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**Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic
and Related Matters in the Near and
Middle East****Fifty-second session**

Beirut, 13–17 November 2017

Draft report*Rapporteur:* Muhammad Basharat Tahir Malik (Pakistan)**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 sixth meeting on 15 November 2017, the subcommission discussed agenda item 6 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, and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016”. For its consideration of the item, the participants had before them the “Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem”; the “Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the Implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action”; and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly (UNGASS) entitled “Our Joint Commitment To Effectively Addressing and Countering the World Drug Problem”.
2. The Secretary of the Subcommission introduced the agenda item. Statements were made by the representatives of Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan and Lebanon.
3. The speakers reported on measures taken by their Governments to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, as well as the operational recommendations contained in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly (UNGASS 2016).
4. As regards supply reduction, action reported by Governments included cooperation with neighbouring States for border control, the establishment of

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



specialized institutions for the training of staff in investigation techniques, exchange of information to dismantle international drug cartels and container control at borders. Action had resulted in the seizure of significant quantities of heroin, opium, amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) and new psychoactive substances (NPS).

5. With regard to action against money-laundering in connection to drug trafficking, one delegation reported on the creation of a special centre for financial investigations and the analysis of financial data, in cooperation with the banking system. Another delegation reported on the establishment of a financial intelligence unit (FIU) within its Ministry of Finance.

6. Speakers also reported on action taken to ensure the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes and prevent their diversion and abuse. Comprehensive mechanisms had also been adopted in one country to regulate the import, export, manufacture and distribution of pharmaceutical products.

7. International cooperation efforts included the provision of training to other countries, reinforced relations among peer law enforcement groups and organizations, the participation in international meetings and conferences and the posting of drug liaison officers abroad. Memorandums of understanding and extradition treaties had been signed among various countries. Other examples of international cooperation were CARICC, the Triangular Initiative between Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan, the Paris Pact Initiative and cooperation within the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). Some speakers referred to cooperation with UNODC and INCB.

8. Precursor control was being conducted, also by using the INCB PEN Online system. One speaker indicated that precursor producing and exporting countries should have in place strict checking mechanisms to prevent their misuse in countries of the region.

9. One speaker reported on the successful eradication of illicit crops in its territory. He also noted that such eradication had failed in Afghanistan, where illicit crops had been increasing every year.

10. As regards demand reduction, speakers reported on measures such as raising awareness on the danger of drug abuse and treatment and rehabilitation with community and civil society participation. One speaker reported on successfully curbing demand for heroin through prevention.

11. Some speakers reported on legislative measures that had been adopted to facilitate the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the UNGASS outcome document, such as new national drug control strategies and master plans and the reviewing of sanctions imposed for drug-related offences to discourage traffickers from recidivating. One country reported on having revised its law to limit the imposition of the death penalty to serious crime only.
