GA Res. 39/143. International campaign against traffic in drugs

The General Assembly,


Recalling also its resolutions 36/132 of 14 December 1981 and 38/93 of 16 December 1983, in which it specifically acknowledged the economic and technical constraints impeding many developing countries from combating the illegal production of and illicit traffic in drugs and drug abuse,

Noting the concern expressed by the Secretary-General in his report on the work of the Organization, 2/ in which he recognized the need for greater efforts to reduce the traffic in and illicit use of drugs,

Taking note of the Quito Declaration against Traffic in Narcotic Drugs of 11 August 1984 3/ and the New York Declaration against Drug Trafficking and the Illicit Use of Drugs of 1 October 1984 4/ signed by a number of Latin American countries, in which drug trafficking was considered to be a crime against humanity and integrated, effective and urgent regional and international action was demanded, to be supported by the resources necessary for successfully overcoming the problem,

Considering the activities of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board,

Appreciating the action being taken by the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control in providing financial resources and support for integrated development programmes, including the replacement of illicit crops in affected areas,

Reaffirming the need to improve and maintain regional and interregional co-operation and co-ordination, particularly in law enforcement, in order to eliminate drug trafficking and drug abuse, and noting the growing interest in regional and interregional co-ordination,

Concerned that, despite the significant national efforts deployed for this purpose, including those of a number of Latin American and Caribbean and Asian countries, the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances has increased noticeably,

Aware of the serious impact on the life and health of peoples and on the stability of democratic institutions resulting from the illicit production, marketing, distribution and use of drugs,
Recognizing that, to root out this evil, integrated action is required for simultaneously reducing and controlling illicit demand, production, distribution and marketing,

Aware that action to eliminate the illegal cultivation of and traffic in drugs must be accompanied by economic and social development programmes for the affected areas,

Bearing in mind the desirability of programming activities for replacing illegal crops in such a manner as to conserve the environment and improve the quality of life and the social sectors concerned,

Recognizing the dilemma of transit States which are seriously affected, both domestically and internationally, by drug trafficking, stimulated by demand for and production and use of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances in other countries,

Aware of the need to mobilize a co-ordinated strategy at the national, regional and international levels, which would cover countries with illegal users and producers and countries used for transit in the world-wide distribution and marketing circuit, in order to eliminate drug trafficking and drug abuse,

Recognizing the importance of ratifying and acceding to the international drug control treaties,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 5/

2. Reiterates that urgent attention and highest priority should be given to the struggle against the illicit production of, demand for, use of and traffic in drugs;

3. Calls upon Member States that have not yet done so to ratify the international drug control treaties and, in the meantime, to make serious efforts to comply with the provisions thereof;

4. Reiterates the importance of integrated action, co-ordinated at the regional and international levels, and, for this purpose, requests the Secretary-General and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to step up efforts and initiatives designed to establish, on a continuing basis, co-ordinating machinery for law enforcement in regions where this does not yet exist;

5. Recommends that the highest priority be given to the preparation of specific technical and economic co-operation programmes for the countries most affected by the illicit production of and traffic in drugs and drug abuse;

6. Also recommends that appropriate priority be given to the adoption of measures designed to solve the specific problems of transit States through joint regional and interregional efforts;
7. Urges Member States with available resources and experience to increase their contributions for combating the illegal production of and illicit traffic in drugs and drug abuse, in particular in the countries most affected and where the problem is most serious;

8. Encourages Member States to contribute or to continue contributing to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control so as to enable it to increase its support of drug abuse control programmes;

9. Requests the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, to consider the legal, institutional and social elements relevant to all aspects of combating drug trafficking, including the possibility of convening a specialized conference;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that appropriate steps are taken to implement paragraph 5(c) of resolution 37/198 and that a meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies is convened in 1986;

11. Also requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for holding, within the framework of advisory services, interregional seminars to study the experience gained by the United Nations system, in particular by the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, and by Member States in integrated rural development programmes for replacing illegal crops;

12. Calls upon the specialized agencies and all other relevant bodies of the United Nations system to participate actively in the implementation of the present resolution;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "International campaign against traffic in drugs".

101st plenary meeting
14 December 1984


5/ A/39/194.