

## Resolution 57/5

### **Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Recalling* the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>1</sup> adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, in which Member States decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, should conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, recommended that the Economic and Social Council devote a high-level segment to a theme related to the world drug problem, and also recommended that the Assembly hold a special session to address the world drug problem,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, entitled “International cooperation against the world drug problem”, in which the Assembly decided to convene, in early 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, and also decided to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing resources,

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 68/197 of 18 December 2013, entitled “International cooperation against the world drug problem”, in which the Assembly welcomed Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/12 of 15 March 2013, in which the Commission had recommended that, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, it should play its leading role in the preparatory process for the special session of the Assembly on the world drug problem to be convened in early 2016, including by presenting its proposals, through the Economic and Social Council, regarding progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,

*Recalling* that the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/197, requested the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the United Nations organ with the prime responsibility for drug control matters, to engage in the preparatory process for the special session, including by presenting proposals from the fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions of the Commission through the Economic and Social Council in support of the preparatory process, including progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, to be considered by the Assembly starting at its sixty-ninth session,

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<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

*Conscious* of its role as the principal United Nations policymaking body on drug-related issues,

*Recalling* that Member States decided in the Political Declaration and the Plan of Action to establish 2019 as a target date for achieving targets and goals set out therein,

*Recalling also* the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted during the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in which Member States identified, on the basis of the review of the progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, achievements, challenges and priorities for further action, in the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments,

*Fully aware* that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility and should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and that it demands an integrated and multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced and comprehensive approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

1. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>2</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971<sup>3</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;<sup>4</sup>

2. *Underlines* the importance of the special session of the General Assembly to address the world drug problem to be convened in early 2016 as a milestone on the way to 2019, which has been set as the target date in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem<sup>5</sup> to achieve targets and goals set out therein;

3. *Welcomes* the request made by the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/197 of 18 December 2013, to the Commission, as the United Nations organ with the prime responsibility for drug control matters, to engage in the preparatory process for the special session;

4. *Decides* to take all possible measures to ensure an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process for the special session by using its existing meetings and reporting entitlements in the most efficient manner, bearing in mind the decision by the General Assembly, in its resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing regular budget resources;

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<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

<sup>5</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

5. *Recognizes* the leading role of the Commission in the preparations for the special session, and affirms that its meetings will be open to the participation of all States Members and observers of the United Nations, organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks and other relevant international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and with the established practice of the Commission;

6. *Decides* to present proposals, for consideration by the General Assembly, regarding all organizational matters, including the agenda, dates, substantive issues to be covered, outcomes and other issues relevant to the successful preparations for the special session;

7. *Also decides* that, in preparation for the special session, it will hold formal meetings following its fifty-seventh session, including two formal meetings immediately preceding its reconvened fifty-seventh session, in December 2014, that it will devote eight meetings during its fifty-eighth session, to be held in March 2015, to the preparations for the special session, and that it will hold intersessional meetings with a view to preparing the formal meetings;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as the leading entity in the United Nations system for countering the world drug problem, to provide substantive expertise and technical support to the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 2016, and requests the Secretariat to prepare a report for consideration by the Commission before or at its reconvened fifty-seventh session, containing recommendations on the preparations for, the possible outcomes of and organizational matters relating to that special session;

9. *Encourages* the participation of all Member States and the provision of assistance to the least developed countries in the preparatory work undertaken by the Commission in order to work actively towards the attainment of the objectives and goals of the special session, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose;

10. *Recommends* that organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks, other relevant international organizations, including the International Narcotics Control Board, and regional organizations contribute fully to the Commission's preparations for the special session of the General Assembly, in particular by submitting to the Commission, through the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, specific recommendations on the issues to be addressed by the Assembly at that session;

11. *Recognizes* the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in the preparations for and during the fifty-second and the fifty-seventh sessions of the Commission, including their high-level segments, also recognizes the need for their active involvement in the preparations for the special session, as well as the need for their effective, substantive and active involvement during the special session, in accordance with the rules

of procedure and practice developed for other special sessions of the General Assembly, and requests the Chair of the Commission to consider undertaking consultations and other appropriate actions in this regard with relevant stakeholders;

12. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the preparations by the Commission, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the United Nations, bearing in mind the decision by the General Assembly to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing regular budget resources;

13. *Resolves* to inform the General Assembly regularly about the work it is undertaking in preparing for the special session;

14. *Decides* to recommend to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the following draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly:

*The General Assembly,*

1. *Welcomes* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 57/5 of 21 March 2014, and notes with satisfaction the support expressed at the high-level review by the Commission of the progress made by Member States in 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<sup>6</sup> for the decision taken by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012 to convene a special session on the world drug problem early in 2016, in implementation of the recommendation contained in paragraph 40 of the Political Declaration;

2. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>7</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971<sup>8</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;<sup>9</sup>

3. *Stresses* the importance of the special session on the world drug problem in 2016, as noted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in its resolution 57/5, as a milestone on the way to 2019, which has been set as the target date in the Political Declaration for the review of implementation;

4. *Reaffirms* that, at its special session on the world drug problem in 2016, it will address substantive issues on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility and in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration

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<sup>6</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>7</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

of Human Rights,<sup>10</sup> and in particular with 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;

5. *Decides* that the special session will be convened following the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, scheduled to be held in March 2016;

6. *Also decides* that the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016 will have an inclusive preparatory process that includes extensive substantive consultations, allowing organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to fully contribute to the process, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice;

7. *Further decides* that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, shall lead that process by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, and in this regard invites the President of the General Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the process;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to take all necessary measures to use its existing meeting and reporting entitlements in the most efficient manner to ensure adequate preparation for the special session in 2016, and requests the Commission to continue to take all necessary measures to prepare for the special session, as early as possible;

9. *Encourages* the participation of all Member States and the provision of assistance to the least developed countries in the preparatory work undertaken by the Commission in order to work actively towards the attainment of the objectives and goals of the special session, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose;

10. *Recognizes* that the special session on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 constitutes an opportunity for a high-level and wide-ranging discussion among Member States leading up to the target date of 2019, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, in order to further implement the commitments and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

11. *Also recognizes* the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in the preparations for and during the fifty-second and the fifty-seventh

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<sup>10</sup> General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

sessions of the Commission, including their high-level segments, recognizes further the need for their active involvement in the preparations for the special session, as well as the need for their effective, substantive and active involvement during the special session, in accordance with the rules of procedure and practice developed for other special sessions of the General Assembly, and requests the Chair of the Commission to consider undertaking consultations and other appropriate actions in this regard with relevant stakeholders;

12. *Invites* organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks, other relevant international organizations, including the International Narcotics Control Board, and regional organizations to contribute fully to the preparations for the special session in 2016, in particular by submitting to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, through the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, specific recommendations on the issues to be addressed at the special session;

13. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to report to it at its seventieth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in preparation for the special session in 2016;

14. *Reaffirms* its decision in resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012 to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing regular budget resources;

15. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.