



**United Nations**

# **Commission on Narcotic Drugs**

**Report on the reconvened  
sixty-sixth session  
(7 and 8 December 2023)**

**Economic and Social Council  
Official Records, 2023  
Supplement No. 8A**



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*Note*

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

[22 December 2023]

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### *Executive summary*

The present summary has been prepared pursuant to the annex to General Assembly resolution 68/1, entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”, in which it is stated that the subsidiary bodies of the Council should, inter alia, include in their reports an executive summary, and pursuant to the annex to resolution 72/305, entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council.”

The present document contains the report on the reconvened sixty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which was held on 7 and 8 December 2023. During the session, the Commission considered strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions; the implementation of the international drug control treaties; contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; preparations for the midterm review, to be held in 2024, of progress made in implementing all international drug policy commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem; and matters relating to the organization of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission.

During its reconvened sixty-sixth session, the Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of a draft decision entitled “Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-sixth session”. In addition, the Commission adopted resolution 66/5, entitled “Budget for the biennium 2024–2025 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme”. The text of the decision and resolution are provided in chapter I.

## Chapter I

### Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

#### A. Draft decision for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

1. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

##### Draft decision

##### Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-sixth session

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-sixth session.

#### B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

2. The attention of the Economic and Social Council is drawn to the following resolution, adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its reconvened sixty-sixth session, and to the action taken pursuant to General Assembly resolution [46/185 C](#), in section XVI of which the Assembly authorized the Commission to approve the programme budget for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme:

##### Resolution 66/5

##### Budget for the biennium 2024–2025 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Exercising* the administrative and financial functions entrusted to it by the General Assembly in its resolution [46/185 C](#), section XVI, paragraph 2, of 20 December 1991,

*Having considered* the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the proposed budget for the biennium 2024–2025 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme<sup>1</sup> and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>2</sup> as well as the additional information provided to the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office for its deliberations,

*Noting with concern* the financial challenges faced by the Office owing to the shortfall in general-purpose funding affecting the ability of the Office to effectively uphold core programmatic functions, such as normative work and research,

*Noting with concern also* that, despite an increase in special-purpose funding, some challenges remain with regard to the provision by the Office of technical assistance and capacity-building to interested Member States,

1. *Notes* the alignment of the proposed budget with the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the contribution of the United Nations Office on Drugs

<sup>1</sup> See [E/CN.7/2023/13-E/CN.15/2023/17](#).

<sup>2</sup> See [E/CN.7/2023/14-E/CN.15/2023/18](#).

and Crime to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>3</sup> and other relevant transformation agendas agreed by Member States;

2. *Also notes* that the budget is based on, inter alia, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Strategy 2021–2025 and the strategy detailed under the proposed programme plan for 2024;<sup>4</sup>

3. *Further notes* that the budget is harmonized with sections 16 and 29F of the proposed programme budget of the United Nations for 2024;<sup>5</sup>

4. *Notes* that the budget focuses on general-purpose funds and also includes special-purpose funds and programme support cost income earned on special-purpose contributions, as well as regular budget resources;

5. *Also notes* that the general-purpose resources of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund are presented as a single budget and that general-purpose expenditure will be apportioned between the two funds in accordance with the income that each generates;

6. *Further notes* that the budget clearly distinguishes between general-purpose funds and programme support cost funds and that it harmonizes the use and management of those two fund categories across the two funds of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

7. *Notes* that the programme support cost resources of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund are presented as a single budget and that programme support cost expenditure will be apportioned between the two funds in accordance with the income that each generates;

8. *Approves* the projected use of general-purpose funds in the biennium 2024–2025, and invites Member States to provide contributions totalling at least 5,544,600 United States dollars;

9. *Endorses* the programme support cost funds and special-purpose estimates as indicated in the table below;

## Resource projections for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

Fund category	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		Posts	
	2022–2023 (revised)	2024–2025	2022–2023	2024–2025
<b>General-purpose</b>				
Post	3 551.0	3 883.7	11	11
Non-post	1 980.4	1 710.9		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>5 531.4</b>	<b>5 544.6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Special-purpose</b>	226 958.8	198 224.7	140	130
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>226 958.8</b>	<b>198 224.7</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>Programme support cost</b>				
Post	18 109.9	16 086.1	67	50
Non-post	6 929.9	3 855.5		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>25 036.8</b>	<b>19 941.6</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>257 527.0</b>	<b>223 710.9</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>191</b>

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

<sup>4</sup> See A/78/6 (Sect. 16).

<sup>5</sup> A/78/6 (Sect. 16) and A/78/6 (Sect. 29F).

10. *Notes* that the resource projections estimated above are subject to the availability of funding and that, in line with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Strategy 2021–2025, programmes and projects should be evaluated by the Independent Evaluation Section of the Office accordingly, upon availability of the respective funding.

## Chapter II

### Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions

3. At its 1st meeting, held jointly with the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on 7 December 2023, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 4, which read as follows:

“4. Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:

(a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(c) Working methods of the Commission;

(d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.”

4. For its consideration of item 4, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2023/3/Add.1-E/CN.15/2023/3/Add.1](#));

(b) Report of the Executive Director on gender balance and geographical representation within the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2023/12-E/CN.15/2023/16](#));

(c) Report of the Executive Director on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2024–2025 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2023/13-E/CN.15/2023/17](#));

(d) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2024–2025 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2023/14-E/CN.15/2023/18](#));

(e) Conference room paper on the draft proposed programme plan for 2025 and programme performance for 2023 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2023/CRP.15-E/CN.15/2023/CRP.11](#)).

5. The Director of the Division for Management and the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) made introductory statements. The representative of Ghana, in his capacity as Chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, also made an introductory statement.

6. Joint statements were made by the representative of Pakistan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and by the representative of the European Union, in its capacity as observer, on behalf of the European Union and its member States.

7. Statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Japan, Kenya, Sweden, Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Morocco, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Russian Federation, China, Algeria, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Türkiye and Tunisia.

8. Statements were also made by the observers for Belarus and Jordan. The observer for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean made a statement. The observer for the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice made a statement, also on behalf of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs.

9. At the same meeting, the representatives of the United States, Egypt and the Islamic Republic of Iran and the observer for Israel made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

## **A. Deliberations**

10. Many speakers commended the work carried out by the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, which continued to serve as a forum for dialogue between Member States and UNODC on strategic and programmatic matters with a view to increasing accountability regarding programme development and implementation. It was emphasized that the continued dialogue with the Executive Director and senior management of UNODC allowed for timely responses to the needs and concerns of Member States.

11. Several speakers welcomed the report of the Executive Director on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2024–2025 for UNODC.

12. Several speakers recognized that UNODC had continued to deliver valuable assistance to Member States, while the existing financial challenges of the Office remained. The need for a balanced distribution of resources and fair access to assistance was mentioned by some speakers. Several speakers expressed concern about the continuing decrease in general-purpose and soft-earmarked funding. It was highlighted that adequate, predictable, flexible and sustainable funding was critical for the Office to enhance the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, in particular in developing countries. Member States were encouraged to consider making non-earmarked contributions. The Office was invited to consider approaches to reduce its dependence on extrabudgetary resources, to strengthen efforts to ensure an innovative and transparent funding model, and to broaden its donor base.

13. Several speakers commended the implementation of the UNODC Strategy 2021–2025, the Strategic Vision for Africa 2030 and the Strategic Vision for Latin America and the Caribbean 2022–2025, as well as the regional programme for South-East Asia and the Pacific (2022–2026). The Office was commended for improving, expanding and diversifying its regional and country programmes and was encouraged to continue its efforts in that regard, in particular in developing countries. It was also emphasized by a number of speakers that sustainable funding should be allocated to country offices to implement the mandates of the Office in the field.

14. UNODC was encouraged to continue its involvement in the United Nations reform efforts, for example by continuing its constructive dialogues with the United Nations resident coordinators, in order to enhance synergies among different United Nations entities and promote a coordinated approach. The need for strengthened partnerships with various United Nations entities, civil society and other relevant stakeholders at the international, regional and national levels in addressing and countering the world drug problem and in preventing and countering crime was stressed.

15. It was noted that the Office's research work should be based on mandates and policy guidance provided by its governing bodies, as well as on impartial, reliable and transparent data sources. The need for regular dialogue and close consultations between Member States and UNODC regarding ongoing and planned publications and research activities was emphasized.

16. The Office's efforts to increase the accessibility and inclusiveness of intergovernmental meetings by using new technologies and modalities were welcomed. The Office was also called upon to promote multilingualism in the meetings of the intergovernmental bodies.

17. Many speakers expressed their support for the continued efforts by UNODC to improve geographical representation and encouraged the Office to step up measures to further increase the representation of staff from non-represented and underrepresented countries, in particular those from developing countries. It was also emphasized that the basis for candidate selection should be merit and competence, as enshrined in Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations.

18. A number of speakers welcomed the continued efforts by UNODC to improve gender parity at all levels, including in the framework of the United Nations Office at Vienna/UNODC Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (2022–2026). They encouraged UNODC to make further progress towards achieving gender parity, especially at senior management levels, and reiterated their support for gender mainstreaming in all aspects of the Office's programmatic work.

## **B. Action taken**

19. At its 1st meeting, on 7 December 2023, the Commission elected by acclamation Diego Alonso Simancas Gutiérrez (Mexico) as Vice-Chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC for the remaining part of 2023.

20. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2023, the Commission adopted a draft resolution entitled "Budget for the biennium 2024–2025 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme" (E/CN.7/2023/L.8). (For the text of the resolution, see chap. I, sect. B, resolution 66/5.)

21. Also at its 2nd meeting, the Commission elected by acclamation the following members of the Bureau of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC for 2024: Eglantina Gjermeni (Albania) as First Vice-Chair, Laura Gabriela Gil Savastano (Colombia) as Vice-Chair, Esther Monterrubio Villar (Spain) as Vice-Chair and Magdi Ahmed Mofadal Elnour (Sudan) as Vice-Chair. The office of the Chair remained vacant.

## Chapter III

### Implementation of the international drug control treaties

22. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2023, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 5, which read as follows:

“Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

- (a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
- (b) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;
- (c) International Narcotics Control Board;
- (d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;
- (e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.”

23. For its consideration of item 5, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Conference room paper on the summary of assessments, findings and recommendations of the forty-sixth meeting of the World Health Organization Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, held from 16 to 19 October 2023 (E/CN.7/2023/CRP.16);

(b) Conference room paper on the notification from the President of the International Narcotics Control Board to the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sixty-seventh session concerning the scheduling of P-2-P methyl glycidic acid (“BMK glycidic acid”) and its methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl and *tert*-butyl esters under the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (E/CN.7/2023/CRP.19);

(c) Conference room paper on the notification from the President of the International Narcotics Control Board to the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sixty-seventh session concerning the scheduling of the ethyl ester of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid (“PMK ethyl glycidate”) and of six additional esters of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid under the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (E/CN.7/2023/CRP.20);

(d) Conference room paper on the notification from the President of the International Narcotics Control Board to the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sixty-seventh session concerning the scheduling of 4-piperidone and 1-boc-4-piperidone under the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (E/CN.7/2023/CRP.21).

24. The Chief of the Drugs, Laboratory and Scientific Services Branch of UNODC and the observers for the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) made introductory statements.

25. Statements were made by the representatives of the United States, Egypt, Japan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Algeria, Canada, Colombia and the Russian Federation.

26. Statements were also made by the observers for the Syrian Arab Republic, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and the Sudan.

27. The observer for the International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care also made a statement.

## **Deliberations**

28. Pursuant to Commission resolution 58/11, in preparation for the scheduling decisions to be taken by the Commission at its sixty-seventh session, the observer for WHO gave a presentation to the Commission on the outcome of the forty-sixth meeting of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, held from 16 to 19 October 2023. The observer for INCB, also in preparation for the scheduling decisions to be taken by the Commission at its sixty-seventh session, gave a presentation on the scheduling recommendations with regard to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.

29. Many speakers reiterated their full commitment to the international drug control treaties as the cornerstone of the international drug control system and highlighted the importance of the Commission's normative functions. Some speakers referred to the recommendations made by INCB on the scope of control of precursors to be decided upon by the Commission at its sixty-seventh session, highlighting that the recommendations addressed substances that were closely related to known precursors, although no seizures had been reported to date. Some speakers welcomed the recommendations as proactive and innovative, and shared national experiences on similar scheduling procedures. They encouraged the Commission to continue exploring ways to expedite the scheduling process. Other speakers pointed out that the number of precursors recommended for addition to the tables of the 1988 Convention had risen significantly, and they requested clarification on the methods used by INCB to collect information on the abuse of substances and on seizures of the substances recommended for addition to the tables of the 1988 Convention. They underlined the importance of a solid evidence base for scheduling recommendations. In her reply, the observer for INCB described the sources of information that the Board used as basis for its scheduling recommendations, including roughly 60 replies by Member States to the scheduling questionnaires and various INCB programmes and systems, such as the Global Rapid Interdiction of Dangerous Substances (GRIDS) Programme, the Project Ion Incident Communication System (IONICS) and the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS). The observer for INCB noted that in June 2023, when INCB had initiated the scheduling process, there had not been seizures of any of those substances; however, in the meantime one of them had appeared in national reports on seizures. She announced that a written response to the questions raised would also be provided.

30. Several speakers shared information on national efforts to address the world drug problem, including their national drug control strategies. They highlighted the efforts of their countries to address drug issues in a balanced way, addressing supply and demand reduction. A number of speakers underlined the role of youth and of preventive approaches, while other speakers called for increased international cooperation to address transnational organized trafficking. Some speakers welcomed the technical assistance provided by UNODC and INCB.

## Chapter IV

### **Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolutions [75/290 A](#) and [75/290 B](#), including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

31. At its 1st meeting, held jointly with the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on 7 December 2023, and at its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2023, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 9, entitled “Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolutions [75/290 A](#) and [75/290 B](#), including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.
32. The Chair introduced the item.
33. No statements were made under agenda item 9.

## Chapter V

### **Preparations for the midterm review, to be held in 2024, of progress made in implementing all international drug policy commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem**

34. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2023, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 10, entitled “Preparations for the midterm review, to be held in 2024, of progress made in implementing all international drug policy commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem”.

35. For its consideration of item 10, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat on the draft organization of the high-level segment to take stock of the implementation of all international drug policy commitments and outline the way forward to 2029, in line with the Ministerial Declaration of 2019 (14 and 15 March 2024) (E/CN.7/2023/CRP.17);

(b) Conference room paper containing an advance version of the report of the Executive Director on progress made in the implementation of all international drug policy commitments to address and counter the world drug problem (E/CN.7/2023/CRP.18).

36. The Chair introduced the item.

37. A statement was made by the representative of the United States.

38. The observer for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights also made a statement.

### **Deliberations**

39. The intersessional thematic discussions on the challenges identified in the Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted in 2019, were welcomed. Regarding the preparation of the outcome document to be adopted at the high-level segment in 2024, it was noted that those challenges were a useful framework and that recent developments, such as shifts in consumption patterns due to the use of synthetic opioids, were to be reflected.

40. Reference was made to the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights entitled “Human rights challenges in addressing and countering all aspects of the world drug problem” ([A/HRC/54/53](#)).

## Chapter VI

### Provisional agenda for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission

41. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2023, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 11, entitled “Provisional agenda for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission”. The Chair introduced the item and brought to the attention of the Commission matters relating to the organization of work for its sixty-seventh session.

42. No statements were made under agenda item 11.

#### A. Deliberations

##### 1. Duration of the sixty-seventh session and other arrangements

43. The Commission decided that the high-level segment to take stock of the implementation of all international drug policy commitments and outline the way forward to 2029, in line with the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, would be held on Thursday, 14 March 2024, and Friday, 15 March 2024. The regular part of the sixty-seventh session would be held from Monday, 18 March 2024, to Friday, 22 March 2024, with pre-session consultations to be held, in English only, on 13 March 2024. The Commission also decided that its reconvened sixty-seventh session would be held on 5 and 6 December 2024. It was noted that remote simultaneous interpretation technology would be suspended for formal meetings with interpretation as from January 2024, pending a decision on dedicated funding for the provision of such services by the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly.

44. The Commission further decided that, in accordance with its decision 55/1, the firm deadline for the submission of draft resolutions for the sixty-seventh session would be one month prior to the commencement of the session, namely, at noon on Thursday, 15 February 2024.

45. Regarding the organization of side events and exhibitions during the regular part of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission, it was mentioned that Member States could organize 11 high-level side events during the high-level segment on 14 and 15 March 2024, linked to the 11 challenges identified in the 2019 Ministerial Declaration. It was recalled that the guidelines for side events and exhibitions during the sixty-seventh session had been shared with all Member States on 1 December 2023 and that the application period would be from 4 to 11 January 2024 for high-level side events during the high-level segment, and from 15 to 26 January 2024 for side events and exhibitions during the regular part of the session.

##### 2. Provisional agenda for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission

46. The Chair recalled that, in its decision [2023/318](#), the Economic and Social Council had approved the provisional agenda for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission.

47. The Chair further recalled that, in its resolution [75/290 A](#), the General Assembly had encouraged the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council to align their discussions with the main theme of the Council. Delegations were encouraged to link their statements at the sixty-seventh session to the main theme of the Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development for 2024, which was “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”.

## **B. Action taken**

48. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2023, the Commission decided on the dates, deadlines and arrangements for its sixty-seventh session as set out in paragraphs 43–47 above.

## Chapter VII

### Other business

49. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2023, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 12, entitled “Other business”. No issues were raised under the agenda item.

## Chapter VIII

### **Adoption of the report of the Commission on its reconvened sixty-sixth session**

50. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2023, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted the parts of its draft report on the organization of the reconvened session and administrative matters ([E/CN.7/2023/L.1/Add.8](#)) and on agenda item 4, on strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions ([E/CN.7/2023/L.1/Add.9](#)). The Commission decided that, in line with past practice, the present report would be brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council and that a draft decision on the report of the Commission on its reconvened sixty-sixth session, to be recommended to the Council for adoption, would be included in the report on the reconvened session (see chap. I, sect. A). The Commission also decided to entrust the finalization of the report to the Chair of the Commission, with the assistance of the Rapporteur.

## Chapter IX

### Organization of the reconvened session and administrative matters

#### A. Opening and duration of the session

51. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its reconvened sixty-sixth session in Vienna on 7 and 8 December 2023.

52. The Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2011/259, entitled “Joint meetings of the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”, decided that, starting in 2011, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would hold joint meetings during their reconvened sessions for the sole purpose of considering agenda items included in the operational segment of the agendas of both Commissions, with a view to providing integrated policy directives to UNODC on administrative, budgetary and strategic management issues. The Council also decided that the practice of holding back-to-back reconvened sessions of the Commissions would be continued to enable each Commission to consider, in separate meetings, agenda items included in the normative segment of its agenda.

53. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held two meetings during its reconvened sixty-sixth session. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2011/259, one meeting of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held jointly with the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in order to consider items 4 and 9 of the agenda of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and items 4 and 10 of the agenda of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

54. At the joint plenary meeting, the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice made statements.

#### B. Attendance

55. The organizational arrangements for the reconvened sixty-sixth session had been endorsed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs by means of a silence procedure on 9 November 2023. In accordance with those arrangements, the session was conducted in a hybrid format (in person and online).

56. The reconvened sixty-sixth session was attended by representatives of 50 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations, representatives of entities of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also participated. A list of participants is contained in document [E/CN.7/2023/INF/3](#).

#### C. Documentation

57. The documents before the Commission at its reconvened sixty-sixth session are listed in conference room paper [E/CN.7/2023/CRP.14/Add.1](#).

#### D. Closure of the session

58. At the 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2023, closing statements were made by the Chair of the Commission and the representative of Colombia.