CND Res.46/9. Securing assured and predictable funding for the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reiterating that action against the world drug problem is a shared responsibility that requires an integrated and balanced approach,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 46/185 C of 20 December 1991, in section XVI of which the Assembly established the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as a fund for financing operational activities mainly in developing countries and authorized the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues, to approve, on the basis of the proposals of the Executive Director of the Programme, both the programme budget and the administrative and programme support budget, other than expenditures borne by the regular budget of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its resolutions 39/10, entitled “Towards a new system of financing activities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme”, and 45/17, entitled “Strengthening the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body”,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 of 28 July 1999, in which the Council recommended measures to strengthen the United Nations machinery for international drug control and that a sufficient share of the regular budget of the United Nations be allocated to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to enable it to fulfil its mandates,

Taking into account the guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, adopted by it at its forty-fourth session,[1] in particular the priority given in the guidelines to the funding of the support budget,

Noting that, while 61 donors provided voluntary contributions to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme during the biennium 2000-2001, 12 of those donors provided 90 per cent of such contributions and even fewer provided two thirds of the overall general-purpose funds,

Taking into account that the efficient and effective planning of the operational activities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme is closely linked to the availability of an adequate and stable general-purpose funds balance,

Having considered the report[2] and the documentation of the Executive Director prepared pursuant to its resolution 45/17, in which the Executive Director evaluated the situation of the support budget and general-purpose funds of the Programme, including options for securing assured and predictable funding, bearing in mind the voluntary nature of contributions to the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme,

1. Welcomes the report[3] and the documentation of the Executive Director on strengthening the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, in which the Executive Director evaluated the situation of the support budget and
general-purpose funds of the Programme;

2. Also welcomes the continued and growing interest of Member States in securing assured and predictable funding for the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

3. Notes with appreciation that the Executive Director has taken initiatives designed to increase general-purpose contributions and contributions to the support budget, and notes that the aim of those initiatives is to ensure a stable general-purpose funds balance that adequately covers at least one year of support costs, thus facilitating the efficient and effective planning of the operational activities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

4. Urges all Governments to provide support for the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, including financial support, to the fullest extent possible, and invites them to consider responding to the initiatives of the Executive Director referred to in paragraph 3 above, if feasible, by the time the Commission on Narcotic Drugs approves the budget of the Programme for the biennium 2004-2005 at its reconvened forty-sixth session, in December 2003;

5. Encourages the Executive Director to continue to pursue his commendable efforts aimed at ensuring further cost savings and/or reducing the burden on the support budget and to inform the Commission regularly of those efforts at its intersessional meetings;

6. Requests the Executive Director to continue his efforts, in cooperation with Member States, to broaden the donor base and to increase voluntary contributions to the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, including general-purpose funds and funds earmarked for the support budget;

7. Recommends that a sufficient share of the regular budget of the United Nations be allocated to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to enable it to fulfil its mandates;

8. Invites the Executive Director:

   (a) To review, in consultation with the Secretary-General, whether the resources from the regular budget of the United Nations allocated to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for the implementation of its functions arising from the international drug control treaties and other mandates are commensurate with the relevant requirements and to report to the Commission at its reconvened forty-sixth session;

   (b) To report on the reconfiguration of the field network of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and to examine the impact of a possible funding of field offices in the framework of projects rather than through general-purpose funds;

   (c) To report on the implications of the recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled “Support costs related to extrabudgetary activities in organizations of the United Nations system”;

   (d) To explore ways and means of obtaining financial donations, including general-purpose funds, from the private sector and non-governmental organizations, in addition to those provided by Member States, in order to facilitate the sharing of both commitment and resources to achieve the goals of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, bearing in mind the need to safeguard the independence and the international character of the Programme and the experiences of other United Nations entities and the Global Compact;

   (e) To ensure that project proposals developed by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and its fund-raising policy take into account both the direct and applicable indirect costs of projects, including the financial burden on the support budget;

   (f) To apply a policy on the implementation of projects that reflects the recommendations contained in the report of the Board of Auditors and takes into account subparagraph (e) above;

   (g) To report on the usefulness and implications of having a support budget fund and a general programme budget fund and possible guidelines for them;
(h) To produce concise annual appeal and report documents, using available voluntary contributions earmarked for that purpose, taking into account the experience of organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations;

9. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States, in particular developing countries, which contribute to the activities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme through the provision of necessary infrastructure, through agreed cost-sharing mechanisms or by allotting national funds to projects implemented in partnership with the Programme, and encourages other States that are beneficiaries of technical assistance provided by the Programme and are in a position to do so to contribute in the same way;

10. Welcomes the positive responses from Member States to the appeal by the Executive Director for additional funding, including general-purpose funding, and encourages all other States to respond positively to that appeal;

11. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have provided for a fixed and significant percentage of general-purpose funds in their overall voluntary contributions or which have earmarked a percentage of their overall voluntary contributions to the support budget of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, and encourages all other States to do the same;

12. Encourages the Executive Director to continue to explore other innovative means of increasing the resources for drug control programmes;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments for consideration and implementation;

14. Requests the Executive Director to report to it at its forty-seventh session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

[4] These costs are budgeted at 34.2 million United States dollars for the biennium 2002-2003 (E/CN.7/2003/15). Actual costs in 2001 were 16.5 million dollars, of which 2.8 million dollars were recovered from projects, resulting in a net annual expenditure of general-purpose funds of 13.7 million dollars.