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**Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National
Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa**

Hurghada, Egypt, 18-22 September 2017

Draft report*Rapporteur:* Wasilat Audu (Nigeria)**Addendum****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**

1. At its 1st meeting on 18 September 2017, the Meeting considered agenda item 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”.
2. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it the General Assembly resolution S-30/1 entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”, and the 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).
3. The Secretary of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs made an audiovisual presentation under this agenda item. During the discussion of the item, statements were made by the representatives of South Africa, Angola, United Republic of Tanzania, Morocco, Zambia, Ghana, Côte d’Ivoire and Kenya.
4. In her statement, the Secretary of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs noted that, in its resolution 69/200, the General Assembly had requested the Commission, as the United Nations organ with primary responsibility for drug control matters, to conduct

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



the substantive and organizational preparations for a special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016. The Assembly convened the special session from 19 to 21 April 2016 and in its resolution S-30/1, adopted the outcome document entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”. The Secretary of the Commission explained the structure and substantive focus of the outcome document and referred to the activities that were being undertaken by the Commission in follow-up to the special session, including thematic discussions held by the Commission, regional level contributions, the creation of a post-special session website and awareness-raising workshops.

5. Several speakers reaffirmed the commitment of their Governments to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, the Joint Ministerial Statement and the outcome document of the special session. It was noted that the three documents were complementary and mutually reinforcing and support was expressed for the preparatory process for the sixty-second session of the Commission to be held in 2019. Reference was also made to the impact that those three documents had on States’ efforts to address the world drug problem at all levels.

6. Support was expressed for the Commission as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters and for the work of UNODC as the leading entity within the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem.

7. It was noted that the meetings of HONLEA, Africa, provided a useful platform for exchange of information on the trafficking and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

8. Appreciation was expressed for the efforts of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization for their work in assisting States to address the threats posed by precursor chemicals and new psychoactive substances, respectively. Reference was made by some speakers to joint activities undertaken in the framework of the Colombo Plan.

9. Several speakers reaffirmed their Governments’ continued commitment to the goals and objectives of the three international drug control conventions and emphasized the importance of ensuring the health, welfare and well-being of mankind. The need to advance efforts towards creating a society free of drug abuse was noted by a number of speakers.

10. It was noted that despite the progress made to date, drug trafficking and related offences continued to pose a major threat to security, health and the socioeconomic conditions in many countries. The importance of countering the cultivation, production, manufacturing and trafficking of drugs was noted and, in this regard, the principle of common and shared responsibility in the fight against drugs was highlighted.

11. Concern was expressed regarding the alarming dimensions of cocaine trafficking from Latin America through the African region. Concern was also expressed regarding the spread of new psychoactive substances.

12. Several speakers provided information on supply reduction measures taken at the national level, including particular cases and seizures. The need to review and, if necessary, adapt national legislation to current challenges, as well as to strengthen border management measures, was highlighted. The importance of reinforcing cooperation efforts at the national, subregional, regional and international levels was emphasized by several speakers, as was the need for continued exchanges of operational information and intelligence and for specific cooperation initiatives for the African region.

13. Some speakers referred to the involvement of women in drug-related crimes, to the relevant social factors and the importance of addressing this phenomenon.
 14. Several speakers emphasized that the cultivation of and trafficking in cannabis continued to be a major concern for countries in the African region and mentioned efforts taken at the national level to reduce cannabis cultivation, in particular in rural areas. The need to focus efforts on income-generating activities for farmers as well as on integrated social development and on alternative development, including the preservation of biodiversity, was highlighted.
 15. A number of speakers referred to the increasing abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances among children and youth and reaffirmed their commitment to addressing this issue.
 16. Several speakers mentioned demand reduction measures that their Governments had been undertaking, including, for example, surveys of injecting drug users, awareness-raising and education campaigns and the involvement of youth in a wide range of prevention activities. Reference was also made to the importance of providing a wide array of treatment and rehabilitation services to drug users and to national efforts in this regard.
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