

Resolution 8 (XXXIX)

Improvements in the United Nations System-Wide Action
Plan on Drug Abuse Control*

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming the leadership role of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as the main focus for concerted international action for drug abuse control and as the international coordinator of drug-control activities, particularly within the United Nations system,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 50/148 of 21 December 1995 and section V thereof, entitled "Implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control: action by organizations of the United Nations system",

Recalling also Assembly resolution 48/112 of 20 December 1993, which requested the periodic updating of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control, 1/

Recalling its resolution 11 (XXXVIII) of 23 March 1995 on improvements in the System-Wide Action Plan,

Recalling further Assembly resolutions 47/199 of 22 December 1992 and 50/120 of 20 December 1995 concerning coordination of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including the role of resident coordinators,

Recognizing that the complexity of the problem of drug abuse and its interrelationship with socio-economic development call for concerted action by, and close cooperation between, States, the relevant United Nations entities and the international financial institutions,

Reaffirming the need to strengthen the catalytic role of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in engaging United Nations bodies and the international financial institutions in system-wide cooperation and coordination in order to maximize the impact of drug-control activities,

Stressing the central importance of the System-Wide Action Plan as an instrument for ensuring the necessary cooperation and coordination among agencies in drug abuse control, and recognizing the need for a strategy to revitalize the existing System-Wide Action Plan,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme on monitoring of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control and other coordination matters; 2/

2. Expresses its continuing support to the Executive Director for his efforts to pursue joint initiatives with relevant

* See paragraph 151 above.

United Nations entities and with the international financial institutions for the identification of programmes and projects with a potential for inputs by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

3. Notes with satisfaction the approach adopted by the Subcommittee on Drug Control of the Administrative Committee on Coordination in addressing the task of elaborating a revitalized System-Wide Action Plan, as reflected in the initial version of the revised System-Wide Action Plan; 3/

4. Requests the Executive Director to ensure that the work initiated by the Subcommittee on Drug Control is carried forward with as much determination and speed as possible;

5. Emphasizes the potential for further developing inter-agency cooperation in drug control at the global, regional and country levels, and requests the Executive Director to continue his efforts to promote such cooperation as a matter of priority;

6. Notes that steps have been taken to improve coordination at the field level through, inter alia, the establishment, under the guidance of the resident coordinators, of informal inter-agency thematic groups on drug control, a process which should lead to an increase in the number of integrated or joint activities between the Programme and other agencies, and urges continued efforts to improve such coordination;

7. Welcomes the participation of the Programme in the task forces established by the Secretary-General to ensure coordinated follow-up to major international conferences on social and economic issues;

8. Requests the Executive Director to take full advantage of his responsibilities for, and the shared premises of, the Programme and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division of the Secretariat in developing their close cooperation and joint activities;

9. Recommends that the Economic and Social Council, in its consideration of drug control issues in the high-level segment of its substantive session of 1996, should:

(a) Give due attention to questions of coordination, including progress made on the new System-Wide Action Plan;

(b) Endorse the approach adopted by the Subcommittee on Drug Control in redesigning the System-Wide Action Plan;

(c) Request the Administrative Committee on Coordination to give due attention, among demand reduction programmes included or to be included in the System-Wide Action Plan, to the implementation of programmes on prevention of abuse addressing especially vulnerable groups in society;

(d) Call on all relevant agencies within the United Nations system actively to participate in the preparation of the new System-Wide Action Plan, and to integrate it fully into their planning and programming process;

(e) Request relevant agencies to reinforce efforts, especially at the field level, to ensure that the drug-control dimension of activities is fully taken into account and to identify, in close cooperation with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, programmes and projects where a specific drug-control component could usefully be inserted;

(f) Request the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and relevant agencies to ensure that the drug-control dimension is fully taken into consideration when preparing, together with the recipient country, the country strategy note;

(g) Request relevant agencies within the United Nations system to report to their governing bodies, in consultation with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, on progress made in integrating the drug-control dimension into their own work programmes and on the potential for enhanced cooperation with the Programme;

(h) Consider the possibility of requesting the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to prepare regularly consolidated appeals to donors for voluntary contributions to finance priority drug-control activities;

(i) Request relevant agencies within the United Nations system to make every effort to consolidate their data systems with regard to drug control matters, with the ultimate objective of achieving a unified data system;

10. Reiterates its call for States to support the efforts of the Executive Director by:

(a) Promoting, in the governing bodies of other United Nations entities and the international financial institutions, the inclusion of a drug-control dimension in their activities;

(b) Engaging in a dialogue on drug abuse control at the field level with the multilateral development institutions;

(c) Requesting drug-control assistance from United Nations agencies and multilateral development banks in the context of their overall assistance requests;

11. Requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission at its fortieth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

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

1/ E/1990/39 and Corr. 1 and 2 and add.1.

2/ E/CN.7/1996/14.

3/ E/CN.7/1996/CRP.1.