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**Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National  
Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin  
America and the Caribbean**

Guatemala City, 2-6 October 2017

**Annotated provisional agenda****Provisional 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 Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups:
  - (a) Coordinating the regional communication platforms supporting drug law enforcement across Latin America and the Caribbean;
  - (b) Links between illicit drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering;
  - (c) Alternatives to imprisonment for certain offences as demand reduction strategies that promote public health and safety;
  - (d) Practical measures tailored to the specific needs of children and youth to prevent and treat drug abuse among them and to address their involvement in drug-related crime.
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, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016.
7. Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.
8. Organization of the Twenty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
9. Other business.

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\* Reissued for technical reasons on 1 August 2017.

\*\* Available only in English, French and Spanish, which are the working languages of the subsidiary body.



10. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.

## **Annotations**

### **1. Election of officers**

Elections are held in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. In the past, meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, have elected a Chair, two Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters**

The draft provisional agenda for the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, was approved at the Twenty-sixth Meeting, held in Santiago from 3 to 7 October 2016.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the Twenty-seventh Meeting may wish to establish a programme of work. A proposed programme of work is contained in the annex to the present document for the consideration of the Meeting.

## **Documentation**

Annotated provisional agenda ([UNODC/HONLAC/27/1](#))

### **3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures**

Participants are invited to inform the Twenty-seventh Meeting of their States' efforts with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in areas such as joint investigations, law enforcement training and the sharing of information on and experiences with drug trafficking countermeasures.

Participants are also invited to inform the Meeting of any practical problems impeding subregional cooperation and to suggest measures to overcome them.

Participants are requested to submit to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), prior to the holding of the Twenty-seventh Meeting, a three-page country report informing the Meeting about trends in drug trafficking and, in line with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/10, providing information on supply and demand reduction efforts undertaken, as well as information on international cooperation to counter money-laundering and promote judicial cooperation. Only those country reports received by the date indicated in the invitation to the Twenty-seventh Meeting will be translated into the working languages of the Meeting.

## **Documentation**

Report of the Secretariat on statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Americas and worldwide ([UNODC/HONLAC/27/2](#))

Note by the Secretariat on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation ([UNODC/HONLAC/27/3](#))

### **4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean**

Participants are invited to inform the Twenty-seventh Meeting of action taken by their Governments to implement the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-sixth Meeting. The Twenty-seventh Meeting will have before it a note by the Secretariat based on replies received to a questionnaire concerning action taken by Governments to implement those recommendations.

## Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean ([UNODC/HONLAC/27/4](#))

### 5. Consideration of topics by working groups

Ad hoc working groups will be established to consider issues of regional importance and to facilitate informal discussions and frank exchanges of views, with a view to enhancing cooperation. The working groups are invited to present their findings, conclusions and recommendations to the plenary for endorsement and inclusion in the report of the Twenty-seventh Meeting.

On the basis of consultations on developments in the region, each working group will be invited to consider one of the issues below.

#### (a) Coordinating the regional communication platforms supporting drug law enforcement across Latin America and the Caribbean

The working group established under sub-item (a) will discuss the regional and international law enforcement platforms operating in Latin America and beyond that can support the anti-narcotics efforts of the region's drug law enforcement agencies. The working group will be encouraged to discuss the following questions: What procedures have agencies established to handle enquiries from, or make enquiries to, foreign jurisdictions? How are requests for foreign assistance coordinated nationally and who are the national focal points? What use are the region's law enforcement agencies making of their memberships in the International Criminal Police Organization, the World Customs Organization and the American Police Community, and what results are being achieved? What works, and where can improvements be made in cross-border and regional communication? There are a number of international and region-wide law enforcement coordination initiatives targeting illicit drug trafficking, such as the Airport Communication Project, the Maritime Analysis and Operation Centre — Narcotics operational initiative, the Container Control Programme, the Cocaine Route Programme and the Council for National Security and Law Enforcement of the Caribbean Community. The working group may wish to discuss how the law enforcement agencies of Latin America and the Caribbean are leveraging these initiatives to successfully intercept and investigate drug trafficking offences, and what recommendations can be proposed to make best use of those resources.

#### (b) Links between illicit drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering

Participants in the working group established under sub-item (b) will be encouraged to describe examples of the criminal economy deriving from drug trafficking in their country, share details of countermeasures established to disrupt illicit financial flows and methods, and present information on strategies introduced to prevent the laundering of the illicit proceeds of drug trafficking. Participants will be asked to share the typologies they have investigated; their experiences in the collection, analysis and exchange of information on the illicit financial flows of criminal organizations engaged in drug trafficking; and information on the investigation of money-laundering offences and the seizure and forfeiture of assets acquired by drug traffickers. The working group will be encouraged to discuss whether drug trafficking groups are engaged in and profiting from other forms of transnational organized crime such as illegal logging and deforestation, human trafficking and migrant smuggling. The questions to be addressed may include, among others, the following: What are the challenges that have had to be overcome in order to deprive criminals of such illicit profits? What recommendations can be proposed to shape future, collective initiatives to disrupt the criminal networks involved?

**(c) Alternatives to imprisonment for certain offences as demand reduction strategies that promote public health and safety**

The working group established under sub-item (c) will examine alternatives to conviction or punishment that are available, in line with the international drug control conventions, for people with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system. Participants will be encouraged to share national experiences and challenges related to the use of alternatives at the pretrial, trial and post-trial stages, providing examples of options available and relevant criteria. Participants will be invited to reflect on the impact on public health and security of establishing alternative pathways to imprisonment. The workshop will also be focused on the interface between the criminal justice system and essential health-care and social services, and promising practices in the area of coordination and cooperation between those sectors will be highlighted.

**(d) Practical measures tailored to the specific needs of children and youth to prevent and treat drug abuse among them and to address their involvement in drug-related crime**

In the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem” (General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex), Member States devoted a subsection to recommendations on cross-cutting issues, including drugs and youth, thereby highlighting the need to take into account the specific needs and circumstances faced by youth with regard to the world drug problem.

Young people affected by drug dependence are more vulnerable than those in other age groups and bear a heavy burden of violence and deprivation associated with their drug use disorders, hindering the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3, to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Underage drug offenders may be involved in various types of drug-related crime, including the production of and trafficking in drugs, urban crime, and youth and gang-related violence, and may suffer abuse as a result. Such offenders often face particular hardship when criminal justice systems are not equipped to cater to their specific needs.

The working group established under sub-item (d) will be encouraged to highlight the importance of measures that take into account the specific needs and circumstances of children and young people with regard to the world drug problem and to share national experiences in mainstreaming a focus on youth into all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of drug policies and programmes. Experiences could include work with gang members, either those involved in drug trafficking, including as couriers, or those affected by drug abuse; the establishment of public-private partnerships that provide youth at risk with training and work opportunities; and the implementation of community-focused programmes, among others. The working group will also be encouraged to serve as a platform for sharing best practices and lessons learned with regard to national initiatives to implement international instruments such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules), the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines), the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention and the UNODC/WHO international standards for the treatment of drug use disorders.

**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, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016**

In its resolution 56/10, the Commission requested the meetings of its subsidiary bodies 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 under the agenda item 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 the same resolution, the Commission encouraged Member States to consider the expertise and composition of their delegations to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies, with a view to covering the various aspects of the world drug problem (demand, supply and international cooperation) in order to hold substantive discussions on the issue and to actively participate in the above-mentioned agenda item. The Commission also requested the meetings of its subsidiary bodies, on the basis of their deliberations, to submit regional recommendations aimed at moving forward in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

The outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly set out a broad range of operational recommendations, based upon a review of the implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action as well as ways to address long-standing and emerging challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments.

The operational recommendations are grouped into the following seven thematic areas:

- Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as other health-related issues;
- Ensuring the availability of and access to controlled substances exclusively for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion;
- Supply reduction and related measures; effective law enforcement; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation;
- Cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, children, women and communities;
- Cross-cutting issues in addressing and countering the world drug problem: evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats, including new psychoactive substances, in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments;
- Strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility;
- Alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues.

Member States resolved to take the steps necessary to implement the operational recommendations, in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society, and to share with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, timely information on progress made in the implementation of those recommendations.

The Commission has started the follow-up process to the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly with a focus on implementing the operational recommendations. To that end, two rounds of discussions were held on all seven thematic areas. In October 2016, the discussions focused on the sharing of experiences, lessons learned and concrete activities already taken to implement the recommendations. The thematic discussions held in January 2017 concentrated on action that could be taken by the Commission to implement the recommendations.

More information on the follow-up process to the special session can be found on the UNODC website ([www.unodc.org/postungass2016/en/follow-up-process.html](http://www.unodc.org/postungass2016/en/follow-up-process.html)).

The Commission decided, at its sixtieth session, in March 2017, to convene a ministerial segment during its sixty-second session, to be held in Vienna in 2019, to take stock of the implementation of the commitments made to jointly address and counter the world drug problem, in particular in the light of the 2019 target date of the Political Declaration.

Under agenda item 6, Meeting participants will be invited to consider the challenges faced by the States of the region with regard to the implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action. Participants will also be invited to discuss how they could best contribute to the Commission's follow-up to the 2016 special session and the implementation of the outcome document, drawing on their technical expertise and their regional experiences.

### **Documentation**

Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/2009/28, chap. I, sect. C)

General Assembly resolution S-30/1, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem"

## **7. Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs**

In its decision 60/1, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided to examine how its subsidiary bodies could better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document, to inform its subsidiary bodies of the invitation contained in General Assembly resolution 71/211 and to invite those bodies to consider that invitation at their upcoming meetings and report back to it in due course.

The Meeting will be invited to consider the invitation by the General Assembly to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to examine how its subsidiary bodies could better contribute to the implementation of the UNGASS outcome document and will also be invited to report back to the Commission on its findings.

## **8. Organization of the Twenty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean**

The Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, will be invited to review a draft provisional agenda for the Twenty-eighth Meeting, including topics for discussion in working groups and possible venues for future meetings. A decision taken by the Twenty-seventh Meeting on the venue for the Twenty-eighth Meeting and the topics for the working groups would greatly facilitate the preparation and organization of the Twenty-eighth Meeting. The Secretariat will provide, upon request, a copy of the standard letter of agreement setting out the contributions of the United Nations and the host Government.

Participants will also be invited to discuss any other matters related to the organization of the deliberations, with a view to improving their substantive content and follow-up.

### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the Twenty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean (UNODC/HONLAC/27/5)

**9. Other business**

Under the item entitled “Other business”, the Twenty-seventh Meeting may wish to address any other important issues, such as urgent matters reflected in the country reports.

**10. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean**

The Twenty-seventh Meeting will adopt its report, including the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the working groups, on the last day of the Meeting.

## Annex

### Proposed programme of work

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Monday, 2 October 2017	8.30 a.m.		Registration
	10 a.m.		Opening of the Twenty-seventh Meeting
		1	Election of officers
		2	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
		3	Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures
	2.30 p.m.	3	Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures ( <i>continued</i> )
Tuesday, 3 October 2017	10 a.m.	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-sixth Meeting
	2.30 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups
Wednesday, 4 October 2017	10 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups ( <i>continued</i> )
	2.30 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups ( <i>continued</i> )
Thursday, 5 October 2017	10 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups ( <i>continued</i> )
	2.30 p.m.	6	Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and to the special session of the General Assembly
		7	Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Friday, 6 October 2017	10 a.m.	8	Organization of the Twenty-eighth Meeting
	2.30 p.m.	9	Other business
		10	Adoption of the report