

Resolution 59/3

Promoting informal networking within the scientific community and the sharing of scientific evidence-based findings that may inform policies and practices to address the world drug problem

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming the commitments of Member States in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem¹ to ensuring that measures are based on an integrated and balanced approach to drug demand reduction and supply reduction and other related matters and on the principle of common and shared responsibility and scientific evidence-based assessments of the nature and extent of the world drug problem,

Bearing in mind the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs 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,² in which the need to scientifically evaluate drug supply and demand reduction measures in order to direct government resources to initiatives that have proved to be successful in tackling the causes of the world drug problem was acknowledged,

Bearing in mind also the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, in which Member States reiterated their commitment to promoting, developing, reviewing or strengthening effective, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to demand and supply reduction strategies,

Mindful of the need to respect internationally accepted standards for scientific research,

Reaffirming the commitments undertaken by the parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988³ to facilitate the exchange of scientific information and the conduct of research on the eradication of illicitly cultivated narcotic plants, and noting the need to enhance the effectiveness of these supply reduction measures, considering their social, health, safety, economic and environmental consequences and sustainability,

¹ Ibid.

² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Recalling its resolution 58/7 of 17 March 2015, in which it underlined the need for Member States to cooperate closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other international and regional organizations, as well as with the scientific community, including academia, in contributing to the scientific assessment of drug demand and supply reduction policies, drug markets and drug-related crime,

Acknowledging the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration with the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant regional and international organizations, to support Member States in promoting informal cooperation and the sharing of scientific evidence-based findings that may inform policies and practices to address the world drug problem,

Emphasizing the need to promote collaboration between scientific experts, policymakers and other relevant stakeholders in scientific research and to promote the appropriate sharing of scientific evidence-based findings that may inform policies and practices to address the world drug problem,

Welcoming the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in convening informal, international, scientific networking meetings in the areas of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation with respect to drug dependence and in facilitating the sharing of scientific evidence-based findings that may inform policies and practices to address the world drug problem,

1. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue convening informal, international, scientific networking meetings of scientists selected by the Office, based upon recommendations by Member States and other relevant stakeholders, and facilitating the sharing of scientific evidence-based findings that may inform policies and practices to address the world drug problem;

2. *Invites* Member States to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its activities to promote informal networking within the scientific community and the sharing of scientific evidence-based findings that may inform policies and practices to address the world drug problem, including by facilitating, on a voluntary basis, the participation of appropriate experts in such activities;

3. *Invites* Member States and other donors to consider providing extrabudgetary resources for the purposes of the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report on progress made in implementing the present resolution to the Commission at its sixty-first session.