Resolution 47/4

Cooperative initiatives and intelligence-sharing as part of international efforts to fight illicit drugs

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling its resolution 45/2, in which it recognized the importance of effective international cooperation in the fight against the global trade in illicit drugs, and encouraged Member States to further consider the need to provide the necessary legal basis to conduct joint operational activities across jurisdictional boundaries,

Recalling also that, in the same resolution, it supported the development of “best practice” guidelines for the sharing of intelligence and the conduct of joint operations between Member States, and encouraged the establishment by Member States of cooperative programmes for supporting law enforcement training and making short-term secondment and exchanges available to operational law enforcement officers from Member States,

Considering that examples of successful international cooperation in investigations may be of practical value to the development of recognized “best practice” in international cooperation in the fight against illicit drugs,

Noting the examples of successful joint investigations involving law enforcement authorities at the bilateral, regional and international levels, and recognizing that progress has been made in certain countries in providing the necessary legal basis to conduct joint and/or coordinated operational activities,

1. Affirms the relevance of measures that facilitate effective cooperation in international investigations of cases involving illicit drugs, in conformity with treaties on mutual legal assistance, in particular:

   (a) The signing of formal memorandums of understanding between national law enforcement authorities that provide an agreed framework for mutual assistance and for cooperation in investigations of transnational criminal activity;

   (b) The posting of law enforcement liaison officers in other Member States to provide an established and trusted channel for operational communication, liaison and the sharing of information between national law enforcement authorities;

   (c) The use of cooperative training and secondment to promote mutual understanding of the criminal justice systems and operational methodologies and capabilities of Member States;

2. Encourages Member States to utilize established liaison channels and, where appropriate, to develop new channels in order to inform themselves more fully of the characteristics of successful international cooperation in investigations and consider the relevance of those characteristics to enhancing their capacity to participate in joint and/or coordinated targeting initiatives and international cooperation in investigations of cases involving trafficking in illicit drugs.