

18 July 2018

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**Twenty-eighth Meeting of Heads of  
National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies,  
Latin America and the Caribbean**  
Santiago, 22–26 October 2018

**Annotated provisional agenda**

**Provisional agenda**

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups:
  - (a) New *modi operandi* in trafficking and trends in concealment methods and transport, and effective investigative techniques in response thereto;
  - (b) Trends in precursor control, diversion trends and trafficking routes for cocaine precursors into and through the region;
  - (c) Use of the darknet in the illicit trade in drugs and use of cryptocurrencies for money-laundering;
  - (d) Developing and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes.
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.
8. Organization of the Twenty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
9. Other business.

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



10. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-eighth 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**

The provisional agenda for the Twenty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, was approved at the Twenty-seventh Meeting, held in Guatemala City from 2 to 6 October 2017.

At its thirty-eighth session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommended that general statements concerning national trends in drug trafficking and statistics not be read out but rather be circulated in written form. Participants were therefore invited to submit to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), by 20 July 2018, a three-page country report on trends in drug trafficking during the past year. Only reports received by that date will be translated into the other working languages of the Meeting.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the Twenty-eighth 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/28/1)

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

Participants are invited to inform the Twenty-eighth Meeting about the efforts of their Governments to strengthen regional and subregional cooperation in areas such as joint investigations, law enforcement training and the sharing of information and experiences relating to measures taken to counter drug trafficking.

Participants are also invited to inform the Meeting of any practical challenges impeding subregional cooperation and about measures taken to overcome them.

The item on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in countering drug trafficking will provide an opportunity to examine current trends and the *modi operandi* used in drug trafficking, operational successes in efforts to counter trafficking in cannabis, cocaine and heroin, and other issues of relevance.

## **Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (UNODC/HONLAC/28/2)

Note by the Secretariat on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation (UNODC/HONLAC/28/3)

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

Participants are invited to inform the Twenty-eighth Meeting of action taken by their Governments to implement the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-seventh Meeting, held in Guatemala City from 2 to 6 October 2017.

The Twenty-eighth 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.

To enable the Secretariat to prepare its note on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Twenty-seventh Meeting, a note verbale was transmitted to the Governments of States members of the Meeting on 12 June 2018, urging them to return the completed questionnaire by 20 July 2018.

### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean (UNODC/HONLAC/28/4)

## **5. Consideration of topics by working groups**

Ad hoc working groups are established to review issues of regional importance and to facilitate informal discussions and frank exchanges of views on such matters. Working groups are invited to present their findings, conclusions and recommendations to the plenary for endorsement and inclusion in the report of the Meeting.

### **(a) New modi operandi in trafficking and trends in concealment methods and transport, and effective investigative techniques in response thereto**

The working group covering this topic will discuss trends that national drug law enforcement agencies are observing in concealment methods and transportation (including by commercial air transport) of drugs at the regional and interregional levels. Participants will be invited to share information on practices followed and effective techniques used in investigating complex drug trafficking cases, including controlled deliveries. They will be invited to share their experiences by discussing which challenges they faced in running operations and investigating cases, and to share their views on the best ways to address those challenges. Participants may also wish to discuss to what extent the existing mechanisms and organizations for regional and international cooperation in law enforcement are effective in supporting those operations and investigations and wish to propose ideas for improvement. The working group will conclude by proposing recommendations.

### **(b) Trends in precursor control, diversion trends and trafficking routes for cocaine precursors into and through the region**

The working group will discuss challenges that drug law enforcement agencies and regulatory authorities are confronted with when addressing the growing use of non-scheduled chemicals in clandestine laboratories. Participants will be invited to share information on the flow of non-scheduled chemicals on their territories and to identify those most commonly used in the illicit manufacture of drugs. Participants may also wish to discuss to what extent the existing regulatory frameworks and law enforcement responses are effective. The working group will conclude by proposing recommendations to support a common approach for the region.

### **(c) Use of the darknet in the illicit trade in drugs and use of cryptocurrencies for money-laundering**

The working group will discuss the growing use of the darknet in the illicit trade in drugs and the growing use of cryptocurrencies for money-laundering. Because the darknet offers criminals relative anonymity, law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units need to develop their capacity to trace cryptocurrency transactions to the owner and to conduct undercover operations on the darknet. Participants will be invited to share information on the latest trends their agencies have observed in drug trafficking on the darknet, as well as best practices in investigative practices in this area. Participants will also be invited to discuss challenges raised by the seizure

of proceeds in cryptocurrencies and ways to ensure efficient international cooperation on drug trafficking cases involving the darknet. The working group will conclude by proposing recommendations.

**(d) Developing and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes**

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 section to operational recommendations on alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; and addressing socioeconomic issues. In that section, they reiterated their commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes. Participants are encouraged to share national experiences with the promotion of inclusive economic growth and with support initiatives that contribute to the eradication of poverty and the sustainability of social and economic development. They are also encouraged to address the consequences of illicit crop cultivation and the manufacture and production of narcotic drugs. A further aim of the workshop is the sharing of best practices and lessons learned regarding the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 68/196 of 18 December 2013 and reaffirmed in resolutions 71/210 of 19 December 2016 and 72/197 of 19 December 2017.

**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 on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem at the regional level by discussing regional views on progress made in that regard under the agenda item on the follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

In the same resolution, the Commission encouraged Member States to consider the expertise and composition of their delegations to the meetings of its 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 General Assembly held a special session on the world drug problem from 19 to 21 April 2016 and, in its resolution S-30/1, adopted an outcome document entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”.

The outcome document contains a set of operational recommendations, which were formulated on the basis of a review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements as well as of 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 contained in the outcome document cover the following seven thematic areas: (a) demand reduction and related measures, including

prevention and treatment, as well as other health-related issues; (b) ensuring the availability of and access to controlled substances exclusively for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion; (c) supply reduction and related measures, effective law enforcement, responses to drug-related crime, and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation; (d) cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, children, women and communities; (e) 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; (f) strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility; and (g) alternative development, regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy and 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, 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 is conducting the follow-up process to the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly with a focus on implementing the recommendations. To that end, discussions were held on all seven thematic areas in 2016 and 2017.

In the intersessional period in 2018, the Commission will continue discussions on the implementation of the recommendations of the special session and on the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. More information can be found on the page dedicated to the meetings of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the UNODC website.

At its sixtieth session, in 2017, the Commission decided 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 and Plan of Action.

In March 2018, the Commission adopted resolution 61/10, entitled “Preparations for the ministerial segment to be held during the sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in 2019”, in which it set out organizational arrangements for the ministerial segment. The ministerial segment was to include a general debate and was to follow the format set out in the resolution. In the same resolution, the Commission decided that the ministerial segment was to include two interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables, to be conducted in parallel with the general debate in plenary, and set out details on the format of the round tables. Additional details on the ministerial segment and the way beyond 2019 will be discussed by the Commission at the intersessional meetings in September, October and November 2018.

Under the present item, participants will be invited to consider the challenges faced by the States of the region with regard to the implementation of the 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–E/CN.7/2009/12](#), 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**

Commission decision 60/1 reads as follows:

In response to the invitation contained in paragraph 97 of General Assembly resolution [71/211](#) of 19 December 2016, and mindful of the requests contained in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/10 of 15 March 2013 and the operational recommendation contained in paragraph 6 (c) of 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”, the Commission, at its 9th meeting, on 17 March 2017, decided:

(a) To examine how its subsidiary bodies can better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document;

(b) To inform its subsidiary bodies of the invitation contained in General Assembly resolution [71/211](#);

(c) To invite the subsidiary bodies to consider that invitation at their upcoming meetings and report back to the Commission in due course.

The Twenty-seventh Meeting considered the implementation of Commission decision 60/1. Information on those deliberations is contained in the report of the Meeting ([UNODC/HONLAC/27/6](#)) and in the report on action taken by the subsidiary bodies ([E/CN.7/2018/9](#)).

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

The Twenty-eighth Meeting will be invited to review a draft provisional agenda for the Twenty-ninth Meeting, including topics for discussion in working groups and possible venues for future meetings. A decision taken by the Twenty-eighth Meeting on the venue for the Twenty-ninth Meeting and the topics for the working groups would greatly facilitate the preparation and organization of the Twenty-ninth Meeting. The Secretariat will provide, upon request, a copy of the standard letter of agreement setting out the responsibilities of the United Nations and the host Government. Participants are requested to propose and discuss topics for the working groups of the Twenty-ninth Meeting.

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-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean ([UNODC/HONLAC/28/5](#))

**9. Other business**

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

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

The Twenty-eighth 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, 22 October 2018	8.30 a.m.		Registration
	10 a.m.		Opening of the Twenty-eighth Meeting
		1	Election of officers
		2	Adoption of the agenda
		3	Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures
	2.30 p.m.	3	Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures ( <i>continued</i> )
Tuesday, 23 October 2018	10 a.m.	6	Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and to the special session of the General Assembly
		4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-seventh Meeting
	2.30 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups
Wednesday, 24 October 2018	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, 25 October 2018	10 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups ( <i>continued</i> )
	2.30 p.m.	7	Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission
Friday, 26 October 2018	10 a.m.	8	Organization of the Twenty-ninth Meeting
	2.30 p.m.	9	Other business
		10	Adoption of the report