

Resolution 56/3

Strengthening international cooperation in combating illicit opiates originating in Afghanistan through continuous and reinforced support to the Paris Pact initiative

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming the commitments undertaken 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,²⁰ in which Member States expressed their full awareness that the world drug problem remained a common and shared responsibility and asserted that it was most effectively addressed in a multilateral setting,

Taking note with appreciation in that context of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012,²¹ chapter I of which is dedicated to the principle of shared responsibility in international drug control,

Bearing in mind that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, is to carry out a high-level review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem on the basis of clear and measurable indicators,

Welcoming and reiterating its support for the Paris Pact initiative, one of the most important international frameworks and a unique platform for genuine partnership between States, competent international organizations and other relevant stakeholders in the fight against opiates originating in Afghanistan, aimed at the elimination or significant reduction of illicit traffic in opiates, opium poppy cultivation and production and the global consumption of heroin and other opiates, and at the establishment and promotion of a broad international coalition to combat illicit traffic in opiates,

Recalling the international conferences of the Paris Pact partners at the ministerial level, held in Paris in 2003, in Moscow in 2006 and in Vienna in 2012, at the latter of which the commitment of the Paris Pact partners in their joint efforts to combat illicit traffic in opiates was strengthened, and looking forward to such ministerial meetings in the future,

Recalling also its resolution 55/11 of 16 March 2012, entitled "Follow-up to the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan", in which it expressed the conviction that the results of that Ministerial Conference should be translated into effective action by States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, competent organs of the United Nations and other relevant actors,

²⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

²¹ *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.1).

Taking note with concern of the publication by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled “Afghanistan: opium survey 2012 — summary findings”, in which it was stated that, despite the continued and intensified efforts of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community, in 2012, the illicit opium poppy cultivation rate had increased, while the decrease in opium production was mainly the result of plant disease and adverse weather conditions,

Taking note of the fact that the same survey recognized the strong association between insecurity, lack of agricultural assistance and opium poppy cultivation, and expressing concern that the number of poppy-free provinces in Afghanistan remained unchanged in 2012,

Recognizing that strengthening security, the rule of law and support for local development may encourage licit alternatives to opium poppy cultivation,

Aware of the need to further enhance coordinated, comprehensive and effective measures to reduce the cultivation of opium poppy and the production of, trafficking in and consumption of opiates, and noting that Paris Pact partners, in the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan,²² recognized the threat that opiates pose to international peace and stability in different regions of the world,

Reaffirming its unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction, supply reduction and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights²³ and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States,

Noting that the sustained menace of illicit drugs adversely affects the social, economic, cultural and political foundations of society and undermines sustainable development,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/11 of 25 July 2007, entitled “Support to the counter-narcotic measures and programmes of Afghanistan”,

Bearing in mind the outcomes of the international conferences on Afghanistan held in Istanbul, Turkey, in November 2011, in Bonn, Germany, in December 2011, and in Tokyo in July 2012, which included counter-narcotics as a cross-cutting theme,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in the fight against narcotic drugs, and calling upon Member States to enhance their comprehensive support to the Afghan authorities to combat illicit opiates, including through a range of measures that seek to eliminate or significantly reduce the demand for and restrict the supply of illicit opiates, in particular in view of the

²² See E/CN.7/2012/17.

²³ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

transition of full security responsibility to Afghan forces, to be completed by the end of 2014,

Commending the activities carried out by the States neighbouring Afghanistan to promote cooperation aimed at countering the illicit traffic in opiates and the smuggling of precursor chemicals into Afghanistan,

Expressing its support for the efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening international and regional cooperation in order to counter the threat to the international community posed by illicit traffic in opiates, paying due attention to strengthening and implementing regional initiatives, exchanging information and good practices to counter illicit traffic in opiates, detecting and blocking financial flows linked thereto, preventing the diversion of precursor chemicals used in illicit manufacture of opiates in Afghanistan and reducing drug abuse and dependence through a comprehensive approach,

Reiterating its support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its efforts to coordinate effective and results-oriented assistance to Afghanistan and Paris Pact priority countries, in particular through its regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries and through the regional programme for South-Eastern Europe, as well as other regional and thematic programmes, where relevant,

1. *Reiterates* that the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan,²⁴ including its four main thematic areas, is considered a road map for concrete action and international cooperation under the Paris Pact initiative for the upcoming period;

2. *Continues* to call upon Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board and other competent international entities, to ensure the full implementation of the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners, including, as appropriate, by means of facilitating partnerships with the private sector and civil society;

3. *Urges* the international community to take full advantage of the Paris Pact initiative in order to continue to assist Afghanistan in countering illicit cultivation and the production of opiates, and supports the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to examine the situation of illicit cultivation and production in Afghanistan in order to further enhance coordinated, comprehensive and effective measures to reduce the cultivation of opium poppy and the production of, trafficking in and consumption of opiates;

4. *Encourages* Member States to enhance coordination through existing international and regional mechanisms, including the Paris Pact initiative, in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchange with a view to countering traffic in opiates originating in Afghanistan, including through a range of measures that seek to eliminate or significantly reduce the demand for and the supply of illicit opiates;

²⁴ See E/CN.7/2012/17.

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime prepared in compliance with Commission resolution 55/11 of 16 March 2012,²⁵ as well as of the compendium of statements made in reference to the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan, annexed to that report;

6. *Considers* that compendium a complementary tool for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, aimed at streamlining, in consultation with Member States, the ideas and incentives it encompasses into concrete action under the auspices of the Paris Pact;

7. *Welcomes* the political and operational outcomes of the third phase of the Paris Pact initiative, and stresses the need to take due account of the conclusions and recommendations of its evaluation in further implementation of the initiative;

8. *Also welcomes* the launch of the fourth phase of the Paris Pact initiative, as decided by the Policy Consultative Group at its meeting held in Vienna on 6 and 7 March 2013, and calls upon Member States to provide the support necessary for its effective implementation, building upon concrete aims and results-oriented measures;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to cooperate with Member States in identifying and meeting the needs for technical assistance to effectively tackle the problem of illicit opiates, in particular in the priority areas outlined in the Vienna Declaration;

10. *Requests* the international community to provide, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility and applying a comprehensive and balanced approach, urgent and adequate technical assistance and support to the countries concerned, in order to promote their capacities and efforts to combat trafficking in illicit opiates and their precursors, within the framework of the Paris Pact and in coordination with thematic and regional programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular its regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries and its regional programme for South-Eastern Europe;

11. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide, subject to the availability of the necessary extrabudgetary resources, regular reports to the Commission, on an annual basis, on the progress achieved and measures taken in implementation of the fourth phase of the Paris Pact initiative;

12. *Invites* Member States and other donors to contribute extrabudgetary resources for those purposes, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the United Nations.

²⁵ E/CN.7/2013/12.