

Economic and Social Council

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13th Plenary Meeting
25 May 1988**1988/13. Strengthening of co-operation and co-ordination in international drug control**

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the implementation of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,^{23/} and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,^{24/} forms the basis for national and international drug control,

Aware that the adherence of as many States as possible to the existing international drug control treaties is essential to achieving regional and international co-operation and co-ordination in reducing illicit demand for drugs, in suppressing illicit trafficking, in improving training, administrative practices and data collection, and in undertaking joint activities,

1. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to accede to the existing international drug control treaties;
2. *Also urges* parties to those treaties to implement the provisions thereof;
3. *Invites* Governments to establish appropriate national mechanisms for the adequate co-ordination of activities and co-operation between agencies engaged in drug abuse prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, the control of the supply of illicit drugs and the suppression of illicit trafficking;
4. *Recommends* that Governments, where they have not already done so, seek to establish at the regional level an organizational structure to stimulate, where appropriate, common activities and training seminars and workshops on drug control, to be held at regular intervals, for the following purposes:
 - (a) To undertake research and surveys to assess the nature and extent of drug abuse;
 - (b) To provide training in drug law enforcement and improve administrative practices;
 - (c) To introduce programmes to prevent drug abuse at the national and regional levels, having due regard to the prevailing socio-cultural and socio-economic conditions;
 - (d) To exchange experiences and consult on innovative policies, measures or experiments regarding the reduction of drug supply and demand;
 - (e) To make use of any expert knowledge and other resources in the region and solicit expertise from other regions, where appropriate;
5. *Recommends* that Governments and international organizations, as appropriate, consider the following activities in greater detail, with a view to implementing them:
 - (a) Studies of patterns of illicit consumption, with a view to bringing about greater awareness of the problem and sharing of information and providing policy guidance on effective countermeasures;
 - (b) The development of public education programmes, including the use of kits, publications and audio-visual equipment, to reduce the demand for illicit drugs in specific target groups and to make the general population aware of the hazards of drug abuse;
 - (c) Programmes in prevention, law enforcement and administrative practices required by the international drug control treaties, including the production and dissemination of manuals and other training materials, where appropriate, as well as programme evaluation;
 - (d) The detection and identification of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and their origins, as well as precursors and essential chemicals that could be diverted to illicit use, and the provision of equipment for these purposes;
 - (e) The constitution of *ad hoc* groups to co-ordinate, on a multilateral basis and among police forces, strategies to identify and immobilize drug trafficking organizations;
 - (f) The development of a methodology for the collection and analysis of data on illicit trafficking;
 - (g) The establishment of mechanisms for the speedy and secure exchange of information between drug law enforcement authorities locally, nationally and across common borders, and the provision of appropriate communications equipment where needed;
 - (h) The improvement of co-ordination among all agencies concerned with regard to the scope, content and scheduling of seminars and other training programmes, in order to enhance their effectiveness;
6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Division of Narcotic Drugs of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, as well as the International Criminal Police Organization and the Customs Co-Operation

Council, to support, whenever possible, the efforts and initiatives undertaken by Governments as recommended in the present resolution;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Governments, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations concerned for consideration and implementation, as appropriate.

*13th plenary meeting
25 May 1988*

23/ See United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

24/ *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.
