

8 April 2019

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**Thirteenth Meeting of Heads of National
Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe**

Lisbon, 2–5 July 2019

Annotated provisional agenda**Provisional agenda**

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twelfth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe.
5. 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.
6. Consideration of topics by working groups:
 - (a) The misuse of new technologies and communication modes for drug-related activities;
 - (b) New modi operandi in trafficking and trends in concealment methods and transport, and the role of customs authorities in effective border management strategies;
 - (c) Addressing the illicit manufacture and diversion of and trafficking in precursors;
 - (d) Ensuring holistic national responses through improved cooperation among domestic authorities, in particular, the law enforcement, health and justice sectors.
7. Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.
8. Organization of the Fourteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe.
9. Other business.
10. Adoption of the report of the Thirteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe.

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



Annotations

1. Election of officers

Elections are held in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. In the past, Meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, have elected a Chair, two Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The draft provisional agenda for the Thirteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, was approved at the Twelfth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, held in Vienna from 27 to 30 June 2017.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the Thirteenth Meeting may wish to establish a timetable and agree on its organization of work. A proposed organization of work for the consideration of the Meeting is contained in the annex to the present document.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda ([UNODC/HONEURO/13/1](#))

3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation

Participants are invited to inform the Thirteenth Meeting of their States' efforts with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in areas such as joint investigations, law enforcement training and the sharing of information on and experiences with drug trafficking countermeasures.

Participants are also invited to inform the Thirteenth Meeting of any practical problems impeding subregional cooperation and to suggest measures to overcome them.

Participants are requested to submit to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, prior to the holding of the Thirteenth Meeting, a three-page country report informing the Meeting about trends in drug trafficking and, in line with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/10, providing information on supply and demand reduction efforts undertaken and on international cooperation to counter money-laundering and promote judicial cooperation. Only those country reports received by the date indicated in the invitation to the Thirteenth Meeting will be translated into the working languages of the Meeting.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking ([UNODC/HONEURO/13/2](#))

Report of the Secretariat on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in South-Eastern and Eastern Europe ([UNODC/HONEURO/13/3](#))

4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twelfth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

Participants are invited to inform the Thirteenth Meeting of action taken by their Governments to implement the recommendations adopted by the Twelfth Meeting. The Thirteenth Meeting will have before it a note by the Secretariat based on replies received to a questionnaire concerning action taken by Governments.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twelfth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe ([UNODC/HONEURO/13/4](#))

5. 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

At the opening of the ministerial segment of the sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held in March 2019, ministers and government representatives adopted by consensus 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. In the Declaration, Member States made a commitment to accelerating, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, the full implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, aimed at achieving all commitments, operational recommendations and aspirational goals set out therein.

The Political Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2009, focuses on measures to enhance international cooperation, identifies problems and areas requiring further action and sets out goals and targets for countering the world drug problem. In its resolution 56/10, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs requested the meetings of its subsidiary bodies to contribute to the monitoring of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action at the regional level by discussing regional views on progress made in that regard. In the same resolution, the Commission encouraged Member States to consider the expertise and composition of their delegations to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies, with a view to covering the various aspects of the world drug problem (demand, supply and international cooperation) in order to hold substantive discussions on the issue and to actively participate in the agenda item 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”. Furthermore, the Commission requested the meetings of the subsidiary bodies, 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.

In 2014, Member States undertook a high-level midterm review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action to determine the progress achieved and challenges faced in its implementation and adopted the 2014 Joint Ministerial Statement, identifying achievements, challenges and priorities for further action in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

In 2016, the General Assembly held a special session on the world drug problem (thirtieth special session) and adopted an outcome document entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem” (General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex). The outcome document contains a broad range of operational recommendations covering the following seven thematic areas: (a) demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as other health-related issues; (b) ensuring the availability of and access to controlled substances exclusively for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion; (c) supply reduction and related measures, effective law enforcement, responses to drug-related crime, and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation; (d) cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, children, women and communities; (e) cross-cutting issues in addressing and countering the world drug problem: evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats, including new psychoactive substances, in conformity with the three international drug control

conventions and other relevant international instruments; (f) strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility; and (g) alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy and addressing socioeconomic issues.

Member States resolved to take the steps necessary to implement the operational recommendations, in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society, and to share with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, timely information on progress made in the implementation of those recommendations. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs initiated the follow-up process to the special session, with a focus on implementing the operational recommendations. With a view to sharing good practices and lessons learned in the practical implementation of the joint commitments, thematic discussions were held by the Commission and focused, *inter alia*, on the operational recommendations contained in the seven thematic chapters of the outcome document. More information on the follow-up process can be found at www.ungass2016.org.

Under agenda item 5, participants in the Meeting will be invited to consider the challenges posed to the States of the region with regard to the full implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action, the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, aimed at achieving all commitments, operational recommendations and aspirational goals set out therein. Participants will also be invited to discuss how they could best contribute through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to accelerating the implementation of all commitments made in the past decade, drawing on their technical expertise and their regional experiences.

Documentation

Outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem” (General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex)

Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (see [E/2009/28](#), chap. I, sect. C)

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem ([E/2014/80](#), annex I)

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 (see [E/2019/28](#), chap. I, sect. B)

6. Consideration of topics by working groups

Ad hoc working groups will be established to consider issues of regional importance and to facilitate informal discussions and frank exchanges of views, with a view to enhancing cooperation. The working groups are invited to present their findings, conclusions and recommendations to the plenary for endorsement and inclusion in the report of the Thirteenth Meeting.

On the basis of consultations on developments in the region, the working groups will be invited to consider the issues below.

(a) The misuse of new technologies and communication modes for drug-related activities

The Internet and related communication technologies are used by trafficking and other criminal groups to facilitate their illegal activities. While drug trafficking online using the darknet continues to represent only a fraction of drug trafficking as a whole, it continues to grow rapidly, despite successes in shutting down popular trading platforms. The trade in drugs on darknet markets is a dynamic area subject to rapid change as marketplaces appear and disappear.

Participants will be asked to share their national and regional experiences of the use of such technologies by criminal groups. The working group will seek to identify current common threats and propose recommendations on measures available to law enforcement authorities to counter those threats. It will also discuss the gathering and preservation of evidence from new sources and best practices for presenting such materials as evidence in the courts. Speakers may wish to include in their overview examples of the use of the darknet to thwart investigations, observations on the use of the bitcoin as a method of payment and successful techniques that may be deployed to counter these new developments. Participants should review the options that current legislation provides for their agencies to act effectively in this area and come prepared to comment and make recommendations on best practices and further measures to improve effectiveness.

In addition, the working group may wish to consider the use of new technologies and communication modes for prevention purposes, including the use of social media and other social networks to protect, in particular, children and young people from the abuse of controlled substances and new psychoactive substances.

(b) New modi operandi in trafficking and trends in concealment methods and transport, and the role of customs authorities in effective border management strategies

The working group will discuss trends that national drug law enforcement agencies are observing in concealment methods and the transportation of drugs at the regional and interregional levels, including the role of customs authorities in facilitating the cross-border flow and security of goods, means of transport and, to a certain extent, people. Customs officers, working jointly with police and other law enforcement agencies, prevent, detect and investigate criminal activities, including all kinds of trafficking. Moreover, customs authorities play a significant role in the collection and exchange of intelligence and cooperate in risk analysis, interdiction and investigative activities.

Participants will be invited to share information on practices for investigating complex drug trafficking cases and the use of effective investigative techniques, including controlled deliveries. They will also be invited to share their experiences of challenges faced in conducting such operations and investigating such cases, as well as to share their views on how these challenges and problems are currently being or could be addressed.

Participants may also wish to discuss the effectiveness of existing regional and international law enforcement cooperation mechanisms and organizations in supporting such operations and investigations and make suggestions about how to improve this support. Participants are encouraged to highlight, in particular, actions and strategies that have proved to be effective and areas in which greater efforts should be made.

(c) Addressing the illicit manufacture and diversion of, and trafficking in, precursors

Most drugs, whether plant-based or synthetic, require chemicals for their transformation into finished products. While chemicals are only one of the components required to manufacture plant-based drugs (heroin and cocaine), they constitute essential components of synthetic drugs. Given the increased manufacture

of synthetic drugs, the control of such chemicals, known as precursors, has emerged as a key strategy to control supply because traditional approaches, such as alternative development and the eradication of illicit crops, are not applicable to synthetic drugs.

The international community has, over the years, strengthened its control system aimed at enabling the legal trade in such chemicals while preventing their diversion for illicit manufacturing purposes. However, the international community faces new challenges, such as the increasing number of new non-scheduled chemicals, including “designer” precursors that are purposely made to circumvent controls.

The diversion of precursor chemicals has been identified as one of the factors behind the increasing quantities of synthetic drugs seized. In March 2018, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs scheduled six analogues of fentanyl, including carfentanil, building on its decision in 2017 to place two precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of fentanyl and an analogue under international control, all in response to the epidemic proportions that the non-medical use of prescription drugs has reached in some parts of the world.

Participants will be invited to share their national good practices on the control of precursor chemicals in cooperation with other relevant authorities and stakeholders at the national and international levels. They will also be invited to discuss means of improving existing control mechanisms and investigating the diversion of chemicals. Participants may wish to exchange information on non-controlled chemicals found in clandestine laboratories, on cases of and joint investigations into diversion and on the use of existing tools such as the Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) system and the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS) to prevent diversion and support investigations.

(d) Ensuring holistic national responses through improved cooperation among domestic authorities, in particular, the law enforcement, health and justice sectors

Given its multifaceted and dynamic nature, the world drug problem is a highly complex challenge that continues to pose a serious threat to health both as a result of the illicit cultivation, production, manufacture, sale and distribution of, demand for and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and as a consequence of drug use. A comprehensive, integrated, balanced and scientific evidence-based approach to the world drug problem must not only address the illicit production and use of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances but also facilitate the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, thereby ensuring the health and welfare of humankind.

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, Member States committed to ensuring that no one affected by the world drug problem is left behind, including by further strengthening cooperation and coordination among national authorities, particularly in the health, education, social, justice and law enforcement sectors, and between governmental agencies and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector.

With a view to ensuring comprehensive national responses, the working group will consider the importance of cooperation among domestic authorities. Participants will be encouraged to share national experiences and good practices, including in respect of the establishment of policy and technical coordination mechanisms at the inter-agency and multisectoral levels, in order to foster a comprehensive, balanced and multidisciplinary approach.

7. Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1 reads as follows:

In response to the invitation contained in paragraph 97 of General Assembly resolution [71/211](#) of 19 December 2016, and mindful of the requests contained in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/10 of 15 March 2013 and the operational recommendation contained in paragraph 6(c) of the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”, the Commission, at its 9th meeting, on 17 March 2017, decided:

- (a) To examine how its subsidiary bodies could better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document;
- (b) To inform its subsidiary bodies of the invitation contained in paragraph 97 of General Assembly resolution [71/211](#);
- (c) To invite the subsidiary bodies to consider that invitation at their upcoming meetings and report back to the Commission in due course.

In paragraph 114 of its resolution [73/192](#), the General Assembly invited the Commission to continue to examine how its subsidiary bodies could better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, including by ensuring that the Commission was informed of regional and domestic concerns, developments and best practices arising from all stakeholders, including contributions from the scientific community, academia and civil society.

The Meeting will be invited to consider the invitation by the General Assembly to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to examine how its subsidiary bodies could better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document and report back to the Commission on its findings.

8. Organization of the Fourteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

The Thirteenth Meeting is invited to review a draft provisional agenda for the Fourteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, including topics for discussion in working groups and possible venues for future meetings. A decision taken by the Thirteenth Meeting on the venue of the Fourteenth Meeting and the topics for the working groups would greatly facilitate the preparation and organization of the Fourteenth Meeting. The Secretariat will provide, upon request, a copy of the standard letter of agreement setting out the contributions of the United Nations and the host Government.

Participants are also invited to discuss any other matter related to the organization of the deliberations, with a view to improving their substantive content and follow-up.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the Fourteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe ([UNODC/HONEURO/13/5](#))

9. Other business

Under agenda item 9, participants in the Thirteenth Meeting may wish to address any other important issues, such as urgent matters reflected in the country reports.

10. Adoption of the report of the Thirteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

The Thirteenth Meeting will adopt its report, including the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the working groups, on the last day of the Meeting.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Tuesday, 2 July		
8–10 a.m.		Registration
10 a.m.–1 p.m.		Opening
	1	Election of officers
	2	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	3	Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation
3–6 p.m.	3	Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation (<i>continued</i>)
	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twelfth Meeting
	5	Follow-up to the implementation at the national, regional and international levels of all commitments to address and counter the world drug problem, as reflected 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
	7	Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Wednesday, 3 July		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	6	Consideration of topics by working group 1 Consideration of topics by working group 2
3–6 p.m.	6	Consideration of topics by working group 2 (<i>continued</i>) Consideration of topics by working group 3
Thursday, 4 July		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	6	Consideration of topics by working group 3 (<i>continued</i>) Consideration of topics by working group 4
3–6 p.m.	6	Consideration of topics by working groups/ field visit
Friday, 5 July		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	8	Organization of the Fourteenth Meeting
	9	Other business
	10	Adoption of the report of the Thirteenth Meeting