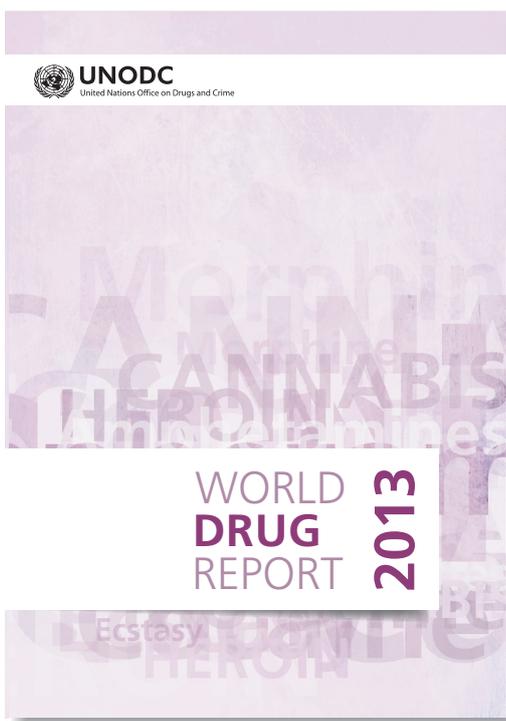


COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AT ITS 56TH SESSION

SPECIAL EVENT: LAUNCH OF THE 2013 WORLD DRUG REPORT

Wednesday, 26 June 2013, Boardroom-D (C-Building)



The full report will be available at:

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/WDR-2013.html>

The World Drug Report, issued annually by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, will be launched in Vienna on 26 June, the United Nations International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

A high-level session will be held in the morning, followed by a presentation and discussion of the report findings in the afternoon.

Purpose and key objectives:

The event aims to present the key data and findings contained in the 2013 World Drug Report and to provide participants, who will include high-level and senior representatives of United Nations Member States as well as representatives of international and regional organizations and of non-governmental organizations with ECOSOC Consultative Status, with an opportunity to provide comments and exchange views.

It is expected that the discussions at the event, which marks the first time the report has been launched in Vienna, will feed into the intersessional preparatory process for the 2014 high-level review, to be conducted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on progress made by Member States in implementing the *Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem*.

Background:

The World Drug Report 2013 presents a comprehensive overview of the latest developments in drug markets, covering production, trafficking, consumption and related health consequences. This

year's report contains new global data on the number of people who inject drugs and those who inject drugs and are also living with HIV, showing progress and setbacks during the 2008-2011 period.

New data for 2011 for each drug category on global, regional and national indicators related to demand, supply and trafficking, with analysis of how these elements are interconnected, are provided. The report also discusses new routes in the trafficking of drugs and identifies expanding and shrinking markets.

The thematic focus of this year's report is on the phenomenon of new psychoactive substances (NPS), which can have deadly consequences for their users but are hard to control, with dynamic, fast-mutating producers and "product lines" which have emerged over the past decade. The report includes a review of different NPS categories identified and used around the world.

The World Drug Report provides one of the most comprehensive overviews of the international drug problem and as such can serve as a key information source for Member States in their preparations for the 2014 high-level review.

In its resolution 56/12, entitled "Preparations for the high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem", adopted in March 2013, the Commission decided, inter alia, that the medium-term review, including intersessional meetings, shall take into account relevant studies and reports from, among others, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. More information on the 2014 high-level review is available at <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/session/session-57.html>.