

Common Responsibility and Common Response

General statement at the 60th Session of the CND

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National Narcotics Control Commission of China (NNCC)

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Thank you Madam Chairperson.

Madam Chair, distinguished colleagues,

Since its inception, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the UN (CND) has worked hard to forge international consensus and coordinate policies and actions and has thus played an indispensable role in effectively countering the menace of drugs. The 21st century has brought forth the Political Declaration and Plan of Action of 2009, the Joint Ministerial Statement of 2014 and the UNGASS outcome document of 2016. These documents are complementary and mutually reinforcing and reflect the international consensus, hence giving guidance and policy orientation on how to address the drug problem under present-day circumstances.

Over the past year China has stucked to the comprehensive, integrated and balanced counter-drug strategy in addressing the drug issue and participated actively in international cooperation and made positive contributions to the global anti-drug effort.

We carried out elaborate youth-oriented drug prevention projects and community-based treatment and rehabilitation projects and strengthened working mechanisms against drug supply, trafficking, manufacturing and on-line vending along with tightened control of precursor chemicals. We conducted close regional and bilateral cooperation and made full use of drug control cooperation mechanisms related to the Mekong river sub-region, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the BRICS and the ASEAN plus China, among others. Through the Safe Mekong Joint Operation and other bilateral joint drug control operations, such as with Vietnam and with Australia respectively, we cracked down on drug-related transnational crimes. Satellite remote sensing techniques for monitoring and the sustainable alternative development strategy have been pursued. We have been tightening control on NPS and, further to scheduling 116 NPSs for control in October 2015, four more fentanyl analogues have been scheduled recently.

Madam Chair,

The ever expanding drug problem is a global scourge that goes far beyond the control effort of any single country. The Chinese government will continue to honour its commitment made at the UNGASS last year by H.E. Mr. Guo Shengkun, State Councilor, Commissioner of the NNCC and Minister of Public Security, to promote the international drug control cause

by joining forces with all other countries. In this regard we would like to make the following concrete propositions:

1. The institutional stability should be maintained and all commitments be realized. We reaffirm the status of the 3 international conventions as the cornerstone, the CND's leading role for policy making and our objection to weakening or casting in doubt the existing international drug control regime. We should implement in good faith the Political Declaration and Plan of Action of 2009, the Ministerial Statement of 2014 and the outcome document of the 2016 UNGASS.

2. The correct strategy should be followed in promoting drug-control related international cooperation. We should stick to the scientific evidence-based strategy that adopts a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach and maintain the authority, stability and inclusiveness of drug control policies. We should pursue international, regional and sub-regional drug-control cooperation on the basis of mutual respect, reciprocity and mutual benefit. We are against over-emphasizing in a partial manner one aspect or certain aspects of the drug problem, since no control measure would work if it takes solely a law-enforcement approach or health-oriented approach in isolation.

3. The principle of common and shared responsibility

should be adhered to in implementing the sustainable development strategy. Guided by the spirit of cooperation and trust and the awareness of belonging to the community of common destiny, we should go all out to implement the sustainable development strategy, address the drug problem in the context of the 2030 SD Agenda and contribute to the drug control cause. Developed countries should actively provide financial and technical assistance to developing ones, and China, for its part, will help as far as possible other developing countries with capacity building.

4. We should keep abreast of the times and adopt innovative ideas and actions. It is important to exchange experience and learn from the useful drug-control practices of others so as to be more creative. Countries should optimize their drug control policies and legislation in light of their own circumstances in order to cope with new threats and challenges. Given the different contexts of different countries, one cannot ignore national sovereignty and diversities, even less imposes one's own national policies on others. The CND, the INCB and the UNODC should honour their responsibilities in good faith, carry out their mandates under the conventions, strengthen the international scheduling and control mechanisms and respond to the challenges posed by NPS, including ketamine, in an effective manner.

Madam Chair,

Let us renew our determination for a drug-free world, push forward the international drug control cause on the basis of common and shared responsibilities, cooperation and mutual benefit and contribute to health, safety and well-being of the humanity.

Thank you, Madam.