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Arabic, English and Russian only*

Report of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East on its forty-eighth session, held in Vienna from 25 to 28 November 2013

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^{*} The present report is issued in Arabic, English and Russian, the working languages of the Subcommission.

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

Recommendations adopted by the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East at its forty-eighth session

- 1. Participants in the forty-eighth session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East:
- (a) Recalled the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A), adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, in which Member States decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, should conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;
- (b) Also recalled that in its resolution 56/9, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs stressed the importance of strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility as the basis for guiding international action in combating the world drug problem with a comprehensive and balanced approach;
- (c) Further recalled General Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, in which the Assembly decided to convene, early in 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments;
- (d) Bore in mind the request made by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in its resolution 56/10, to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, 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;
- (e) Recalled Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/12, in which the Commission decided that the medium-term review, including intersessional meetings, should take into account, inter alia, relevant studies and reports from the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, and called upon the participants in the high-level review to take account of the work of the regional meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, in particular initiatives that could further cooperation with regard to drug law enforcement;
 - (f) Agreed to make the recommendations set out below.

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1. Opiate flows from Afghanistan and regional countermeasures

- 2. The following recommendations were made with regard to opiate flows from Afghanistan and regional countermeasures:
- (a) States are encouraged to support cross-border and interregional cooperation along heroin trafficking routes through regular communication between their competent authorities and the convening of regular meetings between counterparts so as to strengthen operational responses to combat illicit trafficking;
- (b) States are encouraged to support regional coordination centres such as the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre for Combating the Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Their Precursors (CARICC), the Southeast European Law Enforcement Center (SELEC), the Gulf Criminal Intelligence Centre to Combat Drugs, the Joint Planning Cell (JPC) and the Triangular Initiative, which have been established to facilitate operational cooperation to combat organized crime and illicit drug trafficking;
- (c) States are encouraged to consider, if they have not already done so, posting liaison officers in other Member States and regional coordination centres to enhance communication and speed up the exchange of operational information. Such liaison officers can act as focal points for the exchange of information;
- (d) States are encouraged to consider taking steps to accurately assess the domestic demand for illicit opiates through undertaking research, conducting surveys and commissioning studies in order to better understand the demand dynamic and so contribute to the development and implementation of effective supply reduction and demand reduction strategies.

2. Maintaining control over precursor chemicals, pharmaceutical products and the challenge of new psychoactive substances

- 3. The following recommendations were made with regard to maintaining control over precursor chemicals, pharmaceutical products and the challenge of new psychoactive substances:
- (a) States are encouraged, upon request, to be proactive in contributing information to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Early Warning Advisory on New Psychoactive Substances (www.unodc.org/nps) so as to benefit from timely warning of new and emerging psychoactive substances, analysis of developing trends in trafficking, current modi operandi and legislation developed to curb the abuse of such substances;
- (b) It is recommended that States implement information and education campaigns among the general public to alert them to the dangers of the use of new psychoactive substances and so reduce demand for their availability;
- (c) In working to apply effective controls, States are encouraged to consider, as appropriate, introducing legislation that provides for the regulation of generic groups of substances that lend themselves to the manufacture of new psychoactive substances:
- (d) States are encouraged to adopt, as appropriate, measures aimed at preventing and reducing the non-medical use and abuse and illicit supply of tramadol, in accordance with their legislation.

3. Meeting the challenges of technology and tactics used by traffickers

- 4. The following recommendations were made with regard to meeting the challenges of technology and tactics used by traffickers:
- (a) States of the region are encouraged to consider reviewing, as appropriate, their existing substantive and procedural criminal legislation to ensure that it supports the investigation of, evidence gathering concerning and the prosecution of cases of drug trafficking and related offences that involve an element of modern information and communication technology;
- (b) Where they have not already done so, States are encouraged to take steps to ensure that their law enforcement agencies, prosecution services and judiciary are aware of and adequately trained in handling electronic evidence, and are supported and funded to undertake all necessary measures with regard to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of technology-facilitated illicit drug trafficking and money-laundering;
- (c) To meet the challenges of Internet-based transactions on websites that promote and offer illicit or controlled drugs and pharmaceutical preparations, and to identify those involved in placing the orders, States are encouraged to take steps to ensure that there is close cooperation and coordination between national drug law enforcement agencies and all other actors concerned, such as regulatory authorities, customs, courier and postal services, and Internet service providers;
- (d) In full conformity with its mandate, UNODC is requested to strengthen initiatives to provide technical assistance to States of the region, upon their request and according to their needs and priorities, including expertise and training courses needed to react to the emerging challenges of technology-facilitated crimes in relation to drug trafficking.

II. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation

- 5. At its 1st meeting, on 25 November 2013, the Subcommission considered item 3 of its agenda, entitled "Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation". For its consideration of the item, the Subcommission had before it: (a) a note by the Secretariat on statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Near and Middle East, South, West and Central Asia (UNODC/SUBCOM/48/2); and (b) a note by the Secretariat on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation (UNODC/SUBCOM/48/CRP.1). In addition, country reports were submitted by Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Kuwait, Turkey, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Yemen (UNODC/SUBCOM/48/CRP.2-9).
- 6. Representatives of UNODC made audiovisual presentations covering regional and subregional cooperation and global trends, illicit trafficking and action taken by the Office. Statements were made by the representatives of India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey and Yemen.
- 7. Speakers reported on the main challenges posed by narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to their countries and provided updates on countermeasures

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implemented since the 47th session of the Subcommission, as well as on seizures of illicit drugs.

- 8. Several speakers referred to drug trafficking as a major threat to the stability of countries in the region, and noted its linkages to corruption, terrorism, arms trafficking and money-laundering. That situation required increased international solidarity and cooperation, as well as proactive and practical measures. Measures adopted included the passing or amendment of legislation, the creation of independent drug control authorities, controlled delivery operations and joint investigations. Several memorandums of understanding had been signed between countries in the region; other initiatives included the Paris Pact Initiative and the Triangular Initiative between Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan.
- 9. The representative of one country mentioned that, in that country, measures had been taken despite a scarcity of resources, while in some countries a significant budget and a considerable number of personnel had been allocated to drug control. The use of a network of liaison officers was reported by some countries, which allowed a well-functioning exchange of information. Cooperation with CARICC and SELEC was also mentioned. Some of the countries were particularly affected by drug trafficking because of their geographic location on trafficking routes from Afghanistan and on the Balkan routes. Increased controls had resulted in increased trafficking by sea and new maritime routes. The representative of one country reported on considerable investments in protecting its borders, including the construction of moats, barriers and watch towers. As a result of the measures taken, seizures of drugs had increased significantly.
- 10. Some speakers emphasized the importance of regional and international cooperation, in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility, in order to address drug trafficking effectively. Several speakers referred to their countries' cooperation with UNODC.
- 11. The reported increase in the illicit production of opium in Afghanistan required a comprehensive approach based on, among other things, the promotion of alternative livelihoods and the destruction of illicit laboratories used in the production of heroin.

III. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its forty-sixth session

12. At its 1st meeting, on 25 November 2013, the Subcommission considered item 4 of its agenda, entitled "Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its forty-sixth session". For its consideration of the item the Subcommission had before it a report of the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its forty-sixth session (UNODC/SUBCOM/48/3) prepared on the basis of information provided by Governments in response to a questionnaire sent to all States participating in the Subcommission. As of the date of issuance of that report, 14 October 2013, replies had been received from the Governments of Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Pakistan, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. Since that date, completed questionnaires had been submitted by Afghanistan, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan. The Secretary

- of the Subcommission introduced the agenda item. Statements were made by the representatives of Yemen, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey and Egypt.
- 13. Speakers reported on the implementation by their Governments of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its forty-sixth session. With regard to the ongoing impact of illicit drug production in Afghanistan, speakers reported on their seizures of illicit opiates and chemical precursors. The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran reported on a review of domestic legislation on the basis of relevant international conventions and treaties, in order to improve controlled delivery operations. So far, several such operations had been conducted with various countries. It also reported on the work of JPC, which had allowed simultaneous operations with Afghanistan and Pakistan. Exchange of intelligence with CARICC was also reported, together with the posting of liaison officers to various countries as a means of sharing intelligence. The delegation of Turkey reported the introduction of strict controls at its borders to prevent opiates of Afghan origin from reaching Europe. As a result, seizures had increased dramatically.
- 14. On the issue of illicit manufacture of and trafficking in amphetamine-type stimulants in the region, the representative of Egypt referred to the abuse of synthetic drugs originally produced for medical treatment such as tramadol, and to the closing down of illicit pharmacies. Cooperation with UNODC, the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) on countering trafficking in amphetamine-type stimulants was also mentioned. Increased international cooperation in that field was needed. The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran reported the analysis of drug profiles at entry and exit points, and the establishment of drug laboratories in the provinces of the country. Courses on the detection of amphetamine-type stimulants and precursors were conducted on a regular basis. India had strengthened control of precursor chemicals, including ephedrine and pseudoephedrine and had introduced new regulations to achieve a fine balance between the licit use of chemicals and the prevention of their diversion for drug production, in cooperation with industry.
- 15. On the issue of supporting models of drug demand reduction, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran reported on, inter alia, the establishment of treatment centres, the organization of workshops, seminars and training courses for drug treatment practitioners and the provision of technical assistance to other countries in that field.

IV. 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

16. At its 2nd meeting, on 25 November 2013, the Subcommission considered item 5 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 Subcommission had before it the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A), adopted by the

Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-second session, in 2009. The Secretary of the Subcommission introduced the item. Statements were made by the representatives of India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Yemen, Afghanistan, Jordan and Turkey.

- 17. The Secretary provided information based on the responses of Member States to the annual questionnaire on action taken by them to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. It was noted that the Commission would conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Plan of Action at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, and that the meetings of the Subcommission could contribute to that review.
- 18. Speakers reiterated the commitment of their Governments to implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and reported on measures taken in that respect. India had amended its national legislation in relation to money-laundering and judicial cooperation, to align it with the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and provide for forfeiture of the property of drug traffickers. Curbing the illicit financial flows resulting from drug-related offences as well as the cooperation of competent authorities at the national and international levels were key to addressing drug trafficking effectively. In that respect, the role of financial intelligence units was crucial for the region.
- 19. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran reported on the signing of memorandums of understanding, and on cooperation with regional and international organizations and initiatives such as the Economic Cooperation Organization, UNODC, INCB, the Targeted Anti-Trafficking Regional Communication, Expertise and Training operation, the Paris Pact Initiative, the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia and the Triangular Initiative. Other major national policies for combating illicit drugs included developing intelligence, treatment and rehabilitation, and post-treatment support in terms employment, counselling and legal assistance to rehabilitated individuals and their families.
- 20. The representative of the United Arab Emirates reported on a strategic initiative focusing on anti-money-laundering, including the creation of an anti-money-laundering unit and the adoption of indicators to measure progress. Close cooperation between law enforcement agencies and the national anti-narcotics directorate was mentioned as a key element in combating money-laundering. The representative of Egypt reported on the successful eradication of illicit crops, and the provision of alternative livelihoods in cooperation with banks and through incentives for farmers. The signing of memorandums of understanding was also part of the international cooperation efforts of Egypt.
- 21. The representative of Yemen reported on efforts made to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including the amendment of legislation to make it comply fully with those instruments. The linkages between money-laundering in relation to drug offences and the financing of terrorism were also stressed. A specialized unit within the central bank had been set up to detect money transfers resulting from drug trafficking and other criminal activities.
- 22. The representative of Afghanistan reported on major illicit opium cultivation in four provinces in the south of the country, also fuelled by insurgents who provided incentives to farmers to cultivate the opium poppy. There were not enough alternative livelihood programmes. In spite of those challenges, Afghanistan had

made progress in relation to law enforcement, drug demand reduction, public awareness and judicial cooperation. There had been a 14 per cent increase in drug seizures and arrests of traffickers. Measures to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action included the establishment of rehabilitation and treatment centres as well as livelihood programmes, particularly in the Helmand and Kandahar provinces.

23. The representative of Jordan stressed that as a transit country, mainly for opiates and Captagon, it had introduced tight border controls to combat drug trafficking. Further measures included controlled deliveries in cooperation with other countries, and investment in the training of officials and in modern equipment. Cooperation had been established with UNODC and the European Union for drug demand reduction, including through HIV/AIDS-related prevention and treatment in prisons. The representative of Turkey reported on efforts made to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including the expanding scope of cooperation through bilateral and multilateral channels. In that framework, the application of Turkey for membership of CARICC was also mentioned. The sharing of expertise, cooperation in the field of demand reduction and awareness-raising were some of the other measures reported by the representative of Turkey.

V. Consideration of topics by working groups

24. At its 2nd to 5th meetings, on 25, 26 and 27 November 2013, the Subcommission established working groups to examine the three topics under item 6 of its agenda, entitled "Consideration of topics by working groups". The observations made by the working groups and the conclusions reached after their consideration of the topics are presented below. For the recommendations made by the working groups and adopted by the Subcommission, see section I above.

A. Opiate flows from Afghanistan and regional countermeasures

- 25. The working group on opiate flows from Afghanistan and regional countermeasures held two meetings, on 25 and 26 November 2013. In its consideration of the topic under review, the working group made the following observations:
- (a) The current historically elevated level of illicit opium production in Afghanistan is a serious challenge to the international community's commitment to eliminating or seriously reducing illicit poppy cultivation by 2019;
- (b) Establishing trust and cooperation between authorities in countries of the region is key to successful operations to stop the flow of illicit opiates from Afghanistan;
- (c) To fully understand the dynamics of and the potential threat from illicit opiate production in Afghanistan, authorities in the region need an accurate assessment of the level of domestic demand for illicit opiates;
- (d) The increased effectiveness of enforcement initiatives against trafficking by land routes across the region has resulted in the increasing use of maritime routes for the transport of illicit opiates.

- 26. The working group drew the following conclusions:
- (a) It is important that regular opportunities arise to hold meetings with counterpart authorities, including in neighbouring countries, to overcome the challenges of communication and strengthen cooperation in applying cross-border controls to detect trafficking;
- (b) Many countries do not currently have a complete understanding of the size of their domestic demand for illicit opiates and further research, surveys and studies are required to better assess and quantify it;
- (c) All States, including source countries, transit countries and destination countries, have to play a role in reducing the supply and demand for illicit opiates;
- (d) The increased use of maritime transport for trafficking of illicit opiates, using smaller coastal vessels and also concealment within commercial sea-freight containers, is a challenge for drug control authorities, particularly for those of States with long coastlines and limited resources to mount effective controls. In that respect, the importance of international cooperation was emphasized.

B. Maintaining control over precursor chemicals, pharmaceutical products and the challenge of new psychoactive substances

- 27. The working group on maintaining control over precursor chemicals, pharmaceutical products and the challenge of new psychoactive substances held one meeting, on 26 November 2013. In its consideration of the topic under review, the working group made the following observations:
- (a) New psychoactive substances are substances of abuse, either in a pure form or a preparation, that are not controlled by the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs or the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances but may pose a public health risk;
- (b) The existing drug control legislation in many countries is challenged by the diversity of new psychoactive substances now available on domestic markets;
- (c) Differences in national legislation have resulted in gaps in the international control of new psychoactive substances;
- (d) Because it is inexpensive, easy to transport and popular among young people, the increasing attempts at illicit trafficking in tramadol within the region is a major challenge to the law enforcement authorities in some countries.
- 28. The working group drew the following conclusions:
- (a) The UNODC Early Warning Advisory (www.unodc.org/nps) is a resource that offers national authorities access to valuable technical information to combat the illegal manufacture and distribution of new psychoactive substances;
- (b) National authorities are encouraged to ensure that their drug law enforcement officials are informed, well trained and capable of recognizing new psychoactive substances in order to act effectively against their illicit use;
- (c) National authorities are strongly recommended to contribute, as appropriate, to the June 2014 World Health Organization review of the scheduling

of tramadol, by completing the questionnaire and providing their national data on tramadol abuse.

C. Meeting the challenges of technology and tactics used by traffickers

- 29. The working group on meeting the challenges of technology and tactics used by traffickers held one meeting, on 27 November 2013. In its consideration of the topic under review, the working group made the following observations:
- (a) Modern information and communications technology, including the public Internet and the related "dark net" or "deep web" networks, are increasingly utilized by traffickers to promote and facilitate the sale of illicit drugs and controlled substances:
- (b) Some Internet websites provide means of secure communication between buyers and sellers of illicit drugs, controlled pharmaceutical preparations and precursor chemicals, and transaction anonymity through the use of encryption software and other support to secure online financial transactions which are very difficult to trace;
- (c) Traffickers are increasingly making use of "free floating" virtual currencies, which are not linked to any national currency, as a method of payment;
- (d) Traditional law enforcement techniques could still be applied to identify offenders and intercept cases of illicit drug trafficking initiated on and facilitated by the Internet.
- 30. The working group drew the following conclusions:
- (a) Policing the Internet and preventing the misuse of modern information and communications technology for the purpose of committing drug trafficking and money-laundering offences poses a considerable challenge to the work of law enforcement authorities;
- (b) There is a need for awareness-raising, as well as a need for infrastructure and funding for capacity-building with regard to technical resources, such as hardware and software tools, and the training of law enforcement officers on digital forensics to provide them with essential skills to respond effectively to crimes such as illicit drug trafficking and money-laundering associated with the use of modern information and communications technology linked to the Internet;
- (c) Law enforcement agencies should consider the possibility of strengthening cooperation at the international level in response to technology-facilitated crimes, including crimes with a transnational dimension;
- (d) There is growing concern over traffickers' increasing use of virtual currencies as a means of evading investigations into money-laundering and the proceeds of crime.

VI. Organization of the forty-ninth session of the Subcommission

- 31. At its 5th meeting, on 27 November 2013, the Subcommission considered items 7 and 8 of its agenda, entitled "Organization of the forty-ninth session of the Subcommission" and "Other business".
- 32. For its consideration of item 7, the Subcommission had before it a draft provisional agenda for its forty-ninth session (UNODC/SUBCOM/48/4, annex). The Secretary made an introductory statement outlining action to be taken for the organization of that session, including the need to identify Governments that would be willing to host it.
- 33. There was a discussion on potential topics for consideration by the working groups at the forty-ninth session of the Subcommission. The following topics were proposed for consideration:
- (a) Misuse of containers for the trafficking of illicit drugs and possible investigation techniques;
- (b) Emerging challenges for Afghanistan and the region in relation to drug trafficking.
- 34. The Secretariat was requested to work with member States to finalize the topics to be discussed by the Subcommission at its forty-ninth session. The Secretariat was also requested to consult with member States to identify a possible host Government for that session.
- 35. The Subcommission approved the following draft provisional agenda for its forty-ninth session:
 - 1. Election of officers.
 - 2. Adoption of the agenda.
 - 3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation.
 - 4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its forty-seventh session.
 - 5. Consideration of topics 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 fiftieth session of the Subcommission.
 - 8. Other business.
 - 9. Adoption of the report of the Subcommission on its forty-ninth session.

VII. Other business

36. At its 5th meeting, on 27 November 2013, the Subcommission considered agenda item 8, entitled "Other business". No issues were raised under the item.

VIII. Adoption of the report

37. At its 6th meeting, on 28 November 2013, the Subcommission adopted the report on its forty-eighth session (UNODC/SUBCOM/48/L.1 and Add.1-6), including the reports of the working groups and their recommendations, as orally revised.

IX. Organization of the forty-eighth session of the Subcommission

A. Opening and duration of the session

38. The forty-eighth session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East was held in Vienna from 25 to 28 November 2013. A representative of UNODC made an opening statement on behalf of the Executive Director. The Chair of the forty-eighth session of the Subcommission also addressed the meeting.

B. Attendance

- 39. The following States members of the Subcommission were represented: Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Yemen.
- 40. Germany, Italy and the Russian Federation were represented by observers. The State of Palestine was also represented by an observer.
- 41. The Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior, CARICC, the European Union and INTERPOL were also represented.

C. Election of officers

42. At its 1st meeting, on 25 November, the Subcommission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chair: Madan Lal Meena (India)

Vice-Chairs: Abdullatif Al-Doraibi (Yemen)

Saeed Abdallah Al Suwaidi (United Arab Emirates)

Rapporteur: Nagihan Ilknur Akdevelioglu (Turkey)

D. Adoption of the agenda

- 43. Also at its 1st meeting, the Subcommission adopted the following agenda:
 - 1. Election of officers.
 - 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
 - 3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation.
 - 4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its forty-sixth session.
 - 5. 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.
 - 6. Consideration of topics by working groups:
 - (a) Opiate flows from Afghanistan and regional countermeasures;
 - (b) Maintaining control over precursor chemicals, pharmaceutical products and the challenge of new psychoactive substances;
 - (c) Meeting the challenges of technology and tactics used by traffickers.
 - 7. Organization of the forty-ninth session of the Subcommission.
 - 8. Other business.
 - 9. Adoption of the report of the Subcommission on its forty-eighth session.

E. Documentation

44. The documents before the Subcommission at its forty-eighth session are listed in the annex to the present document.

F. Closure of the session

45. The Chair of the forty-eighth session made a closing statement.

Annex

List of documents before the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East at its forty-eighth session

Document	Agend a item	Title or description
UNODC/SUBCOM/48/1	2	Provisional agenda and annotations
UNODC/SUBCOM/48/2	3	Note by the Secretariat on statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Near and Middle East, South, West and Central Asia
UNODC/SUBCOM/48/3	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its forty-sixth session
UNODC/SUBCOM/48/4	7	Note by the Secretariat on the draft provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Subcommission
UNODC/SUBCOM/48/L.1 and Add.1-6	9	Draft report
UNODC/SUBCOM/48/CRP.1	3	Note by the Secretariat on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in the Near and Middle East
UNODC/SUBCOM/46/CRP.2-9	3	Country reports