

Revised Draft Political Declaration
(as of 2 March 2009, 20:00)

One decade after the commitments made at the twentieth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly¹ to address the world drug problem² and notwithstanding the ever-increasing efforts and progress made by States, relevant international organizations and the civil society, the drug problem has continued pose a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity in particular youth, our most precious asset. Furthermore, the world drug problem undermines sustainable development, political stability, democratic institutions, including efforts to eradicate poverty, and threatens national security and rule of law. Drug trafficking and abuse pose a major threat to the health, dignity and hopes of millions of people and their families, and leads to the loss of human lives. We are determined to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to ensure that all people may live in health, dignity, peace, with security and prosperity; therefore: **Agreed**

We the States Members of the United Nations,

Gravely concerned about the growing threat posed by the world drug problem, and having assembled, in a spirit of trust and cooperation, at the high-level segment of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs during its fifty second session to decide upon future priorities and urgent action to counter the world drug problem beyond 2009, and mindful of the important lessons learned from the implementation of the political declaration, action plans and guidelines, adopted at the 20th special session, with the aim of achieving measurable results. **Agreed**

Fully aware that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility, which requires effective and increased international cooperation, and demands an integrated, multi-disciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies, **Agreed**

1. *Reaffirm* our unwavering commitment to ensure that all aspects of demand reduction, supply reduction, and international cooperation are undertaken in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the UN and international law, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, and particularly with full respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and for the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States; **Agreed**

2. *Reaffirm* that the ultimate goal of both demand, supply reduction and sustainable development strategies is to minimize and eventually eliminate the availability and use of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances, in order to ensure the health and welfare of humankind, encourage the exchange of best practices in demand

¹ Write the signature of the documents adopted at this special session and the year

² WRITE DOWN THE DEFINITION FROM THE POLITICAL DECLARATION OF 1998

and supply reduction, and *emphasize* that each strategy is ineffective in the absence of the other; **Agreed**

3. *Assert* that the world drug problem is most effectively addressed through multilateral setting and that the three international drug control conventions³ and other relevant international instruments remain the cornerstone of the international drug control system and urge all MS, that had not yet done so, to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to those instruments; **Agreed**

4. *Support* the traditional and established supplier countries to maintain a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opioids and opiate raw materials used for medical and scientific purposes. **Agreed**

5. *Reaffirm* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and its Action Plan, the Action Plan on International Co-operation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, and the joint statement adopted at the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs⁴; **Agreed**

6. *Recall also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the provisions of the 2005 World Summit Outcome addressing the world drug problem, the political declaration on HIV/AIDS and other relevant UN resolutions, including res. 63/197, and those on regional and international cooperation to prevent diversion and smuggling of precursors;* **Agreed**

7. *Note* the commemoration in Shanghai on 26-27 February 2009, of the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission; **Agreed**

8. *Express our deep concern at* the high price paid by society, individuals and their families in the fight against the world drug problem, and *pay special tribute* to law enforcement and judicial personnel who have sacrificed their lives, as well as health care and civil society personnel who have dedicated themselves to addressing this scourge; **Agreed**

9. *Acknowledge* the important contribution made by women to curb the world drug problem, and commit to ensure that drug policies, measures and interventions take into account the specific needs and circumstances that women face in regard to drug problems, and *decide* to undertake effective measures to ensure that women and men have access to, and benefit equally and without discrimination from drug policies and strategies, through their active involvement in all stages of programmes and policy development and implementation; **Agreed**

10. *Welcome* the important role played by civil society, in particular NGOs, in addressing the world drug problem, and note with appreciation their important contribution to the UNGASS review process. Representatives of affected populations and civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation and implementation of drug demand and supply reduction policy; **Agreed**

³ List conventions

⁴ write down all signatures of these documents

11. *Welcome* the reports of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the world drug problem and the world drug report and the annual reports of the INCB, and, on the basis of these reports, recognize that some progress has been made, through positive achievements, at international, regional and local levels in implementing the political declaration adopted at the Twentieth Special Session of the UNGASS on world drug problem, but considerable challenges remain and new challenges have surfaced, to sustainably reduce, or at least effectively contain, production, trafficking and consumption of illicit drugs **Agreed**

12. While acknowledging the continuing efforts made and progress achieved in countering the world drug problem, *note* with great concern the unprecedented surge in illicit opium production and trafficking, the continuing illicit cocaine production and trafficking, the increasing illicit cannabis production and trafficking, and the increasing diversion of precursors, as well as related distribution and consumption of illicit drugs. Stress the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at national, regional and international level, to tackle these global challenges in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better coordinated technical and financial assistance. **Agreed**

13. *Agree* that amphetamine-type stimulants and psychotropic substances continue to pose a serious and constantly evolving challenge to international drug control efforts, which threatens the security, health and welfare of population, especially youth, and requires a focused and comprehensive national, regional and global response, based upon scientific-evidence and experience, within an international and multi-sectoral setting. **Agreed**

14. *Decide* to continue to raise public awareness of the risks as well as the threats posed to all societies by the different aspects of the world drug problem; **Agreed**

15. Take account of the need for indicators and instruments for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable and comparable data on all relevant aspects of the world drug problem and, where appropriate, enhancing or developing new ones and recommend to the CND to take further measures addressing this issue. **Agreed**

16. *Reaffirm* the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies, together with INCB, as the United Nations organs with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and we *decide* to promote and facilitate the effective implementation of and follow-up to this Political Declaration and its Plan of Action; **Agreed**

17. *Reaffirm* our support and appreciation for the efforts of the United Nations, and of the Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading office within the United Nations system in countering the world drug problem. We reiterate our intention to continue improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC and stress the need for adequate and stable financial resources to fulfill its mandates effectively. We also request the UNODC to continue its efforts to implement all its mandates under the international drug control conventions as well as other relevant international instruments and to continue to cooperate with relevant regional and international institutions and governments, by providing, inter alia, technical assistance to Member States that request it. **Agreed**

18. *Reaffirm* the leading role of the International Narcotics Control Board, as an independent treaty based body in the implementation of the international drug control conventions within its mandate, including the control of substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and welcome its annual reports; and support the Board in implementing all its mandates under these conventions; **Agreed**

19. *Call* for continued cooperation between Member States, INCB and WHO in this regard, to ensure the adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including opiates, under international control for medical and scientific purposes, while concurrently preventing diversion to illicit channels in accordance with the international drug control conventions; **Agreed**

20. *Note* with great concern the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole and reaffirm our commitment to tackle these problems in the context of comprehensive, complementary and multisectoral drug demand reduction strategies, in particular for youth. Also *note* with great concern the alarming rise of the spread of HIV/AIDS and other blood borne illnesses among injecting drug users, and reaffirm our commitment to work towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and related support services, in full compliance with the international drug control treaties and in accordance with national legislations, and taking into account all relevant UNGA Resolutions and, when applicable, the “UNODC, UNAIDS, WHO Technical Guide” and request UNODC to carry out its mandate in this regard in close cooperation with relevant UN Organizations and Programmes, such as the WHO, UNDP and Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS. **Agreed**

21. *Reiterate* our commitment to promote, develop, review or strengthen effective, comprehensive, integrated and scientific evidence based drug demand reduction programs, covering a range of measures including primary prevention, early intervention, treatment and care, rehabilitation and reintegration into society and related support services, aimed at promoting the health and social well being among individuals, families and communities, and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, taking into account particular challenges posed by high risk drug users in full compliance with three international drug control treaties, and in accordance with national legislations. Also commit to investing increased resources in order to ensure access to these interventions on a non-discriminatory basis, including in detention facilities bearing in mind that these interventions should also consider vulnerabilities that undermine human development, such as poverty and social marginalization. **Agreed**

22. Consistent with the objective of promoting a society free of drug abuse, *reaffirm* our determination, within the framework of national, regional and international strategies to counter the world drug problem to take effective measures to emphasise and facilitate healthy, productive and fulfilling alternatives to the illicit consumption of drugs, which must not become accepted as a way of life. **Agreed**

23. *Reaffirm* our commitment to invest in and work with youth in a range of settings, including families, schools, the workplace, and the community by raising public awareness and providing them with information, skills and opportunities to choose healthy lifestyles, *taking into account* the World Programme of Action for Youth, and in co-ordination with the UN Programme on Youth; **Agreed**

24. *Recognize that:*

a) Sustainable crop control strategies for illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances require international cooperation on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility, and an integrated and balanced approach taking into account rule of law and, where appropriate, security concerns with full respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

b) These crop control strategies include, inter alia;

- alternative development and, where appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes,
- eradication
- law enforcement measures

c) These strategies should be, in full conformity with Article 14 of the 1988 Convention, appropriately coordinated and phased in accordance with national policies in order to achieve sustainable eradication of illicit crops. Furthermore, we undertake to increase long-term investment in these strategies, coordinated with other development measures, in order to also contribute towards sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication in affected rural areas, taking due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historic evidence of such use, and the protection of the environment. **Agreed**

25. *Reiterate* our commitment to promote and implement balanced policies and strategies towards precursor control with a view to preventing diversion of precursors for illicit manufacture of drugs, while ensuring that the legitimate trade and use are not adversely affected. **Agreed**

26. *Emphasize* that continued and persistent national, regional and international efforts, based upon improved understanding of the problem through scientific-evidence, as well as sharing of experiences, forensic data and information, are essential to prevent the diversion of precursors and other substances under international control to the illicit production and manufacturing of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including amphetamine-type stimulants; **Agreed**

27. *Express* our deep concern for the growing violence resulting from the activities of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking, and *call* for urgent measures to prevent those criminal organizations from acquiring the means, in particular firearms and ammunition, to pursue their criminal activities; **Agreed**

28. *Stress* the need to urgently respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links, between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including human trafficking, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and in some cases terrorism and money laundering and its links with the financing of terrorism and the significant challenges faced by law enforcement and judicial authorities in responding to the ever-changing means utilized by transnational criminal organizations to avoid detection and prosecution; **Agreed**

29. *Recognize* that, despite our past efforts, illicit drug cultivation, production,

manufacturing, distribution and trafficking has increasingly consolidated as a criminally organized industry which generates enormous amounts of money, laundered through financial and non-financial sectors. We therefore *commit* ourselves to strengthening effective and comprehensive implementation of anti-money laundering regimes, as well as international cooperation, including judicial co-operation, in order to prevent, detect and prosecute such crimes, dismantle criminal organizations, and confiscate their illicit proceeds. We also recognize the need for training for law enforcement and judicial personnel to exploit the tools available in the international framework and encourage the development of such training. **Agreed**

30. *Acknowledge* the entering into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and recognize that those conventions and other relevant international instruments constitute valuable tools to confront the world drug problem and urge MS that had not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to those instruments; **Agreed**

31. *Acknowledge* the importance of promoting, in order to enhance the effectiveness of measures in drug control, an integrated approach in drug policies, including comprehensively addressing the impact and consequences and strengthening coordination and assessment of implementation of such measures. **Agreed**

32. *Recognize* that transit countries are faced with multi-faceted challenges resulting from illicit drugs trafficking through their territories, and reaffirm our willingness to cooperate with these countries and assist them in progressively enhancing their capacities to counter the world drug problem. **Agreed**

33. *Undertake* to promote international, regional and bilateral cooperation, including through intelligence sharing and cross-border cooperation to combat more effectively the world drug problem, in particular encouraging and supporting such cooperation by those States most directly affected by illicit cultivation, production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; **Agreed**

34. *Call* for increased technical and financial assistance to Member States, in particular for those most directly affected by the world drug problem in order to ensure effective capacity to prevent and respond to this threat in all its forms and manifestations; **Agreed**

35. *Commit* to increase cooperation at regional and international level and with due regard to situations where States are significantly affected by illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and illicit trafficking in drugs and precursors, in order to counter the world drug problem and its impact on political stability, democratic institutions, security, rule of law and sustainable development, including efforts to eradicate poverty. **Agreed**

36. *Decide* to establish the year 2019 as a target date for States, with a view to eliminating or reducing significantly and measurably; a) the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush, and the cannabis plant, b) the illicit demand for narcotic and psychotropic drugs, and drug-related health and social risks; c) the illicit production, manufacture, marketing trafficking and distribution of psychotropic substances including

synthetic drugs d) the diversion and illicit trafficking of precursors, and e) money-laundering related to illicit drugs; **Agreed**

37. *Recognize* the need for increasing investment in research and evaluation in order to properly implement and assess, based on evidence, effective policies and programmes to counter the world drug problem. **Agreed**

38. *Adopt* the annexed Plan of Action, which constitutes an integral part of this declaration and complements the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session⁵, the Action Plan⁶ for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction⁷, and the Action Plan on International Co-operation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session⁸. **Agreed**

39. *Commit to* implement effectively the Political Declaration and its Plan of Action through resolute international cooperation, in collaboration with relevant international and regional organizations, with full assistance of the international financial institutions and other relevant agencies as well as in cooperation with civil society, including NGOs as well as the private and public sectors, and report biennially to the Commission on their efforts for their full implementation; and also consider necessary, in this regard, that the Commission includes at each of its annual sessions a specific agenda item on the follow-up to this declaration and its Plan of Action. **Agreed**

40. *Decide* to conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Members States of this Political Declaration and its Plan of Action at the Commission in 2014; *recommend* that the Economic and Social Council devote one of its high-level segments to a theme related to the world drug problem; *further recommend* that the General Assembly holds a Special Session to address the world drug problem. **Agreed**

⁵ Resolution S-20/2, annex.

⁶ Resolution A/RES/54/132, annex.

⁷ Resolution S-20/3, annex,

⁸ Resolution S-20.4, annex