CND Res. 42/7. Illicit traffic by sea

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Concerned about the threat posed by the increasing use of vessels in the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Convinced that effective cooperation to counteract this threat is desirable and necessary,

Noting with approval the report of the Fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, held in Vienna from 14 to 18 September 1998,1/

Recalling that in its resolution S-20/4 C of 10 June 1998, the General Assembly adopted measures to promote judicial cooperation that called upon States, inter alia, to review their national legislation to ensure that the legal requirements of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 19882/ were met, for example, the identification of competent national authorities, the maintenance of ship registries and the establishment of adequate law enforcement powers,

Recalling also that in paragraph 6 (b) of its resolution S-20/4 C, the General Assembly recommended that States review communication channels and procedures between competent authorities to facilitate coordination and cooperation with the objective of ensuring rapid responses and decisions,

1. Urges all Member States, in accordance with article 17, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, to supply to the Secretary-General for inclusion in the directory of competent national authorities3/ full and accurate details of the authority authorized to receive and respond to requests to board vessels engaged in the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

2. Requests all Member States to expeditiously notify changes of competent authorities to the Secretary-General in order to ensure that the published directory is accurate;

3. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to ensure that changes notified to the Secretary-General are transmitted to all Member States;

4. Urges all Member States to consider improving and implementing procedures to allow a timely response to requests in cases where the nationality of a vessel is in doubt or where registration cannot be confirmed.

1/ UNDCP/HONEURO/1998/5.