

Resolution 3 (XXXV)

Illicit drug cultivation and manufacture: a threat to the ecosystem\*

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Bearing in mind that the General Assembly, in the Political Declaration and Global Programme of Action adopted at its seventeenth special session, <sup>1/</sup> has pointed out the importance of establishing effective drug-control programmes, including the assessment and study, by the United Nations Environment Programme, of the effects on the environment of expanding cultivation and manufacture of narcotic drugs, and of methods used for the eradication of illicit production of narcotic drugs,

Considering that large geographical areas of the world are suffering the consequences of the actions of drug traffickers, who, in their search for land for use in the cultivation of illicit crops, are engaging in deforestation and widespread degradation of woodlands and natural reserves, are using herbicides and fungicides with highly toxic effects, and are indiscriminately discharging wastes from chemicals used in drug processing into bodies of water,

Deeply concerned that many indigenous communities that have had their natural habitat in such areas for hundreds or thousands of years are being evicted from their lands, murdered or forced to witness the destruction of their unique culture,

1. Urges the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to convey, in a written communication to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, the importance of analysing the link that exists between illicit drug cultivation and manufacture and environmental damage;

2. Requests the Executive Director to approach the United Nations Environment Programme to ascertain the progress achieved in studying the environmental effects of illicit drug cultivation and manufacture and to report to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session.

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\* See paragraph 33 above.

<sup>1/</sup> General Assembly resolution S-17/2 of 23 February 1990.