

65th Session CND

Chair of the 65th session, H.E. Mr. Ghislain D'hoop Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Belgium,

Mister Chair,

I am honored to address the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its 65th session.

First, allow me to thank you, Ambassador Ghislain D'hoop, for convening this meeting and congratulate you on your election. Be assured Mr Chair, that Brazil will continue supporting the drug control system and participating constructively on the implementation of the drug control treaties.

Drug trafficking has become, by all means, a transnational activity, perpetrated by various criminal organizations, of different nationalities, operating in many countries, across regions and continents.

The "World Drug Report 2022", corroborates the trend that drug use, especially cannabis and cocaine, has intensified in Latin American countries, which are increasingly becoming consumer markets for narcotic drugs.

The Brazilian government is concerned about the increase in international flows of illicit drugs through its territory.

Brazil has become a major transit country to Europe for cocaine produced in the Andean region. It has also become, in absolute terms, the world's second largest consumer of cocaine.

Brazil is also the destination for a large amount of cannabis, produced in the region.

Brazil acknowledges the need to effectively integrate a human rights based approach on the implementation of its national policy and legislation on the drug problem. We believe it is also paramount that policies and legislation be in line with international norms and commitments.

Regarding supply reduction, the Brazilian government understands that it is essential to set the focus on repressing large-scale trafficking. The major goals of the Federal Police are, above all, to dismantle the chains of command of criminal organizations and seize their property. These major trends are also observed in activities conducted by other national police forces in Latin America.

In demand reduction, there has been a significant expansion in the number and availability of centers of reference for drug users in Brazil, both through community care, as well as the hospitalization and rehabilitation of users in situations of greater vulnerability.

We also welcome the partnership established between the Brazilian government and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to structure the National System on Prevention and the Fight against Drugs, which will help to promote and coordinate efficient evidence-based policies related to prevention and treatment of people who use drugs.

Thank you, Mr Chair

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