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Follow-up to the implementation at the national, regional and international levels of all commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem

Peru and Thailand: draft resolution

Promoting alternative development as an inclusive and sustainable development-oriented drug control strategy

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recognizing that the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity, and resolving to tackle such challenges in order to help ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity,

Reaffirming that drug policies and programmes, including in the field of development, should be undertaken in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States, as well as the principle of common and shared responsibility, recalling the Sustainable Development Goals, and taking into account the specific situations of countries and regions,

Underscoring that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,² the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971³ and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,⁴ together with other relevant international instruments, constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system,

Recalling that the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, of 1998, devoted to countering the world drug problem

* [E/CN.7/2020/1](#).

¹ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.



together,⁵ the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem⁶ of 2009, the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, in 2016, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem,”⁷ and 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,⁸ adopted during the ministerial segment of the sixty-second session of the Commission, in 2019, are the important milestones in addressing the world drug problem,

Reaffirming that alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops and an effective measure to counter the world drug problem and other drug-related crime challenges, as well as a choice in favour of promoting a society free of drug abuse, that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production and that it is an integral part of efforts made by Governments to achieve sustainable development within their societies,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁹ and stressing that the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/196 of 18 December 2013, should be aligned with the efforts to achieve those relevant objectives within the Sustainable Development Goals that are related to the issue of alternative development, which falls within the mandate of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and that the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

Welcoming the holding of the expert group meeting on alternative development entitled “Advancing Alternative Development and Development-oriented Drug Policies”, hosted by Germany, Peru, Thailand and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in Chiang Rai Province, Thailand, from 15 to 17 December 2019, and the International Conference on Rising to the Challenge of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Sustainable Highland Development: The Royal Project Model, held in Chiang Mai Province, Thailand, from 22 to 24 December 2019, with the participation of Member States, international organizations, representatives of civil society and academia, experts and representatives of affected communities, to further the dialogue on alternative development and share best practices on advancing people-centred and sustainable development-oriented drug control strategies,

Reaffirming its 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, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies,

1. *Encourages* Member States to apply the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development¹⁰ when designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating alternative development programmes and projects;

2. *Encourages* the development of viable economic alternatives, in particular for communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of drug crops and other

⁵ General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

⁷ General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex.

⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 8 (E/2019/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.

⁹ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

¹⁰ General Assembly resolution 68/196, annex.

illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas, including through comprehensive alternative development programmes, recognizing that human vulnerabilities, including poverty, unemployment, a lack of opportunities, discrimination, stigmatization and social marginalization, are among the drivers of engagement with illicit drugs;

3. *Urges* Member States to promote development-oriented drug control strategies, including alternative development, with a view to realizing the Sustainable Development Goals, and to that end invites Member States to consider the importance of fostering a culture of lawfulness in which communities create and respect their own agreements that enable them to sustain their development in the long run;

4. *Takes note* of the conference room paper submitted jointly by Germany, Peru and Thailand and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which contains a summary of the discussions and conclusions of the expert group meeting held in Chiang Rai Province, Thailand, from 15 to 17 December 2019, bearing in mind its non-binding nature and that it does not necessarily reflect the positions of all participants, and expresses its appreciation for the efforts of the co-sponsors of the expert group meeting;

5. *Encourages* Member States to continue sharing lessons learned, best practices and expertise and enhancing dialogues on development-oriented drug control policies and programmes, including on the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

6. *Urges* Member States to promote data collection, research and the sharing of information for identifying the root causes of illicit drug crop cultivation and other illicit drug-related activities and providing evidence, in order to identify the driving factors and design better impact assessments;

7. *Urges* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to consider increasing their support, including through long-term and flexible funding, for the implementation of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives, in particular alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, based on identified needs and national priorities, for areas and populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, with a view to its prevention, reduction and elimination, and encourages States, to the extent possible, to stay strongly committed to financing such programmes;

8. *Encourages* Member States to engage in and promote partnerships with each other, as well as with all relevant stakeholders, including regional and international organizations, the private sector, civil society and financial institutions, in the implementation of alternative development projects and programmes;

9. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.