

STATEMENT OF ECUADOR DURING THE SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE EVENT
AT THE OCCASION OF THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY
AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING AND LAUNCH OF WORLD
DRUG REPORT 2021 - 25 JUNE 2021

Ladies and gentlemen,

Ecuador welcomes the celebration of this special event on the “United Nations International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”.

On this occasion, Ecuador reiterates its decisive and unwavering commitment to the fight against drug abuse and trafficking, which has determined the Ecuadorian implementation of public policies to address this challenge in the fields of health and security. This implies coordinated work between public and private institutions and civil society.

I would like to express Ecuador’s special gratitude to UNODC for the “World Drug Report 2021”, a highly valuable tool for the International Community. In this context, it should be highlighted that the systematization of information is an important cornerstone which enables states to adopt adequate measures to combat the origin and the effects of the scourge of drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

In this sense, the “World Drug Report 2021” not only presents information, but also includes analytical elements to support the international community in the implementation of the commitments regarding drug policies.

Without doubt, it is essential to rely on data on illicit drug-use-growth. It is also relevant to have a global picture of trends and estimates of drug supply and demand to visualize the progress made in the implementation of the policies.

The information provided by this document is very valuable. It allows States to define and improve their efforts which must be adjusted to new and changing realities in the drug markets. The adaptive capacity of this illegal market and the use of the internet in the drug trafficking market are regrettable facts demonstrated during the pandemic through stimulated supply and demand. This points out the need to address this problem in a comprehensive and global way involving all countries.

Ecuador would like to take this opportunity to reiterate its commitment to contribute to finding alternative solutions to this problem, which affects all humanity, and calls for promoting regional and international cooperation as a fundamental element for capacity building, exchange of experiences and mutual support, aimed at providing an effective response of the states and addressing the world drug problem.

Thank you.