

14 August 2017

English only**

**Forty-first Meeting of Heads of National
Drug Law Enforcement Agencies,
Asia and the Pacific**

Bangkok, 27-30 November 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 Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups:
 - (a) Role of the Internet in addressing drug trafficking and abuse;
 - (b) Measures to counter the illicit manufacturing of, the diversion of and trafficking in precursors;
 - (c) Effective measures for coordinating border management strategies;
 - (d) Practical measures tailored to the specific needs of children and young people to prevent and treat drug abuse among them and to address their involvement in drug-related crime, including cultivation and trafficking.
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 Forty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.
9. Other business.
10. Adoption of the report of the Forty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 3 October 2017.

** Available only in English, which is the working language of the subsidiary body.



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. Meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Asia and the Pacific, have in the past elected a Chair, two Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

The draft provisional agenda for the Forty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, was approved at the Fortieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, held in Colombo from 24 to 27 October 2016.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the Forty-first Meeting may wish to establish a timetable and agree on its organization of work. A proposed organization of work for the consideration of the Meeting is contained in the annex to the present document.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda ([UNODC/HONLAP/41/1](#))

3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its thirty-eighth session, recommended that general statements relating to national trends and statistics should not be read out, but rather should be circulated in written form. Accordingly, Governments were invited to submit to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), by 6 October 2017, a three-page report on the most recent trends in drug trafficking in their countries.

Participants are invited to inform the Forty-first Meeting about action taken by their Governments to enhance regional and subregional cooperation in areas such as joint investigations, law enforcement training and the sharing of information on and experiences in drug trafficking countermeasures.

Documentation

Report of the Secretariat on statistical analysis of drug trafficking trends in East, South-East and South Asia, in Oceania and worldwide ([UNODC/HONLAP/41/2](#))

Report of the Secretariat on regional and subregional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific ([UNODC/HONLAP/41/3](#))

4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

Participants are invited to inform the Forty-first Meeting about action taken by their Governments to implement the recommendations adopted at the Thirty-ninth Meeting. For its consideration of this item, the Forty-first Meeting will have before it a note prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the replies submitted by Governments on action taken to implement those recommendations.

To enable the Secretariat to prepare a report on the status of implementation of those recommendations, a note verbale was transmitted to Governments on 4 July 2017, urging them to return the completed questionnaire by 22 September 2017.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific ([UNODC/HONLAP/41/4](#))

5. Consideration of topics by working groups

Working groups will be established to review issues of regional importance in the area of drug control and to facilitate informal discussions and exchanges of views on those matters. Speakers with relevant specialized knowledge will be invited to make introductory presentations on those subjects to inform the working groups and facilitate discussion. In preparing for the Meeting, delegates are invited to prepare material on the topics listed below.

(a) Role of the Internet in addressing drug trafficking and abuse

The working group on this topic will examine the role played by the Internet and innovative communication technologies in the illicit drug trade and the challenges and opportunities they present in the application of national supply and demand reduction strategies. Participants will be invited to share their experiences as to how the Internet and related innovative communication technologies are being used by criminal groups involved in drug trafficking and other forms of crime. Subjects discussed may include how drug trafficking investigations undertaken by authorities are affected by the use of the Internet, what steps are being taken to address those new developments and whether current national legislation confers sufficient powers on agencies to act effectively in this evolving area of communications.

Participants may wish to include in their presentations information on the use of the darknet to thwart investigations and any successful techniques that they may have applied. In addition they may wish to consider the use of the Internet for the purpose of preventing drug abuse, including through social media and other social networks, with a view to protecting young people from the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychoactive substances that have been placed under national or international control, as well as new psychoactive substances. The working group will conclude by proposing recommendations on the best responses to the use of the Internet for the purposes of illicit drug trafficking and abuse.

(b) Measures to counter illicit manufacturing and diversion of and trafficking in precursors

In East and South-East Asia there has been a continuing expansion of the market for amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), in particular methamphetamine, with most countries in the region reporting an increase in its use. Across the region clandestine methamphetamine laboratories now have immense manufacturing capacity. Despite international controls, the two principal precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of methamphetamine, namely ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, remain available to traffickers. Where they are not available, substitute chemicals are sought. The working group on this topic may discuss, among other things, observations by the authorities of countries in the region, information on how those countries are responding to attempts to divert precursor chemicals, methods to transport diverted precursor chemicals and the methamphetamine manufactured with them around the region, and ways to address trafficking by sea in drugs concealed in commercial goods in sea containers. Transport by sea remains a primary conduit for drug trafficking, as evidenced by seizure reports. In other areas of the region, the challenges are porous land borders and trafficking by road.

Participants in the working group on this topic will be invited to share their experiences in applying controls over precursor chemicals and investigating diversion attempts, as well as to discuss observations of recent trends and measures to prevent such attempts. Participants may wish to share examples of significant ATS seizures and the information gained from their investigation. That information, together with

the content of the working group discussion, will form the basis of the Meeting's recommendations on ways to make precursor controls more effective and interceptions of ATS more successful.

(c) Effective measures for coordinating border management strategies

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". In it, Member States devoted a subsection to recommendations on strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility. In the document, Member States also identified the need to enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies to detect and identify new psychoactive substances and ATS, including methamphetamine, and promote cross-border cooperation and information-sharing, including through the use of existing International Narcotics Control Board and UNODC tools and projects, to prevent abuse and diversion. Member States also identified the need to enhance coordinated border management strategies and strengthen the capacity of border control, law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies. Although many States have already invested heavily in building the capacity of border agencies, inter-agency and cross-border coordination remains a challenge.

Participants will be invited to share information on the practical steps they have taken to encourage and strengthen inter-agency coordination and cross-border cooperation, in particular actions and strategies that have worked well and areas where more effort should be focused. They may also wish to discuss whether working more closely with other agencies has revealed new trends in trafficking, such as changes in the modus operandi of trafficking groups or trade in new drug types or other illegal commodities. Finally they may wish to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation between drug law enforcement authorities both domestically and regionally. Participants will be invited to consider these and related issues as they propose recommendations to encourage closer cooperation across the region.

(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, including cultivation and trafficking

In the same outcome document, Member States devoted a subsection to recommendations on cross-cutting issues, including on drugs and young people, thereby highlighting the need to take into account the specific needs and circumstances faced by youth with regard to the world drug problem.

Underage drug users and traffickers constitute a significant group in international drug control, and they are particularly exposed to negative risk factors. Young people affected by drug dependence are vulnerable to violence and deprivation associated with their drug use disorders, which stands in the way of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 3 (ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages), Goal 4 (ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all) and Goal 11 (make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable). Underage drug offenders and children may be involved in various types of drug-related crime including the illicit cultivation of crops, the production of drugs, trafficking in drugs, urban crime, and youth and gang-related violence, and suffer abuse as a result. They often face particular hardship when criminal justice systems are not equipped to cater to their specific needs.

The working group on this topic aims 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. Participants are encouraged 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. The

working group further aims to serve as a platform to share best practices and lessons learned regarding 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 international standards for the treatment of drug use disorders developed by UNODC and the World Health Organization. Participants are further encouraged to share national experiences on the participation of young people in drug-related crime and discuss the conditions that continue to make children and young people vulnerable to exploitation and participation in drug trafficking, including as couriers.

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, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016

In its resolution 56/10, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs 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 agenda item. In the resolution 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 special session of the General Assembly contains a set of operational recommendations formulated on the basis of a review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. The review had included an assessment of the achievements and of ways to address long-standing and emerging challenges in countering the world drug problem in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments.

The operational recommendations 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 have resolved to take the steps necessary to implement the operational recommendations in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental and civil society organizations, 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 implementing them.

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs has started to give follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly with a focus on implementing the 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 activities already undertaken to implement the recommendations. The thematic discussions held in January 2017 concentrated on action the Commission on Narcotic Drugs could take to implement the recommendations. More information on the follow-up process can be found on the UNODC website (www.unodc.org/postungass2016).

At its sixtieth session, in March 2017, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided to convene a ministerial segment during its sixty-second session, to be held in Vienna in 2019, aimed at taking 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 contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

Under the present item, participants in the Meeting 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 follow-up by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs 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.7/2009/17](#), 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

Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1 read 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 Meeting will be invited to consider the invitation by the General Assembly to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to examine how its subsidiary bodies can better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document of the special session and will also be invited to report back to the Commission on its findings.

8. Organization of the Forty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

The Forty-first Meeting is to consider a draft provisional agenda for the Forty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, including topics for discussion in working groups. A decision at the Forty-first Meeting on the venue of the Forty-second Meeting and on the topics for the working groups would greatly facilitate the preparation and organization of the Forty-second Meeting. A conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat on the standard letter of agreement and conference requirements for hosting a meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Asia and the Pacific, will be made available to participants.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the Forty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific ([UNODC/HONLAP/41/5](#))

Standard letter of agreement and conference requirements for hosting a meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Asia and the Pacific (to be issued as [UNODC/HONLAP/41/CRP.1](#))

9. Other business

Under the item entitled “Other business”, the Forty-first 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 Forty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

The Forty-first Meeting will adopt its report, including the findings and recommendations of the working groups.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>	
Monday, 27 November	8.30 a.m.	Registration	
	10 a.m.		Opening
		1	Election of officers
		2	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
	2 p.m.	3	Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures
		4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific
		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
Tuesday, 28 November	9 a.m.	7	Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission
		5	Consideration of topics by working groups
		5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
Wednesday, 29 November	9 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
	1.30 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
Thursday, 30 November	10 a.m.	8	Organization of the Forty-second Meeting
		9	Other business
	1.30 p.m.	10	Adoption of the report of the Forty-first Meeting