



THE MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL INTERNATIONAL DRUG POLICY COMMITMENTS

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION AT THE MARGINS OF THE COORDINATION SEGMENT

1 FEBRUARY 2024, 8:30-9:30 A.M. NY TIME (2:30-3:30 P.M. VIENNA TIME)

ONLINE ([CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE MEETING](#))

BACKGROUND

At its 62nd session in March 2019, the Commission adopted by consensus the **Ministerial Declaration entitled “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”**. Member States, while acknowledging that tangible progress had been achieved over the past decade, noted with concern the persistent and emerging challenges posed by the world drug problem (see *annex*).

In the 2019 Ministerial Declaration, Member States resolved to review in 2029 the progress made in the implementation of all international drug policy commitments,¹ with a mid-term review in 2024. The **2024 Midterm Review, to be held on 14-15 March 2024**, will serve to assess progress made in the implementation of all international drug policy commitments. The Commission decided in its **resolution 66/1** that the mid-term review will consist of a 2-day high-level segment in addition to the 5-day regular session of the CND. The 2-day high-level segment will include a general debate and two multi-stakeholder roundtables on the topics of “Taking stock: work undertaken since 2019” and “The way forward: the road to 2029”.² The Commission is also expected to adopt at the high-level segment a concise, action-oriented document 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 2024 until 2029 of all those existing commitments.

COOPERATION BETWEEN SUBSIDIARY BODIES IN THE LEAD-UP TO THE MID-TERM REVIEW

The work of the CND is linked to multiple Targets of SDGs 3 and 16, as well as to a broad range of other SDGs.³ The CND cooperates with other subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC in the discharge of its mandates, in accordance with the recommendations of the review of the functional commissions and expert bodies of the Economic and Social Council relating to “further strengthening coordination and cooperation with other Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies” (ECOSOC decision 2022/34).

The ECOSOC Coordination Segment, created by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in June 2021 as an essential part of a range of measures to strengthen ECOSOC, aims to help ECOSOC better coordinate the subsidiary bodies in the economic, social, health, environmental, and related areas. Therefore, the CND plans to use the momentum created by the coordination segment 2024, to further its coordination

¹ The 2009 Political Declaration & Plan of Action, the 2014 Joint Ministerial Statement, the 2016 UNGASS Outcome Document.

² See a Chair’s briefing on the mid-term review [here](#).

³ See the contribution by the CND to the High-Level Political Forum 2016-2023, posted [here](#).

with other subsidiary bodies, in order to secure their perspectives and to ensure that the Commission can benefit from the state-of-the art work undertaken by other bodies on all relevant SDGs.

Roundtable Discussion

The Chair of the CND will organize **a roundtable discussion ahead of the mid-term review of the implementation of all drug policy commitments**, to be held at the margins of the Coordination Segment, namely on **Thursday 1 February, from 8.30 till 9.30 NY time (2.30 till 3.30 Vienna time)**. The event will have a duration of **60 minutes** and be held **online**. All subsidiary bodies will be invited, and the discussion will also be open to the public.

During the event, the Chair of the CND will brief on the preparations of the mid-term reviews and invite Chairs or Bureaux Members of other subsidiary bodies to present on relevant aspects of their work.

The event aims to foster collaboration and information-sharing between the CND and the ECOSOC functional commissions and subsidiary bodies that cover socio-economic and development issues of key importance to the Commission.

SCENARIO FOR THE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION (60 MIN)

Welcome and Moderation

Ms. Delphine SCHANTZ, UNODC Representative NYLO

Opening Remarks

H.E. Ms. Paula NARVÁEZ, President of ECOSOC

The Mid-term Review – Briefing by the Chair

H.E. Mr. Philbert JOHNSON, Chair of the CND

Contributions by ECOSOC Subsidiary Bodies

H.E. Ivo ŠRÁMEK, Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

H.E. Noemí ESPINOZA MADRID, Chair of the Commission on Population and Development

H.E. Jon IVANOVSKI, Vice-Chair of the Commission for Social Development

Mr. Māris BURBERGS, Vice-Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women

Ms. Graciela MÁRQUEZ, Rapporteur of the Statistical Commission

Additional Interventions

ANNEX: CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED IN THE 2019 MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

At its 62nd session in March 2019 the Commission adopted by consensus the Ministerial Declaration entitled “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”. In the “Stocktaking”- part of the Declaration Member States identified the following challenges:

- that both the range of drugs and drugs markets are expanding and diversifying;
- that the abuse, illicit cultivation and production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as the illicit trafficking in those substances and in precursors, have reached record levels, and that the illicit demand for and the domestic diversion of precursor chemicals are on the rise;
- that synthetic opioids and the non-medical use of prescription drugs pose increasing risks to public health and safety, as well as scientific, legal, and regulatory challenges, including with regard to the scheduling of substances;
- that drug treatment and health services continue to fall short of meeting needs and deaths related to drug use have increased;
- and that the rate of transmission of HIV, the hepatitis C virus and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, including injecting drug use in some countries, remains high;
- that the adverse health consequences of and risks associated with new psychoactive substances have reached alarming levels;
- that the availability of internationally controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and palliative care, remains low to non-existent in many parts of the world;
- that increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption, and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime, and money-laundering and, in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, are observed;
- that the value of confiscated proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking at the global level remains low;
- that the criminal misuse of information and communications technologies for illicit drug -related activities is increasing;
- that responses not in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and not in conformity with applicable international human rights obligations pose a challenge to the implementation of joint commitments based on the principle of common and shared responsibility;
- that geographical coverage and availability of reliable data on the various aspects on the world drug problem requires improvement ⁽⁴⁾

⁴ This “twelfth” challenge has been treated as a cross-cutting challenge during the CND thematic discussions held from 2019 till 2023 and has been addressed under each of the “eleven” challenges.