

**Statement on the agenda item 6 of the 66th session of the Commission on
Narcotic Drugs**

**Follow-up to the implementation of all commitments to address and
counter the world drug problem**

on behalf of the following Member States:

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Republic of Angola, Republic of Armenia, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Republic of Belarus, Burkina Faso, People's Republic of China, Republic of Cuba, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Republic of Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Republic of Namibia, Republic of Nicaragua, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, State of Palestine, Russian Federation, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of Singapore, Republic of Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

We recognise that the world drug problem continues to pose a serious threat to global and regional security and stability, presents challenges to the health and well-being of humanity and undermines sustainable economic development of States.

We underscore that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system. We urge State Parties to comply with the provisions and ensure the full and effective implementation of those conventions.

We are concerned about legalization of cannabis for non-medical purposes. We fully share the assessments of the International Narcotics Control Board, which clearly states, that the growing trend to allow the use of cannabis for non-medical and non-scientific purposes constitutes a significant challenge for the international community, the State Parties and for the implementation of the

international drug control conventions. We would like to reiterate that the principle of *pacta sunt servanda* is applicable in the field of drug control treaties.

We reaffirm our shared commitment to effectively counter the world drug problem, which requires concerted and sustained action at the national and international levels, including fully complying with the three drug control conventions and accelerating the implementation of existing drug policy commitments.

We reaffirm our determination to counter the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to help to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity.

We further reaffirm the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and our support and appreciation for the efforts of the relevant United Nations entities, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity of the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem, and further reaffirm the treaty-mandated role of the International Narcotics Control Board aimed at ensuring compliance of Parties with their obligations as specified under Articles 14 of the 1961 Convention, Article 19 of the 1971 Convention and Article 22 of the 1988 Convention and reaffirmed by the CND in its resolution 62/8, as well as the treaty-mandated role of the World Health Organization.

We remain fully committed to implement, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, international drug policy commitments contained in the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016,

as reaffirmed in the 2019 Ministerial Declaration, and make the best use of the high-level mid-term review in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2024 to accelerate their implementation till 2029.

We reiterate our resolve to prevent and eliminate illicit cultivation, production, manufacturing and trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as well as the diversion of and illicit trafficking in precursors, money-laundering and illicit financial flows related to illicit drugs, and misuse of information and communication technologies in that regard; as well as the illicit demand and abuse of drugs.

We emphasize the importance of adequate, sustainable and predictable funding for UNODC in order for the Office to enhance provision of technical assistance, capacity building and, especially, needed equipment to developing countries, upon their request and in accordance with their needs, and to facilitate their equal access to such assistance.

We recognize that the world drug problem is complex and transnational in nature and reiterate the urgent need for strengthening international cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem that should be a collective effort pursued in a constructive and depoliticised manner.