

CHAPTER I

MATTERS REQUIRING ACTION BY THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

A. Draft resolutions

1. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Establishment of a meeting of heads of national
drug law enforcement agencies, Europe*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 43/122, section I, of 8 December 1988, in which the Assembly requested that consideration should be given to the convening of regional meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies in regions where they had not been held,

Aware that the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/142 of 15 December 1989, took note with satisfaction of the results of the Second Interregional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, held at Vienna from 11 to 15 September 1989,

Aware of the recommendation of the Interregional Meeting that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should take the necessary steps to establish a meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Europe, to further promote technical regional co-operation,

Noting that the General Assembly, in its resolution 43/122, section I, noted with satisfaction the valuable work of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, in particular, the Second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held at Dakar from 18 to 22 April 1988, the Second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, held at Lima from 12 to 16 September 1988, and the Fourteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, held at Bangkok from 3 to 7 October 1988,

Recognizing the need to convene a meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Europe, taking into account the existing co-operation between European countries,

* See paragraph 129 and annex I below.

1. Requests the Economic and Social Council to establish meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies of States of the European region, along the lines and with the same status of a subsidiary organ of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies that have already been established for other regions;

2. Invites the Governments of the States of the European region and other interested Governments to participate in those meetings;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to adopt the measures needed, and allocate the financial resources required, so that the Division of Narcotic Drugs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the Governments of the region and with interested agencies, may convene such meetings.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs*

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, 1982/12 of 30 April 1982, 1983/3 of 24 May 1983, 1984/21 of 24 May 1984, 1985/16 of 28 May 1985, 1986/9 of 21 May 1986, 1987/31 of 26 May 1987, 1988/10 of 25 May 1988 and 1989/15 of 22 May 1989,

Re-emphasizing that achieving a balance between the licit supply of opiates and the legitimate demand for opiates for medical and scientific purposes constitutes an important aspect of the international strategy and policy of drug abuse control and that resolving the problem of excess stocks of opiate raw materials is an essential step in that direction,

Noting the fundamental need for international co-operation and solidarity in overcoming the problem of excess stocks, which imposes heavy financial and other burdens on the traditional supplier countries,

Having considered the special report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1989, entitled "The demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs", 1/ and the recommendations contained therein,

1. Urges all Governments to give serious consideration to ways to bring about rapid improvement in solving the problem of excess stocks of opiate raw materials held by the traditional supplier countries;

* See paragraph 74 below.

2. Commends the International Narcotics Control Board for its report on the demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs, which, inter alia, highlights the impediments to the medical availability of opiates, which make it difficult to make a realistic assessment of the full licit medical needs for opiates;

3. Requests the International Narcotics Control Board to accord priority to monitoring the implementation of the recommendations contained in its aforesaid special report for 1989;

4. Requests the World Health Organization to develop guidelines on the rational use of opiates and on the treatment of conditions for which opiates may be prescribed, with a view to assisting Governments in evolving their national policy in this regard;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to all Governments for due consideration and implementation.

1/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.89.XI.5.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Working languages of the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1988/14 of 25 May 1988 and its decision 1989/120 of 22 May 1989, by which it authorized the enlargement of the membership of the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East,

Noting that, of a total membership of fourteen States, eight, namely Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen, have Arabic as their official language,

1. Decides that the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East shall use both English and Arabic as its working languages for future sessions;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to adopt the necessary measures and provide the financial resources required for the implementation of this resolution.

*See paragraph 130 and annex II below.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Reduction of demand and prevention of drug consumption among young persons in the Near and Middle East*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 43/121 of 8 December 1988 on the use of children in the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and rehabilitation of drug-addicted minors, in which the General Assembly calls for, inter alia, the adoption of various urgent measures and national and international programmes to protect children from the illicit consumption of drugs and from involvement in illicit production and distribution,

Bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, and other relevant international normative pronouncements concerning protection of the rights and well-being of young persons,

1. Requests the Division of Narcotic Drugs, as a matter of priority, to devise, within such regular or extrabudgetary resources as may become available, comprehensive policies, programmes and strategies to prevent and reduce the abuse of drugs by children;
2. Further requests the Division of Narcotic Drugs to design model programmes and manuals for prevention of drug abuse among children and adolescents in the Near and Middle East;
3. Invites interested Member States to provide financial support and relevant organizations to collaborate closely with the Division of Narcotic Drugs in this activity.

B. Draft decisions

2. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

* See paragraph 130 below.

DRAFT DECISION I

Approval of the application by Qatar and the Syrian Arab Republic for membership in the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East*

At its ... plenary meeting, on ... 1990, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of the report of the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East on its twenty-fifth session and the relevant part of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its eleventh special session, decided to approve the application by Qatar and the Syrian Arab Republic for membership in the Sub-Commission.

DRAFT DECISION II

Approval of the application by Bahrain for membership in the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East*

At its ... plenary meeting, on ... 1990, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of the report of the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East on its twenty-sixth session and the relevant part of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its eleventh special session, decided to approve the application by Bahrain for membership in the Sub-Commission.

CHAPTER II

SEVENTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3. At its 1036th and 1037th meetings, on 30 January 1989, the Commission considered agenda sub-item 9 (a). The Commission had before it a note by the Secretariat (E/CN.7/1990/15) on matters arising from the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly that were of particular relevance to the eleventh special session, such as the seventeenth special session of the General Assembly. It also had before it the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session concerning international action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

* See paragraph 131 and annex II below.

4. In its resolution 44/16 of 1 November 1989, the Assembly decided to convene a special session, at a high political level, to consider as a matter of urgency the question of international co-operation against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs, with a view to expanding the scope and increasing the effectiveness of such co-operation. In its decision 44/410 of 14 November 1989, the Assembly requested the Commission at its eleventh special session to consider the question of the enhancement of the role of the United Nations in the fight against illicit drugs and to formulate its views thereon for the benefit of the work of the Assembly at its special session, taking into account all relevant resolutions and decisions of the Assembly at its forty-fourth session; in that decision, the Assembly also invited the Commission to transmit to the Assembly at its special session any views on matters pertaining to that session. In its resolution 44/140 of 15 December 1989, the Assembly encouraged the Commission to begin consideration of measures that could be recommended to Governments for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1/ adopted in 1988. In that resolution, the Assembly also invited the Commission to identify suitable measures to be taken prior to the entry into force of that Convention.

5. All those who spoke on sub-item 9 (a) pointed to the deteriorating situation regarding drug abuse and the devastating effect of that phenomenon on the lives of individuals, their families and society. Drug trafficking and related criminal activities had reached an alarming scale, to the point of destabilizing economies, adversely affecting the development of many countries and threatening the stability, national security and sovereignty of States. It was emphasized that measures commensurate with the problems were required to counter the new dimensions of drug abuse and illicit traffic at the national and international levels. Several speakers paid tribute to the determination of the Government of Colombia in countering the threat posed by illicit drug trafficking.

6. Several speakers expressed the view that the primary responsibility for dealing with drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking rested with each individual Government, which had to take the necessary legislative measures and ensure their effective implementation. That was considered a prerequisite to countering the threat of drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking at the national and international levels. Several speakers pointed to the resolve of their Governments to meet that prerequisite and to the measures taken by them to prevent their countries from becoming drug-consuming countries or transit States. Measures to co-ordinate the drug control programmes of the 12 member States of the European Economic Community (EEC) were brought to the attention of the Commission.

7. Several speakers mentioned the bilateral agreements and other arrangements entered into by their Governments with a view to co-ordinating bilateral and multilateral action against the illicit traffic. The view was expressed that the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session should encourage countries to establish links between institutions and agencies engaged in the fight against illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse in order to facilitate rapid and direct co-operation between them.

8. Several speakers emphasized that, in order to be successful, action at the national level must be supported and complemented by action at the regional and international levels. The important results achieved by the

United Nations over the last 40 years were highlighted. The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, 2/ the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, 3/ and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971, 4/ together with the 1988 Convention, constituted a comprehensive system of international drug control and a workable framework for international co-operation against illicit drug trafficking. In addition to those legal instruments, the courses of action recommended for implementation at the national, regional and international levels in the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control 5/ represented a significant contribution to the fight against drug abuse and the suppression of illicit drug trafficking. It was emphasized that in considering ways to increase the global efforts to face the growing threat posed by drug abuse and illicit trafficking, the achievements of the past and the experience gained from implementing the drug control treaties should serve as a framework for formulating a more effective course of action to be adopted at the seventeenth special session. Due consideration should be given to the approach and activities contained in the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline.

9. One representative suggested that the group of experts to assist the Secretary-General in undertaking a study on the economic and social consequences of illicit traffic in drugs, pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 44/142 of 15 December 1989, should also critically review the functioning of the current United Nations drug control structures and of the treaty provisions that established them. Some speakers emphasized the importance of fully implementing the provisions of the existing drug control treaties and the early entry into force of the 1988 Convention as a prerequisite for any success in international drug control. The seventeenth special session would provide an opportunity to highlight the importance of compliance with, and effective implementation of, the international drug control treaties and programmes on which agreement had been reached.

10. Several speakers indicated that the Commission and the United Nations drug control units had a central role to play in the outcome of the seventeenth special session. The Commission was expected to give meaningful and practical guidance to the work of the seventeenth special session. Several speakers emphasized the necessity of practical objectives and programmes rather than political declarations. The special session would also provide the international community with another opportunity to tackle the problem of drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking as a whole at the international level by taking practical action and measures to cover areas where existing international co-operation was deficient, as well as areas where new measures and methods were required to meet the new dimension of the problem. The special session would also provide an opportunity for the international community to reaffirm its commitment to existing mandates and to strengthen the role of the United Nations by adopting additional mandates, together with the commensurate resources to implement them. In addition, the international community would have a chance to ascertain which of the programmes and mandates should be given higher priority.

11. Several speakers gave their views on the principles and steps that should be taken into consideration by the Commission in formulating recommendations and proposals for inclusion in the global programme of action against narcotic drugs to be adopted by the General Assembly at its special session. It was stressed that the global programme of action should have concrete,

comprehensive and long-term objectives. All agencies concerned should be involved in its formulation. The priorities to be established should be balanced and realistic. The global programme of action should specify a clear set of achievable goals and identify the resources for their implementation within a given time-frame. It should give equal consideration to issues involving both illicit supply and demand, along the lines of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline. It should also place particular emphasis on policies to curb the rising illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by intensified preventive and other measures, including public information, education, treatment and rehabilitation. Furthermore, it should provide the structures and processes for the implementation of those policies. It was also stressed that the specific programmes to be developed within the framework of the global programme of action should be evaluated periodically by impartial experts.

12. Referring to the areas to be considered for inclusion in the global programme of action that were stipulated in paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 44/141 of 15 December 1989, one representative expressed his reservation with regard to subparagraphs 5 (h), (i) and (j). In his view, each State should have the right to maintain control over its training programmes and the allocation of resources to them. Moreover, each State pledging experienced narcotics agents and experts to a reserve pool should retain control over when and how its narcotics agents and experts were utilized, should such a reserve pool be established. Finally, he said that the establishment of a facility to gather and collate information on the financial flow from drug-related funds would lead to duplication of efforts while neglecting legitimate privacy concerns. Instead, the proposal should be reshaped to encourage further bilateral and multilateral exchanges of such information. The United Nations could play an important role in facilitating such exchanges by serving as a repository of information on laws and regulations relating to money laundering and the forfeiture of assets and in encouraging and documenting compliance with article 5 of the 1988 Convention, concerning the tracing, freezing and forfeiture of proceeds derived from illicit drug trafficking.

13. Several speakers emphasized that it was important for the global programme of action to place equal emphasis on the suppression of illicit traffic and on measures aimed at demand reduction, treatment and rehabilitation, as recommended in the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline. Several speakers emphasized the importance that their Governments attached to programmes for reducing illicit demand through preventive action, treatment and rehabilitation, as a necessary complement to programmes for reducing illicit supply through law enforcement. While noting the importance of adopting a balanced approach, some speakers indicated that emphasis on demand reduction should not, in the long run, overshadow the supply and trafficking aspects of the drug problem.

14. Some speakers considered that measures to reduce the demand for illicit drugs were of key importance and should be considered an area of priority. Several others indicated that the World Ministerial Summit to Reduce the Demand for Drugs and to Combat the Cocaine Threat, to be held in London from 9 to 11 April 1990, would give further impetus to increasing the international commitment to demand reduction. One speaker proposed that the conclusions of the World Ministerial Summit should be taken into consideration with a view to integrating them into the global programme of action against narcotic drugs.

One observer proposed the elaboration of an international convention on the reduction of demand for illicit narcotic drugs and outlined elements for the draft convention.

15. Referring to the increase in drug abuse and illicit traffic in spite of drug demand reduction programmes and effective law enforcement action, several speakers said that the public, particularly young people, should be made more aware of the serious damage that drug abuse caused to the health of individuals. Several others expressed the view that the media should convey the detrimental effects of drug abuse on individuals, their families and society. The view was expressed that epidemiological studies should be undertaken that would provide a critical assessment of the social roots of drug abuse and addiction, with a view to finding effective remedies for use in prevention and rehabilitation programmes.

16. Some speakers commented on the dangerous implications of recent arguments in favour of legalizing the sale of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. It was pointed out that such a development would go against the objectives of international drug control and would only serve to enrich traffickers.

17. Several speakers emphasized that it was important for the United Nations to develop and implement programmes to reduce and eradicate the supply of illicit drugs. Reference was made to special measures adopted in individual countries to curb the illicit supply of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Some speakers informed the meeting of sanctions, such as the confiscation of land and property, imposed on farmers involved in the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants. Several speakers expressed the view that more resources should be invested in comprehensive programmes for rural development, including programmes aimed at encouraging alternative markets for substituted crops.

18. One speaker indicated that, following the adoption and application of stringent penal measures, no illicit poppy cultivation or heroin laboratory had been detected in his country. He reiterated the proposal of his Government regarding the urgent need to identify the scale and location of illicit poppy cultivation in the Near and Middle East with a view to adopting appropriate countermeasures. Another speaker expressed his support for the detection of illicit cultivation by remote sensing or aerial surveys aimed at ascertaining the extent of illicit cultivation so that appropriate countermeasures could be adopted.

19. Most speakers referred to the collective responsibility of both drug-producing and drug-consuming countries in dealing with the problem of drug abuse and illicit traffic. The responsibility for drug-consuming countries, particularly the developed countries, to adopt and apply measures to contain and reduce the illicit demand for drugs was stressed by several speakers. It was argued that developed countries also had a responsibility to control the illicit trade of precursors and the delivery of weapons to drug traffickers. One speaker proposed convening a conference of Governments and businesses that produce and distribute chemical products in order to co-ordinate the control of precursors. In the opinion of several other speakers, actions to reduce illicit demand must be accompanied by parallel efforts on the part of drug-producing countries to reduce illicit cultivation and trafficking.

20. Several speakers stated that drug-producing countries, which were often burdened with debt-servicing problems, should be provided with resources and support to enable them to eliminate illicit drug production, trafficking and abuse. Noting that narcotic plants were being illicitly cultivated in poverty-stricken areas of some developing countries, they emphasized that the economic situation of such areas and countries should be improved and that adequate resources should be provided in order to increase the standard of living of farmers in those areas and countries. The view was expressed that in order for crop substitution programmes to be successful, commodity markets should be created so that farmers would be provided with economic incentives that would induce them to refrain from cultivating illicit narcotic plants.

21. Several speakers emphasized that assistance in crop substitution programmes should be provided free of political constraints and with due respect for national sovereignty. One speaker expressed the view that drug trafficking should not serve as an excuse for military intervention or pressure.

22. Some speakers said that several developing countries had been diverting an important share of their resources to implement measures to interdict transit traffic or curb illicit production or cultivation within their borders to the detriment of their economies and of urgently needed national development programmes. They stated that the United Nations drug control programmes should give priority to providing the necessary resources and assistance to such States. One representative expressed the view that assistance should also be provided to traditional supplier countries of opiate raw materials for medical purposes, with a view to resolving the burden of excess stocks of opiate raw materials.

23. Some speakers referred to fundamental socio-political changes in their countries that had brought their citizens in contact with illicit drugs. Mention was made of the need to provide assistance to States faced with new problems related to drug abuse and illicit traffic as a result of those changes.

24. Several speakers stated that special attention should be given to the financial aspects of illicit drug trafficking in order to counter the economic power of drug traffickers. Governments should, in particular, adopt adequate measures to prevent the banking system and the international financial system from being used to launder money derived from illicit drug trafficking. To the extent possible, they should ensure that their economies do not benefit from illicit drug trafficking. Governments that had not already done so should consider the possibility of introducing domestic legislation and negotiating bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to trace, freeze and confiscate the proceeds of illicit drug trafficking more effectively, in compliance with article 5 of the 1988 Convention. Mention was made of the work undertaken by the Financial Action Task Force established following the meeting of Heads of State and Government held in Paris in July 1989, which brought together finance officials from 15 countries, and, in particular, of its forthcoming recommendations for future action to combat money laundering.

25. Some speakers commended the United Nations for its activities in the field of drug law enforcement, particularly the development of the system of meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, and emphasized the need to strengthen its role in law enforcement-related assistance, such as

training, the provision of equipment and intelligence-gathering. One speaker expressed support for the establishment, under the aegis of the United Nations, of a comprehensive drug intelligence system accessible to all countries. Such a system was necessary in order to facilitate the adoption of effective measures against illicit traffic. One representative suggested that a review of diverse international law enforcement activities should be undertaken, with a view to considering the establishment of a mechanism for co-ordination.

26. Several speakers informed the Commission of recent legislative measures adopted by their Governments that would enable them to ratify or accede to the 1988 Convention in 1990. Those measures would also permit the provisional application of some of the provisions of the Convention pending its entry into force. Particular reference was made to the adoption of legislative provisions encompassing the offences covered in the 1988 Convention with a view to providing more stringent penalties as an effective deterrent to drug trafficking. Some speakers indicated that their Governments were reviewing their national drug control strategies in order to determine what other stringent measures could be taken to curtail the supply of and reduce the demand for illicit drugs. One representative indicated that, under recently adopted legislation in his country, drug trafficking offences had been made non-bailable.

27. Several speakers stated that, in adopting a global programme of action, the General Assembly, at its special session, should consider the links between illicit drug trafficking and international terrorism, subversive activities and organized crime, which undermined the legitimate economy and threatened the stability and security of Governments.

28. One representative expressed the view that the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session, should take note of the possible establishment of an international criminal court for transnational criminal activities, such as illicit drug trafficking, which was to be considered by the International Law Commission at its next session, as requested by the Assembly in its resolution 44/39 of 4 December 1989. Another representative expressed support for the launching of a United Nations decade against drug abuse and illicit traffic.

29. Some speakers referred to the establishment of new administrative structures or agencies to enhance inter-agency co-ordination at the national level with a view to facilitating the implementation of the provisions of the 1988 Convention. The view was expressed that priority should be given to the implementation of some of the provisions of the 1988 Convention, such as article 5 on confiscation, article 6 on extradition and article 7 on mutual legal assistance, and that they should be highlighted and brought to the attention of the General Assembly at its special session.

30. With reference to General Assembly decision 44/410, all speakers expressed support for enhancing the role of the United Nations in the fight against drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking at the international level. Support was expressed for Assembly resolution 44/141, in which the Secretary-General was requested to select a limited number of experts from developed and developing countries to advise and assist him in order to enhance the efficiency of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control. It was suggested that the experts should conduct an in-depth analysis of the roles, mandates, organization, activities and management practices throughout the

United Nations system, including, in particular, the United Nations drug control units. One representative suggested the possibility of unifying them under a full-time head, as a means of establishing a clearly identifiable and co-ordinated United Nations drug abuse control programme and enhancing the existing programme.

31. Most speakers stated that organizational and structural problems facing the United Nations drug control units should be tackled with a view to strengthening the United Nations drug control programmes. It was emphasized that any restructuring should aim at establishing clear and commonly accepted objectives within the context of effective, well co-ordinated structures and should be allotted the necessary resources, status and influence.

32. The need to enhance co-ordination between the various agencies of the United Nations involved in drug control programmes was stressed by most speakers.

33. Several speakers pointed to the key elements and principles that had to be taken into account in order to enhance the efficiency of United Nations activities in the field of drug abuse control. Of primary importance was the coherence of actions within the United Nations drug control units and the co-ordination of all drug-related activities in the United Nations system. Emphasis was placed on the importance of meeting all the obligations imposed under the international drug control treaties and on the equitable integration of programmes for reducing illicit demand and supply into the United Nations activities. Several speakers stated that the Commission should provide strong support for drug law enforcement activities as an integral part of United Nations programmes. With regard to co-ordination, it was underlined that the exchange of information between the agencies should be streamlined. It was also stressed that an estimate of the resources necessary to carry out new mandates arising from the global programme of action should be provided.

34. Several speakers expressed the view that the lack of financial and human resources within the United Nations drug control units was the main impediment to the fulfilment of their mandates. It was particularly detrimental to developing countries, which were thus deprived of needed technical assistance and expertise, for example, in the field of laboratory techniques. It was considered urgent that increased regular budget resources be made available to the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board and the Division of Narcotic Drugs in order to enable them to carry out fully their programmes of work (including the establishment of regional and subregional drug training laboratories), which had been increased following the adoption of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline in 1987 and the 1988 Convention. Additional mandates emanating from the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session and seventeenth special session would have to be accompanied by commensurate resources for their implementation. Some speakers expressed the view that resources should be re-allocated within the United Nations budget to reflect the priority that Member States attached to drug abuse control programmes.

35. Several speakers expressed strong support for the activities of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNDFAC) and called for increased financial contributions to UNDFAC to enable it to continue providing assistance, particularly to developing countries, in the fight against drug abuse and illicit traffic. Special mention was made of the achievements of UNDFAC in the field of crop substitution and integrated rural development.

One representative expressed the support of his Government for the transmission of UNFDAC working paper 1990/18 to the General Assembly at its special session for consideration under the agenda item dealing with a global programme of action, particularly the elaboration of the master-plan approach. One speaker expressed the view that greater latitude should be left to UNFDAC in the use of allocated funds so that it might set its own priorities and plan its activities free of pressure from donor countries.

36. Several speakers considered that the role of the Commission of Narcotic Drugs as the main policy-making United Nations body on drug control should be enhanced; there was accordingly no need to create a new mechanism. To that effect, it was proposed that the membership of the Commission should be enlarged and that the Commission should hold regular annual sessions. The view was expressed that the Commission should be made responsible for monitoring progress towards full and timely implementation of the global programme of action to be adopted by the General Assembly at its special session.

37. At its 1037th meeting, the Commission decided to establish an ad hoc committee of the whole and entrusted it with the task of elaborating, for consideration in plenary, the views of the Commission on the enhancement of the role of the United Nations in the fight against illicit drugs and on other matters pertaining to the seventeenth special session of the General Assembly. It was decided that F. Cuevas Cancino, one of the Vice-Chairmen, would preside over the work of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

38. The Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole took as a basis for its discussion draft resolutions submitted by the Member States of the European Economic Community (E/CN.7/1990/L.2) and by Lebanon, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, (E/CN.7/1990/L.4), as well as draft amendments to document E/CN.7/1990/L.4 proposed by Colombia (E/CN.7/1990/C/WP.3) and by Pakistan (E/CN.7/1990/C/WP.4). It also had before it proposals sponsored by Canada, Norway, Sweden and the United States of America (E/CN.7/1990/C/WP.1/Rev.1), by Australia (E/CN.7/1990/C/WP.2) and by the Bahamas and Jamaica (E/CN.7/1990/C/WP.5). For the text of these proposals and draft resolutions see annex IV.

39. At its 1041st meeting, the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole reported to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the deliberations of the Committee and on the outcome of its work.

40. The Commission noted that the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole, having had before it the documents mentioned in paragraph 38 above, had, pursuant to its mandates, considered several proposals. Despite its very heavy agenda, no additional time was given to the Commission to consider at its eleventh special session this important item. The Commission, accordingly, took note with regret that due to lack of time it was not in a position to arrive at a consensus on any of the above-mentioned documents. It decided to transmit a statement to the President of the General Assembly concerning the enhancement of the role of the United Nations in the fight against illicit drugs (annex III).

41. At its 1042nd meeting, on 2 February 1990, the Commission adopted a draft decision (E/CN.7/1990/L.5) entitled "Transmission of documents of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control to the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session", sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Canada, Finland, Italy, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. For the text, see chapter X, section B, decision 11 (S-XI).