

PROYECTO DE DISCURSO
DEL PRESIDENTE EJECUTIVO DE DEVIDA EN LA SESION
INTERSESIONAL DE LA COMISION DE ESTUPEFACIENTES
(CND)

(September 22, 2022)

Good morning.

Mrs. Ghada Waly, Executive Director of UNODC

Distinguished Heads of Delegation,

I have the honor to address this Plenary Assembly in my capacity as Executive President of the National Commission for Development and Life without Drugs – DEVIDA, a Peruvian entity responsible for elaborating and implementing Peru’s National Policy to fight against illicit drug trafficking with a balanced and comprehensive approach and with unrestricted respect for human rights, particularly those of our indigenous populations.

We strongly agree that a chapter on the impact of drug control policies over human rights should be included on the upcoming World Drug Report.

Illicit drug trafficking is, without a doubt, a global problem that affects public health and constitutes a threat to the democratic governability of our country and its domestic security. However, it should also be taken into consideration that illicit drug trafficking exists because there is a global demand for illegal drugs.

For this reason, it is necessary that governments of the world have effective public policies and strategies in place in order to stop drug trafficking. To do so, first it is necessary to understand the economic relationship between the global demand of illegal drugs and its impact on drug supply, and therefore on its production. This situation forces us to adopt joint strategies and actions between producing and consuming countries in order to reverse the growing trend of illicit drug trafficking worldwide.

Within this framework, the National Anti-Drug Policy of Peru aims at:

- i) generating necessary conditions to implement legal economic activities for coca growers,
- ii) reducing production and commercialization of cocaine, and,
- iii) reducing problematic drug use.

The Peruvian Government stands up for actions to fight against illicit drug trafficking. However, still is not plausible to consolidate a significant decrease in coca growing activities. We firmly believe that in order to achieve this objective, two conditions must be met:

- 1) we need to reduce and contain the international demand for drugs, and
- 2) we need to increase technical, commercial and financial cooperation actions in order to facilitate producers to grow

alternative Peruvian products, such as coffee and cocoa, among others, at international market fair prices.

For this purpose, the Peruvian Government will continue to strengthen its Alternative Development model based on a new consolidated relationship with the various populations located in the Andean-Amazonian region. This model would help to place their products with added value in international markets.

Likewise, we are promoting a new legally binding "Citizen Social Pact" that is, a commitment between the Government and Peruvian coca leaf producers who voluntarily wish to benefit from the Alternative Development programs, thus avoiding the social consequences of forced coca eradication.

In this regard, the Peruvian Government, through DEVIDA, will promote an international conference named "Critical Review of Alternative Development and Shared Responsibility: a vision from the Andean-Amazon Region", to be held in the city of Lima, Peru, the first quarter of year 2023.

The aforementioned conference will constitute a space to discuss the impact of Illicit Drug Trafficking and anti-drug policies in Andean countries from various approaches (academic, political and social), with particular emphasis on "Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development", under the principle of "Common and Shared Responsibility".

The baseline objective will be to establish a common ground in anti-drug policies among the Andean countries, as well as to promote cooperation and exchange of information on good practices, in order to broaden the spectrum of the concept of Common and Shared Responsibility” (not only the classic division of production-consumption), to those conditions generated by disparities and ways for illicit drug trafficking that operates in the Amazon, all of which results in deforestation and natural disasters due to climate change, and destruction of our indigenous peoples’ identity.

Finally, we are convinced that only when producing and consuming countries get to work together under the frame of the Principle of Common and Shared Responsibility, we will be able to obtain significant progress towards our global fight against illicit trafficking of drugs that affect society globally.

Thank you very much,

Tiempo de lectura: 5 minutos