

8. Contribuciones de la República Federativa de Brasil

Contribution of Brazil to the final document of UNGASS 2016

The UNGASS 2016 is a unique opportunity for a serious and realistic reflection about the world drug problem, so as to encourage policies that are based on scientific evidence and the respect for Human Rights.

The framework of the three United Nations Drug Control Conventions is wide and flexible enough to accommodate different national experiences.

The ultimate goal of the Conventions is to guarantee the health and welfare of mankind, which means that individuals and their fundamental rights should be the focus of drug policies.

For that purpose, it is necessary to promote a balance between investments in supply and demand reduction policies. These two dimensions should be considered of equal importance.

In this context, and in view of the process established by the UNGASS Board, Brazil proposes the following recommendations to the final document of the UNGASS, listed according to the sequence of the thematic areas suggested by CND Resolution 58/8:

1. Improvement of drug use prevention policies through the development of crosscutting, multidisciplinary and integrated programs, formulated on the basis of scientific evidence and from the perspective of the most vulnerable groups, without any stigmatization of people who use drugs;
2. End of compulsory treatment policies and commitment to treatments based on scientific evidence;
3. Promotion of access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes related with pain relief and palliative care for drug dependence;
4. Reassessment of the classification of substances subject to the international drug control regime with a view to better harmonizing it with the model lists of essential medicines of the World Health Organization, so as to facilitate access to these substances for medical treatment;
5. Promotion of harm reduction policies related to the problematic drug use, including stimulants, based on scientific evidence and successful international experiences;
6. Promotion, including the possibility of public financing, of scientific research with psychoactive substances, especially regarding its pharmacological and neurophysiological effects/aspects, with a view to guaranteeing the production of evidence for the development of public policies for people who use drugs;
7. Special attention to countering the strongest links of illicit drug markets and organized crime chains, using, for that purpose, the tools provided by the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
8. Reinforcement of mechanisms of control of financial flows, aiming at identifying and countering the laundering of proceeds of drug trafficking;
9. Cooperation between States Parties for enhanced timeliness in the freezing and recovery of proceeds of drug trafficking;

10. Adoption of measures to strengthen coordination and international cooperation between police and judicial institutions of States Parties, with a focus on intelligence actions, so as to optimize the resources invested by countries in policies to counter drug trafficking and organized crime;

11. Abolition of the death penalty for drug-related crimes; immediate moratorium of executions for drug-related crimes; and, in the case of foreign convicts, commutation of the death penalty for the maximum penalty in their country of origin;

12. Enhancement of arrangements for the transfer of foreigners convicted for drug related crimes, in order to allow sentences to be served in their country of origin, with consent of the convict;

13. Assurance of the proportionality of sentences for drug trafficking, according to the real gravity of the offence;

14. Adoption of alternatives to incarceration for minor drug-related offences;

15. Definition of quantity thresholds to differentiate between people who use drugs and drug traffickers, so as to avoid the conviction of users as traffickers;

16. Development of continuous training programs for police forces, aiming at proportional and adequate responses to incidents involving people who use drugs and small traffickers;

17. Definition of adequate judicial proceedings that acknowledge the special vulnerability of women involved in drug-related crimes, particularly when they are pregnant, are responsible for children or have acted as "mules";

18. Recognition of the need for special attention to vulnerable groups, with priority to groups with a history of exclusion from public policies, such as people of African descent, women, indigenous peoples, LGBT and homeless people;

19. Promotion of integral care programs with a focus on the youth, involving education, training and access to housing, employment and income, so as to reduce vulnerability and, thus, the influence of organized crime;

20. Development of policies with a focus on the reduction of stigmatization of the youth, especially of vulnerable groups that are considered to be associated with drug trafficking;

21. Creation of new indicators to measure the success of drug policies based on new approaches and initiatives, having as reference new goals of prevention and harm reduction related to problematic drug use.