

## Resolution 57/8

### **Raising awareness and strengthening international cooperation in combating drug trafficking, which in some cases, misuses activities related to opium poppy seeds for illicit purposes, also produced from illicit opium poppy crops**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution 51/15 of 14 March 2008 on control of international movement of poppy seeds obtained from illicitly grown opium poppy plants,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/12 of 8 March 2010 on strengthening systems for the control of the movement of poppy seeds obtained from illicitly grown opium poppy crops, in which it called upon Member States to cooperate closely and exchange information on, and experiences in dealing with, the movement of opium poppy seeds in order to prevent smuggling of opium poppy seeds for illicit purposes,

*Taking into account* Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/32 of 28 July 1999 on the international regulation and control of trade in poppy seeds, article 22 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol<sup>1</sup> concerning prohibition of the illicit cultivation of opium poppy and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,<sup>2</sup> adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

*Being aware* that, under the terms of the three international drug control conventions, opium poppy seeds, as such, are not subject to international control,

*Recognizing* that poppy seeds, as such, do not contain opium alkaloids, unless contaminated by materials containing opiates,

*Noting* some attempts by organized criminal groups to use various methods to disguise and conceal opium poppy straw and other narcotic drugs in other consignments, for illicit purposes,

*Recognizing* that increased awareness of specific criminal techniques and patterns would strengthen the capacity of Member States, where appropriate, to respond to the activities of organized criminal groups,

*Recalling* that the International Narcotics Control Board, in its report for 2011,<sup>3</sup> expressed concern that opium poppy seeds originating in areas where the cultivation of opium poppy was not permitted continued to be sold on the world market and that sale of those opium poppy seeds was an additional source of income for illicit

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>2</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.

<sup>3</sup> *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2011* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.12.XI.5).

growers of opium poppy, thus indirectly supporting such illicit cultivation,

1. *Encourages* Member States to implement, as appropriate, the key control provisions recommended by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1999/32 of 28 July 1999;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to consider, where appropriate, further strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation and exchange of information with the International Narcotics Control Board, within its mandate, with a view to contributing effectively towards the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/32 of 28 July 1999;

3. *Encourages* Member States in which the import of opium poppy seeds is permitted, consistent with Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/32, to consider recommendation 28 of the International Narcotics Control Board contained in its report for 2009;<sup>4</sup>

4. *Invites* Member States to exchange, where appropriate, through bilateral and multilateral channels, information and best practices on ways to prevent attempts to disguise and conceal in other consignments opium poppy straw and other narcotic drugs for illicit purposes, as well as continue to analyse emerging risks and trends regarding related criminal activities;

5. *Requests* the International Narcotics Control Board to continue to invite Member States to take appropriate measures to ensure the full implementation of article 22 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2009* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.XI.1).

<sup>5</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.