Resolution 51/8

Marking the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling that the International Opium Commission, the first multilateral initiative in the field of drug control, was convened in Shanghai, China, from 1 to 26 February 1909, and that representatives of thirteen States, namely, Austria-Hungary, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Persia, Portugal, Russia, Siam, and the United States of America, participated in the deliberations,

Recognizing the great progress made by the international community since 1909, and aware of the challenges that remain in the field of global drug control,

Stressing the importance of international cooperation in efforts to fight the world drug problem,

Expressing its determination to strengthen action and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels towards the ultimate goal of an international society free of drug abuse and trafficking,

1. Decides to commemorate on 26 February 2009 the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission;

2. Notes with appreciation that the Government of China will host in February 2009 an event to celebrate the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission;

3. Encourages other Governments, organizations and civil society to hold celebrations marking the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission;

4. Invites the Government of China to report on its event marking the centennial to the Commission at its fifty-second session;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Governments and relevant international organizations for consideration.

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53 Now referred to in the United Nations as the Islamic Republic of Iran.
54 Now referred to in the United Nations as Thailand.