

Chapter I

MATTERS REQUIRING ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Draft resolution

1. At its forty-first session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

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, 1989/15 of 22 May 1989, 1990/31 of 24 May 1990, 1991/43 of 21 June 1991, 1992/30 of 30 July 1992, 1995/19 of 24 July 1995, 1996/22 of 23 July 1996 and 1997/38 of 21 July 1997,

Emphasizing that the need to balance the global licit supply of opiates against the legitimate demand for opiates for medical and scientific purposes is central to the international strategy and policy of drug abuse control,

Noting the fundamental need for international cooperation and solidarity with the traditional supplier countries in drug abuse control in general, and in the universal application of the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961ⁱ in particular,

Having considered the Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1997,ⁱⁱ in which the Board points out that in 1996 a balance between consumption and production of opiate raw materials was achieved, and noting that efforts were made by the two traditional supplier countries, India and Turkey, to maintain, together with other producing countries, the balance between supply and demand,

Noting the importance of opiates in pain relief therapy as advocated by the World Health Organization,

1. Urges all Governments to continue contributing to the maintenance of a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiates for medical and scientific needs, the achievement of which would be facilitated by maintaining, in so far as their constitutional and legal systems permit, support to the traditional supplier countries, and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production and manufacture for export;

2. Urges Governments of all producing countries to adhere strictly to the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, and to take effective measures to prevent illicit production or diversion of opiate raw materials to illicit channels;

*See paragraph 67 below.

3. Urges consumer countries to assess their needs for opiates realistically, and to communicate those needs to the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to ensure easy supply;

4. Commends the Board for its efforts in monitoring the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions and, in particular:

(a) In urging the Governments concerned to adjust global production of opiate raw materials to a level corresponding to actual licit needs and to avoid unforeseen imbalances between licit supply of and demand for opiates caused by the sales of products manufactured from seized and confiscated drugs;

(b) In arranging informal meetings, during sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, with the main States importing and producing opiate raw materials;

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

1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 520, No. 7515.

2/ United Nations publications, Sales No. E.98.XI.1.

B. Draft decisions

2. At its 1160th and 1161st meetings, on 13 March 1998, the Commission discussed its programme of future work and priorities under agenda item 7. It drew up a draft provisional agenda and list of documents for its forty-second session, on the understanding that informal inter-sessional meetings would be held at Vienna to finalize the draft text, and recommended to the Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

DRAFT DECISION I

At its _____ plenary meeting, on _____ 1998, the Economic and Social Council approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs set out below, on the understanding that following the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, informal inter-sessional meetings would be convened at Vienna, at no additional cost, to finalize the items to be included in the provisional agenda of the forty-second session and to review the issue of the duration of the regular session of the Commission.

AGENDA

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda

3. General debate and policy directives.

Documentation

Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

4. Reduction of illicit demand for drugs.
[Special topic: Youth and drugs]

[Review of national studies on the social and economic costs of drug abuse]

Documentation

World situation with regard to drug abuse: report of the Secretariat
[Special report or reports requested by the Commission]

5. Illicit drug traffic and supply, including reports of subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

Documentation

World situation with regard to illicit drug trafficking: report of the Secretariat

Action taken by subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs: report of the Secretariat

6. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

- (a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

Documentation

[Report of the Executive Director (as necessary)]

- (b) International Narcotics Control Board;

Documentation

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1998

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1998 on the implementation of article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988

- (c) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

Documentation

[Note by the Secretariat (as necessary)]

7. Implementation of the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session.

Documentation

Global Programme of Action adopted by the General assembly at its seventeenth special session: report of the Secretary-General

8. Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly and implementation of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on international drug control.

Documentation

Implementation of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on international drug control: report of the Secretariat

9. Administrative and budgetary matters.

Documentation

[Note by the Executive Director (as necessary)]

3. At its 1158th to 1160th meetings, on 12 and 13 March 1998, the Commission considered the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1997, and recommended to the Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

DRAFT DECISION II

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

At its _____ plenary meeting, on _____ 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1997.

4. At its reconvened 1161st meeting, on 18 March 1998, the Commission adopted by consensus the report on its forty-first session, and recommended to the Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

DRAFT DECISION III

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

At its _____ plenary meeting, on _____ 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-first session.