups and other relevant stakeholders participating in the special session in accordance with resolution 70/181, paragraph 3 (e), are invited to participate in the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables;

(c) Member States, observer States and observers are encouraged to consider being represented at the special session at the highest possible level;

(d) The interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables shall be co-chaired by two representatives of two different regional groups — one of the co-Chairs should be a member of the Board tasked by the Commission with preparations for the special session and the other co-Chair shall be from a different regional group, to be nominated by the respective regional group at United Nations Headquarters and appointed by the President of the General Assembly;

(e) Each round table shall consist of a panel composed of five panellists to be nominated by the regional groups and one panellist nominated by the civil society task force for the special session; the panel could further include up to two speakers from the entities of the United Nations system. The final list of the panellists and other speakers will be drawn up by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in consultation with the President of the General Assembly;

(f) The interventions by the panellists shall be followed by an interactive discussion and, in order to accommodate as many speakers as possible, interventions by the panellists shall be limited to a

maximum of five minutes, and interventions from the floor shall be limited to a maximum of three minutes;

(g) A summary of the salient points raised during the round tables will be prepared by the chairs of those round tables, to be presented at the plenary;

(h) These summaries of the salient points by the chairs, as read out in plenary meeting, will be included in their entirety in the verbatim records of the plenary meetings of the special session, as per the standard procedures of the special sessions.