

27 October 2010

Original: English*

Report of the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Lima from 4 to 7 October 2010

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Matters calling for action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs or brought to its attention. .	3
Recommendations adopted by the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.	3
II. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures	4
III. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean	6
IV. Consideration of topics by working groups.	8
Observations and conclusions of the working groups.	8
V. 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	10
VI. Organization of the Twenty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.	12
VII. Other business	13
VIII. Adoption of the report of the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.	14
IX. Organization of the Meeting.	14
A. Opening and duration of the Meeting	14
B. Attendance.	15

* The present report is issued in English, French and Spanish, the working languages of the subsidiary body.



C.	Election of officers	15
D.	Adoption of the agenda	15
E.	Documentation	16
X.	Closure of the Meeting	16
Annex		
	List of documents before the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.	17

I. Matters calling for action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs or brought to its attention

Recommendations adopted by the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

1. The Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Latin America and the Caribbean, set up working groups to consider three main issues and to draw up recommendations on those issues. The observations and conclusions that led to the recommendations are presented in chapter IV. The Meeting adopted the recommendations below, which had been drawn up by its working groups.

Issue 1. Targeting drug trafficking by air

2. With regard to issue 1, “Targeting drug trafficking by air”, the following recommendations were made:

(a) Governments should take steps to standardize procedures and to strengthen their early warning networks in order to provide timely information on illicit flights and improve their ability to conduct interception operations;

(b) Governments should be encouraged to be proactive by, for example, carrying out inspections at aeroplane hangars and maintenance workshops to identify aircraft with stripped cabins or extra fuel tanks with fuel transfer hoses, or that have been modified in other ways, so as to enhance their knowledge and extend their control over the illicit use of private aircraft for drug trafficking;

(c) Governments must ensure that law enforcement authorities responsible for protecting national air borders, airspace and airports are equipped with and trained to use suitable technologies to enable them to be effective against the increasing sophistication of traffickers using commercial, private and light aircraft to transport illicit drugs.

Issue 2. Drug trafficking and corruption

3. With regard to issue 2, “Drug trafficking and corruption”, the following recommendations were made:

(a) Governments should examine the factors contributing to corruption that affect their law enforcement agencies;

(b) Governments are encouraged to strengthen or develop national anti-corruption policies to support the adoption of measures that build the confidence of the public in their law enforcement authorities and limit the potential for the misuse of their powers and the subsequent loss of effectiveness in combating drug trafficking and organized crime;

(c) Governments should encourage the introduction of a robust and transparent complaints-and-review procedure as a response against inappropriate and illegal actions by law enforcement agencies and their staff;

(d) Bearing in mind the document on the ethical commitment against the infiltration of drug trafficking in political parties and movements subscribed to by the political parties and movements of Peru and presented to the Meeting, it was recommended that the Governments of the countries of the region could put forward initiatives to promote and develop transparent electoral competition with a view to preventing drug trafficking from interfering in politics.

Issue 3. Trafficking in synthetic drugs and control of precursors

4. With regard to issue 3, “Trafficking in synthetic drugs and control of precursors”, the following recommendations were made:

(a) Where controls are not already in place, Governments should take steps to evaluate existing legislation and procedures for managing the import, export and sale of pharmaceutical preparations containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine;

(b) Governments are encouraged to adopt a proactive approach to building the capacity of and providing training to chemical regulatory authorities and drug law enforcement agencies so as to enhance their knowledge of scheduled and non-scheduled precursors, substances that may be diverted for use in the illicit manufacture of drugs;

(c) Governments should implement the outcomes, distributed at the Meeting, agreed upon by the International Precursor Control Symposium, held in Lima from 8 to 10 June 2010, on scheduled and non-scheduled precursors.

II. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures

5. At its 1st to 3rd meetings, on 4 and 5 October 2010, the Meeting considered item 3 of its agenda, entitled “Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures”. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it a report of the Secretariat on statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Americas and worldwide (UNODC/HONLAC/20/2) and a conference room paper on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation (UNODC/HONLAC/20/CRP.1). In addition, country reports on the drug trafficking situation were submitted by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (UNODC/HONLAC/20/CRP.2-17).

6. A representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) introduced the item and made an audio-visual presentation on regional drug trafficking trends in the context of global drug trafficking. The presentation was based on information provided by Governments to UNODC. The representatives of Peru, Ecuador, Trinidad and Tobago, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia, El Salvador, Haiti and Brazil also made audio-visual presentations. The observer for the Russian Federation made a statement.

7. Several representatives reported on the development of drug trafficking trends and the current drug control situation in their countries, as well as on advances made in combating drug trafficking, presenting data on drug seizures, methods of

concealment and the operations of organized criminal groups. Information was provided on maritime drug trafficking, and the use of submersible vessels that used advanced technology and were capable of diving to 10 metres under the surface of the sea, making their detection difficult, was highlighted. Some representatives provided information on the eradication of illicit drug crops, the seizure and dismantling of clandestine laboratories used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, the destruction of clandestine landing strips, the smuggling and seizure of precursor chemicals, particularly ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, and changes in the routes used to smuggle precursors in response to the application of stricter controls by many countries of the region on the licit import and export of those substances. A number of representatives informed the Meeting of the investments their Governments had made to enhance drug control capacities and infrastructure through the purchase of technologically advanced equipment, including aircraft and non-intrusive search equipment to inspect containers, and through the training of personnel.

8. A number of representatives reported increasing levels of drug abuse resulting from changes in trafficking routes that had turned their countries into transit States.

9. Several representatives referred to an increase in the cultivation of cannabis plant and trafficking in cannabis, as well as significantly higher levels of seizures of that substance over the previous two years. In that context, one representative made a presentation on a study conducted by his country's authorities on the botanical and chemical characteristics of the cannabis being seized in that country. The study confirmed preliminary findings reported at the Nineteenth Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean, which showed that cannabis plants had been genetically modified for higher potency and productivity. As a result, the tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content of the genetically modified cannabis plants was up to three times higher (15 per cent) compared with that of the unmodified variety. The representative reported that use of that type of cannabis had a different, serious and deleterious effect on users. Several representatives acknowledged that the new developments regarding cannabis were worrying and that information on the issue needed to be shared.

10. A number of representatives also reported on developments in their countries' legislative drug control frameworks. In that regard, one representative reported on several draft bills under formulation dealing with, inter alia, controlled delivery, telecommunications interception and money-laundering. The same representative referred to a study being undertaken by his Government, with the support of the European Union, on the traditional use of coca leaf by the indigenous population of that country. The representative reported that once the study had been completed, it would be possible to determine the area of land that would be required to cultivate enough coca bush to satisfy the demand for licit coca leaf production for traditional consumption, in accordance with national legislation.

11. A number of representatives emphasized the importance of regional and international cooperation and of exchanging information. In that context, several representatives reported on recent bilateral agreements that their Governments had entered into with Governments of other countries of the region and beyond. Some representatives noted declining levels of international technical cooperation and called on partner countries to continue to engage in assisting countries of the region, bearing in mind the principle of shared responsibility.

12. One representative reported on the success of alternative development initiatives in his country and noted that sustained interventions over a period of 14 years had resulted in the almost complete elimination of illicit coca bush cultivation. That result had been achieved by providing viable alternative livelihoods, developing infrastructure and delivering other services to the community. Concern was expressed for a trend that saw illicit drug crops being cultivated in more remote, largely unpopulated areas, with drug traffickers encouraging the move of illicit drug production sites to fragile environments. The representative also drew attention to the increasing environmental damage caused by illicit drug crop cultivation and drug production, through deforestation and the contamination of rivers.

13. The representative of a country that had been devastated by an earthquake in January 2010 noted that the disaster had affected drug control capacities and emphasized that the authorities remained committed to fulfilling their drug control obligations pursuant to international treaties. The representative reported on various drug control actions undertaken since the previous Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean, and called for continued international cooperation in that field.

14. One observer, referring to the challenges posed by drug abuse and the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, which affected all countries, invited States to pay attention to the threat posed to international peace and security by the high level of opium produced in Afghanistan, as well as by the stocks of heroin in that country, which were sufficient to satisfy the illicit demand for heroin for more than 10 years. The observer noted that there was a real possibility that the drug problem would expand from Afghanistan to countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

III. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

15. At its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 4 and 5 October 2010, the Meeting considered item 4 of its agenda, entitled “Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, by States of the region”. The Meeting had before it a document prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of information provided by Governments in response to a questionnaire sent to all State members of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean (UNODC/HONLAC/20/3). The document reflected the responses received by the Secretariat by 27 August 2010 from Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Italy, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Spain and Trinidad and Tobago. After that date, responses were received from Haiti, Jamaica, Panama and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

16. The Secretary of the Meeting made an introductory statement. The representatives of Peru, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil and Panama provided information on the actions their Governments had taken to implement the recommendations adopted at the Nineteenth Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean.

17. The representative of Colombia drew the attention of the Meeting to the Spanish version of document UNODC/HONLAC/20/3, specifically to recommendations 4 to 6 and paragraphs 57, 74 and 91, noting that the institution of the Government of Colombia that should be referred to in those paragraphs was the Dirección de Antinarcóticos of the National Police of Colombia, not the Dirección Nacional de Estupefacentes. He noted that his Government had implemented the recommendations and he highlighted the development and implementation of a manual on procedures for the simultaneous inspection of goods at seaports and airports as well as Ministry of Social Protection resolution 3962 of 2009, which prohibits the manufacture, import and marketing of medicines containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, alone or in a fixed combination with other drugs, no matter the concentration level and pharmaceutical presentation.

18. The representative of Peru reported that Peru had intensified coordination efforts and information exchange with Mexico and that the coordination of intelligence had been enhanced through the centre on information on drugs, which brought together intelligence agencies of countries of the region. Coordination had also been enhanced in South Africa through a system for the secure exchange of information. Reference was made to an anti-drugs coordination committee established in the framework of the Union of South American Nations. With regard to the control of precursor chemicals, Peru continued to participate in joint operations at the regional and bilateral levels. Cooperation agreements had been put in place with other countries, which enabled controlled delivery operations, a subject that was a matter of discussion in bilateral cooperation meetings. With regard to recommendations 4 to 6, made by the Nineteenth Meeting under issue 2, on effective border management at sea container terminals, it was reported that containers could be better inspected using non-intrusive equipment, profiling techniques and risk analyses, and that inspections were conducted by a group of experts from the police and customs based on the analysis of bills of lading and available intelligence. With regard to cooperation with private-sector port operators, it was reported that the cooperation agreements with the Business Alliance for Secure Commerce in Peru had been strengthened through the provision of information and training workshops for the members of the Alliance. The representative of Peru also reported that the country provided pre-export notifications and that the Ministry for Production was responsible for the receipt, evaluation and issuance of notifications using the Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) system of the International Narcotics Control Board.

19. The representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, referring to recommendation 1, reported on measures adopted to facilitate the processing, location, apprehension, deportation or extradition of criminals upon requests made by other States. He also provided information on a number of individuals that had been deported in 2010. With reference to the recommendations made by the Nineteenth Meeting under issue 2, the representative provided information on measures adopted for the implementation of the related recommendations, such as the use of fixed and mobile non-intrusive container inspection systems.

20. The representative of Brazil referred to the bilateral agreements entered into by his Government, which, inter alia, supported the implementation of recommendations made by the Nineteenth Meeting under issue 1, on improving the effectiveness of controlled deliveries among States. With reference to

recommendations 7 and 8, information was provided on the control regime for precursor substances.

21. The representative of Panama reported that his Government had fully implemented the recommendations adopted at the Nineteenth Meeting, noting, in connection to the recommendations adopted under issue 1, that the Government of Panama had had in place relevant measures, including for the fulfilment of extradition requests, for many years.

IV. Consideration of topics by working groups

22. At its 4th to 6th meetings, on 5 and 6 October 2010, the Meeting considered item 5 of its agenda, entitled “Consideration of topics by working groups”. The observations and conclusions of the working groups are presented below. For the recommendations of the working groups approved by the plenary, see chapter I above.

Observations and conclusions of the working groups

Issue 1. Targeting drug trafficking by air

23. The working group on issue 1, “Targeting drug trafficking by air”, held one meeting, on 5 October 2010. In its consideration of the topic, the working group made the following observations:

(a) In remote locations across the region there are many clandestine landing strips being used by traffickers for loading drug consignments and providing logistical support for the transit of illicit flights;

(b) A number of States are developing technologies to identify, track and intercept small aircraft that are engaged in trafficking and that transit through their national airspace, while other States are working together in coordinated operations, e.g. the air-bridge-denial operations, to identify and intercept private aircraft as they attempt to evade capture by violating the airspace of neighbouring States;

(c) Central America and the Caribbean are once more of growing strategic importance as staging points for private aircraft used to transport illicit drugs to North America and Europe;

(d) The installation and use of X-ray machines and body scanners in international airports in the region was proving effective in identifying traffickers on commercial flights.

24. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Making inventories and mapping remote and unregulated airstrips in their territories is an effective and proactive way for drug law enforcement agencies to respond to trafficking by private aircraft;

(b) There needs to be more international cooperation with regard to the exchange of information on the ownership and movement of private aircraft in the region if authorities are to carry out successful operations against the use of such aircraft in trafficking;

(c) The use of new and developing technologies such as body scanners and techniques such as swab testing for detecting traces of drugs, together with the application of risk assessment and profiling techniques directed at passengers and air freight, are proving effective in the identification of traffickers and illicit drug consignments;

(d) Effective partnerships between civilian drug law enforcement authorities and their national military counterparts are key to the successful identification and interception of private aircraft used in illegal activities.

Issue 2. Drug trafficking and corruption

25. The working group on issue 2, “Drug trafficking and corruption”, held one meeting, on 6 October 2010. In its consideration of the topic, the working group made the following observations:

(a) Drug trafficking is polemic and poses a threat to urban security, creating tensions within families and communities, as well as between States, and sustaining violence, fear and corruption;

(b) The corrosive effect of corruption cannot be addressed solely by the public sector; the support and engagement of the private sector are also needed;

(c) Rewarding officers involved in successful drug interceptions and investigations has proved effective in some countries; well-motivated, well-trained and well-equipped law enforcement officers are more resistant to corruption;

(d) Law enforcement agencies are targeted by drug trafficking organizations attempting to improperly influence them, which makes law enforcement officers vulnerable to pressure, financial inducements and threats;

(e) Trafficking syndicates target drug law enforcement authorities by attempting to infiltrate their ranks to exert undue influence and gain information on ongoing investigations;

(f) Law enforcement agencies need to assist their officers, especially new recruits, to develop the confidence and the skills to reject inducements and avoid succumbing to improper influence that could lead them to abandon their duties;

(g) More resources are needed for drug use prevention and treatment, drug-related legislation and its enforcement, and supporting communities to become stronger and better able to resist corruption.

26. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Integrity programmes and professional conduct training for law enforcement agencies should be an integral element of any national anti-corruption policy that addresses all sectors of society;

(b) All sectors of society are responsible for how they choose to behave and should be held accountable for their actions, as public officials are not the only members of the community susceptible to corrupt or otherwise inappropriate actions;

(c) Public officials who engage in dishonest, corrupt and unethical behaviour undermine the trust and confidence of the communities they serve.

Issue 3. Trafficking in synthetic drugs and control of precursors

27. The working group on issue 3, “Trafficking in synthetic drugs and control of precursors”, held one meeting, on 6 October 2010. In its consideration of the topic, the working group made the following observations:

(a) Pharmaceutical preparations containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine are becoming a significant challenge for drug control authorities because such preparations are not subject to the same controls as ephedrine and pseudoephedrine in their pure form are;

(b) The illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants does not necessarily involve sophisticated chemical processes, which means that it is not difficult for small-scale operators to manufacture such stimulants in so-called “kitchen laboratories”;

(c) Voluntary codes of conduct established with the chemical industry promote responsible commercial practices and sale of chemicals, and prevent the diversion of chemicals to illicit drug manufacturing channels;

(d) In support of maintaining an international focus on the prevention of precursor diversion, as reiterated in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-second session, in March 2009, Governments should continue to implement control measures on non-scheduled substances and on substitute chemicals used in the manufacture of traditional precursors.

28. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Well-promulgated and systematically applied controls over companies trading in chemicals that include pre-registration, monitoring of quantities and types of chemicals sold, concise details of suppliers and accurate details of their customers provide an effective way of maintaining domestic control over chemicals that could be used as precursors;

(b) National efforts to control imports of pharmaceutical preparations containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine should focus on preventing the diversion of those substances from the licit to the illicit market;

(c) A good working relationship with the national chemical industry greatly enhances regulatory authorities’ access to important information relating to unusual sales and transactions;

(d) Preventing the diversion of scheduled and non-scheduled precursors is key to reducing the illicit manufacture and supply of drugs.

V. 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

29. At its 7th meeting, on 7 October 2010, the Meeting considered item 6 of its agenda, 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”. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the outcome of the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session.¹

30. The Secretary of the Meeting made an introductory statement. The representatives of Peru, Colombia, Panama, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Guatemala made statements. The observer for the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) also made a statement.

31. The Secretary provided information on the areas covered and the main actions envisaged in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182. Attention was drawn, in particular, to part II of the Plan of Action, on supply reduction and related measures, as well as to the fact that, in its resolution 64/182, the Assembly had encouraged the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation.

32. Some representatives reported on the commitment made by their Governments to the full implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and on the multi-year national drug control plans and strategies that had been drawn to address and implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. They also highlighted some of the other main actions taken by their Governments to that end.

33. Several representatives provided information on efforts made by their Governments to enhance bilateral and regional cooperation, particularly in the areas of mutual legal assistance, cross-border cooperation and drug supply reduction. One representative reported on the efforts of his Government to share expertise and experience in combating drug trafficking by, among other things, providing international training courses in maritime and airborne interdiction, intelligence and other law enforcement fields that were made available to officers from law enforcement agencies of other countries.

34. A number of representatives referred to ongoing and new alternative development programmes designed to generate licit income for farmers, facilitate access to markets, protect the environment, improve the quality of life of farmers formerly involved in illicit drug crop cultivation and prevent a return to illicit drug crop cultivation by improving the economic and social conditions of the population in areas susceptible to such cultivation.

35. Several representatives referred to measures to reduce drug demand, including drug abuse prevention and treatment services, social reinsertion, evaluation, early detection, educational programmes and programmes targeting special groups such as students and families, as well as programmes designed to promote positive values in

¹ A/64/92-E/2009/98.

communities at all levels. Attention was drawn to the contribution made to drug demand reduction efforts by civil society institutions and private and public enterprises. Reference was also made to recent surveys on the prevalence of drug abuse that provided the framework for targeted interventions and evaluations.

36. A number of representatives referred to legal and judicial measures taken by their Governments, including the updating of drug control legislation. Some representatives provided information on efforts made by their Governments to counter money-laundering; those efforts included participation in the Financial Action Task Force of South America against Money Laundering, the identification of specialized public prosecutors, the establishment of courts (with safeguards) and the introduction of summary proceedings for the termination of ownership of the proceeds of drug trafficking, a measure that existed in a number of countries of the region. Information was also provided on action taken to prevent money-laundering in the financial services sector.

37. A number of representatives provided information on measures to improve control over precursor chemicals and preparations containing amphetamine-type substances.

38. One representative drew attention to action taken by his Government to strengthen anti-corruption measures, particularly with a view to preventing the infiltration of drug traffickers into the political system. The same representative noted that the international community should give the world drug problem centre stage in the global agenda.

VI. Organization of the Twenty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

39. At its 7th meeting, on 7 October 2010, the Meeting considered item 7 of its agenda, entitled "Organization of the Twenty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean". For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it a document (UNODC/HONLAC/20/4) drawing attention to certain issues that needed to be addressed during the Twenty-first Meeting and containing a draft provisional agenda for that Meeting.

40. The Chair of the Meeting made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of Peru, the Dominican Republic, Spain, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Chile, Italy, Panama and Colombia. The Secretary of the Meeting also made a statement.

41. The representative of Chile informed the Meeting of the intention of the Government of Chile to host the Twenty-first Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean, in 2011. The participants welcomed that offer. The Secretariat informed the participants that the period from 3 to 7 October 2011 had been reserved for the Twenty-first Meeting, and that it would communicate with the Government of Chile to make the necessary arrangements.

42. The following topics were proposed for discussion by the working groups at the Twenty-first Meeting, under item 5 of the draft provisional agenda: (a) cooperation with industry to build trusted channels to promote cooperation between private businesses and Governments in order to improve control over precursors, making use of the “Guidelines for a voluntary code of practice for the chemical industry” of the International Narcotics Control Board; (b) combating money-laundering in the context of drug trafficking, including issues related to seized and forfeited assets and the role of the financial services sector; (c) initiatives and best practices for the control of drugs and precursor chemicals at land borders, seaports and airports; and (e) strengthening information exchange mechanisms. It was also proposed that the Twentieth-first Meeting should consider the legalization and decriminalization of drugs and drug law enforcement in the region.

43. The Meeting took note of the proposals and requested the Secretariat to finalize the issues to be discussed by working groups prior to the Twenty-first Meeting. On that basis, the following draft provisional agenda for the Twenty-first Meeting was approved:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Consideration of issues by working groups [*to be determined*].
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.
7. Organization of the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.

VII. Other business

44. At its 7th meeting, on 7 October 2010, the Meeting considered item 8 of its agenda, entitled “Other business”. The Meeting had before it a note by the Secretariat on review of the functioning of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (UNODC/HONLAC/20/5), containing an analysis of responses by Member States to a questionnaire sent to all members of the Commission’s subsidiary bodies, with a view to making recommendations for consideration and action by the Commission at its fifty-fourth session, in 2011.

45. The Secretary of the Meeting made an introductory statement. The Chair made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of Peru and Mexico.

46. The Secretary informed the Meeting about the responses received from the Governments of members of HONLEA, Latin American and the Caribbean, and highlighted the recommendations contained in paragraphs 47 and 48 of the note by the Secretariat mentioned in para. 44 above, in particular the view that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should consider the recommendations adopted by its subsidiary bodies, under the appropriate item of its agenda.

47. The representative of Peru, referring to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 53/6, informed the Meeting about an international workshop and conference on alternative development to be hosted by the Government of Thailand in cooperation with the Government of Peru from 12 to 19 November 2010. The representative of Peru said that the event would comprise a workshop (12-16 November) for experts in and practitioners of alternative development and a high-level conference (17-19 November) for sharing best practices and lessons learned. The objective of the conference was to formulate guiding principles for alternative development programmes.

48. The representative of Mexico, recalling a recommendation of the Fifth Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean, reiterated the commitment of the Government of Mexico to continue serving as a centre for the collection, compilation and dissemination of data in annual statistical publications on drug supply reduction covering countries of the region. The representative invited delegates to communicate to the Office of the General Prosecutor of Mexico their Governments' interest in continuing to provide, periodically and in a timely manner, information on drug supply reduction for the continued compilation of the data and distribution of such publications.

VIII. Adoption of the report of the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

49. At its 7th meeting, on 7 October 2010, the Twentieth Meeting adopted its report (UNODC/HONLAC/20/L.1 and Add.1-5), including the reports of the working groups and the recommendations contained therein, as orally revised.

IX. Organization of the Meeting

A. Opening and duration of the Meeting

50. The Twentieth Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean, was held in Lima from 4 to 7 October 2010. The inaugural ceremony was held on 4 October 2010 and participants were addressed by the President of Peru, Alan García Pérez, the Executive President of the National Commission for Development and Life without Drugs (DEVIDA), Rómulo Pizarro, and the UNODC Representative for Peru and Ecuador, Flavio Mirella. Also participating in the inaugural ceremony were the Minister of Justice of Peru, Rosario del Pilar Fernández Figueroa, and the Minister of the Interior of Peru, Fernando Barrios Ipenza. The Meeting was opened by the representative of the Chair of the

Nineteenth Meeting and the President of the National Anti-Drug Office of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Upon being elected, the Chair of the Twentieth Meeting addressed the participants. A statement was also made by the Executive President of DEVIDA.

B. Attendance

51. The following States members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean were represented: Argentina, Bahamas, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

52. The following States were represented by observers: Australia, Belgium, Israel, Russian Federation and South Africa.

53. The Andean Community, the European Union, INTERPOL and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States were represented by observers.

54. UNODC served as the secretariat of the Meeting.

C. Election of officers

55. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2010, the Meeting elected the following officers by acclamation:

<i>Chair:</i>	Rómulo Pizarro (Peru)
<i>First Vice-Chair:</i>	Mabel I. Félix Báez (Dominican Republic)
<i>Second Vice-Chair:</i>	Andrés Alexander Ramírez Medrano (El Salvador)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Simon Lendor (Trinidad and Tobago)

D. Adoption of the agenda

56. Also at the 1st meeting, the Twentieth Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups:
 - (a) Targeting drug trafficking by air;

- (b) Drug trafficking and corruption;
 - (c) Trafficking in synthetic drugs and control of precursors.
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.
 7. Organization of the Twenty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
 8. Other business.
 9. Adoption of the report of the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
57. Prior to the adoption of the agenda, the representative of Brazil made a statement on the way in which his delegation understood the scope of agenda item 5 (b).

E. Documentation

58. The documents before the Twentieth Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean, are listed in the annex.

X. Closure of the Meeting

59. The Chair of the Twentieth Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean, made a closing statement.

Annex

List of documents before the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
UNODC/HONLAC/20/1	2	Provisional agenda and annotations
UNODC/HONLAC/20/2	3	Report of the Secretariat on statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Americas and worldwide
UNODC/HONLAC/20/3	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean
UNODC/HONLAC/20/4	7	Organization of the Twenty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean
UNODC/HONLAC/20/5	8	Note by the Secretariat on review of the functioning of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs
UNODC/HONLAC/20/L.1 and Add.1-5	9	Draft report
UNODC/HONLAC/20/CRP.1	3	Note by the Secretariat on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation
UNODC/HONLAC/20/CRP.2-17	3	Country reports