



Note No. 145/15

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the International Organisations in Vienna and has the honour to refer to the latter's note No. KPM /AG-2015-6 dated 29 July 2015 requesting for States to provide their proposals for operational recommendations to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), concerning the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem which will be held in 2016.

The Permanent Mission of Singapore has the further honour to enclose its proposals for the compilation document.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the International Organisations in Vienna the assurances of its highest consideration.

GENEVA

14 September 2015



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the International Organisations in Vienna

Vienna

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## **Singapore's Proposals concerning the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASSWDP) to be held in New York in April 2016**

At the Fourth Inter-sessional Meeting of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs held in June 2015, Member States were requested to work within their respective regional groups and provide proposals for operational recommendations concerning the UNGASSWDP, to be held in New York in April 2016. Singapore submits the following inputs:

- a. Reaffirm our commitment to promote and build a drug-free society. A drug-free society strongly rejects the scourge of drugs and does not condone its abuse in the community. Failure to deal effectively with the drug problem undermines society, in terms of stability and development, and also presents a threat to national security and the rule of law. Drug abuse affects not just the abuser but also his family and the community.
- b. Reiterate our commitment to implement a comprehensive approach towards drugs. The drug problem should continue to be addressed in a comprehensive and holistic manner, involving both demand and supply reduction measures. Upstream preventive measures, as well as downstream enforcement and intervention measures, are necessary to address the drug problem. The rehabilitation and reintegration of drug addicts into society are just as important as taking a tough stance against drug traffickers and those who wish to profit off drug addicts.
- c. Continue to adhere to the three international drug conventions in the international approach against drugs. The international approach towards drugs should continue to operate within the three international drug conventions, namely the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and the 1998 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. We should also continue to uphold the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.
- d. Reaffirm the full respect for the sovereign right of each country to decide on the best approach to address the drug problem in their countries. Each country has the sovereign right and responsibility to decide on the best approach to address the drug problem in their country, taking into account their historical, social and cultural context and norms of its society. Addressing the trans-national challenges posed by the world drug problem should include collaboration among the international community, with full respect given to sovereignty, territorial integrity of states and the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of states. Every Government and its citizens should decide for themselves on the most appropriate approach to tackling its own drug problem. No Member State should impose their approach on others. There is no one-size-fits-all approach towards the issue of drugs, as each country has its own unique set of challenges.