

**Commission on Narcotic Drugs**

**Intersessional meetings  
22 September 2022, approx. 5:45/6:00 PM  
Board Room C, C-Building, V.I.C.**

**Closing Remarks John BRANDOLINO  
Director, Division for Treaty Affairs**

Madame Chair,

Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to address the Commission and deliver some closing remarks.

Excellencies, distinguished participants,

Over the last three days we have seen extremely rich and engaging discussions. We have heard experts from Member States, UN entities, international and regional organization and civil society joining us from all corners of the world – showing once again that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs is the forum to discuss all aspects of the world drug problem, working closely with others, as we have seen with the intervention of the President of the Human Rights Council during the opening session yesterday, but also with the broad spectrum of different experts that enriched the discussions over the course of the last two days.

This year's discussions conclude a cycle of thematic sessions that have been held over the last 4 years, focused on the different challenges that Member States identified in the 2019 Ministerial Declaration. The thematic discussions held since 2019 will be also crucial when the Commission turns to the preparations for the next milestone, the mid-term review in 2024.

UNODC, at headquarters and through its network of field offices is ready to proud to support Member States in the implementation of the three international drug control conventions, improving public health and welfare, based on the underlying principles of proportionality, collective responsibility and compliance with international human rights obligations – with the goals to ensure that no one affected by the world drug problem is left behind.

In closing, Mr. Chair, let me thank you, for so skillfully steering and leading the discussions over the last two days, as the Chair of this Commission during its 65th session.

Thank you very much.