

4 March 2008

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Fifty-first session

Vienna, 10-14 March 2008

Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

Thematic debate on the follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly: general overview and progress achieved by Governments in meeting the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008 set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session

Note on substantive arrangements for the thematic debate of the 51st session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on “The follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly: general overview and progress achieved by Governments for the years 2003 and 2008 set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session”**

Objective

1. (a) To review progress made in meeting the goals and targets set at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly; and
(b) Identify areas where further action would be required in order to deliver further and measurable progress.

Participation

2. Experts from Governments, intergovernmental, international and regional organizations, as well as relevant non-governmental organizations.

* E/CN.7/2008/1.

** This note has not been edited.



Organization of the thematic debate

3. The debate will be held in plenary mode. It will be chaired/moderated by the Chairman of the Commission.

4. The thematic debate will be conducted over two days to provide for an in-depth review of the drug control sectors identified in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly in 1998.

5. Relevant governmental experts and practitioners will be part of their national delegations and contribute substantively to an open, constructive and forward looking debate.

6. There should be no national statements; instead interested States may consider distributing national papers

7. The outcome of the thematic debate will not be conclusions or recommendations subject to negotiation, but rather the summary of salient points of the thematic debate by the Chairperson.

8. The thematic debate will take place under item 3 of the provisional agenda, incorporating relevant subitems from agenda items 4, drug demand reduction, 5, illicit drug traffic and supply, and 6, implementation of the international drug control treaties, in accordance with the following programme:

Day One:

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

- (i) **Shared responsibility as a basis for an integrated, balanced and sustainable approach in the fight against drugs through domestic and international policies**
 - (a) Drug control strategies
 - (b) Integration of health, social and enforcement initiatives in national drug policies
 - (c) Progress and areas requiring further action, including the need for technical assistance and international cooperation
 - (d) Effective data collection

- (ii) **Drug demand reduction**

- (a) Drug abuse prevention
- (b) Trends in illicit drug consumption

3:00-6:00 p.m.

- (ii) **Drug demand reduction** (*continued*):

- (a) Treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers
- (b) Reducing the health-related and social consequences caused by drug abuse

(c) Consideration of supplementary information from relevant intergovernmental, international and regional organizations on aspects of demand reduction covered in the UNGASS action plans

(d) Progress and areas requiring further action

Day Two:

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

(iii) Countering illicit drug supply

(a) Trends in illicit production, manufacture, trafficking and supply of narcotic drugs, and amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors

(b) Control of precursors

(c) Judicial cooperation

(d) Countering money laundering

(e) Use of the Internet for drug trafficking

3:00-6:00 p.m.

(iii) Countering illicit drug supply (continued)

(f) Drug supply reduction through alternative development and preventive alternative development

(g) Consideration of supplementary information from relevant intergovernmental, international and regional organizations about aspects of supply reduction covered in the UNGASS action plans

(h) Consideration of the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development

(i) Progress and areas requiring further action

Guidelines for the debates

- The thematic debate shall be chaired and moderated by the Chairperson of the Commission under his/her authority and that of the Bureau of the Commission in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commission of ECOSOC;
- To have an interactive dialogue in the Commission, all participants must be prepared to focus on the theme and sub-themes agreed upon and to follow substantive guidelines produced during the intersessional meetings;
- There should be no national statements. During an intervention, a Member State may touch upon experience of their governments at national level in relation to the sub-themes;
- Each intervention should be limited to a maximum of 2 to 3 minutes;

- The Chairperson is authorized to intervene to seek the cooperation of the speaker in respecting the time limit or discouraging the reading of national statements and will maintain the list of speakers. The Chairperson may exercise his/her discretion to select speakers according to the thrust of the discussions;
- Relevant IGOs would be provided with an opportunity to address the thematic debate;
- ECOSOC-accredited NGOs¹ would be able to participate in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of ECOSOC;
- At the end of the thematic debate, the Chairperson will draw conclusions on the most significant points discussed, which could be the basis of commission resolutions and/or provide input for the eventual outcome of the high-level segment of the 52nd session of the Commission.

¹ The working group, at its third meeting, agreed to provide an opportunity for a representative of the Vienna NGO Committee to brief the Commission on the preparations for the Vienna NGO Forum.