

## Economic and Social Council

Distr.  
GENERALE/RES/1988/8  
13th Plenary Meeting  
25 May 1988**1988/8. Preparation of an international convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 39/141 of 14 December 1984, in which the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was requested to initiate, as a matter of priority, the preparation of a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolutions 33/168 of 20 December 1978, 35/195 of 15 December 1980, 36/132 of 14 December 1981, 37/198 of 18 December 1982, 38/93 and 38/122 of 16 December 1983, 39/143 of 14 December 1984, 40/120, 40/121 and 40/122 of 13 December 1985, 41/125, 41/126 and 41/127 of 4 December 1986 and other relevant resolutions,

*Recalling further* that the Commission, pursuant to resolution 1 (S-IX) of 14 February 1986,<sup>10/</sup> considered an initial draft convention, which included fourteen articles, and the comments of Governments thereon,<sup>11/</sup> at its thirty-second session, held from 2 to 11 February 1987,

*Considering* that, as provided for in Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/27 of 26 May 1987, the open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Group met twice in 1987 to review the working document which consolidated the draft convention and, wherever possible, to reach agreement on the articles of the convention, and prepared revised working documents,

*Considering also* that the General Assembly, in its resolution 42/111 of 7 December 1987, requested the Secretary-General to consider convening a further meeting of the Intergovernmental Expert Group for a period of two weeks immediately prior to the tenth special session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in order to continue revision of the working paper on the draft convention, and also requested the Commission to consider and, if possible, approve the draft convention at its tenth special session and to prepare recommendations on measures to be taken to conclude the preparation of the convention, including the possibility of convening a plenipotentiary conference in 1988 for its adoption,

*Recalling* the Declaration of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, in which the Conference called for the urgent but careful preparation and finalization of the draft convention to ensure its entry into force at the earliest possible date,<sup>12/</sup>

*Having received* the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its tenth special session,<sup>13/</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the Quito Declaration against Traffic in Narcotic Drugs of 11 August 1984,<sup>14/</sup> the New York Declaration against Drug Trafficking and the Illicit Use of Drugs of 1 October 1984<sup>15/</sup> and the Lima Declaration of 29 July 1985,<sup>16/</sup> in which profound alarm was expressed at the seriousness of the problem,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the excellent preparation of the working documents on the draft convention, which have been circulated to States for consideration at the meetings of the Intergovernmental Expert Group, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1987/27;
2. *Expresses its thanks* to States that have submitted their comments on the working documents on the draft convention or proposals for textual changes thereto;
3. *Expresses its thanks* to the Intergovernmental Expert Group for the work accomplished during its meetings held from 29 June to 10 July 1987, from 5 to 16 October 1987 and from 25 January to 5 February 1988;<sup>17/</sup>
4. *Reminds* States of the importance and urgency of proceeding with the work on the preparation of the draft convention in the most expeditious manner, with a view to ensuring that the convention is effective, widely acceptable and enters into force at the earliest possible time;
5. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its tenth special session, annex II to which contains texts of draft articles for the proposed convention;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit by 15 March 1988 for consideration the relevant parts of the report of the Commission, with any relevant annexes and such background documentation considered pertinent, to all States, the specialized agencies, the International Narcotics Control Board and the International Criminal Police Organization and other interested intergovernmental organizations;
7. *Decides* to convene, in accordance with Article 62, paragraph 4, of the Charter of the United Nations and within the provisions of General Assembly resolution 366 (IV) of 3 December 1949, a conference of plenipotentiaries for the adoption of a convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
8. *Also decides* to convene, within available resources, a review group for the conference to meet for a period of up to two weeks, preferably at Vienna, not later than mid-June 1988, the proceedings of which shall be governed, *mutatis mutandis*, by the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council;
9. *Instructs* the review group:

(a) To review the texts of draft articles 1 to 6 with a view to submitting them to the plenipotentiary conference; in addition, the group may review the

remaining draft articles and related texts with a view to making those changes that may be necessary to achieve overall consistency in the text of the draft convention to be submitted to the plenipotentiary conference;

(b) To consider organizational matters relating to the conference and the draft provisional rules of procedure to be prepared by the Secretary-General;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To arrange for the conference to be held in 1988, not sooner than four months after the meeting of the review group; [18/](#)

(b) To invite to participate in the conference and the meeting of the review group:

(i) All States;

(ii) Specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations interested in the matter, with the same rights as they have at sessions of the Economic and Social Council;

(iii) The International Narcotics Control Board, with the same rights as it has at sessions of the Economic and Social Council;

(c) To transmit, immediately after the meeting of the review group, the text of the draft convention and related documents to all States and other interested parties;

(d) To prepare provisional rules of procedure for the conference;

(e) To provide summary records of the meetings of the conference and its committees.

*13th plenary meeting  
25 May 1988*

[10/](#) See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1986, Supplement No. 3 (E/1986/23)*, chap. X, sect. A.

[11/](#) E/CN.7/1987/2 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1-3 and Add.2 and Add.2/Corr.1.

[12/](#) *Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17-26 June 1987* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. B., para. 3.

[13/](#) *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1988, Supplement No. 3 (E/1988/13)*.

[14/](#) A/39/407, annex.

[15/](#) A/39/551 and Corr.1 and 2, annex.

[16/](#) A/40/544, annex.

[17/](#) See E/CN.7/1988/2 (Part II) and Corr.2 and Add.1 and E/CN.7/1988/2 (Part IV) and Corr.2 and Add.1.

[18/](#) In its decision 1988/120, the Council decided to hold the conference at Vienna from 25 November to 20 December 1988.

---