

CHAPTER I

MATTERS REQUIRING ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

A. Draft resolutions

1. At its 914th, 915th and 916th meetings, on 3 and 4 February 1982, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs examined agenda item 5, concerning the programme of strategy and policies for drug control. The Commission's Steering Committee also met on four occasions - on 2, 3 and 4 February - to study how best to address the issues raised in General Assembly resolution 36/168 of 16 December 1981. At the close of its deliberations, the Commission adopted resolution 1 (S-VII), the text of which appears in chapter VIII, presenting draft resolution III, below, to the Council. The 1983 programme of action is set out in detail in the present report in paragraphs 102, 104 and 111, and the financial implications of the programme appear in section C of chapter III.
2. At its seventh special session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

I

Measures to improve international co-operation in the
interdiction of illicit drug traffic 1/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the need for close co-operation among law enforcement authorities in investigating the illicit traffic in narcotics and psychotropic substances,

Bearing in mind Commission resolutions 2 (S-V), 5 (XXVIII), 4 (S-VI) and 3 (XXIX) as well as the relevant provisions of the international Conventions,

Firmly believing that, in order to be effective in combating and interdicting the illicit traffic, measures employed by customs and drug control administrations must be given wide international support,

1. Urges all Governments, whenever necessary, to strengthen their customs and drug control bodies with a view to promoting the interdiction of substances diverted to illicit channels, by means which include the provision of timely, relevant information and co-operation to the fullest extent possible with national and international organizations working in this area;
2. Appeals to all States to develop means of more effectively monitoring shipments of controlled drugs within and across their borders, and particularly within free trading zones;

1/ See chap. II, A, below.

3. Calls upon States, subject to their constitutional limitations, their legal systems and domestic law, to pass and enforce laws that make the deliberate misrepresentation or mislabelling of controlled narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances punishable offences, or to take other suitable measures for their control;

4. Invites all Governments to respond positively to the Board's suggestion that a list be made of the precursors and reagents most widely used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, by submitting this information to the Secretary-General at his request, and bringing the list to the attention of their police, customs and other control authorities;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the text of this resolution to all Governments and to invite them to bring it to the attention of their competent authorities in order to ensure the implementation of its provisions.

II

Concerted action against the illicit drug traffic in
Central and South America and the Caribbean 2/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/132 of 14 December 1981,

Recognizing that in order to be more effective, measures against the illicit drug traffic must be so co-ordinated that all affected States, including those not producers or significant consumers of illicit drugs, will be able to strengthen their countermeasures against such traffic nationally, regionally and internationally,

Aware of the urgent need to strengthen co-ordinated efforts in parts of Central and South America and the Caribbean, having due regard to the specific problems of this area insofar as drug law enforcement is concerned,

1. Requests the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control to give favourable consideration, within the limits of the financial resources available, to reasonable requests for assistance in strengthening effective action against the illicit drug traffic which may be received from countries in Central and South America and the Caribbean;

2. Requests the Division of Narcotic Drugs, in co-operation with ICPO/Interpol and the Customs Co-operation Council to attach high priority to organizing drug law enforcement training seminars in Central and South America and the Caribbean, making full use of the training facilities and expertise that may be available within the area or from countries in other regions affected by the traffic in drugs emanating from, or passing through, Central and South America and the Caribbean, and requests the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control to consider financing such seminars.

2/ See chap. II, B, below.

III

Strategy and policies for drug control 3/

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 1 (S-VII) of 8 February 1982,

1. Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 36/168 of 16 December 1981, by which it adopted the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy and the basic five-year programme of action annexed to resolution 1 (XXIX) of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, forwarded by Economic and Social Council decision 1981/113,

Recalling also that in operative paragraph 3 of the above-mentioned General Assembly resolution the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was requested to establish, within available resources, a task force to review, monitor, and co-ordinate the implementation of the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy and the programme of action,

Further recalling its resolutions 32/124 of 16 December 1977, 33/168 of 20 December 1978, 34/177 of 17 December 1979 and 35/195 of 15 December 1980,

Noting with satisfaction the establishment on a provisional basis by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the task force requested,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/ of and Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 1 (S-VII) of 8 February 1982,

1. Decides to approve the projects recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in its resolution 1 (S-VII), as set out in the report on its seventh special session, 4/ for implementation in 1983;

2. Requests the Commission to review the reports of its task force and to report thereon, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session and annually thereafter;

3. Urges all Member States, non-member States parties to the international drug control treaties, specialized agencies and other international organizations and private institutions concerned with the drug abuse problem to strengthen their participation in and support for activities related to the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy and the programme of action;

3/ See chap. III, below. For financial implications, see annex I.

4/ See report, chap. III, paras. 102, 104 and 111, and section C.

4. Also urges Member States to contribute or increase their contributions to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control in order to ensure success of the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy and to give firm impetus to the world community's battle against international drug traffickers and against drug abuse;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution and related documents to all Member States, non-member States parties to the international drug control treaties, and all relevant international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

IV

Duration and periodicity of sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs 5/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1156 (XLI) of 5 August 1966 and 1768 (LIV) of 18 May 1973, in which it decided that its subsidiary and expert or advisory bodies would meet biennially, unless it should decide otherwise,

Deeply concerned that drug abuse continues to spread in many parts of the world, requiring continuous and ever increasing vigilance on the part of the world community,

Aware that the workload of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs - as determined by the Council in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and by the international drug control treaties - has increased considerably over the years with the adoption by the General Assembly and the Council of numerous additional resolutions relating to drug control,

Recognizing that the international drug control treaties as well as General Assembly and Council resolutions require the Commission to consider annually a number of items, including the implementation of the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy and the five-year programme of action on which it has to report annually to the General Assembly, the annual report of the International Narcotics Control Board, and policy guidelines for the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control,

Taking account of the fact that the Secretary-General is obliged to report annually to the General Assembly, under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 34/177 on international co-operation in drug abuse control,

Bearing in mind that patterns in abuse and illicit drug traffic change rapidly, necessitating constant world-wide review of the situation by the Commission,

Considering that the need for yearly sessions of the Commission has been established by the fact that, since its inception in 1946, the Commission has met annually, with the exception of 1967 and 1972, in which years the dates of

5/ See chap. III, below. See annex I for financial implications.

the sessions were changed from the end of the previous year to the beginning of the following one (the total number of sessions to date being 36 - 29 regular and 7 special),

Bearing in mind that, while regular and special sessions involve approximately the same financial outlay, regular annual sessions can be more cost-effective as they permit more careful advance planning,

Conscious that the present system of regular sessions interspaced with special sessions (the latter of sometimes shorter duration) places serious constraints on the Commission in carrying out its policy-making functions under the international drug control treaties and in response to directives from the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Desiring that the Commission should be in a better position to fulfil its statutory functions, under the treaties,

Decides that henceforth the Commission on Narcotic Drugs shall meet annually in a regular session of not less than eight working days.

V

International Year against Drug Abuse 6/

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1981 (E/INCB/56),

Noting with deep concern the Board's conclusion that, despite the international community's efforts to date, drug abuse throughout most of the world has not decreased - on the contrary, the situation has continued to deteriorate, afflicting more and more countries, both developing and developed, victimizing adolescents and even children, and leading to the availability of drugs of ever greater potency capable of being consumed in more hazardous ways,

Noting also the Board's call for the stimulation of action at all levels, from international to local, involving families, communities, neighbourhoods, schools, religious institutions, and public, private and voluntary associations and organizations,

Convinced that the holding within the near future of an International Year against Drug Abuse could serve as a catalyst for renewed world-wide awareness of the serious drug situation in many parts of the world and for stimulating the wide range of national and international activities required in the battle against drug abuse and illicit traffic,

Bearing in mind its resolution 1980/67 which established guidelines for future international years,

6/ See chap. III, below.

1. Invites all Governments to submit, through the Secretary-General their comments on the proposed proclamation of an International Year against Drug Abuse to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for consideration at its next regular session;
2. Invites the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to transmit to the Council's first regular session in 1983 an analysis of these comments, together with a recommendation thereon, in order that an appropriate recommendation may be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session;
3. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Governments for consideration and action as appropriate.

VI

Co-operation with the International Narcotics Control Board
concerning Schedule II of the 1971 Convention
on Psychotropic Substances 7/

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting with deep concern the increasing diversion from international commerce of psychotropic substances controlled under Schedule II of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, notably, amphetamine, methamphetamine and methaqualone,

Commending the International Narcotics Control Board for the manner in which it is actively carrying out its mandate under the Convention with a view to promoting effective international control,

Bearing in mind the observations made by the Board in its 1981 annual report concerning the international situation and the need for action by Governments,

Recalling the need for Governments to apply strictly to Schedule II substances the export and import authorization system provided for in article 12(1) of the 1971 Convention,

1. Invites the Board to continue to monitor international trade in Schedule II substances, to maintain dialogues with Governments, and to exercise its good offices with a view to facilitating the earliest possible identification of instances of significant diversion and the prompt adoption of measures to curtail such diversion;
2. Invites Governments to co-operate with the Board and provide it promptly with the information it requests in order to enable it effectively to monitor international trade and identify diversion of Schedule II substances;
3. Also invites Governments of importing countries to send to Governments of exporting countries copies of import certificates, as was suggested by the Board in its report for 1981 (E/INCB/56, para. 168);

7/ See chap. V, below.

4. Appeals to manufacturing/exporting countries to refrain from exporting Schedule II substances in the event the Board advises them that a suspicious pattern exists, until further inquiries establish the legitimacy of the purposes for which the shipment is intended;

5. Reminds Governments of the need, in pursuance of article 12, paragraph 3, subparagraph (a) of the 1971 Convention, to exercise in free ports and zones the same supervision and control of Schedule II substances as is applied in other parts of their territories;

6. Calls attention to the possibility of Governments availing themselves of the protection against the import of unwanted substances afforded by article 13 and to the need to implement the necessary measures to ensure that no exports of such substances to the prohibiting countries take place;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to all Governments for urgent consideration and action as appropriate.

VII

Demand and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs 8/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1979/8 of 9 May 1979, 1980/20 of 30 April 1980, 1981/8 of 6 May 1981, and resolution 1 (XXIX) entitled "Strategy and policies for drug control", of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Taking note of the supplement to the report of the International Narcotics Control Board entitled "Demand and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs" (E/INCB/52/Supp.) and of the recommendations contained therein,

Reaffirming that a world-wide balance is essential between the supply of opiate raw materials and the demand for opiates for medical and scientific purposes,

Noting with satisfaction that a number of major importing, manufacturing and consuming countries have responded positively to the above-mentioned resolutions,

Concerned that large stocks of opiate raw materials held by the traditional supplier countries constitute a heavy financial and other burden for them,

1. Urges the Governments of those countries that have not already done so to take effective steps to implement the above-mentioned resolutions, and also to consider taking other steps, including those recommended by the Board, in order to achieve a world-wide balance between demand and supply of opiates for medical and scientific purposes;

2. Appeals to Governments which have not cultivated Papaver bracteatum to consider possibilities for refraining from embarking on the commercial cultivation of Papaver bracteatum;

8/ See chap. V, below.

3. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to all Governments, inviting them to bring it to the attention of their competent authorities.

B. Other matters requiring action by the
Economic and Social Council

3. At its 916th and 917th meetings, on 4 and 5 February 1982, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs discussed the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1981. The attention of the Council is drawn to the Commission's comments, contained in chapter V of the present report. In that connection, the Commission recommended to the Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

I

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board 9/

At its plenary meeting, on 1982, the Council took note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1981.

4. At its 920th meeting, on 8 February 1982, the Commission adopted by consensus the report on its seventh special session, and requested the secretariat to submit the following draft decision to the Council for adoption:

II

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

At its plenary meeting, on 1982, the Council took note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its seventh special session.

9/ See chap. V, below.