

I.R. of Iran

Introduction:

In 2012, the UN General Assembly decided to hold a Special Session on drugs (UNGASS) in 2016: to review the progress 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, 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.

Commission on Narcotic (CND):

Recognizing the Commission on Narcotic (CND) leading role, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations for drug-related matters, in the preparations for the special session to be held in 2016.

Conventions:

Assert that the world drug problem is most effectively addressed in a multilateral setting and that the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments remain the cornerstone of the international drug control system, and urge all Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to those instruments.

Demand reduction:

Recognizing that substance use disorders as a medical condition that can be prevented, treated and from which one can recover:

Reiterate our commitment to promote, develop, review or strengthen effective, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programs, based on evidence - scientific evidence covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and related support services, aimed at promoting 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.

Recommitting ourselves to investing increased resources in ensuring access to those interventions on a non-discriminatory basis,

Reaffirm the need to address the issues of injecting drug use and sharing of needles, syringes and other infected equipment, as a significant route for the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases.

Supply Reduction:

Reaffirm that the ultimate goal of both demand and supply reduction strategies 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 and encourage the exchange of best practices in demand and supply reduction, and emphasize that each strategy is ineffective in the absence of the other. Accordingly, law enforcement institutions should coordinate with public health and social services agencies

Ensure that the international response to the drug problem continues to be pursued as a common and shared responsibility, requiring a balanced approach for purposes of international cooperation and the provision of technical assistance.

Acknowledge that the challenges of drugs and related crime in the community are cross-cutting, different in every country, and that there is no single approach or set of policies that will solve the problem in all circumstances.

Encourage the consideration of alternatives to incarceration and other criminal justice reform for **minor non-violent drug-related offenses** with a view to deterring crime, achieving the rehabilitation and reintegration into society of drug users, advancing the well-being of individuals and communities and reducing overcrowding in prisons.

Redouble efforts to cooperate against criminal enterprises trafficking in narcotics, chemical precursors and money laundering in the framework of the three UN Drug conventions and the 2009 declaration, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States .

Improve the effectiveness of border control by building on efforts to develop intelligence information sharing on drug traffickers.

Ensure that international and regional agencies working on drug supply reduction engage in dialogue to strengthen inter-agency cooperation for a more effective response, while respecting sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States.

Alternative Development:

Sustainable crop control strategies targeting the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances require international cooperation based on the principle of shared responsibility and an integrated and balanced approach, such crop control strategies include, inter alia:

- (i) Alternative development and, where appropriate, preventive alternative development programs;
- (ii) Eradication;
- (iii) Law enforcement measures;

Noting furthermore the need for Member States to undertake to increase long-term investment in such strategies, coordinated with other development measures, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication in affected rural areas.

Shared Responsibility:

Stress the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle those global challenges in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of a common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better coordinated technical and financial assistance.

Access to Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

Recognize the continuing indispensability of narcotic drugs, including opiates, for medical and scientific purposes, particularly for the relief of pain and suffering as outlined in the conventions.

Seek to prevent diversion and abuse of internationally controlled substances in accordance with the UN drug control conventions.

New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) and Chemical Control

Encourage member states to support research and development of scientific evidence for the assessment of abuse liability, dependence potential and associated individual and public health harms from NPS.

Endorse and expand support for developing early warning networks, increase voluntary controls and share information through the International Narcotics Control Board, UNODC and WHO.

Call on Member States to strengthen domestic control measures, including national legislation and regulation, to prevent the production, importation, and distribution of NPS.

Promote chemical control initiatives to prevent diversion to illicit production or NPS through international cooperation on investigations, information sharing and pre-export notification, partnership with industry, and disposal efforts.

NGOs:

Welcome the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations as well as the private and public sectors, in particular, in implementation of early prevention and prevention and harm / demand reduction policy, Commit ourselves to full support and take full advantage of the activities of non-governmental and civil society organizations to fully implement the Political Declaration and the Plan of Action

Outcome document of UNGASS:

The outcome document of the special session should be based on regional perspectives on and approaches to addressing the world drug problem with full respect for the cultural, religious and regional sensitivities of each region.

The deliberations and outcome document of the special session should be based on full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States and commitment to unconditional international cooperation

The special session should address the threats posed by the legalization of drugs in some parts of the world;

The special session should be a milestone on the way to achieving the goals and targets set in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action to be achieved by 2019, in full conformity with the three international drug control conventions