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English only

Commission on Narcotic Drugs**Reconvened sixtieth session**

Vienna, 7 and 8 December 2017

Agenda item 11

**Provisional agenda for the sixty-first session of the
Commission****Background paper by H.E. Ambassador Angell-Hansen,
Chair of the 60th session of the Commission on Narcotic
Drugs (CND): Elements stemming from the brainstorming
meetings with regional groups, held in September and
November, and the CND intersessional meeting of
17 November 2017****A. Basic considerations**

1. Start from the **consensus achieved in CND resolution 60/1**: emphasize that the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action, the 2014 Joint Ministerial Statement and the 2016 UNGASS outcome document are complementary and mutually reinforcing and reaffirm the commitment to effectively implement the provisions of all three documents, recognizing that UNGASS was a milestone in the efforts of the international community to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, and represents the most recent consensus (CND resolution 60/1, operative paras. 1–4).
2. Reaffirm the **leading role of CND as the main policymaking body of the United Nations for drug-related matters**, which will continue to promote within its work, supported by UNODC, enhanced participation of and cooperation with relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates and with other relevant stakeholders.
3. Reiterate that CND will continue **to act in an inclusive, transparent and comprehensive manner**, benefiting from the expertise of relevant stakeholders; CND will continue to facilitate events focused on topical issues, in the margins of its intersessional meetings.
4. Focus on the **implementation** of all the commitments made including the operational recommendations contained in the UNGASS 2016 outcome document, which is recognizing the commitments made in the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the 2014 Joint Ministerial Statement; **no need to negotiate a new policy document**.



B. Preparations

5. **Take stock of the efforts made since 2009** and use the *fourth Biennial Report of the Executive Director on Progress made with the Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action* as a basis.
6. The 2019 review should give an overview of “where we are, why we are where we are and the road ahead”; the 2019 review should **identify main trends, achievements and gaps**; keeping in mind the limitations in terms of financial resources.
7. **Provide high-quality data to monitor implementation; Strengthen and streamline data collection through the annual report questionnaires (ARQ)**, both by **enhancing the capacity of national statistical authorities** to develop their reporting mechanisms and thereby increasing the country coverage, and **by improving the quality and effectiveness** of ARQ, making good use of the Expert Group Meeting to take place in early 2018.
8. Bearing in mind the reporting obligations of CND on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ECOSOC and UNGA, data collection related to the SDGs should be included where relevant in order to facilitate such reporting and demonstrating the contribution of CND to the attainment of the SDGs.
9. Endeavour to **develop a “one-track” single reporting system post 2019, based on the revised ARQ, that enhances the present reporting system to include commitments and recommendations in the UNGASS outcome document from 2016**. The final decision on a one-track reporting system will be taken by Member States within CND, while benefiting from technical expertise on statistics by the United Nations Statistical Commission.
10. When taking stock of the efforts made since 2009, **address the targets set in operative paragraph 36 of the 2009 Political Declaration** on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem; in light of the stocktaking exercise, the Commission might wish to consider discussing the option of combining aspirational goals and measurable targets.
11. Continue to hold **CND intersessional meetings devoted to thematic discussions on the implementation of commitments made in addressing and countering the world drug problem, including the seven thematic chapters of the UNGASS outcome document**, enabling Member States and other interested stakeholders to share information on experiences made, lessons learned and good practices developed with regard to the implementation of the operational recommendations. These meetings should continue to focus on possibilities for international cooperation and technical assistance needs and opportunities.

C. Conduct of the ministerial segment

12. Consider the **format of the ministerial segment** and whether to organize, in addition to the general debate, parallel meetings for ministers *for example* in the form of round tables, keeping in mind the limitations in terms of financial resources. Themes for round tables should be generic to cover the interests of all Member States.
13. Consider organizing in addition a **civil society forum** one day prior to the opening of the 62nd session and provide the opportunity for a representative of the civil society to report to the ministerial segment on the outcome of the forum.

D. Outcome of the ministerial segment

14. The outcome could take the form of a Chair’s summary, combined with a procedural resolution to be negotiated.

15. The **content** of such a resolution could include the following elements:
- (a) Reaffirm commitments;
 - (b) Reaffirm CND's leading role;
 - (c) Emphasize the implementation of operational recommendations and the need to close gaps, including through cooperation by CND and by UNODC with relevant United Nations entities and other stakeholders;
 - (d) Confirm CND's commitment to contribute to relevant SDGs;
 - (e) Strengthen data collection;
 - (f) Set a 10-year timeline, calling for a midterm review in 2024 and final review in 2029;
 - (g) Address the adequacy of resources and possible resource mobilization to close gaps.
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