

17 November 2023

English only

Commission on Narcotic Drugs**Reconvened sixty-sixth session**

Vienna, 7–8 December 2023

Agenda item 10

Preparations for the midterm review, to be held in 2024, of progress made in implementing all international drug policy commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem**Draft organization of the high-level segment to take stock of the implementation of all international drug policy commitments and outline the way forward to 2029, in line with the Ministerial Declaration of 2019 (14–15 March 2024)****Note by the Secretariat****I. Mandate of the high-level segment**

1. In the Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem,¹ adopted during the ministerial segment of its sixty-second session, in 2019, Member States resolved to review in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2029 progress in implementing all international drug policy commitments, with a midterm review in the Commission in 2024.
2. In its resolution 66/1, the Commission decided to convene a high-level segment, to be held during its sixty-seventh session, in Vienna in 2024, for a period of two days, in addition to the five days usually scheduled for the regular part of the session of the Commission, held in the first half of the year, to take stock of the implementation of all international drug policy commitments and outline the way forward to 2029, in line with the Ministerial Declaration of 2019.
3. Also, in its resolution 66/1, the Commission decided that the high-level segment shall consist of a general debate and two interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables, in parallel with the general debate in the plenary. It also decided that the high-level segment shall be organized in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional

* Reissued for technical reasons on 15 December 2023

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 8 (E/2019/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.



commissions of the Economic and Social Council. It also decided on the participation in the round tables, their chairing and composition.

4. Furthermore, in resolution 66/1 the Commission also decided to work in good faith towards adopting a concise, action-oriented document at the opening of the high-level segment of its sixty-seventh session, which will be negotiated during the intersessional period preceding the regular sixty-seventh session of the Commission, focused exclusively on taking stock of the implementation of all existing international drug policy commitments between 2019 and 2023, and indicating the work to be done to accelerate the implementation in the period from 2024 until 2029 of all those existing commitments.

II. Organization of the high-level segment and general debate

5. Pursuant to operative paragraph 3 (b) of CND resolution 66/1, following the format of the general debates conducted during the high-level segments held in 2009, 2014 and 2019, the meetings of the general debate will be open to all States Members of the United Nations, and the seating arrangements will follow the protocol used by the General Assembly.

Rules of procedure

6. The rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council will apply to the high-level segment of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Agenda of the high-level segment

7. The agenda items of the high-level segment of the sixty-seventh session, as adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2023/318, are contained in annex I to the present document.

Programme of work for the high-level segment

8. The proposed programme of work for the general debate and the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables is contained in annex II.

Opening of the general debate

9. The Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the President of the International Narcotics Control Board and the Director-General of the World Health Organization will be invited to deliver introductory statements.

10. In line with past practice, short introductory statements will also be delivered by representatives of the scientific community, the youth and civil society in the context of a ceremonial opening.

Participation in and list of speakers for the general debate

11. After the introductory statements by the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the President of the International Narcotics Control Board and the Director-General of the World Health Organization, the floor will be given to the high-level representatives of the Member States chairing the regional groups, followed by statements by high-level representatives of Member States speaking in their national capacity. Heads of entities of the United Nations, including programmes, funds, specialized agencies and regional commissions, or their representatives, may make statements in the general debate. Representatives of intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may participate, in accordance with rules 74 to 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

12. The list of speakers for the general debate will be established by the drawing of lots during an intersessional meeting in the beginning of 2024. The procedure proposed for the drawing of lots and the establishment of the list of speakers is contained in annex III.

Duration of statements in the general debate

13. Speakers are requested to keep their statements to a maximum of five minutes (approximately 500 words) in order to enable the representatives of all Member States to address the high-level segment. Chairs of Regional Groups will be allotted a speaking time of maximum seven minutes.

III. Interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables during the high-level segment

14. Pursuant to operative paragraph 3(c) of Commission resolution 66/1, the Commission decided to conduct two interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables, in parallel with the plenary meetings, on the topics “Taking stock: work undertaken since 2019” and “The way forward: the road to 2029”.

15. Member States and relevant entities of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, as well as relevant non-governmental organizations, in line with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, are encouraged to participate actively in the discussions of the Commission in preparation for the high-level segment in 2024, in order to foster an in-depth exchange of information and expertise on efforts, achievements, challenges and good practices to address and counter the world drug problem, and to make available relevant information to the Commission in order to facilitate its work.

Format and organization of the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables

16. Pursuant to operative paragraph 3 (c) of Commission resolution 66/1, the format and organization of the round tables are described in annex IV.

17. All States Members of the United Nations, observer States and observers, including relevant international organizations with observer status and entities of the United Nations system, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations, in accordance with rules 74 to 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, participating in the high-level segment are to be invited to participate in the interactive multi-stakeholder round tables; their representatives may include representatives from civil society, the scientific community, academia, youth groups and other relevant stakeholders.

18. Pursuant to operative paragraph 3 (c) (iii) of Commission resolution 66/1, each round table shall start with introductory remarks by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and will consist of a panel that is composed of five panellists to be nominated by the regional groups and one panellist to be nominated by civil society organizations through the Vienna Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Drugs, in accordance with paragraph 3 (a) of Commission resolution 66/1, and that may also include up to two speakers representing entities of the United Nations system. The final list of panellists is to be drawn up by the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in consultation with the extended Bureau of the Commission.

19. Pursuant to operative paragraph 3 (c) (iv), the interventions by the panellists will be followed by an interactive discussion, and, in order to accommodate as many speakers as possible, interventions by the panellists will be limited to a maximum of five minutes and interventions from the floor will be limited to a maximum of three minutes.

Chairing of the round tables

20. Pursuant to operative paragraph 3 (c) (ii) of Commission resolution 66/1, the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables shall be co-chaired by two representatives, of two different regional groups, each to be nominated by the respective regional group, and the final chairing arrangements are to be drawn up by the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in consultation with the extended Bureau of the Commission.

Presentation of the outcome of the round tables

21. Pursuant to operative paragraph 3 (d) of Commission resolution 66/1, in line with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, in particular rule 35, a co-chairs' summary of the salient points raised during the round tables is to be prepared by the co-chairs of each round table and will be presented to the plenary; a co-chairs' summary does not have any status and it should not be implied in any way as agreed.

IV. Outcome of the high-level segment

22. Furthermore, in its resolution 66/1, the Commission decided to work in good faith towards adopting a concise, action-oriented document at the opening of the high-level segment of its sixty-seventh session, which will be negotiated during the intersessional period preceding the regular sixty-seventh session of the Commission, focused exclusively on taking stock of the implementation of all existing international drug policy commitments between 2019 and 2023, and indicating the work to be done to accelerate the implementation in the period from 2024 until 2029 of all those existing commitments.

Annex I

Provisional agenda of the high-level segment (item 3 on the provisional agenda of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs)

High-level segment:

- (a) Opening of the high-level segment;
- (b) General debate of the high-level segment;
- (c) Interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables of the high-level segment:
 - (i) Taking stock: work undertaken since 2019;
 - (ii) The way forward: the road to 2029;
- (d) Closure of the high-level segment.

Annex II

Proposed programme of work for the general debate and round-table discussions of the high-level segment of the sixty-seventh session

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Round-table discussions</i>
Thursday, 14 March 2024			
9.30 a.m.	Opening of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs <i>Item 2.</i> Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters		
<i>High-level segment</i>			
10 a.m.	<i>Item 3.</i> High-level segment <i>Item 3(a):</i> Opening of the high-level segment (including adoption of the outcome document) <i>Item 3(b):</i> General debate of the high-level segment		
3 p.m.	<i>Item 3(b)</i> General debate of the high-level segment (<i>continued</i>)	3 p.m.	<i>Item 3 (c).</i> Interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables of the high-level segment: (i) Taking stock: work undertaken since 2019;
7 p.m.	<i>Item 3(b)</i> General debate of the high-level segment (<i>continued</i>)		
Friday, 15 March 2024			
10 a.m.	<i>Item 3(b)</i> General debate of the high-level segment (<i>continued</i>)	10 a.m.	<i>Item 3 (c).</i> Interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables of the high-level segment: (ii) The way forward: the road to 2029;
3 p.m.	<i>Item 3(b)</i> General debate of the high-level segment (<i>continued</i>) <i>Item 3(d)</i> Closure of the high-level segment (including presentation of the co-chairs' summary of the salient points raised during the round tables)		

Annex III

Procedure for the establishment of the list of speakers for the general debate

1. Following the format of the general debates conducted during the high-level segments held in 2009, 2014 and 2019, the list of speakers for the general debate to be conducted during the high-level segment of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs will be established on the basis of five meetings. On Thursday, 14 March 2024, the general debate will start immediately after the opening of the high-level segment. Accordingly, the first meeting will have [25] speaking slots.^a The second to fourth meetings, on Thursday, 14 March 2024 and Friday, 15 March 2024, will each have [30] speaking slots. The fifth meeting, in the afternoon of Friday, 15 March 2024, will have [25] speaking slots, since the last half hour will be devoted to the closing segment of the high-level segment including presentation of the co-chairs' summary of the salient points of the round tables.

2. Following the format of the general debates conducted during the high-level segments held in 2009, 2014 and 2019, the meetings of the general debate will be open to all States Members of the United Nations. The seating arrangements will follow the protocol used by the General Assembly. After the introductory statements by the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the President of the International Narcotics Control Board and the Director-General of the World Health Organization, the floor will be given to the high-level representatives of the Member States chairing the regional groups, followed by statements by high-level representatives of Member States speaking in their national capacity. Heads of entities of the United Nations, including programmes, funds, specialized agencies and regional commissions, may make statements in the general debate. Representatives of intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council will participate in accordance with articles 74 and 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. Speaking slots will be provided to the above-mentioned representatives.

3. In order to accommodate all speakers at the high-level segment, statements should be limited to five minutes, on the understanding that this will not preclude that more extensive texts can be made available online on the website of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission. Technical devices will be used to remind speakers of the remaining speaking time. Chairs of Regional Groups will be allotted a speaking time of maximum seven minutes.

4. The establishment of the initial list of speakers for the general debate through drawing of lots will take place at an intersessional meeting to be held on 29 February 2024.

5. The Secretariat will inform all Member States by note verbale of the drawing of lots. In order to be included in the drawing of lots, Member States should reply to the Secretariat with information on their participation in the high-level segment latest five working days before the intersessional meeting mentioned in paragraph 4 above.

6. The drawing of lots to establish the list of speakers will be done using the following procedure:

(a) There will be two different boxes, one containing the names of the States that will be represented at ministerial level, and the other containing the names of States that will be represented at a level lower than ministerial level; if the Secretariat has been informed that more than one State will be represented at a level higher than

^a The number of speaking slots at each of the meetings devoted to the general debate might be revised according to the total number of States that announce to the Secretariat before [...] February 2024 their intention to participate in the ministerial segment.

ministerial level (Head of State or Head of Government), there will be an additional box containing the names of States that will be represented at the highest level, and the same procedure will be followed as the one described in subparagraphs (b) and (c) below. The drawing of lots from this box will then happen first;

(b) A representative of the Secretariat will draw one name from the box containing the names of all States that will be represented at ministerial level. Once the name of a State has been drawn by the representative of the Secretariat, that State will be invited first to choose a meeting (morning, afternoon or evening of Thursday, 14 March 2024, or morning or afternoon of Friday, 15 March 2024^a) and then to choose the speaking slot in that meeting. This procedure will be repeated until all names have been drawn from that box;

(c) After States to be represented at the ministerial level have chosen meetings and speaking slots, a representative of the Secretariat will draw one name from the box containing the names of all States that will be represented at a level lower than ministerial level. That procedure will be repeated until all names have been drawn from that box;

(d) The last speaking slots of the second and third plenary meetings on Thursday, 14 March 2024 may be reserved for the Holy See and the State of Palestine in their capacities as observer States.

7. Member States that are present during the drawing of lots can choose their preferred slot from among the slots that remain available within the category of their speaker (ministerial level or others); Member States not present during the drawing of lots will be assigned the next available slot in the category of their speaker (ministerial level or others).

8. If the level at which a statement is to be made is subsequently changed, the speaker will be moved to the next available speaking slot in the appropriate category at that same meeting or the next meeting.

9. Participants may arrange to exchange their speaking slots in accordance with the established practice of the United Nations. In such cases a written notification must be provided to the Secretariat by the concerned parties. A form has been prepared by the Secretariat for this purpose.

10. Speakers who are not present when their speaking turn comes will be automatically moved to the next available speaking slot within their category at the same meeting or the next meeting.

11. Intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council will not participate in the drawing of lots; they will be given a speaking slot on a “first come first served” basis.

12. Speakers should inform the Secretariat if they do not want their statement to be posted on the website of the Commission.

13. In any case not covered by the present proposal, the Chair, in consultation with the Secretariat, will try to accommodate requests for speaking slots.

^a The number of speaking slots at each of the meetings devoted to the general debate might be revised according to the total number of States that announce to the Secretariat before [...] February 2024 their intention to participate in the ministerial segment.

Annex IV

Format and organization of the round-table discussions to be held during the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session

A. Participants

1. Participation in the round-table discussions will be open to members and observers participating in the high-level segment as follows:

- (a) All States Members of the United Nations;
- (b) Observer States; and
- (c) Observers, including:
 - (i) relevant international organizations with observer status;
 - (ii) entities of the United Nations system;
 - (iii) representatives of non-governmental organizations,

in accordance with rules 74 to 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

2. The representatives of members and observers may include representatives from civil society, the scientific community, academia, youth groups and other relevant stakeholders.

B. Other organizational arrangements

Nomination of panellists

3. Each roundtable will consist of panel that is composed of:

- (a) five panellists to be nominated by the regional groups;
- (b) one panellist to be nominated by civil society organizations through the Vienna Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Drugs, in accordance with paragraph 3 (a) of Commission resolution 66/1;
- (c) up to two speakers representing entities of the United Nations system.

4. The final list of panellists is to be drawn up by the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in consultation with the extended Bureau of the Commission. The following nomination procedures and deadlines are to be followed:

(a) The Chair of each regional group will communicate to the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, with copy to the Secretariat, the names of the panellists for the two round tables, at least one month before the opening of the session of the Commission, namely as soon as possible, and at the latest by 15 February 2024; pertinent entities from the United Nations system should also communicate to the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, with copy to the Secretariat, at least one month before the opening of the session their interest to nominate speakers at the round tables;

(b) The Chair of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs, in accordance with paragraph 3 (a) of CND resolution 66/1, will inform the Secretariat at least one month before the opening of the session of the Commission of the name of the panellists representing civil society and about the representation of non-governmental organizations.

Chairing

5. Each of the two round tables will be co-chaired by two representatives, of two different regional groups, each to be nominated by the respective regional group. The final chairing arrangements are to be drawn up by the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in consultation with the extended Bureau of the Commission. Assignment of co-chairs to the round tables will be decided during a meeting of the Extended Bureau. Should there be no agreement on the co-chairs, this would be decided through a drawing of lots to be held during an Extended Bureau Meeting.

Introductory statements and panellists

6. Each round table will start with introductory remarks by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime followed by the interventions by the panellists.

7. The interventions by the panellists will be followed by an interactive discussion. In order to accommodate as many speakers as possible, interventions by the panellists shall be limited to a maximum of five minutes.

Interventions

8. There will be no list of speakers. Delegations wishing to make interventions will do so by drawing the attention of the co-chairs. Interventions from the floor shall be limited to a maximum of three minutes.

9. In view of the duration of each round-table discussion, it is envisaged that there will be no prepared or national statements, and it is recommended that interventions take the form of questions or comments on matters covered under the round-table topics, in order to encourage a debate and the exchange of expertise and experiences among participants.

10. Statements by observers will be regulated by the co-chairs of each round-table discussion, in order to allow their participation in the discussions in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and established practice. The co-chairs may intervene to seek the cooperation of the speaker in respecting the time limit or discouraging the reading of national statements and may exercise their discretion to select speakers according to the thrust of the discussion.

Presentation of the outcome of the round-table discussions

11. In line with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, in particular rule 35, a co-chairs' summary of the salient points raised during the round tables is to be prepared by the co-chairs of each round table and will be presented to the plenary. A co-chairs' summary does not have any status and it should not be implied in any way as agreed.