

CND 2022 Thematic Discussions

21 September 2022

Day 1 - responses not in conformity with the international drug control conventions

Mr. Chair,

Let me start by recognizing the important contributions made by the panelist that spoke before which reflects the diversity of opinions and understandings that these issues could embrace.

During the 2019 Ministerial Political Declaration negotiations, Uruguay insisted on including in the text some references to the challenges and failures of the drug policies, in particular the war on drugs.

Today, Uruguay welcomes that we finally have a thematic discussion on drugs policy and human rights and strongly supports the inclusion of a chapter on human rights in the World Drug Report.

Mr. Chair,

Uruguay understands that drugs policies should have a holistic, comprehensive, balanced and interdisciplinary approach, based on scientific evidence, with a Human Rights and gender perspective, placing people – their well-being, their health and their freedom – at the center of these policies, considering working on prevention for youth, with a perspective of risks management and harm reduction.

We must reinforce our actions against illicit drug trafficking and organized crime, as well as their links with other criminal activities, but drug control policies and human rights should not be considered as disconnected topics and human rights should always be given the priority.

Mr. Chair,

Measures in conformity with the international drug control conventions are those aiming at their main objective which is the health and humankind welfare. Only through dialogue between Member States, international organizations, scientific community and civil society, based on scientific evidence, we can be more efficient in addressing the challenges of the world drug problem.

Thank you.