

**STATEMENT OF VIET NAM**  
**AT THE MINISTERIAL SEGMENT OF THE 62ND SESSION OF**  
**THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS**  
**(Vienna, Austria, March 2019)**

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*Mr. Chairman,*

*Distinguished delegates,*

1. On behalf of Delegation of The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, I would like to extend the best wishes to you and all distinguished delegates attending the Ministerial Segment of the Sixty-second Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

*Mr. Chairman,*

1. Viet Nam, together with UN Member States, share our deep concern over the emerging threats and challenges posed by the world drug problem. Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) and new psychoactive substances have been challenging the States' efforts in addressing world drug problem, threatening security, health and welfare of the people, especially the youth. The alarming situation calls for focused and comprehensive responses at national, regional and international level, which are based on experiences and science, as well as international cooperation on various fields.

2. Viet Nam is of the view that the world drug problem remains a global issue, which calls for common and shared responsibility of the international community through strengthening effective international cooperation, as well as implementing holistic and balancing measures of supply and demand reduction and international cooperation in full conformity with the UN Charter and international law, particularly the principles of respecting sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference of internal affairs of the States. Viet Nam reiterates that the three UN Conventions on drug control constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system and reaffirms the complementary and mutually reinforcing nature of the three drug policy documents, including the 2009 Political Declaration and Action Plan to counter world drug problem, 2014 Ministerial Declaration and UNGASS 2016 outcome document.

3. Vietnam strongly supports the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations for drug control issues, and important roles of other UN entities, including UN Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the treaty mandated role of the International Narcotics Control Board. We also believe that it is essential to engage the participation of relevant stakeholders in addressing the drug problem, including non-governmental organizations, career associations and the people.

*Mr. Chairman,*

5. Member States established 2019 as target date for achieving goals set out in the Political Declaration 2009. We are delighted to announce that, over the past 10 years, Viet Nam has basically eradicated illicit cultivation and plants containing narcotic; the area of crops remains only about 10 hectares. In 2018, we detected and destroyed 5 hectares of plants with narcotics. Speaking of precursor control, we have implemented measures to prevent the abuse of narcotics, psychoactive substances and the diversion of precursors such as issuing the Decree on updating the List of narcotic drugs and precursor. Regarding drug treatment, we have diversified the treatment methods according to the *Project on reforming drug treatment in Viet Nam by 2020*, implementing a number of pilot models for those addicted to opium-type of drugs. In the fight against drug criminals, we have launched operations to attack criminals on key routes, especially in border areas, border gates and seaports. In addition, Viet Nam has been mobilizing the participation of the whole society in countering drugs and supporting the drug addicts. Vietnamese government has issued and implemented such strategies as “*The national strategy on preventing and countering drugs by 2020, with vision to 2030*”; National Target Programmes and Action Plans on addressing drug problem.

Viet Nam has always been a responsible member of the UN, being proactive in international integration, actively participating in and implementing the programs on countering crimes and drugs. Viet Nam has cooperated closely with the international community and other countries in the region to address the drug problem and participated actively in bilateral and multilateral cooperation mechanisms on drug control in ASEAN, Mekong Subregion and UN frameworks. Viet Nam has also been working closely and effectively with UNODC in drug control and countering drug-related crimes.

*Mr. Chairman,*

6. Viet Nam shares the view of ASEAN and many States on resolute attitude to drugs, striving for the realization of a drug-free region, balancing supply and demand reduction and harm reduction through law enforcement and socio-economic responses to eliminate the root causes of drugs problem, as well as concentrating on international cooperation.

7. In order to continue to implement all commitments made in the last decade, we urge the UN and international community to continue providing support for developing countries in general, Asia region, ASEAN countries and Viet Nam in particular in the implementation of Strategies, Target Programs and National Action plans on addressing drug problem, especially support on policy consultations, strengthening law system and complying with the international conventions on drug control; capacity building for the forces directly in charge of addressing drug problem; enhancing education programs to raise awareness of fighting against drug-related crimes, demand reduction and treatment for drug addicts.

*Mr. Chairman,*

8. Viet Nam is committed to working closely with the other States, international organizations and UN agencies in addressing and countering drug problem in the region and the world.

9. Viet Nam expresses its full support for the Ministerial Declaration agreed by Member States and looks forward to the fruitful outcome of the two roundtables, which takes stocks of the implementation of the commitments made over the last decade and enhances our efforts to address the world drug problem post 2019.

On this occasion, I wish our Ministerial Segment and 62<sup>nd</sup> Session success and make an important contribution to the global fight against drugs.

Thank you very much./.