CND Res.44/8. Strengthening international law enforcement cooperation to cope
with the growing links between drug trafficking and other illicit
activities involving transnational organized criminal groups*

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to countering
the world drug problem together, and, in particular, the measures to enhance international cooperation
to counter the world drug problem, adopted at the special session in resolutions S-20/4 A to E of 10 June
1998,

Taking note of the information contained in the first biennial report of the Executive Director of the United
Nations International Drug Control Programme on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth
special session of the General Assembly,29

Aware of the fact that organized criminal groups have increasingly expanded and diversified their
activities and that these activities are becoming increasingly transnational in character,

Noting that transnational organized criminal groups use drug-trafficking channels for other types of illicit
trafficking, and that such activities are increasingly conducted by criminal groups or by networks of
criminal groups directly connected to each other,

Considering that such criminal networks threaten the security and quality of life of people and hinder
economic and social development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which the Assembly adopted the
United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,30 the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress
and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations
Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,31 and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants
by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized
Crime,32 and opened them for signature in accordance with its resolution 54/129 of 17 December 1999,

Recognizing that the fight against illicit drug trafficking should be pursued from the standpoint of the fight
against transnational organized crime,

Recognizing also the need to strengthen law enforcement cooperation, at the national, regional and
international levels, in particular, for operations at sea and along land borders,

Convinced that the measures against drug trafficking set forth in the United Nations Convention against
Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 198833 can be reinforced by the adoption
of additional legal instruments containing measures designed to deal with the above-mentioned new
forms of transnational organized crime,

1. Draws the attention of all States to the provisions of the United Nations Convention against
Transnational Organized Crime,30 signed at the High-level Political Signing Conference held in Palermo,
Italy, from 12 to 15 December 2000, and of the protocols thereto,31, 32 which strengthen the counter-
measures against transnational organized crime by, inter alia, providing a concrete basis for international
cooperation and for effective law enforcement action to deal in an integrated manner with all interrelated
aspects of illicit trafficking;

2. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto as soon as possible;

3. Stresses the need to enhance law enforcement cooperation strategies, also at the regional level, especially in the exchange of intelligence and information in accordance with international law, in order to gain a deeper knowledge of, and to fight more effectively against, criminal organizations involved in illicit drug trafficking and other illicit international trafficking.

*1208th meeting*  
*28 March 2001*

*/ For the discussion, see chap. V, para. 110.


30/ Resolution 55/25, annex I.

31/ Resolution 55/25, annex II.

32/ Resolution 55/25, annex III.