

ECOSOC Resolution 2003/33

Reduction of illicit drug demand

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction¹ and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,² adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Recognizing that the rapid evolution of the socio-economic situation, combined with cultural, personal and social factors and compounded by the availability of illicit drugs, has exacerbated the global problem of consumption of psychoactive substances,

Conscious that the problem of consumption has a greater impact on populations at risk, in particular children and young people, who, for various family and cultural reasons, have become more vulnerable and susceptible to illicit drug consumption and hazardous behaviour regarding illicit drugs,

Aware that programmes for the reduction of illicit drug demand must form part of a global strategy and that, if they are integrated and coordinated so as to offer a wide variety of appropriate measures in the community and in the education, health, labour and social welfare sectors, they will enable the targeted persons, families and communities to diminish the adverse effects of improper drug use,

Considering that the world drug problem must be dealt with on the basis of shared responsibility, which requires an integrated and balanced approach, offering people comprehensive care that will foster their development as individuals and within the community,

1. *Supports* the implementation of programmes for the reduction of illicit drug demand with global impact and scope that target the people at risk of consuming illicit drugs and the problems associated with illicit drug consumption, to be implemented in an integrated and coordinated manner in the community and in the education, health, labour and social welfare sectors;

2. *Invites* Member States to share their experience with models for intervention in the various sectors with a view to restructuring their programmes for the reduction of illicit drug demand so that the programmes will have greater impact.

*44th plenary meeting
22 July 2003*

¹ General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.

² General Assembly resolution S-20/4 A to E.