CND Res.45/11. Improving the exchange of electronic information among Member States and communication with international organizations

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Bearing in mind that, pursuant to the international drug control treaties, the States parties to those treaties are obliged to share with other States, the Secretary - General and the International Narcotics Control Board, on a regular basis, large amounts of data and other information on narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals,

Bearing in mind the Political Declaration,37 the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction38 and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,39 adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, whereby States were requested to use modern technology to improve procedures for, and the timeliness of, the collection and dissemination of information, in order to achieve the highest level of accuracy of the results obtained,

Cognizant of the findings of the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme carried out by the Office of Internal Oversight Services, in which the Programme was requested to strengthen its capacity for gathering information from Governments by expanding the national database system for national and international drug control to cover other data-collection activities of the Programme,40

Noting the progress made by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme through the amendment of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System of the Customs Cooperation Council, also known as the World Customs Organization, to establish a unique system for identifying narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals under international control,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/18 of 24 July 2001, in which it requested the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-fifth session on the national database system for national and international drug control,

Welcoming the note by the Secretariat on the national database system,41 submitted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-fifth session pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/18,

Noting with satisfaction that the representatives of the forty -nine States attending the fourth meeting of the group of users of the national database system, held in Vienna on 1 October 2001, supported the continuation of the system,

1. Welcomes the recommendation to maximize the usefulness of the national database system for national and international drug control by separating its normative functions, technical cooperation and organizational aspects;

2. Concurs with the recommendation that the mandate and scope of the national database system should be broadened to cover the collection, exchange and processing of all data relevant to national and international drug control and that such data should be made available in a timely manner by electronic means;

3. Requests the Secretariat to take into account the need to explore the possibility of obtaining secure funding, either from within the available regular budget or from voluntary resources, bearing in mind the need to provide funds to sustain the normative functions of the national database system relating to the maintenance and communication of information and data exchange standards;

4. Requests the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to facilitate and improve the overall electronic exchange of information among Member States and their communication with the Programme;
5. Urges Member States, independently or collectively, to expand the use of the national database system where the necessary technical infrastructure and support are sustainable;

6. Also urges Member States to sponsor and participate actively in the transitional project outlined by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in the interest of the international community.