At its 853rd meeting on 22 February 1978, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs took the following decision:

(a) Regional and interregional co-operation is basic to progress in all aspects of drug control. This approach has been recognized and fostered by the United Nations in its sponsorship of useful activities directed at the control of illicit trafficking. Examples are the work of the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East and the Meetings of Operational Heads of National Narcotics Law Enforcement Agencies, Far East Region;

(b) It would be timely for the United Nations, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/124 of 16 December 1977, to sponsor similar activities designed to assist Governments in their efforts to reduce illicit demand;

(c) An appropriate starting point would be for the United Nations, through its intervention programmes in drug abuse control, in collaboration with the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and appropriate non-governmental organizations, to convene regional meetings at which experts, preferably individuals actually engaged in carrying out programmes, would exchange information on the results achieved through demand reduction programmes relating to prevention, rehabilitation and treatment, with a view to improving techniques in their respective regions;

(d) Such United Nations-sponsored regional meetings are an appropriate activity for financing by the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control.

/* See E/1978/35-E/CN.7/621, para. 164. */