

## **Resolution 48/12**

### **Expanding the capacity of communities to provide information, treatment, health care and social services to people living with HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases in the context of drug abuse and strengthening monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Recalling* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,<sup>1</sup> in which Member States recognized that action against the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility,

*Recalling also* the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,<sup>2</sup> adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, in which Member States recognized that action against the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility and in which it is stated that demand reduction activities should cover all areas of demand reduction, from discouraging initial use to reducing negative health and social consequences of drug abuse for the individual and the society as a whole, and that HIV/AIDS constitute one of the serious potential harms of drug abuse,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>3</sup> in particular, its article 25,

*Recalling* its resolutions 46/2, on strengthening strategies regarding the prevention of HIV/AIDS in the context of drug abuse, and 47/2, on prevention of HIV/AIDS among drug users,

*Noting* the gaps that exist in many communities in the provision of substance abuse treatment, health care and social services for drug users living with HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases,

*Recognizing* that drug users living with HIV/AIDS require treatment, health care and social services in dealing with their condition,

*Recognizing also* that many States require expertise and other support to strengthen the capacity of local communities to provide treatment, health care and social services for drug users living with HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases, consistent with the international drug control treaties,

*Aware* that, in many communities, both drug abuse and HIV/AIDS are highly stigmatized and the persons affected are consequently denied access to help and support,

*Concerned* that risk-taking behaviour, including injecting drug use and sharing of needles, syringes and other infected equipment, is a significant route for the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases,

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<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

<sup>2</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

*Reaffirming* that an effective response to the issues raised by drug consumption demands a comprehensive approach,

1. *Calls upon* Member States and organizations with expertise in building community capacity to provide, as needed and as appropriate, treatment, health care and social services for drug users living with HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases and to extend support to States requiring such expertise, consistent with the international drug control treaties;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to strengthen advocacy programmes aimed at curbing prejudice against and stigmatization of those living with HIV/AIDS, in the context of drug abuse;

3. *Calls upon* Member States that have not yet done so:

(a) To consider incorporating substance abuse prevention, treatment and health care into their national drug control strategies in order to reduce both the spread of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases and drug abuse;

(b) To encourage linkages between national HIV/AIDS strategies and national drug control strategies to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases in the context of drug abuse;

4. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that substance abuse treatment is accessible and affordable to drug users living with HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases, and to work to eliminate barriers to access for drug users in need of HIV/AIDS care and support;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to continue to incorporate drug abuse prevention and treatment measures in relation to HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases into their various socio-economic development programmes, especially programmes designed to enhance the social and economic empowerment of women and child welfare;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other entities involved in demand reduction and public awareness campaigns aimed at preventing the transmission of HIV/AIDS in the context of drug abuse prevention, to design and implement their programmes in a sustainable manner;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of voluntary funds and consistent with the international drug control treaties, to continue its work, in coordination with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and other relevant United Nations entities, to facilitate the collection, collation and dissemination of information on the relationship between HIV/AIDS and drug abuse, including identifying successful community capacity-building and successful practices in reducing prejudice against and stigmatization of those living with HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases, in the context of drug use, and strengthening monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to it at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.