

Resolution 52/2

Strengthening the law enforcement capacity of the main transit States neighbouring Afghanistan, based on the principle of shared responsibility

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming the commitments assumed by Member States in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session¹ and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,²

Also reaffirming the commitments assumed by Member States in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted during the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 2001/16 of 24 July 2001, 2002/21 of 24 July 2002, 2003/34 and 2003/35 of 22 July 2003, 2005/27 of 22 July 2005, 2008/27 of 23 July 2008 and other relevant resolutions on international assistance to States affected by the transit of illicit drugs,

Taking note with concern of the opium survey for Afghanistan for 2008 published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in which the Office stated that in 2008 Afghanistan had produced 7,700 tons of opium, representing 93 per cent of global production,

Acknowledging the progress that Afghanistan has made in implementing its National Drug Control Strategy,³ including the increase in the number of poppy-free provinces from 13 in 2007 to 18 in 2008 and the decrease of 19 per cent in the area under opium poppy cultivation,

Welcoming the Paris Pact initiative on assistance to States affected by the transit of illicit drugs originating in Afghanistan,

Acknowledging the ongoing efforts of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community, including States neighbouring Afghanistan, to counter the scourge of illicit drugs, and welcoming the recent declaration by the Government of Afghanistan that it would cease the importation of acetic anhydride until such time as a legitimate need for that chemical arose, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions on the diversion and smuggling of precursor chemicals,⁴

Welcoming the ongoing efforts to strengthen regional cooperation in combating illicit trafficking in drugs of Afghan origin and the diversion of precursor chemicals undertaken by the members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism and other relevant subregional and regional organizations,

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

² Assembly resolutions S-20/4 A to E.

³ S/2006/106, annex.

⁴ The Commission on Narcotic Drugs has been invited to consider, in accordance with its mandate, ways to strengthen regional and international cooperation to prevent the diversion and smuggling of chemical precursors to and within Afghanistan and to further opportunities for Member States to support the Government of Afghanistan in developing capacities to tackle the diversion of precursors and trafficking in drugs.

Welcoming also the decision of the Government of the Russian Federation to act as host to a special conference on Afghanistan, to be held in Moscow on 27 March 2009 under the auspices of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, which will be dedicated, inter alia, to strengthening the capacity of States neighbouring Afghanistan in countering trafficking in drugs cultivated and produced in Afghanistan,

Acknowledging the increasing risk of illicit drug use in the area,

Also acknowledging that transit States are faced with multifaceted challenges related to the increasing amount of illicit drugs transiting through their territory as a result of the increasing supply of illicit drugs and the demand for illicit drugs in some markets,

Alarmed at the high levels of illicit drug crop cultivation and drug production, especially in Afghanistan,

Concerned that the bulk of the illicit drugs originating in Afghanistan are smuggled through countries neighbouring Afghanistan before reaching their countries of destination,

Also concerned about the smuggling of precursor chemicals along major drug trafficking routes leading to Afghanistan,

Bearing in mind the negative impact of the flow of illicit drugs originating in Afghanistan on the international community, especially on States neighbouring Afghanistan, and that all countries, in particular countries of destination, should play a role in assisting the most affected transit States neighbouring Afghanistan more effectively and efficiently,

Commending the efforts and achievements of States neighbouring Afghanistan, in particular those registering large quantities of seizures of illicit drugs, in controlling the flow of illicit drugs,

Noting that, in spite of the fact that the most affected States neighbouring Afghanistan have allocated significant financial and human resources to countering the problem, there is still a dire need, on the basis of shared responsibility, for the international community to carry out more effective and serious efforts to provide financial and technical assistance and support to those States and to Afghanistan,

Recognizing that international and regional cooperation in countering the illicit production of, trafficking in and abuse of drugs has shown that positive results can be achieved through sustained and collective efforts, and expressing appreciation for initiatives in that regard,

Commending the support provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to the Triangular Initiative within the framework of the Paris Pact initiative and the Rainbow Strategy in an effort to promote enhanced and operational drug control coordination at the subregional, regional and international levels,

Also commending the activities carried out in the framework of the Triangular Initiative involving Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan to promote cooperation to counter trafficking in narcotic drugs originating in Afghanistan and to control the smuggling of precursor chemicals into Afghanistan,

Welcoming the decision taken by the Governments of Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan at the second ministerial meeting of the Triangular Initiative, held in Tehran on 7 May 2008, including the establishment in Tehran of a joint planning cell and the conduct of joint operations within national borders against drug traffickers, and looking forward to the continued implementation of the Triangular Initiative,

Also welcoming the announcement by the Government of Pakistan that it will act as host to the third ministerial meeting of the Triangular Initiative in Islamabad in June 2009,

1. *Requests* the international community, in particular countries of destination, to provide, based on the principle of shared responsibility, urgent and sufficient technical assistance and support to the most affected transit States, in order to promote the capacities of such States to counter the flow of illicit drugs;

2. *Urges* all Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide or facilitate the provision of the technical assistance and support needed for implementing the initiatives of Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan, including the Triangular Initiative within the framework of the Paris Pact initiative and the Rainbow Strategy;

3. *Urges* the relevant international organizations, financial institutions and donors to support and provide the necessary technical and financial assistance to the States most affected by the transit of illicit drugs and to Afghanistan, including by building and promoting human resource capacity available in those States and by providing relevant technical equipment and facilities, thus enabling those States to combat drug trafficking more effectively;

4. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States with the capacity to do so to organize training seminars and workshops for the relevant law enforcement agencies of Afghanistan and its neighbouring States most affected by the transit of drugs in order to strengthen the capacities of those agencies to respond to drug-related threats, including those posed by synthetic drugs, especially amphetamine-type stimulants, and by the diversion of precursor chemicals;

5. *Requests* Member States to consider ways and means of paying proper tribute to law enforcement officers who have given their lives in the fight against drug trafficking and to consider providing the names of those officers for inclusion in an online roll of honour to be hosted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-third session, on the implementation of the present resolution.