

For participants only
31 October 2014

English only*

Report of the Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 21 to 24 October 2014

I. Matters calling for action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs or brought to its attention

Recommendations adopted by the Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

1. Participants in the Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific:

(a) Recalled the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182, in which Member States decided, among other things, 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 its Plan of Action, recommended that the Economic and Social Council should devote a high-level segment to a theme related to the world drug problem, and also recommended that the General Assembly should hold a special session to address the world drug problem;

(b) Also recalled General Assembly resolution 67/193, in which the Assembly decided to convene, in early 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress 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;

(c) Took note with appreciation of the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the

* Available only in English, which is the working language of the subsidiary body.



implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted by the Commission at its fifty-seventh session, in which achievements, challenges and priorities for action, in the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, were identified;

(d) Acknowledged, in accordance with the assessment contained in the Joint Ministerial Statement, that many challenges relating to the world drug problem had persisted and that new ones had emerged in some parts of the world, which needed to be taken into account in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

(e) Emphasized the importance of a broad, transparent, inclusive and scientific evidence-based discussion among Member States, with inputs from other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, in multilateral settings, on the most effective ways to counter the world drug problem, consistent with 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;

(f) Welcomed in that regard the adoption by the Commission of its resolution 57/5, on the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, in which the Commission, *inter alia*, underlined the importance of the special session as a milestone on the way to 2019, which had been set as the target date in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action to achieve targets and goals set out therein, recognized the leading role of the Commission, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, in the preparations for the special session, and decided to take all possible measures to ensure an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process, with the active involvement of all relevant stakeholders;

(g) Welcomed and expressed support for the request to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), as the leading entity in the United Nations system for countering the world drug problem, to continue providing substantive expertise and technical support to the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 2016, in line with Commission resolution 57/5;

(h) Resolved to continue to support and contribute to the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 2016, in view of the request made by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in its resolution 56/10, to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to contribute to the monitoring of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action at the regional level by discussing regional views on progress made in that regard and submitting regional recommendations aimed at moving forward in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

(i) Agreed to make the recommendations presented below.

Issue 1. Responding to trafficking in synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances and preventing the diversion of chemical precursors

2. The following recommendations were made with regard to responding to trafficking in synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances and preventing the diversion of chemical precursors:

(a) Governments are encouraged to strengthen their domestic controls over the availability of new psychoactive substances and to make available to their foreign law enforcement counterparts their national lists of controlled substances used in the manufacture of such substances;

(b) Governments should encourage their law enforcement authorities and chemical industry regulatory authorities to regularly update and widely circulate details of the manufacture and marketing of and trends in substances used in the manufacture of new psychoactive substances on secure platforms such as the UNODC early warning advisory system, the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) Precursors Incident Communication System and Project Ion, the World Customs Organization network of Regional Intelligence Liaison Offices, and other trusted communication and information-sharing networks;

(c) Governments should take steps to ensure that staff in their public health services and national drug analysis laboratories are familiar with the range of new psychoactive substances on their local markets in order to enable them to correctly identify such substances and respond appropriately.

Issue 2. Measures to amend legislation, agency practices and procedures that may improve the responses of national authorities to challenges posed by drug trafficking and related organized criminal offences

3. The following recommendations were made with regard to measures to amend legislation, agency practices and procedures that may improve the responses of national authorities to challenges posed by drug trafficking and related organized criminal offences:

(a) Governments are encouraged to review their national drug control legislation regularly so as to ensure that it meets the needs of their enforcement agencies and the community they serve;

(b) Governments are encouraged to review their drug law enforcement and related legislation with a view to harmonizing their provisions with those of other countries in the region;

(c) Governments should encourage and support UNODC to step up efforts to provide technical assistance to Member States to review and support the reform of national laws, regulations and other measures with a view to fully implementing the international drug control treaties;

(d) Governments should consider sharing, with other Governments in the region, information on similarities and differences between their legislation and should make such information available to law enforcement authorities.

Issue 3. Collaboration and coordination among drug law enforcement agencies

4. The following recommendations were made with regard to collaboration and coordination among drug law enforcement agencies:

(a) To address the increasing complexity of drug trafficking and facilitate the expeditious exchange of intelligence between lead law enforcement agencies, Governments are encouraged to establish operational joint agency teams to target trafficking syndicates;

(b) Governments must ensure that their law enforcement agencies responsible for drug law enforcement and related organized crime are adequately funded so as to meet the increasing need for cross-border cooperation and multi-jurisdictional investigations;

(c) Where they have not already done so, Governments are encouraged to review their existing bilateral and multilateral cooperation agreements to ensure that they support the needs of their drug enforcement agencies with regard to the exchange of information, requests for assistance and evidence-gathering.

II. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures

5. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 21 October 2014, the Meeting considered item 3 of its agenda, entitled “Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures”. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it a report of the Secretariat on statistical analysis of drug trafficking trends in East, South-East and South Asia, in Oceania and worldwide (UNODC/HONLAP/38/2) and a note by the Secretariat on regional and subregional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/38/CRP.1). In addition, country reports were submitted by Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, France, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey and Viet Nam (UNODC/HONLAP/38/CRP.3-18).

6. Representatives of UNODC introduced the item and made audiovisual presentations, providing an overview of trends in illicit drug production and trafficking in the region and worldwide and of the use of the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme in East Asia. The representatives of Japan and Thailand made statements and audiovisual presentations.

7. The speakers reported on the activities of their authorities to counter drug trafficking and provided examples of recent arrests, interdiction cases and seizure statistics.

8. One speaker noted that methamphetamine was the primary drug of abuse in that country, followed by cannabis, as well as methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), whose abuse was on the rise. Concern was expressed regarding the high retail prices of drugs at the street level. It was further observed that there had been an increased diversification of methamphetamine sources and smuggling routes. It was noted that new psychoactive substances continued to pose challenges, and the

efforts undertaken to classify and control such substances at the national level were described.

9. One speaker provided a summary of seizures of crystalline methamphetamine (“ice”), heroin and marijuana at the national level and noted that, although “yaba” remained the main drug of abuse in that country, the abuse of “ice” had increased sharply. He noted that law enforcement efforts should be undertaken, in full respect of the rule of law, and that measures for the forfeiture of assets and counter money-laundering were needed as well.

10. The importance of law enforcement cooperation, including through sharing information and through joint operations, with neighbouring countries and in the region as a whole, was highlighted. The need to strengthen border controls and border liaison offices was noted.

11. The involvement of African drug syndicates in trafficking in drugs, in particular, heroin, cocaine and crystalline methamphetamine, in the Asia-Pacific region, was noted. Reference was also made to using air passengers as couriers and the use of postal services to smuggle drugs.

12. Appreciation was expressed for the support provided by UNODC to States in facilitating the exchange of information on drug trafficking in the region. Furthermore, support was expressed for the global SMART programme.

III. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

13. At its 2nd meeting, on 21 October 2014, the Meeting considered item 4 of its agenda, entitled “Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific”.

14. The Thirty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 30 October to 2 November 2012, had adopted a set of recommendations, following the consideration of topics by working groups at that meeting. A questionnaire on the implementation of the recommendations had been dispatched to Governments on 10 June 2014 for responses by 15 August 2014.

15. The Meeting had before it a note by the Secretariat prepared on the basis of information provided by Governments in response to the questionnaire sent to all States members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/38/3). The document reflected the replies received by 26 September 2014 from Armenia, Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, France, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore and Viet Nam. Shortly before or during the Meeting, completed questionnaires were also received from Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Thailand.

16. A representative of the Secretariat introduced the item and highlighted the issues related to the implementation of recommendations from the report.

Statements were made by the representatives of Iran (Islamic Republic of), Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Bangladesh and China. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran also made an audiovisual presentation.

17. Speakers described efforts undertaken to adopt and/or strengthen relevant national legislation and regulations and to counter drug trafficking, including trafficking in synthetic drugs. One speaker described measures taken against the diversion of chemical precursors, such as ephedrine, and other measures to counter drug trafficking, which included the establishment of forensic laboratories and the organization of training courses for front-line officers. Efforts at the international level included bilateral meetings with counterparts in other countries and strengthening cooperation at the regional level. It was noted that, in addition to the continuing use of drug couriers, new modes of trafficking synthetic drugs had been identified, such as concealing them in postal parcels, furniture and baggage shipped by air. The speaker recommended that countries that manufactured ephedrine and red phosphorus closely oversaw the sale of precursors.

18. One speaker referred to a new trend, namely an increase in the number of small-scale “kitchen” laboratories. As precursors extracted from non-prescription cold medicines were used in those laboratories, it was recommended that the sale of large amounts of such medicines should be restricted.

19. Challenges identified by speakers included insufficient cooperation among countries, the decreasing number of countries participating in joint international operations to control precursors and issues related to dealing with non-scheduled substances at the national level.

20. One speaker noted that enhanced collaboration was required in order to develop sustainable alternative development programmes. It was noted that priority should be given to sharing information and experiences, and the need for improved networking among authorities at the national, bilateral and regional levels was emphasized. Some speakers referred to inter-agency task forces established at the national level to counter drug trafficking. The importance of international judicial cooperation was noted.

IV. Consideration of topics by working groups

21. At its 3rd to 5th meetings, on 22 and 23 October 2014, the Meeting established working groups to examine the three issues under item 5 of its agenda, entitled “Consideration of topics by working groups”. The observations made by the working groups and the conclusions reached after consideration of the issues are presented below. The recommendations made by the working groups and adopted by the Meeting are presented in section I above.

Issue 1. Responding to trafficking in synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances and preventing the diversion of chemical precursors

22. The working group on issue 1 met during the 3rd and 4th meetings, held on 22 October 2014. During its consideration of the issue, the working group made the following observations:

(a) The consumption of methamphetamine remained at a high level across the region, with demand being fed by trafficking syndicates from West Africa, West Asia and Mexico;

(b) Many new psychoactive substances that were marketed created the illusion of legality while exploiting gaps in legislation that would normally ban them or restrict their distribution;

(c) Many users of new psychoactive substances might not be aware of exactly what they were taking and, instead, believe that the substance they were consuming to be a drug they are familiar with;

(d) National lists of banned new psychoactive substances should be compiled and shared among law enforcement authorities, chemical industry regulatory authorities and chemical companies.

23. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Closer cooperation in the exchange of information about suspects, routes and modus operandi between law enforcement agencies on shared land borders was needed if authorities were to act more effectively against the cross-border trafficking of amphetamine-type stimulants;

(b) Health services needed to be familiar with the range of new psychoactive substances on their local drug markets, their pharmacology and toxicology, how to identify them and how best to respond in emergency situations;

(c) National drug laboratories needed assistance in identifying the broad range of new psychoactive substances, given the ease and speed of modifying their chemical structure;

(d) The lists of chemical substances banned or restricted at the national level that were used in the manufacture of new psychoactive substances should be shared and made available to the law enforcement and chemical regulatory authorities of other countries.

Issue 2. Measures to amend legislation, agency practices and procedures that may improve the responses of national authorities to challenges posed by drug trafficking and related organized criminal offences

24. The working group on issue 2 met during the 4th meeting, held on 22 October 2014. During its consideration of the issue, the working group made the following observations:

(a) While existing national legislation generally supported the efforts of drug law enforcement authorities across the region, the rapid growth in the number of new psychoactive substances entering the drug market required countries to continually monitor and update legislation to ensure that it kept pace with that growth;

(b) The ongoing efforts by UNODC to disseminate information regarding implementation of the international drug conventions and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, national legislation, case law and research through its Legal Library on Drug Control and the knowledge management portal known as Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime (SHERLOC) were welcomed;

(c) Significant differences in legislation and penalties among countries in the Asia-Pacific region resulted in some countries being unable to work easily together to conduct joint operations and controlled deliveries;

(d) If legislation and control lists of new psychoactive substances were more closely aligned across the region, the movement of such substances from countries with comprehensive controls to those with fewer controls would diminish.

25. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Awareness-raising and training for law enforcement agencies on new drug and related legislation, together with any new amendments to existing codes and procedures, with particular reference to new psychoactive substances, would be an important way of countering the spread of such substances, but would require an ongoing commitment to be effective;

(b) The current differences in legislation and penalties between some of the countries of the Asia-Pacific region must be addressed if the difficulties currently encountered when attempting to work together in conducting joint operations and controlled deliveries were to be overcome;

(c) Law enforcement authorities must be supported with legislation that enabled them to investigate and collect evidence of trafficking and organized crime that involved the use of the Internet or electronic data storage devices such as telephones and personal computers;

(d) The review and update of its model legislative provisions on drug control currently being undertaken by UNODC would ensure that the guidelines reflected an appropriate balance that enabled adequate access to internationally controlled drugs, while at the same time preventing their diversion and abuse.

Issue 3. Collaboration and coordination among drug law enforcement agencies

26. The working group on issue 3 met during the 5th and 6th meetings, held on 23 October 2014. During its consideration of the issue, the working group made the following observations:

(a) A collaborative, whole-of-Government approach by law enforcement agencies was essential to combat drug trafficking;

(b) Memorandums of understanding concluded between agencies were important foundations for institutionalized and ongoing cooperation;

(c) A range of bilateral and multilateral agreements were currently in place between the various drug enforcement agencies in the Asia-Pacific region that supported joint approaches to combating drug trafficking;

(d) When undertaking multi-jurisdictional law enforcement operations, it was important to take into account differences in communication media (such as

telephone, e-mail and fax), security of intelligence, time zone differences, common working language, platforms for shared and common data storage, differences in legislation and agency powers, and trust-building;

(e) It was important to build close inter-agency partnerships with foreign law enforcement counterparts;

(f) The 1993 Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control between the countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion had proven to be a valuable platform for regional cooperation in law enforcement against drug trafficking and organized crime;

(g) The Meeting acknowledged the introduction made regarding the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Narcotics Cooperation Centre as an alternative way for law enforcement agencies of ASEAN countries and other States to work together;

(h) The representative of Japan mentioned Operation WESTERLIES, a global enforcement operation against trafficking in methamphetamine and narcotic drugs by air passengers. The third operation was to be implemented in December 2014.

27. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Because much of the illicit drug manufacture affecting the region occurred outside the region, it was important for law enforcement agencies to pursue collaboration and information-sharing agreements with their foreign counterparts;

(b) Inter-agency cooperation in drug law enforcement should aim to include information-sharing, the pooling of resources, agreement on the execution of joint operations and designated focal points for regular contact and communication;

(c) Cooperation between law enforcement agencies for the sharing of information allowed for a clearer, more consolidated strategic intelligence picture of illicit drug markets and organized crime, leading to the development of more effective responses;

(d) Institutionalized cooperation between law enforcement agencies improved capacities to correctly assess threats and respond effectively to risk;

(e) Although inter-agency cooperation was discussed extensively, difficulties remained in implementing it;

(f) UNODC support was needed to improve the exchange of information on drug trafficking between the Asia-Pacific region and Latin America and the Caribbean and Africa.

V. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

28. At its 2nd meeting, on 21 October 2014, the Meeting considered item 6 of its agenda, entitled “Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016”. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.

29. The Secretary of the Meeting introduced the item. She highlighted the measures contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action that stressed the need for international cooperation in countering the world drug problem, in recognition of the fact that it remained a common and shared responsibility that required an integrated, multidisciplinary and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction. The Secretary informed the meeting that, at its fifty-seventh session, in March 2014, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs had conducted a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and had adopted a Joint Ministerial Statement in which achievements, challenges and priorities for further action, in the framework of the international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, were identified.

30. The representatives of Japan, Thailand, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation made statements.

31. A number of speakers expressed the concern of their countries regarding the trends in favour of legalization in some countries and some parts of civil society, which could harm the international drug control mechanism, based on the three conventions. They noted that illicit drugs undermined the security and development of societies and that the international drug control treaties were not being adequately implemented.

32. It was emphasized that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies should have a leading role in the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 and that UNODC, as the leading entity in the United Nations system for countering the world drug problem, should substantively and technically contribute to that process. The important role of INCB was noted as well. It was proposed that full support be provided jointly to UNODC, by States in the region, in moving forward with the preparatory process for that special session.

33. The proposal of the Russian Federation to further enhance international cooperation in the following areas was welcomed: the elimination of organized criminal groups all over the world; the implementation of the main international drug control conventions and prohibition of legalization of any drugs controlled under those conventions; the prevention of the laundering of proceeds of crime derived from the drug business; and the establishment of alternative development in drug-producing regions and in regions experiencing economic difficulties with a high level of drug demand.

34. It was emphasized that Member States and the international community should work more closely together in order to better respond to current threats, in view of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly in 2016.

35. It was proposed that a common position of the countries from the Asia-Pacific region could be presented to the Commission at its fifty-eighth session, to be held in March 2015.

36. It was also noted that higher priority should be placed on addressing issues related to synthetic drugs, such as amphetamine-type stimulants, and new psychoactive substances.

37. One speaker welcomed the inclusion of the item in the agenda of the Meeting and reaffirmed his country's commitment to the international legal drug control framework and to the continued implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. He also noted that sustainable development played a key role in solving the world drug problem and welcomed the support by Member States for the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development.

38. Support was expressed for the ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force and for the continued implementation of the 1993 Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control between the countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion. Reference was also made to the Asia-Pacific Information and Coordination Centre for Combating Drug Crimes. Support was expressed for the UNODC regional programme for South-East Asia and the Pacific.

VI. Organization of the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

39. At its 6th meeting, on 23 October 2014, the Meeting considered agenda item 7, entitled "Organization of the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific". For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it the note by the Secretariat on the organization of the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/38/4), and a conference room paper on the standard letter of agreement and conference requirements for hosting a meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/38/CRP.2).

40. The representatives of Australia and Indonesia made statements.
41. It was proposed that the Meeting should consider, for discussion by future working groups, topics such as current trends in relation to drugs, successful solutions and practices applied by law enforcement authorities in countries across the region and the harmonization of regulations among countries, with a view to enhancing cooperation.
42. The Chair instructed the Secretariat to formulate those topics into themes for consideration by working groups on the basis of the priorities in the region and in consultation with States represented at meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, as required.
43. It was noted that the format of having smaller working groups had resulted in productive discussions.
44. No offer to host the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, was made at the Thirty-eighth Meeting. The Secretariat would be in contact with the Bureau and interested Member States with a view to identifying a host for the Thirty-ninth Meeting.
45. The Meeting approved the following provisional agenda for the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific:
 1. Election of officers.
 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
 3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
 4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.
 5. Consideration of topics by working groups: [to be determined].
 6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.
 7. Organization of the Fortieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.
 8. Other business.
 9. Adoption of the report of the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.

VII. Other business

46. At its 6th meeting, on 23 October, the Meeting considered agenda item 8, entitled "Other business". No issues were raised under the agenda item.

VIII. Adoption of the report

47. At its 7th meeting, on 24 October 2014, the Meeting considered item 9 of its agenda and adopted the report of the Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/38/L.1 and Add.1-7), as orally amended, including the reports of the working groups and the recommendations contained therein.

IX. Organization of the Meeting

A. Opening and duration of the Meeting

48. The Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, was held in Bangkok from 21 to 24 October 2014. The representative of the Executive Director of UNODC opened the Meeting. The Minister of Justice of Thailand, the Deputy Director of the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation and the Second Vice-President of INCB made statements. The Meeting also viewed a video statement by the Chair of the Commission on Narcotics Drugs at its fifty-seventh session.

B. Attendance

49. The following States members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific were represented: Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Myanmar, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.

50. Hong Kong, China, and Macao, China, as associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, were represented.

51. The Colombo Plan Secretariat, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and INCB were also represented by observers.

52. UNODC served as the secretariat of the Meeting.

C. Election of officers

53. At its 1st meeting, on 21 October 2014, the Meeting elected the following officers by acclamation:

<i>Chair:</i>	Rachanikorn Sarasiri (Thailand)
<i>First Vice-Chair:</i>	Hoo Kyoong Kim (Republic of Korea)
<i>Second Vice-Chair:</i>	Guojun An (China)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Bruce Hill (Australia)

D. Adoption of the agenda

54. At the same meeting, the Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups:
 - (a) Responding to trafficking in synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances and preventing the diversion of chemical precursors;
 - (b) Measures to amend legislation, agency practices and procedures that may improve the responses of national authorities to challenges posed by drug trafficking and related organized criminal offences;
 - (c) Collaboration and coordination among drug law enforcement agencies.
6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.
7. Organization of the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report of the Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.

E. Documentation

55. The documents before the Meeting are listed in the annex to the present report.

F. Closure of the Meeting

56. Closing remarks were made by the Chair of the Meeting.

Annex

List of documents before the Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

<i>Document number</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
UNODC/HONLAP/38/1	2	Annotated provisional agenda
UNODC/HONLAP/38/2	3	Report of the Secretariat on statistical analysis of drug trafficking trends in East, South-East and South Asia, in Oceania and worldwide
UNODC/HONLAP/38/3	4	Note by the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific
UNODC/HONLAP/38/4	7	Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific
UNODC/HONLAP/38/L.1 and Add.1-7	9	Draft reports
UNODC/HONLAP/38/CRP.1	3	Note by the Secretariat on regional and subregional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific
UNODC/HONLAP/38/CRP.2	7	Note by the Secretariat on the standard letter of agreement and conference requirements for hosting a Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific
UNODC/HONLAP/38/CRP.3-18	3	Country reports
UNODC/HONLAP/38/CRP.19	5 (a)	List of “designated substances”, submitted by Japan