

## Chapter XIV

## International Drug Control

During 2003, the United Nations, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), reaffirmed its commitment to strengthen international cooperation and increase efforts to counter the world drug problem. Drug control activities throughout the UN system focused mainly on implementation of the 1999 Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, which served as a guide for Member States in adopting strategies and programmes for reducing illicit drug demand in order to achieve significant results by 2008.

UNODC assisted States in complying with international drug control treaties and supported the international community in achieving the objectives of the measures adopted by the General Assembly at its 1998 special session on the world drug problem. Through its technical cooperation programmes, UNODC promoted drug control activities at the national, regional and international levels and initiatives to suppress drug trafficking, prevent drug abuse and strengthen treatment and rehabilitation services. It supported national efforts to reduce or eliminate illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis through alternative development projects and to estimate the extent of illicit crop cultivation in key illicit production areas.

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs—the main UN policy-making body dealing with drug control—recommended a number of draft resolutions to the Economic and Social Council and adopted resolutions on such issues as the reduction of demand for illicit drugs and prevention of drug abuse, illicit drug trafficking and supply, implementation of the international drug control treaties, administrative and budgetary matters and strengthening UN machinery for international drug control. In July, the Council urged Governments to continue contributing to the maintenance of a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiate raw materials for medical and scientific purposes.

INCB reviewed the impact of illicit drugs on economic development and continued to oversee the implementation of the three major international drug control conventions, to analyse the

drug situation worldwide and to draw Governments' attention to weaknesses in national control and treaty compliance, making suggestions and recommendations for improvements at the national and international levels.

---

### Follow-up to the twentieth special session

---

In response to General Assembly resolution 57/174 [YUN 2002, p. 1229], the Secretary-General, in an August report [A/58/253], presented a quinquennial evaluation of the implementation of the outcome of the Assembly's twentieth special session on countering the world drug problem [YUN 1998, p. 1135], including the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, adopted by the Assembly in resolution 54/132 [YUN 1999, p. 1157]. The report reviewed the 2003 ministerial segment of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (see p. 1263); the adoption of national drug control strategies and plans; the Action Plan for implementing the Declaration on the Guiding Principles; the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors, adopted by Assembly resolution S-20/4 A [YUN 1998, p. 1139]; countering money-laundering linked to drug trafficking; the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, adopted by Assembly resolution S-20/4 E [ibid., p. 1148]; judicial cooperation; and the control of precursors. The Secretary-General concluded that positive developments in countering the drug problem were mixed with some alarming signals. He noted that, while heroin and cocaine abuse had stabilized or declined in some countries, trends in synthetic drugs were worrying, with illicit manufacture spreading beyond the traditional centres in North America, Europe and East Asia. Cannabis abuse was also on the rise. On the supply side, illicit coca cultivation was declining, but the total output volume of illicitly cultivated opium poppy remained stable.

The number of producing countries had been reduced significantly, reflecting the positive impact of alternative development programmes, as in Pakistan and Thailand. The Secretary-General asserted that drug control policy, demand reduction, alternative development and international cooperation had yielded positive results in countering the drug problem.

In February, the UNODC Executive Director submitted his second biennial report on the implementation of the outcome of the Assembly's special session [E/CN.7/2003/2 & Add.1-6]. The report, prepared pursuant to Commission resolutions 42/11 [YUN 1999, p. 1191] and 44/2 [YUN 2001, p. 1143], was based on an analysis of information received from States. It reviewed national, regional and global efforts to counter the world drug problem, identified the major difficulties faced by Governments and provided guidance as to the areas requiring action.

In July [A/58/124], the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in response to Assembly resolutions 55/65 [YUN 2000, p. 1175] and 56/124 [YUN 2001, p. 1144], reported on progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration, adopted at the Assembly's special session in resolution S-20/2 [YUN 1998, p. 1136], based on an evaluation conducted by the Commission during a ministerial segment at its forty-sixth session (Vienna, 16-17 April). The Commission adopted a Joint Ministerial Statement, in which it recognized that Member States' efforts in implementing the action plans and measures adopted by the Assembly were uneven, and made recommendations for the period 2003-2007. The report also contained the outcomes of round-table discussions held during the segment on challenges, new trends and patterns of the world drug problem; countering illicit drug supply; strengthening international cooperation, based on the principle of shared responsibility; and demand reduction and preventive policies. A Secretariat note [E/CN.7/2003/3] provided information on the substantive organization of the Commission's ministerial segment.

**Conference on drug routes.** At the initiative of France, the Foreign Ministers of 55 countries seriously affected by the traffic of opium and heroin produced in Afghanistan and originating from Central and South-West Asia attended the Conference on Drug Routes from Central Asia to Europe (Paris, 21-22 May) [S/2003/641]. The Conference adopted the Paris Statement, which addressed many facets of the issue.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 December [meeting 77], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third

(Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee [A/58/500], adopted **resolution 58/141** without vote [agenda item 109].

#### International cooperation against the world drug problem

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, its resolution 57/174 of 18 December 2002 and its other previous resolutions,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, held in New York from 8 to 10 June 1998, and welcoming the continuing determination of Governments to overcome the world drug problem by a full and balanced application of national, regional and international strategies to reduce the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the commitments of Member States in meeting the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at the twentieth special session, and welcoming the guidelines and elements recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for the preparation of subsequent reports on the follow-up to the twentieth special session,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, which introduces a new global approach balanced between illicit supply and demand reduction, under the principle of shared responsibility, and of the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, which recognizes the importance of supply reduction as an integral part of a balanced drug control strategy,

*Recognizing* the efforts of all countries, in particular those that produce narcotic drugs for scientific and medical purposes, and of the International Narcotics Control Board in preventing the diversion of such substances to illicit markets and in maintaining production at a level consistent with licit demand, in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,

*Aware* that progress has been uneven in meeting the goals set in the Political Declaration, as also reflected in the biennial reports of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and recognizing that the drug problem is still a global challenge that constitutes a serious threat to public health and safety and the well-being of humankind, in particular children and young people, and that it undermines socio-economic and political stability and sustainable development, including efforts to reduce poverty, and causes violence and crime, including in urban areas,

*Deeply concerned* by the serious challenges and threats posed by the continuing links between illicit drug trafficking and terrorism and other national and transnational criminal activities, such as trafficking in human beings, especially women and children, money-laundering, corruption and trafficking in arms and chemical precursors, and reaffirming that strong and

effective international cooperation is needed to counter these threats,

*Gravely concerned* about policies and activities in favour of the legalization of illicit narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances that are not in accordance with the international drug control treaties and that might jeopardize the international drug control regime,

*Acknowledging* that international cooperation in countering drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking has shown that positive results can be achieved through sustained and collective efforts, and expressing its appreciation for the initiatives in this regard,

*Welcoming* the holding of the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna on 16 and 17 April 2003,

## I

### Respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in countering the world drug problem

1. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requires an integrated and balanced approach, and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

2. *Urges* all States to ratify or accede to and implement all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;

## II

### International cooperation to counter the world drug problem and follow-up to the twentieth special session

1. *Reaffirms* the Joint Ministerial Statement and further measures to implement the action plans emanating from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, adopted during the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which emphasizes that the world drug problem must be addressed in multilateral, regional, bilateral and national settings and that, in order to succeed, action to counter it has to involve all Member States, that action must be supported by strong international and development cooperation and must be further included in national development priorities, and that it requires a balance between supply reduction and demand reduction, as well as a comprehensive strategy that combines alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, eradication, interdiction, law enforcement, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation as well as education;

2. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to continue their close cooperation with Governments in promoting and implementing the outcome of the twentieth special

session and of the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

### National drug control strategies

3. *Stresses* that, in order to be able to further develop sound, evidence-based drug control policies, data collection and analysis and evaluation of the results of ongoing policies are essential tools;

### Demand reduction

4. *Urges* all Member States to implement the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and to strengthen their national efforts to counter the abuse of illicit drugs in their population, in particular among children and young people, noting with concern the increasing levels of drug abuse among them;

5. *Urges* States, in order to achieve a significant and measurable reduction of drug abuse by 2008:

(a) To further implement comprehensive demand reduction policies and programmes, including research, covering all drugs under international control, in order to raise public awareness of the drug problem, paying special attention to prevention and education and providing, especially to young people and others at risk, information on developing life skills, making healthy choices and engaging in drug-free activities;

(b) To further develop and implement comprehensive demand reduction policies, including risk reduction activities, that are in line with sound medical practice and the international drug control treaties and that reduce the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse, and to provide a wide range of comprehensive services for the treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug abusers, with appropriate resources being devoted to such services, since social exclusion constitutes an important risk factor for drug abuse;

(c) To enhance early intervention programmes that dissuade children and young people from the use of illicit drugs, including polydrug use and the recreational use of substances such as cannabis and synthetic drugs, especially amphetamine-type stimulants, and to encourage the active participation of the younger generation in campaigns against drug abuse;

(d) To provide a comprehensive range of services for preventing the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases associated with drug abuse, including education, counselling and drug abuse treatment, and in particular to assist developing countries in their efforts to deal with these issues;

### Illicit synthetic drugs

6. *Urges* States to renew their efforts, at the national, regional and international levels, to implement the comprehensive measures covered in the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors, to make special efforts to counter the abuse and recreational use of amphetamine-type stimulants, especially by young people, and to disseminate information on the adverse health, social and economic consequences of such abuse;

### Control of precursors

7. *Encourages* States:

(a) To establish or strengthen mechanisms for making the most effective use of existing systems and for

ensuring strict control of chemical precursors used to manufacture illicit drugs;

(b) To support international operations aimed at preventing the diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacture of cocaine, heroin and amphetamine-type stimulants by exchanging information with other States and conducting timely joint law enforcement operations, including the use of controlled deliveries;

(c) To further international cooperation in the implementation of article 12, on control of precursors, of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, in close cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, and the measures agreed upon at the twentieth special session;

#### Judicial cooperation

8. *Calls upon* all States to strengthen international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities at all levels in order to prevent and combat illicit drug trafficking and to share and promote best operational practices in order to interdict illicit drug trafficking, including by establishing and strengthening regional mechanisms, providing technical assistance and establishing effective methods for cooperation, in particular in the areas of air, maritime and port control;

#### Countering money-laundering

9. *Urges* States to strengthen action, in particular international cooperation and technical assistance aimed at preventing and combating the laundering of proceeds derived from drug trafficking and related criminal activities, with the support of the United Nations system, international institutions such as the World Bank and regional development banks, to develop and strengthen comprehensive international regimes to combat money-laundering, and to improve information-sharing among financial institutions and agencies in charge of preventing and detecting the laundering of those proceeds;

10. *Calls upon* States to consider including provisions in their national drug control plans for the establishment of national networks to enhance their respective capabilities to prevent, monitor, control and suppress serious offences connected with money-laundering and the financing of terrorist acts, and in general to counter all acts of transnational organized crime, and to supplement existing regional and international networks dealing with money-laundering;

#### International cooperation in illicit crop eradication and alternative development

11. *Calls upon* States, where appropriate:

(a) To enhance support, including, where appropriate, through the provision of new and additional financial resources, for alternative development and elimination programmes undertaken by countries affected by the illicit cultivation of cannabis, especially in Africa, of opium poppy and of coca bush, in particular national programmes that seek to reduce social marginalization and promote sustainable economic development;

(b) To enhance joint strategies, through international and regional cooperation, to strengthen, including by training and education, alternative develop-

ment, eradication and interdiction capacity, with the aim of eliminating illicit crop cultivation;

(c) To encourage international cooperation, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, to prevent illicit crop cultivation from emerging in or being relocated to other areas;

(d) To provide, in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility, greater access to their markets for products of alternative development programmes, which are necessary for the creation of employment and the eradication of poverty;

(e) To establish or reinforce, where appropriate, national mechanisms to monitor and verify illicit crops;

(f) To continue to contribute to the maintenance of a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiate raw materials used for medical and scientific purposes and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production of opiate raw materials;

12. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Transitional Government of Afghanistan of a national drug strategy, and notes the need for continued coordination with the international efforts;

13. *Recommends* that adequate help be provided to Afghanistan within the framework of the comprehensive international strategy, carried out, *inter alia*, under the auspices of the United Nations and through other multilateral forums, in support of the commitment of the Transitional Government of Afghanistan, including the strengthening of "security belts" in the region, and reaffirms that the response to this unique situation will not detract from the commitments and resources devoted to the fight against drugs in other parts of the world;

### III

#### Action by the United Nations system

1. *Emphasizes* that the multidimensional nature of the world drug problem calls for the promotion of integration and coordination of drug control activities throughout the United Nations system, including in the follow-up to major United Nations conferences, as well as other relevant multilateral institutions and organizations;

2. *Reaffirms its resolve* to continue to strengthen the United Nations machinery for international drug control, in particular the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to enable them to fulfil their mandates, bearing in mind the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 of 28 July 1999 and the measures taken and recommendations adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-fourth, forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions, aimed at the enhancement of its functioning, in particular in its resolutions 44/16 of 29 March 2001, 45/17 of 15 March 2002 and 46/8 of 15 April 2003;

3. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the global coordinating body in international drug control and as the governing body of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

4. *Notes* that the International Narcotics Control Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, and therefore urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, and emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, inter alia, through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, and calls for enhanced cooperation and understanding between Member States and the Board in order to enable it to implement all its mandates under the international drug control conventions;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandate, and requests the Programme to continue:

(a) To strengthen dialogue with Member States and also to ensure continued improvement in management, so as to contribute to enhanced and sustainable programme delivery and further encourage the Executive Director to maximize the effectiveness of the Programme, inter alia, through the full implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 44/16 and 45/17, in particular the recommendations contained therein;

(b) To strengthen cooperation with Member States and with United Nations programmes, funds and relevant agencies, as well as relevant regional organizations and agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to provide, on request, assistance in implementing the outcome of the twentieth special session;

(c) To increase its assistance, within the available voluntary resources, to countries that are deploying efforts to reduce illicit crop cultivation by, in particular, adopting alternative development programmes, and to explore new and innovative funding mechanisms;

(d) To allocate, while keeping the balance between supply and demand reduction programmes, adequate resources to allow it to fulfil its role in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, and support countries, upon their request, to further develop and implement drug demand reduction policies;

(e) To strengthen dialogue and cooperation with multilateral development banks and with international financial institutions so that they may undertake lending and programming activities related to drug control in interested and affected countries to implement the outcome of the twentieth special session, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed of further progress made in this area;

(f) To take into account the outcome of the twentieth special session, to include in its report on the illicit traffic in drugs an updated, objective and comprehensive assessment of worldwide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means of improving the capacity of States along those routes to address all aspects of the drug problem;

(g) To publish the *World Drug Report*, with comprehensive and balanced information about the world drug problem, and to seek additional extrabudgetary

resources for its publication in all the official languages;

(h) To provide technical assistance, from available voluntary contributions for that purpose, to those States identified by relevant international bodies as the most affected by the transit of drugs, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support;

(i) To develop action-oriented strategies to assist Member States to implement the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration, and to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-seventh session on the follow-up to the Action Plan;

(j) To provide assistance, subject to the availability of resources, at the request of States and respecting fully their sovereignty and territorial integrity, and with the support of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and the European Space Agency, among others, in detecting on time the emergence or relocation of illicit crop cultivation;

6. *Welcomes* the holding in Paris, on 21 and 22 May 2003, of the Conference on Drug Routes from Central Asia to Europe, and encourages the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international institutions to continue in their follow-up action on the recommendations of the Conference (the Paris Pact);

7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of resources and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds, together with international financial institutions and the organizations involved in preventing and suppressing money-laundering and drug trafficking, to facilitate the provision of training and advice through technical cooperation in States, when requested, taking into account, inter alia, the recommendations on money-laundering and the financing of terrorism formulated by the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering and its regional groups;

8. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities, and recommends that a sufficient share of the regular budget of the United Nations be allocated to the Programme to enable it to fulfil its mandates and to work towards securing assured and predictable funding;

9. *Encourages* 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, taking into account the outcome of the twentieth special session and the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

10. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities, other international organizations and international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream drug control issues into their programmes;

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the report of the Secretary-General, and, taking into account the promotion of in-

tegrated reporting, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

### Money-laundering

On 22 July [meeting 44], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs [E/2003/28/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2003/36** without vote [agenda item 14 (d)].

#### Establishment of national networks to counter money-laundering in the framework of national and international drug control plans

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Bearing in mind* the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism,

*Taking into account* the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering and its regional groups,

*Taking into account also* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, which called for Member States to make special efforts against the laundering of money linked to drug trafficking and recommended that States adopt by the year 2003 national money-laundering legislation and programmes in accordance with the 1988 Convention, as well as the measures for countering money-laundering adopted at the twentieth special session,

*Considering* that multilateral action against the modern global phenomenon of transnational organized crime and the illicit activities connected with it, in particular drug trafficking, money-laundering, corruption and the financing of terrorism, represents a commitment by States that calls for shared responsibility and coordinated activities with a view to achieving a coherent global approach in accordance with multilateral instruments,

*Recognizing* that the laundering of proceeds derived from drug trafficking and other serious offences has increased throughout the world to become a global threat to the stability and security of the financial and commercial system, and even to government structures, and that concerted efforts by the international community are required in order to deal with the problems posed by organized crime and the proceeds derived from it,

*Emphasizing* the need for States to harmonize their legislation in order to ensure adequate coordination of their policies for preventing, monitoring, controlling and suppressing money-laundering and the financing of terrorism,

*Recognizing* that effective action to counter the problem of money-laundering will be possible only through international cooperation and the utilization of networked information systems that facilitate collaboration and the exchange of information between the relevant authorities of the States concerned,

*Recognizing also* the strategic necessity for States to have the appropriate infrastructure for analysis and fi-

nancial investigation in order to combat money-laundering and the financing of transnational organized crime in a coordinated manner, using national, regional and international strategies,

*Reiterating* the importance of establishing and implementing national plans or strategies to combat the laundering of the proceeds of crime,

1. *Recommends* that States, in conformity with their legislation and in accordance with their capabilities, set up national networks to supplement existing regional and international networks dealing with money-laundering;

2. *Calls upon* States to consider including provisions in their national drug control plans for the establishment of national networks to enhance their respective capabilities to prevent, monitor, control and suppress serious offences connected with money-laundering and the financing of terrorist acts and, in general, to counter all transnational organized criminal acts;

3. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of resources and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds, together with international financial institutions and the organizations involved in preventing and suppressing money-laundering and drug trafficking, to facilitate the provision of training and advice through technical cooperation in States, when requested, taking into account, inter alia, the recommendations on money-laundering and the financing of terrorism formulated by the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering and its regional groups.

## Conventions

In 2003, international efforts to control narcotic drugs were governed by three global conventions: the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs [YUN 1961, p. 382], which, with some exceptions of detail, replaced earlier narcotics treaties and was amended in 1972 by a Protocol [YUN 1972, p. 397] intended to strengthen the role of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB); the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances [YUN 1971, p. 380]; and the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances [YUN 1988, p. 690].

As at 31 December 2003, 175 States were parties to the 1961 Convention, as amended by the 1972 Protocol. During the year, Algeria and Myanmar acceded to the Convention.

The number of parties to the 1971 Convention stood at 174 as at 31 December 2003, with the accession of Albania and Saint Lucia.

At year's end, 167 States and the European Community were parties to the 1988 Convention, with Mongolia acceding in 2003.

**Commission action.** At its forty-sixth session in April [E/2003/28/Rev.1], the Commission on Narcotic Drugs reviewed implementation of interna-

tional drug control treaties. It had before it the INCB report covering 2002 [YUN 2002, p. 1235]; the 2002 INCB technical report on the implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention, entitled "Precursors and chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances" [ibid., p. 1236]; and a Secretariat note on changes in the scope of control of substances [E/CN.7/2003/12 & Add.1], which contained recommendations for Commission action and a proposal from the World Health Organization (WHO) to place amineptine in schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

Pursuant to its mandate under the 1961 Convention, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Commission called on Governments of producing countries to adhere to the Convention's provisions and prevent illicit production or diversion of opiate raw materials. Regarding implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention, the Commission noted the Board's overview of the global situation regarding control of precursor chemicals and its efforts to improve information exchange between Governments in order to prevent their diversion. Recognizing that the control of precursor chemicals was one of the most effective tools in addressing the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), the Commission urged Governments to support Project Prism [YUN 2002, p. 1235], an INCB initiative to address diversions of ATS precursors and materials and equipment used in their illicit manufacture. The Commission commended the Board for its efforts as the focal point for the exchange of information under Operation Purple and Operation Topaz, the international programmes focusing on potassium permanganate and acetic anhydride, respectively. Governments were urged to submit annual information to the Board.

On 8 April [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (dec. 46/1)], the Commission decided to include amineptine in schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

On 15 April [res. 46/4], the Commission called on Member States to implement the international treaties fully and to avoid adopting policies and measures facilitating access to drugs for non-medical or non-scientific purposes. It urged States to engage non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other civil society organizations in their efforts to address the world drug problem. The Executive Director was requested to report in 2004.

**INCB action.** In its report covering 2003 [Sales No. E.04.XI.1], INCB called on States that had not done so to become parties to the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs and to accede to or ratify the 1972 Protocol amending it. It reiterated its request to States to implement the 1971 Convention

on Psychotropic Substances and become parties thereto. Noting that almost all of the world's major drug and chemical manufacturing, exporting and importing countries were parties to the 1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, the Board called on States that had not done so to implement the Convention and become parties to it.

#### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 22 July [meeting 44], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs [E/2003/28/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2003/40** without vote [agenda item 14 (d)].

#### Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific purposes

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2002/20 of 24 July 2002 and previous relevant resolutions,

*Emphasizing* that the need to balance the global licit supply of opiates against the legitimate demand for opiates for medical and scientific purposes is central to the international strategy and policy of drug control,

*Noting* the fundamental need for international co-operation with the traditional supplier countries in drug control to ensure universal application of the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,

*Reiterating* that a balance between consumption and production of opiate raw materials was achieved in the past as a result of efforts made by the two traditional supplier countries, India and Turkey, together with other producer countries,

*Expressing deep concern* at the increase in the global production of opiate raw materials and the significant accumulation of stocks over the past few years as a consequence of the operation of market forces, which has the potential to upset the delicate balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiates for medical and scientific purposes,

*Noting* the importance of opiates in pain relief therapy as advocated by the World Health Organization,

*Noting also* that countries differ significantly in their level of consumption of narcotic drugs and that, in most developing countries, the use of narcotic drugs for medical purposes has remained at an extremely low level,

1. *Urges* all Governments to continue to contribute to the maintenance of a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiate raw materials for medical and scientific purposes, the achievement of which would be facilitated by maintaining, insofar as their constitutional and legal systems permit, support to the traditional and legal supplier countries, and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production of opiate raw materials;

2. *Urges* Governments of all producer countries to adhere strictly to the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol, to take effective measures to prevent illicit production or diversion of opiate raw materials to illicit channels, especially when in-

creasing licit production, and welcomes the study carried out by the International Narcotics Control Board on the relative merits of different methods of producing opiate raw materials;

3. *Urges* Governments of consumer countries to assess their licit needs for opiate raw materials realistically and to communicate those needs to the International Narcotics Control Board in order to ensure easy supply, and requests the Governments of producer countries to ensure that their future production of opiate raw materials is adjusted to conform to the actual requirements for opiate raw materials worldwide, bearing in mind the current level of global stocks of opiate raw materials, and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production of opiate raw materials;

4. *Commends* the International Narcotics Control Board for its efforts in monitoring the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions and, in particular:

(a) In urging the Governments concerned to adjust global production of opiate raw materials to a level corresponding to actual licit needs and to avoid unforeseen imbalances between the licit supply of and demand for opiates caused by the exportation of products manufactured from seized and confiscated drugs;

(b) In inviting the Governments concerned to ensure that opiates imported into their countries for medical and scientific use do not originate in countries that transform seized and confiscated drugs into licit opiates;

(c) In arranging informal meetings, during the sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, with the main States that import and produce opiate raw materials;

5. *Requests* the International Narcotics Control Board to continue its efforts in monitoring the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions in full compliance with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and with that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Governments for consideration and implementation and to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-seventh session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

On the same day [meeting 44], the Council, on the recommendation of the Commission [E/2003/28/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2003/41** without vote [agenda item 14 (d)].

#### **Efforts to counter the trend towards the legalization of drugs for non-medical use**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Taking into account* the policies adopted by organizations of the United Nations system concerning the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in particular article 33 thereof,

*Recalling* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,

*Recalling also* that narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are controlled under the 1961 Convention, that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol and the 1971 Convention, which call for the States parties to those conventions to adopt all possible measures to limit the production, manufacture, export, import and distribution of, trade in and use and possession of those drugs for medical and scientific purposes if those States consider that to be the most appropriate means of protecting health and public welfare,

*Conscious* that increased availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, without the appropriate controls, could facilitate the diversion of those drugs,

*Taking into account* the reports of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2001 and 2002,

*Bearing in mind* that countering the world drug problem is a shared responsibility calling for coordinated action in conformity with the relevant multilateral instruments in force at the international level,

*Concerned* about the increasing levels of illicit drug consumption, in particular among children, young people and groups at risk of abusing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

*Concerned also* about the trend towards the development of lenient policies relating to cannabis and other drugs that are not in accordance with international drug control treaties and about the fact that such trends may have a negative impact on efforts being made to eradicate cannabis cultivation and to combat drug trafficking,

1. *Invites* the International Narcotics Control Board to continue to monitor and report on the application of the international drug control treaties by Member States with regard to cannabis and other drugs;

2. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in collaboration with the World Health Organization, to report on new trends with regard to cannabis.

Also on the same date [meeting 44], the Council, on the recommendation of the Commission [E/2003/28/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2003/39** without vote [agenda item 14 (d)].

#### **Strengthening systems of control over chemical precursors and preventing their diversion and trafficking**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Convinced* that the transnational nature of the world drug problem and related offences requires the effective application of the principles of shared responsibility and a holistic and balanced approach,

*Noting* that the availability of chemical precursors makes it possible to extract, refine and synthesize illicit drugs of natural or synthetic origin,

*Noting also* General Assembly resolution S-20/4 B of 10 June 1998 on the control of precursors, adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together,



*Stressing* the importance of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 45/12 of 12 March 2002 on the diversion of precursors and prompt reporting to competent authorities of the countries of origin and the countries of transit and the International Narcotics Control Board,

*Concerned* at the fact that the diversion of chemical precursors is related to, inter alia, the manufacture of illicit drugs,

*Observing* that transnational criminal organizations have taken advantage of the benefits of globalization and the use of new technology to broaden the scope of their activity in this area and that, therefore, combating those organizations and the methods they use constitutes one of the greatest challenges facing the international community today,

*Noting with concern* the widespread use of substances substituted for controlled substances in Tables I and II of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, for the purposes of extracting and refining drugs of natural or synthetic origin,

*Noting* the important problems posed by the diversion, smuggling and illicit trading of chemical precursors needed for the production of drugs of natural or synthetic origin,

*Aware* that the availability of chemical precursors continues, despite the success of "Operation Topaz" and "Operation Purple" and the efforts of all countries to prevent the access of drug traffickers to chemical precursors needed in the manufacture of illicit drugs of natural and synthetic origin,

*Committed* to preventing, through all legal means available, access to chemical precursors by those engaged in or attempting to engage in the processing of illicit drugs,

*Concerned* at the fact that illicit drugs of natural and synthetic origin have spread worldwide, and recognizing that that represents a threat to all States,

1. *Urges* all States, including producing, exporting, transit and importing States, in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility, to exchange information, through the competent authorities established in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 or through law enforcement authorities, regarding suspicious transactions or shipments of substances suspected of being diverted for use in illicit drug production;

2. *Recommends* that all States ensure that they have in place fully effective systems for chemical precursor control and procedures for training personnel of control agencies and operational, regulatory and administrative staff;

3. *Calls upon* all States to inform, through the International Narcotics Control Board, the competent authorities of States about matters concerning the introduction of substances substituted for controlled substances and the use of new techniques in the synthesis, refining and extraction of illicit drugs, with a view to strengthening controls;

4. *Encourages* all States, including producing, exporting, transit and importing States, to make full use of existing channels of communication for the timely exchange of information, where possible, on enterprises that have been given penalties for improper

management of chemicals, in accordance with their national legislation, as well as on routes and means of trafficking and diversion, on methods of camouflaging and on means of falsifying and manipulating customs documents, and any other information necessary to exercise more effective control;

5. *Reiterates* the vital importance of the process of prior notification of export of chemicals used in the manufacture of organic and synthetic drugs, established pursuant to article 12 of the 1988 Convention, as a mechanism for preventing the diversion of chemicals into illicit channels, and stresses the need for timely feedback following such prior notification;

6. *Reiterates also* the need to adopt measures for the application of the "know-your-customer" principle by enterprises involved in production and distribution;

7. *Encourages* States and relevant international organizations to provide technical assistance that can be used to exercise more effective precursor control.

### International Narcotics Control Board

The 13-member International Narcotics Control Board held its seventy-sixth (3-7 February), seventy-seventh (26 May-6 June) and seventy-eighth (29 October-14 November) sessions, all in Vienna.

In performing the tasks assigned to it under the international conventions, the Board maintained a permanent dialogue with Governments, and used the information received from them to identify the enforcement of treaty provisions requiring them to limit to medical and scientific purposes the licit manufacture of, trade in and distribution and use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The Board, which was requested by the international drug control treaties to report annually on the drug control situation worldwide, noted weaknesses in national control and treaty compliance and made recommendations for improvements at both the national and international levels.

The Board's 2003 report [Sales No. E.04.XI.1] reviewed the impact of drugs, crime and violence at the microlevel in society, addressing the relationship among drug abuse, crime and violence with respect to individuals, families, neighbourhoods and communities, and taking into account both criminality and victimization.

INCB concluded that drug trafficking and related crime and violence linked local communities with transnational criminal networks, and a targeted intervention was essential to deal with traffickers operating at the microlevel. The law enforcement response should include community-based policing, pre-emptive intervention and greater cooperation among criminal justice agencies, social welfare agencies and specialized NGOs. More timely and targeted efforts should be made at the local, national and international

levels through partnerships with a diverse range of organizations, and programmes introducing community-based microlevel interventions should be established. The Board stressed the importance of introducing a comprehensive demand reduction programme.

The Board expressed concern at the failure of many States, including some that manufactured, imported, exported or used narcotic drugs, to comply with their treaty obligation to submit timely annual statistical reports. It encouraged States and territories for which it had established estimates of narcotic drug requirements for 2004 to review and revise them.

As to the diversion of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, INCB noted that the diversion of pharmaceutical products containing narcotic drugs from domestic licit distribution channels, occurring in many countries, was underreported. Noting that the diversion and abuse of opioids prescribed for substitution treatment was also reported in many countries, the Board reiterated its request to prevent their diversion. The Board called on Governments to prohibit the import and export of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through the mail in order to prevent the selling of illegal supplies by Internet pharmacies.

In the light of continued attempts by traffickers to divert precursors, it was imperative for Governments to verify the intended end use of orders of precursor chemicals and the volumes required, particularly ATS precursors, ephedrine and pseudoephedrine. Operational activities commenced in January under Project Prism (see p. 1268) to address the diversion of ATS precursors and equipment and materials used in their illicit manufacture, and the use of the Internet for their sale. The second meeting of the Project Prism working groups (Bangkok, Thailand, June) reviewed those activities. The Board noted the continued success of Operation Purple, involving the international tracking programme for potassium permanganate used in the illicit manufacture of cocaine, and of Operation Topaz, involving the international tracking of acetic anhydride used in heroin manufacture. With illicit opium production in Afghanistan increasing, it was essential for countries in the region to implement the working mechanisms and operating procedures established for Operation Topaz to prevent acetic anhydride from being diverted and smuggled into and through the region to Afghanistan. The Board convened a round-table consultation (Vienna, March) to address the diversion of acetic anhydride uncovered in Europe.

As to ensuring the availability of drugs for medical purposes, INCB noted that global pro-

duction and stocks of opiate raw materials rich in both morphine and thebaine reached a record high in 2002, well in excess of global demand. The Board requested producing countries not to exceed their 2004 estimates for the cultivation and production of opiate raw materials, and urged them, in accordance with international drug control objectives and policies, to adjust their future production to meet actual worldwide requirements. However, in view of the continued low availability of opiates in many countries for the treatment of pain, the Board had no objection to increasing the production of opiate raw materials in response to increased global demand. It called on Governments to contribute to the maintenance of a balance between the supply of opiate raw materials and the demand for opiates.

The Board, aware of continued use by some military forces of drugs scheduled under the 1961 and the 1971 conventions, mainly of the amphetamine-type group, and the ongoing research into their further possible uses, appealed to Governments to ensure that military and law enforcement sectors followed the principles of sound medical practice in their use of internationally controlled substances and that the international conventions were respected.

By **decision 2003/236** of 22 July, the Economic and Social Council took note of the INCB report for 2002 [E/INCB/2002/1 (Sales No. E.03.XI.1)].

The Council, by **decision 2003/220** of 1 May, decided to include the issue of honorariums payable to INCB members in the agenda of its substantive 2003 session.

---

## World drug situation

---

In its 2003 report [Sales No. E.04.XI.1], INCB presented a regional analysis of world drug abuse trends and control efforts, so that Governments would be kept aware of situations that might endanger the objectives of international drug control treaties.

### Africa

Throughout Africa, cannabis was the most widely grown, trafficked and abused drug, accounting for one quarter of global seizures. The bulk was seized by South Africa, but large cannabis seizures were also reported in Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria and the United Republic of Tanzania. Morocco remained one of the world's leading cannabis producers and the source of 60 to 70 per cent of the cannabis resin seized in Europe. In Egypt, cannabis continued to

be illicitly cultivated in the northern part of the Sinai. In the Sudan, a shift from the cultivation of food crops to cannabis resulted in food shortages. In Western and Central Africa, where cultivation was traditionally limited to the local market, cannabis became a significant economic crop following the fall in prices of cash crops in international markets. It was produced on a large scale, in particular in Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal, and continued to be cultivated in Eastern Africa. Southern Africa remained the major source of cannabis in Africa.

Illicit opium poppy cultivation in the Sinai peninsula in Egypt was declining. While heroin abuse in Africa was relatively low, trends showed an increase, particularly from the spillover effects of drug trafficking. Heroin from South-East and South-West Asia continued to be smuggled through Eastern and Western Africa to illicit markets in Europe and, to some extent, the United States. Some heroin was also smuggled into South Africa, where its abuse was rising, particularly among youth.

Cocaine originating in South America and shipped mainly from Brazil continued to transit Western and Southern Africa to Europe. Cocaine abuse in Africa was limited to the spillover effects of trafficking.

The abuse of psychotropic substances was of concern in Southern, Eastern and Western Africa. In Western Africa, especially in the Sahelian countries, the abuse of amphetamine, ephedrine and pemoline was widespread. Most psychotropic substances continued to be diverted mainly from licit distribution channels. A major problem was the abuse of prescription pharmaceutical products that were being sold over the counter or in the streets, particularly in several Western and Central African countries. The diversion of drugs intended for the licit market into illicit channels became an issue in South Africa. Methcathinone ("cat") appeared on illicit markets in South Africa, and, despite law enforcement efforts aimed at interrupting the supply of methaqualone (Mandrax), its abuse continued unabated in Eastern and Southern Africa, above all in South Africa, where it remained the second most commonly abused illicit drug. Methaqualone continued to enter that country from India and China and from clandestine laboratories in Southern Africa. The abuse of methylenedioxy-methamphetamine (MDMA (Ecstasy)) occurred in Southern Africa, particularly in South Africa.

Illicit drug trafficking remained a major problem in the region. Information gathered from war-torn countries in Western and Central Africa indicated that the arms and ammunition used by rebel groups and criminal organizations to de-

stabilize those subregions might have been partly procured with the proceeds of illicit drug trafficking.

As to regional cooperation, collaboration targeting the drug problem continued within inter-governmental organizations such as the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the East African Community (EAC). Arab ministers of information and of the interior held a meeting (Tunis, Tunisia, January) to discuss money-laundering, terrorism and organized crime. Ministers of the interior of the Western Mediterranean States coalition met (Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, July) to discuss cooperation in fighting terrorism, drug trafficking and organized crime, among other issues. A regional workshop (Accra, Ghana, May) brought together the coordinators of inter-ministerial drug committees, national project coordinators and NGO representatives of ECOWAS members. The third annual meeting of the East Africa Drug Information System took place in Nairobi, Kenya, in October. At the national level, Ethiopia introduced draft legislation against money-laundering, while Nigeria enacted legislation against money-laundering in 2002.

The Board welcomed action by Morocco to conduct a comprehensive survey in 2003 to determine the extent, locations and patterns of cannabis cultivation in the northern part of the country. In South Africa, the demand reduction campaign "Ke Moja" was launched nationwide in June, and legislation to combat money-laundering was implemented.

An INCB mission to Mali in March found that various drugs, mainly diverted from licit distribution channels and humanitarian aid, were sold in street markets. In April, an INCB mission visited Algeria, where diversions of psychotropic substances occurred after they had been licitly imported. The Board called on the Government to strengthen its control of the distribution of pharmaceutical products and to undertake an assessment of drug abuse.

## **Americas**

### *Central America and the Caribbean*

Drug trafficking in Central America and the Caribbean involved mostly cannabis and cocaine, although heroin seizures increased. Trafficking contributed to the increase in drug abuse in Central America and the Mexican corridor and the Caribbean, which remained the transit route for smuggling cocaine and heroin from Colombia into North America.

Cannabis cultivation continued in all countries in Central America, mainly for local abuse or smuggling into neighbouring countries, and it remained the most widely abused substance, with El Salvador and Honduras reporting the highest prevalence. The largest seizures in the Caribbean continued to be made in Jamaica, an important source of the cannabis trafficked outside the subregion. In the Eastern Caribbean, it was grown mainly in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia and Dominica, primarily for local abuse. The smuggling of cannabis from the Caribbean into Europe and North America continued to decline; cannabis produced in the subregion was increasingly abused locally or trafficked within the subregion.

Cocaine production remained insignificant, with only Panama reporting minor coca bush cultivation and cocaine laboratories. However, the transit traffic in cocaine continued to affect all countries, especially Puerto Rico, the main entry point for cocaine smuggled through the Caribbean into the United States. Countries through which the substance was trafficked had a higher level of abuse. Cocaine abuse increased and the age of initiation into illicit drug consumption decreased. Cocaine, or crack cocaine, was the second most widely abused drug in the Caribbean among students in secondary school. In Curaçao, crack abuse became a major problem.

Guatemala was the only Central American country to report minimal cultivation of opium poppy. Heroin abuse was marginal, except in Puerto Rico. Heroin seizures, which were reported in all countries in Central America and most countries in the Caribbean, reached unprecedented levels. Most of the heroin originated in Colombia. Trinidad and Tobago continued to be affected by trafficking in cocaine and heroin, mainly from Venezuela.

Central America was a transit area for shipments of precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and destined mainly for Colombia. There were shortcomings with respect to their control. Some Central American countries reported sporadic seizures of Ecstasy, mostly originating in Europe, abuse of which was emerging in the region.

The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organization of American States was the main forum of regional cooperation. Coordination in areas such as judicial cooperation, law enforcement operations and border control was usually in the form of bilateral agreements between countries. The United States remained the single most important bilateral partner in drug control matters for most countries and territories, providing assist-

ance in the interdiction of drug trafficking. The Board welcomed the increased attention given to demand reduction in the region, and the cooperation of Caribbean countries with the Netherlands and the United Kingdom to address the smuggling of drugs into Europe by individual couriers.

At the national level, Central American countries continued to seek ways to strengthen their capabilities to combat trafficking. The Board noted the strengthening of legislation against money-laundering and of the drug control infrastructure in Costa Rica. It urged the Bahamas to adopt a national drug control plan and implement regulations on precursor chemicals. Progress was achieved in combating money-laundering activities in the Caribbean. However, some of the islands in the Eastern Caribbean were still vulnerable.

An INCB mission to Panama in February noted its vulnerability to trafficking due to its geographical location, economic structure and intense commercial traffic. While Panama had adequate drug control legislation, it had limited resources to implement it. The Board encouraged the Government to ensure coordination and communication between government entities and the inter-institutional commission for chemical control. INCB reviewed action taken by El Salvador to implement its recommendations following a 2000 Board mission to that country [YUN 2000, p. 1184]. It noted the adoption of a national drug control plan, covering supply reduction, demand reduction and the control of licit activities related to narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors.

#### *North America*

Cannabis, the most abused drug in Canada, Mexico and the United States, was produced in large quantities in all three countries. Almost 40 per cent of cannabis herb seizures reported worldwide were made in Mexico.

The demand for cocaine fell in some areas of the United States. While there appeared to be an overall decline in drug abuse among teenagers with regard to some drugs, cocaine and crack abuse remained at the same level. In Mexico, the abuse of cocaine and crack increased, in particular among youth, and they were increasingly used as initiation drugs.

Heroin abuse was rising in Mexico, with increased availability, lower prices and higher purity levels. Though the majority of heroin smuggled into the United States and Canada was of Colombian origin, a significant share was also manufactured in Mexico, where, despite efforts by the Government to reduce it, illicit opium

poppy cultivation continued. In the United States, a field with 40,000 opium poppies was discovered in June in a remote area in California, raising concern that trafficking organizations were attempting to establish large-scale cultivation sites within the country.

The abuse of Ecstasy among teenagers in the United States declined in 2002 for the first time in several years, though it remained at high levels. The abuse of amphetamine and methamphetamine remained high. In Mexico, ATS abuse increased significantly among young persons. Abuse of prescription drugs in the United States continued, exacerbated by the unlawful selling of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by online pharmacies within and outside the country.

The North American countries cooperated closely in their drug control efforts, resulting in the arrest by Mexico and the United States of a number of powerful drug traffickers. Mexico extradited to the United States numerous suspected drug traffickers, including major figures in drug trafficking organizations. In April, Canada and the United States completed a joint operation targeting trafficking in pseudoephedrine, a precursor used in methamphetamine manufacture.

As to national legislation, new regulations came into force in Canada, completing the inclusion under appropriate national control of all internationally controlled psychotropic substances. Canada's Drug Strategy was adopted, increasing the funding of drug control activities. Noting with concern that, in June, Canada had approved the establishment of a drug injection room in Vancouver, the Board reiterated its view that such sites were contrary to the fundamental provisions of the international treaties.

In October, INCB visited Canada and noted the strong coordination among various ministries and agencies in drug control and initiatives to deal with the problem of indoor cannabis production.

### *South America*

In South America, the political threat of the drug problem led many Governments to devote more of their limited resources to reducing illicit drug supply, including by the eradication of illicit crops, the interdiction of drug trafficking and the introduction of measures against money-laundering. There were continued reports of arms being exchanged for illicit drugs. What was originally known as Plan Colombia, sponsored by the United States and aimed at reducing the illicit supply from Colombia and other South American countries, evolved into a broader effort named the Andean Counter-drug Initiative. Colombia remained the main recipient of assistance.

Cannabis, the most widely abused illicit drug in South America, was cultivated in almost every country, mainly for local or regional markets. One half of its seizures were accounted for by Brazil and one third by Colombia, both of which ranked among the top 10 countries in the world in terms of cannabis herb seizures.

In Colombia, coca bush cultivation fell by 58 per cent compared with 2000, the peak year. Most of the reduction was attributed to aerial fumigation. However, illicit cultivation increased sharply in the Nariño area bordering Ecuador. In Peru, the total area under cultivation remained stable, while in Bolivia, there was a slight increase in 2002.

The potential total manufacture of cocaine remained at approximately 800 tons in 2002, the bulk of which took place in Colombia, mainly in areas under the control of armed groups. Some 80 tons of potassium permanganate were seized in Colombia in 2002, the largest quantity ever in one year. Apart from the coca-producing countries, the transit countries of Brazil, Ecuador and Venezuela reported the largest seizures of cocaine. The United States remained the main market for South American cocaine. Other trafficking routes were uncovered, such as a route leading from Peru to Australia via Argentina.

Colombia estimated that in 2002, some 4,200 hectares were under opium poppy cultivation in the central and southern parts of the country. Peru also reported a small increase in opium poppy cultivation. In South America, there was an increasing trend in heroin manufacture and trafficking, mainly from Colombia into the United States, using individual carriers.

Regional cooperation often took the form of bilateral or multilateral agreements between States with common interests and shared geographical traits. Cooperation between Brazil and Colombia was enhanced, and joint police force operations were extended to Peru, Suriname and Venezuela. The United States remained the principal contributor of resources, mostly through bilateral agreements. Cooperation agreements also existed between South American and European countries. Various regional operations were initiated in South America to address the diversion of and trafficking in chemicals.

At the national level, new legislation on chemical precursors increased the number of chemicals monitored in Brazil. In Peru, new legislation for strengthening the control of precursor chemicals was adopted and a financial intelligence unit was created. In Uruguay, the legal framework for the control of precursor chemicals was strengthened. However, control provisions against money-laundering needed to be expanded.

In February, a Board mission to Colombia, recognizing the importance of providing alternative development for the local population in coca-growing areas, noted that increased resources were needed and invited the international community to support Colombia in alternative development and demand reduction. In July, an INCB mission visited Ecuador which, as a result of measures taken in neighbouring Andean countries, had become more vulnerable to drug trafficking activities. The Board welcomed the establishment in 2002 of the Drug Observatory and appreciated the initiatives taken to combat corruption, drug trafficking and money-laundering. It noted the need for increased international assistance to Ecuador to tackle illicit cultivation and trafficking in the Andean subregion. Also in July, a Board mission to Peru noted efforts towards the elimination of coca bush cultivation. It expressed appreciation for Peru's decision to update the registry of farmers for the licit production of coca leaf, and to estimate actual needs for coca leaf to evaluate the required cultivation area. The Board acknowledged the improvements made by the Government, in follow-up to its 2000 recommendations [YUN 2000, p. 1186], particularly in streamlining the functions of agencies involved in drug control, but noted that some recommendations had not been addressed.

## Asia

### *East and South-East Asia*

In all the countries of East and South-East Asia, cannabis abuse was widespread. However, it was limited in China, Japan and the Republic of Korea and declined in Malaysia and Thailand, where abusers shifted to other drugs, mainly methamphetamine and various stimulants. The Philippines reported a significant reduction in cultivation, as a result of an eradication campaign, but it continued to be cultivated in and smuggled out of Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Thailand. Indonesia and Thailand were also sources of cannabis resin.

In East and South-East Asia, the total area under illicit opium poppy cultivation declined further. As a result of government efforts, illicit opium production fell in Myanmar and Laos, the two major producers. In Myanmar, the world's second largest producer of illicit opium and heroin after Afghanistan, the area under opium poppy cultivation had decreased by almost two thirds since 1996, and by 55 per cent since 1998 in Laos, the third largest producer. In Thailand and Viet Nam, production levels remained insig-

nificant. Opium was abused in countries where cultivation took place, but the number of abusers decreased, as many addicts turned to heroin, the drug of choice. In East and South-East Asia, there was little cocaine trafficking and abuse.

Methamphetamine continued to be manufactured, mainly in China, Myanmar and, to a lesser extent, in the Philippines. Over two thirds of the global seizures took place in the region, mainly in China, Myanmar and Thailand, although they had declined since 2001. Precursors for methamphetamine continued to be smuggled into Myanmar and the Philippines out of China and India. Methamphetamine was the most widely abused drug in Japan, the Republic of Korea and Thailand. Its abuse increased in most parts of the region coupled with a rise in the abuse of other ATS, particularly Ecstasy. Seizures of Ecstasy were reported mainly in China and Japan. The illicit trade in precursor chemicals continued to be a major concern.

The Board commended the cooperation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) with China. In September, the six signatories to the 1993 memorandum of understanding on drug control between the countries in the Mekong area (Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam) reconfirmed their agreement to strengthen subregional cooperation across borders. China, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand agreed to establish a network among their ports along the Mekong to reinforce their national campaigns against drug traffickers, and Malaysia launched a joint police initiative with Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Singapore and Thailand. In May, the border liaison offices of Laos and Thailand pledged to strengthen cross-border law enforcement. China and Thailand provided assistance for alternative development in Laos and Myanmar.

In March, an INCB mission visited Laos. It noted that the Government had enhanced its national drug legislation and that the opium elimination programme had led to a significant decline in illicit cultivation. However, as a result of enhanced law enforcement measures in some neighbouring countries, Laos was increasingly targeted by drug traffickers. Also in March, a Board mission visited Viet Nam to review the drug control situation and progress made following its 1997 mission there [YUN 1997, p. 1274]. The Government made progress in drug control, particularly in strengthening the national drug control legislation and institutions, the implementation of the national drug master plan and the eradication of illicit opium poppy cultivation. The Board encouraged the Government to take measures to exercise control over its financial institutions and enact a law against

money-laundering. In April, an INCB mission visited Cambodia, where the abuse of drugs, particularly methamphetamine and heroin, had increased. The Board urged the Government to develop a national drug control master plan.

### *South Asia*

South Asian countries continued to be used by drug traffickers as transit countries because of their proximity to the world's most prolific opiate production areas in South-East and South-West Asia. Drug trafficking was believed to be one of the major sources of funds for terrorist groups in the region. In most countries, licitly manufactured narcotic drugs were diverted to the illicit markets, and the region faced increasing abuse of pharmaceutical products containing controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Cannabis was illicitly cultivated in all countries except Maldives and was smuggled out of India and Nepal. Scattered but increasing illicit cultivation was reported in Bangladesh, which had also become a transit point for cannabis resin, originating in India and Pakistan, on its way to Europe. The north-west of India emerged as a significant source of cannabis resin. In Nepal, the abuse of locally grown and wild cannabis remained widespread. Cannabis grew wild in the high hills of the central, mid-western and far western parts of the country, where eradication was expensive due to the difficult terrain. In the southern part, its cultivation increased, the crops mostly destined for the illicit market in India. Cannabis was illicitly cultivated in Sri Lanka for the local illicit markets.

In India, a traditional producer of opium for medical and scientific purposes, opium poppy was grown under a stringent licensing policy controlled by the Central Bureau of Narcotics, but diversion of opium to illicit channels still occurred. The bulk of the illicit opium poppy cultivation was confined to the remote north-eastern states. The production of opium for local abuse and for sale to cross-border heroin manufacturers in Myanmar increased. Illicit laboratories throughout India manufactured the low-quality brown heroin base known as "brown sugar". Most of the heroin from Afghanistan, which was smuggled through the border between India and Pakistan, was destined for Europe. In Bangladesh, a large number of abusers of phensedyl (codeine-based cough syrup) changed to heroin because of its increased availability and the high price of phensedyl. Most of the heroin abused in Bangladesh originated in India. In Nepal, illicit opium poppy cultivation was increasing, and the smuggling and abuse of heroin from South-West and South-East Asia were on the rise. In Sri Lanka, a

transit point for shipments of heroin from Asia to Europe, the percentage of injecting drug abusers remained low and opium abuse became insignificant.

India manufactured a wide range of precursor chemicals. Despite strict controls and training for law enforcement officials, diversion from licit channels occurred. The most commonly abused precursors were benzodiazepines (alprazolam, diazepam, nitrazepam). Bangladesh and Nepal reported the abuse of diverted diazepam and nitrazepam, mainly of Indian origin. Benzodiazepines were also abused in Sri Lanka, where they were diverted from the retail trade. In India, control over the licit distribution of buprenorphine was strengthened, but its diversion still occurred. In Sri Lanka, the import and distribution of psychotropic substances continued to take place without adequate control.

As to regional cooperation, Bangladesh signed a bilateral agreement with Myanmar for combating illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors. India concluded two bilateral agreements and held meetings with Myanmar, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. It hosted a number of exchange programmes. Nationally, the Board urged Nepal to adopt legislation on precursor control.

An INCB mission to India in May concluded that the licit production and processing of opiates were well regulated and the Government continued to tighten controls to make diversion of licitly produced opium more difficult. As the main exporter of licitly produced opium in the world, India cooperated with the Board in ensuring a lasting balance between the supply of and demand for opium worldwide. Although control over precursors was well implemented, controls over the licit manufacture of, trade in and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances were inadequate. INCB urged the Government to enforce laws at the retail level to prevent illicit sales of psychotropic substances and to streamline the administrative structure for drug control at the national level.

### *West and Central Asia*

The drug problem remained a major challenge for West Asia, undermining the social and economic stability of some countries and jeopardizing peace and security in the region. Corruption linked to drug trafficking was also a serious problem. In several countries, initiatives to assess the extent of drug abuse and establish demand reduction activities revealed worrying levels of abuse, including an increase in abuse by injection. The main drugs of abuse were cannabis and opiates. In addition, Ecstasy became increasingly

available. In Afghanistan, despite the armed intervention and political change (see p. 289) and the fight against terrorism, cultivation and trafficking in opiates expanded, resulting in increased political instability. In 2003, seizures of opiates increased, particularly in Central Asia. Precursor chemicals continued to flow into the region along the same routes used for smuggling opiates but in the opposite direction.

Cannabis was the most widely grown and abused drug in West Asia. Illicit cannabis cultivation took place in several countries, and the plant grew wild in Afghanistan, Kazakhstan and Pakistan. Some cultivation was destroyed in Tajikistan, where a few cases of opium poppy cultivation were also discovered. Cannabis continued to be smuggled in large quantities, mainly in the form of cannabis resin, out of South-West Asia and into Europe. In Lebanon, despite regular eradication campaigns, illicit cultivation of both cannabis and opium poppy re-emerged in the Bekaa valley and was linked to the area's economically deprived status.

In Afghanistan, opium poppy cultivation, which had re-emerged on a large scale in 2002, spread further in 2003, as farmers grew it increasingly in remote and inaccessible areas. Production of opium increased, despite significant eradication efforts in some traditional cultivation areas. The Board noted with concern the resurgence of opium poppy cultivation in Pakistan, mostly in non-traditional poppy-growing areas.

Large-scale heroin manufacture in West Asia persisted, primarily in Afghanistan, although hardly any laboratories were detected. Opiate smuggling from Afghanistan continued into other countries in West Asia, destined for Europe and other regions, as well as for abuse in the region. Seizures of opiates, mainly heroin and morphine, increased in Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey and several countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

Drug abuse assessments revealed alarming trends. In Pakistan, drug abuse increased in urban and rural areas, with cannabis-type drugs (cannabis resin and "charas"), heroin, psychotropic substances and alcohol being the most commonly abused substances. In Afghanistan, cannabis resin was the most commonly abused substance, followed by pharmaceutical drugs, opium, heroin and alcohol. A major concern was the rate of drug injection. In Turkey, drug abuse, though relatively low, was increasing. The Board expressed concern about the high level of drug abuse in West Asia and the increasing trend with regard to injecting drug abuse.

Trafficking in and abuse of illicitly manufactured stimulants (often reported as Captagon)

continued in the Eastern Mediterranean area and on the Arabian peninsula. Rising trends in West Asia were noted in the abuse of Ecstasy. In Turkey, seizures of Ecstasy originating from Western Europe increased considerably. Israel made several large seizures of Ecstasy in 2002, and its availability also increased in Iran. In several countries, the abuse of benzodiazepines was widespread, particularly among women.

At the regional level, Afghanistan participated in meetings and other activities, such as the fourth meeting of drug liaison officers, hosted by Iran in March. At the Conference on Drug Routes from Central Asia to Europe (see also p. 1263), ways for strengthening cooperation in stemming the illicit production of and trade in heroin and opium from Afghanistan to Central Asia were discussed. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan—members of the Central Asian Cooperation Organization (CACO)—discussed the development of multilateral regional cooperation within the framework of CACO (Almaty, Kazakhstan, July) [A/58/131-S/2003/703]. In West Asia, regional and sub-regional cooperation, especially regarding drug law enforcement, was well developed. Steps were taken to integrate Afghanistan in regional law enforcement activities, and cooperation activities continued to be carried out between Iran and Pakistan.

At the national level, a new drug control law was adopted in Afghanistan, and a national drug control strategy was endorsed by the President in May. The Board noted with concern that Afghanistan's commitment to drug control, as expressed by the Transitional Administration, was not followed throughout the country, due to lack of nationwide control and insufficient support by provincial authorities. It welcomed the drug law enforcement initiatives in Central Asia. The Board noted that information about drug abuse in most countries was fragmented and demand reduction activities received less priority than those in supply reduction.

In June, an INCB mission to Turkey noted that the country had made efforts to improve its position as a competitive supplier of opiate raw materials on the world market, while ensuring the implementation of control measures and achieving a balance between supply and demand. The Board welcomed the activities undertaken by the Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime, which focused on drug law enforcement training and promoted national and regional cooperation.

In September, the Board visited Iran, where drug abuse and illicit trafficking created significant problems, as the country was a main conduit



for illicit drugs originating in Afghanistan. INCB appreciated the Government's increased demand reduction efforts and welcomed its cooperation with the other countries in the region. It encouraged the Government to strengthen support to Afghanistan and to enact and implement legislation on money-laundering and the control of precursors.

### **Europe**

Cannabis remained the most commonly abused drug in Europe and was increasingly cultivated and trafficked in the region. In Switzerland, between 300 and 500 hectares were cultivated for production, and in the United Kingdom it was estimated that about 50 per cent of all abusers grew their cannabis. Albania was a large supplier of cannabis, which was smuggled into Europe and West Asia. Its abuse was on the increase in Central and Eastern Europe. Cannabis seizures showed a stable or upward trend in many countries.

The cocaine market in Europe was second only to that in North America. The abuse of all forms of cocaine increased in Western Europe; however, crack cocaine abuse was confined to metropolitan areas in some countries. The volume of cocaine from South America smuggled into Europe continued to increase, with Spain, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom being the three main ports of entry. Spain ranked third in the world (after the United States and Colombia) for the volume of cocaine seized.

Heroin abuse spread in Central and Eastern Europe, replacing the abuse of locally produced opiates in most countries. HIV infection among injecting drug abusers spread alarmingly in the Baltic States, the Russian Federation and Ukraine. Heroin on the illicit market was mainly of Afghan origin. In Western Europe, heroin seizures remained stable or declined. In South-Eastern Europe, trafficking continued via the Balkan route. Drug abuse in the countries along that route showed an upward trend. In Western Europe, drug abuse prevention and treatment efforts contributed to the stable or declining levels of heroin abuse. In Eastern Europe, however, it continued to increase.

Europe remained a major producer of synthetic drugs, particularly those of the MDMA variety, which were trafficked worldwide. While Ecstasy and related drugs were mostly manufactured in and distributed from Belgium and the Netherlands, amphetamine was increasingly manufactured all over Europe, especially in Poland, the Baltic States and Romania. Home-cooked methamphetamine (pervitin) was still being manufactured in the Czech Republic, and its trafficking was no longer confined to the local il-

licit markets, but had spread to Austria, Germany and Slovakia. The percentage of ATS abusers was highest in Ireland, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.

The Board noted the efforts by Greece, holding the Presidency of the European Council during the first half of 2003, to forge a common European Union (EU) drug control policy. It also noted that the EU Council of Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs had adopted an implementation plan of action against the illicit supply of synthetic drugs in November 2002, and urged EU members to ensure its implementation.

The Board acknowledged national legislation, policy and action, including in the Netherlands, where cannabis became available as a prescription drug; a new drug action plan, which entered into force in Norway; a national action plan on drugs and addiction adopted by Germany; Spain's decision to use funds generated by the forfeiture of assets seized in drug trafficking cases for supporting drug control activities carried out by UNODC; and efforts in countries on the Balkan route, in particular Serbia and Montenegro, to thwart the diversion of precursor chemicals for international trade for the illicit manufacture of drugs.

Following an INCB mission to Poland (February), where ATS manufacture and abuse took place at significant levels, the Board urged the Government to take steps for more effective repression of ATS manufacture and trafficking. An INCB mission visited the Czech Republic (March), where the Board noted the commitment of the Government to deal with drug abuse and trafficking. In July, the Board sent a mission to Germany to visit drug injection rooms and to discuss its concerns. It noted that there was little evidence that drug injection rooms ensured treatment or contributed to a reduction in drug-related deaths, reiterated that those rooms were not in compliance with the international drug control treaties and urged the Government to take steps to ensure compliance. The Board, reviewing progress by Ireland in implementing its 2000 recommendations [YUN 2000, p. 1189], noted that a number of controlled substances under the 1961 and the 1971 Conventions had not been placed under adequate control and urged the Government to adopt legislative provisions required by the two conventions. In January, the Board, during a technical visit to Slovakia, noted that legislation for opium poppy cultivation and poppy straw was in line with its position and appreciated the efforts of the law enforcement authorities to counteract diversion and trafficking in psychotropic substances.

**Oceania**

Although cannabis abuse declined in Oceania, it remained at a high level and cannabis was the drug of choice in Australia and New Zealand. More sophisticated hydroponic growing techniques contributed to increased yields, especially in Australia. Significant cultivation was found also in Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

Australia and New Zealand were among the main destinations for shipments of heroin and ATS from South-East Asia. However, successful law enforcement operations in Australia led to a sharp reduction in heroin supply to illicit markets. At the same time, the abuse of cocaine and synthetic drugs increased despite record seizures at borders. In all countries in Oceania, except Australia and New Zealand, heroin and cocaine trafficking and abuse were sporadic and at a low level.

In Australia, border detections of synthetic drugs, ATS and Ecstasy increased, as did the number of uncovered clandestine laboratories for ATS manufacture. In both Australia and New Zealand, local illicit manufacture and distribution of ATS increased. In some parts of New Zealand, cannabis abuse was surpassed by ATS abuse, and Ecstasy abuse continued to spread. In Australia, gamma-hydroxybutyric acid, ketamine and various antidepressants became popular party drugs.

At the regional level, the Pacific Islands Forum maintained an essential role in coordinating drug control efforts in Oceania. In March, Australia and Indonesia signed a memorandum of understanding on the exchange of information to enforce customs laws. The Australian Federal Police and the New Zealand Police played a key role in terms of regional technical assistance, and the police and customs of Australia and Papua New Guinea continued to participate in joint border patrols.

At the national level, New Zealand tightened its control over domestic licit distribution of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine through close cooperation between police and pharmacists. The Board noted that both Australia and New Zealand had strengthened their legislation to detect and prevent clandestine ATS manufacture and to intercept consignments of such stimulants and their precursors. The Board noted progress achieved in the fight against money-laundering in several Pacific island States.

In January, the Board sent missions to Fiji and Papua New Guinea. It invited the Government of Fiji to establish a comprehensive national master plan for drug control. It noted that further efforts were required to ensure adequate availability of drugs for medical purposes and to provide scien-

tific support for drug law enforcement. Papua New Guinea needed to revise its drug control legislation. INCB invited the Government to conduct an assessment of the drug abuse situation with a view to introducing proper treatment and rehabilitation programmes.

---

**UN action to combat drug abuse**

---

**UN Office on Drugs and Crime**

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), formerly the Office of Drug Control and Crime Prevention [YUN 2002, p. 1247], implemented the Organization's drug programme and crime programme (see p. 1116) in an integrated manner, addressing the interrelated issues of drug control, crime prevention and international terrorism in the context of sustainable development and human security. The drug programme continued to be implemented in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/179 [YUN 1990, p. 874]. The Office served as the central drug control entity responsible for coordinating all UN drug control activities, and as the repository of technical expertise in international drug control for the UN Secretariat. It acted on behalf of the Secretary-General in fulfilling his responsibilities under international treaties and resolutions relating to drug control; and provided services to the Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and committees and conferences dealing with drug control matters.

The UNODC Executive Director described the Office's 2003 activities in a report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/CN.7/2004/9-E/CN.15/2004/2]. UNODC assisted States in complying with international conventions to counter the world drug problem and supported INCB in monitoring their implementation. It identified and promoted best policing practices, facilitating cross-border law enforcement cooperation, and worked closely with the relevant law enforcement agencies, such as Interpol, the Customs Cooperation Council (also known as the World Customs Organization), the European Police Office (Europol) and the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative. Technical law enforcement assistance was provided to countries in Southern and East Africa, Central Asia, South-East Asia and Central and Eastern Europe.

In the alternative development area, UNODC supported Governments in reducing the cultivation of illicit drug crops, particularly opium poppy and coca bush. UNODC programmes fo-

cused on poverty reduction, the empowerment of women, the creation of new sources of livelihood and the protection of the environment. The programmes targeted peasant families in isolated areas, where illicit drug production and trafficking thrived. The Office promoted best practices in alternative development in Afghanistan, Bolivia, Colombia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Peru and Viet Nam.

As to drug demand reduction, UNODC assisted Member States in establishing national drug abuse information systems, promoting best practices in drug abuse prevention and the treatment and rehabilitation of addicts, and implementing projects for reducing drug dependence. UNODC developed the tool kit on drug abuse epidemiology to support the development of an integrated drug information system and supported drug abuse education in schools, and projects targeting youth at risk. The UNODC/World Health Organization (WHO) Global Initiative on Primary Prevention of Substance Abuse was finalized, reaching thousands of people in Belarus, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Thailand, the United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zambia. A local expert network on demand reduction was launched in Western Africa.

UNODC launched regional treatment and rehabilitation projects aimed at diversifying services to injecting drug users, including HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention in Belarus, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the Central Asian States. To strengthen its capacity to respond to HIV/AIDS drug abuse-related issues, the Office established a new unit for HIV/AIDS work to implement preventive projects among abusers. HIV/AIDS advisers were placed in the UNODC regional offices in Bangkok, Moscow and Tashkent. The Office maintained the UN Reference Group on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care among Injecting Drug Users in Developing and Transitional Countries, whose members completed a mapping of the global, regional and national epidemiology of injecting drug use and HIV infection.

In Afghanistan, UNODC assisted the Counter-Narcotics Directorate of the National Security Council in building capacities in drug law enforcement and in the criminal justice sector. The Office engaged the agencies involved in post-conflict reconstruction to ensure that the elimination of illicit drug crops remained a priority, and it helped to develop the national drug control strategy aimed at the elimination of illicit cultivation of opium poppy within 10 years. Central Asia and the countries bordering the region were affected by the export of Afghan opium. UNODC followed up on the

recommendations of the Conference on Drug Routes from Central Asia to Europe (see pp. 1263 and 1277) with an initiative aimed at achieving effective cross-border cooperation in countries along the drug trafficking routes.

In Africa, the Office supported the AU in integrating drug- and crime-related issues into the New Partnership for Africa's Development (see p. 937). It continued to work with Governments to strengthen judicial integrity and promoted the development of multisectoral programmes to combat drug trafficking and abuse, corruption, organized crime and terrorism. It helped to improve the seaport and airport law enforcement capabilities in Eastern and Southern Africa, and provided specialized training for judges, prosecutors and investigators to improve treaty implementation. In various African countries, an initiative launched jointly by UNODC and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) (see p. 1247) resulted in several preventive actions. In Eastern Africa, projects were revised to include training professionals to provide services to prevent HIV/AIDS transmission. Small grants were given to NGOs to support activities targeting drug abuse and HIV/AIDS.

The operational priorities that were agreed by Member States in January 2003, reflected in the consolidated budget for the 2004-2005 biennium (see p. 1281), set the resource requirements at \$180.4 million. The UNODC budget (mostly funded through voluntary contributions by a small number of Member States) increased by 12.7 per cent. General-purpose income increased to \$18.5 million in 2003 (23 per cent above the 2002 level). The increase, coupled with cost-saving measures introduced in mid-2002, prevented a potential default during the year.

### Training

On 22 July [meeting 44], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs [E/2003/28/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2003/32** without vote [agenda item 14 (d)].

#### **Training in precursor control, countering money-laundering and drug abuse prevention**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Conscious* that offences connected with drug trafficking depend on the availability of chemical precursors, without which the illicit manufacture of cocaine, heroin and amphetamine-type stimulants would not have become a problem,

*Concerned* at the escalation of the problem of illicit supply, diversion and substitution of precursors and at the use of sophisticated technologies,

*Concerned* also at the increase in the laundering of money derived from drug trafficking, which is detrimental to national economies and fosters corruption,

*Noting* that the supply of and demand for illicit drugs are harmful to public health and that children and young persons are among the consumers of such drugs,

*Recognizing* that education and training are basic prerequisites for the efficient performance of the various tasks that institutions and their officials must carry out in order to deal with the world drug problem and drug-related offences,

*Urges* relevant international organizations, in consultation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to provide financing and other support for the training of experts in various subjects related to the fight against the world drug problem, with particular emphasis on preventive measures and areas such as precursor control, drug-testing laboratories and laboratory quality assurance, countering money-laundering and drug abuse prevention, bearing in mind that such training may often be best delivered on a regional basis.

### **Administrative and budgetary matters**

#### *2002-2003 programme budget*

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered the proposed revised budget for 2002-2003 [E/CN.7/2003/15] for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), as presented by the Executive Director in January [E/CN.7/2003/15]. The revised 2002-2003 support budget amounted to \$34.2 million, reflecting a nominal decrease of \$1.1 million, or 3.3 per cent, compared with the initial support budget amount of \$35.4 million. It included a proposed volume decrease of \$1.5 million or 4.2 per cent, and cost changes of \$341,300, or 1 per cent, compared with the initial budget [YUN 2001, p. 1166]. The Commission also considered an overview of UNDCP's financial situation, which showed that total income for the 2002-2003 biennium was revised upwards by \$0.9 million to \$137.2 million. However, general-purpose income had to be revised downwards by \$5 million, while special-purpose or earmarked income was revised upwards by \$5.9 million. The change in the mix of income would result in a decline in the general-purpose fund balance by \$5.3 million by the end of 2003, well below the \$8 million minimum balance required to maintain sufficient cash flow in 2004. To address the cash-flow and structural problem in financing, the Secretariat proposed a number of options, including finding alternative sources of financing.

The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), in a February report [E/CN.7/2003/16], recommended approval of the proposed revised support budget for the 2002-2003 biennium

By a 15 April resolution [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/10)], the Commission approved an appropriation in the amount of \$34.2 million for the Fund's

revised 2002-2003 support budget. It authorized the Executive Director to redeploy resources between appropriation lines up to 5 per cent of the appropriation to which the resources were redeployed, and endorsed the revised resource allocation for programme activities in the amount of \$130.2 million. Also on 15 April [res. 46/9], the Commission, noting that the Executive Director's initiatives to increase general-purpose contributions and contributions to the support budget, encouraged him to continue further cost savings and/or reduce the burden on the support budget; to broaden, in cooperation with Member States, the donor base; and to increase voluntary contributions to the Fund. He should also explore innovative means for increasing the resources for drug control programmes.

The Executive Director, in a September performance review of the 2002-2003 budget [E/CN.7/2003/20 & Add.1], noted that the final 2002-2003 budget for the UNDCP Fund amounted to \$144.2 million, comprising a programme budget of \$106.3 million, a final support budget of \$35.4 million and agency support costs of \$2.5 million. The final support budget of \$35.4 million increased by \$3 million (9.2 per cent), as compared with the revised support budget for 2002-2003.

By a 27 November resolution [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/11)], the Commission approved an appropriation in the amount of \$38 million for the final support budget for the 2002-2003 biennium funded under the UNDCP Fund, of which \$27.6 million was allocated for programme support and \$10.3 million for management and administration. It endorsed the final resource allocation for programme activities of \$106.3 million for 2002-2003.

#### *Proposed 2004-2005 budget*

The budget outline for UNDCP for 2004-2005, as proposed by the Executive Director in January [E/CN.7/2003/15], amounted to \$170.9 million, compared with the 2002-2003 revised budget of \$166.4 million, reflecting an increase of \$4.5 million, or 2.7 per cent. Of that amount, \$132.2 million would be allocated for programme activities, \$28.3 million for programme support, and \$10.4 million for management and administration. ACABQ, in February [E/CN.7/2003/15], recommended approval of the proposed outline for the 2004-2005 biennium.

On 15 April [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/10)], the Commission endorsed the programme and budget strategy for 2004-2005 and took note of the outline for 2004-2005 totalling \$171 million, which it considered a basis for the submission of the proposed initial budget for 2004-2005 by the UNODC Executive Director.

At its reconvened forty-sixth session in November, the Commission considered a September report on the 2004-2005 UNODC consolidated budget [E/CN.7/2003/20 & Add.1]. For 2004-2005, the total budget for the UNDCP Fund amounted to \$187.4 million, comprising a programme budget of \$146.9 million, a support budget of \$35.9 million and agency support costs of \$4.6 million. Total projected resources amounted to \$196 million. The proposed 2004-2005 UNODC budget was predicated on a projected total income from voluntary sources of \$155.8 million, of which \$141.8 million covered the drug programme, a decrease of about 1 per cent compared with the income for 2002-2003. Total income resources projected for 2004-2005 for the Office would amount to \$183.7 million, of which \$160.3 million was for the drug programme. General-purpose funds of \$35.2 million were expected to remain at about the same level; of the total, \$33 million was for the drug programme.

A November ACABQ report [E/CN.7/2003/21] stated that the consolidated budget document was a step in the UNODC reform process. It recommended that the budget should indicate the extent to which expected results would contribute to the attainment of the stated objectives, within defined time frames. It urged the Office to maintain better coordination with the Budget Division of the UN Secretariat and close collaboration with other UN entities that had introduced results-based management systems, encouraged the Executive Director's efforts, including increasing cooperation with the private sector, and stressed the need for complete transparency.

A November note by the Secretariat [E/CN.7/2003/22], submitted in response to Commission resolution 46/9 (see p. 1281), stated that the proposed 2004-2005 budget relating to section 17 of the UN regular budget was under consideration by the General Assembly, and that further consultations would be held in early 2005 when the regular budget for the 2006-2007 biennium would be prepared.

By a 27 November resolution [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/11)], the Commission approved an appropriation of \$40.5 million for the 2004-2005 initial support budget and an appropriation of \$15.1 million for the initial core programme budget. It authorized the Executive Director to re-deploy resources between appropriation lines in the support and core budgets of up to 5 per cent of the appropriation to which the resources were redeployed, and endorsed the initial resource allocation for technical cooperation activities in the amount of \$131.8 million for 2004-2005. The Commission also endorsed the 2004-2005 programme and budget strategy and noted that im-

plementation of the budget and additional priority programmes was subject to the availability of funding.

#### *National Drug Control System*

The Commission, in a 15 April resolution [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/5)] on improving the exchange of electronic information among Member States and communication with international organizations, commended the broadening of the mandate and scope of the National Drug Control System to cover the collection, exchange and processing of data relevant to national and international drug control, and the provision of support to States in using it. The Commission requested that data be provided to Member States by electronic means and asked that the possibility of obtaining secure funds to deploy the System in more countries be explored and that the System be enhanced. Member States were encouraged to expand the System's use.

#### **Commission on Narcotic Drugs**

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its forty-sixth session in Vienna from 8 to 17 March, during which it adopted 10 resolutions and one decision and recommended to the Economic and Social Council for adoption 10 draft resolutions and two draft decisions. It held a reconvened forty-sixth session on 26 and 27 November, also in Vienna, at which it adopted a resolution on the 2002-2003 final budget and the initial budget for 2004-2005 for the UNDCP Fund (see p. 1281 and above), and brought it to the Council's attention.

Following the closure of the forty-sixth session on 27 November, the Commission opened its forty-seventh session to elect the new chairman and other bureau members.

By **decision 2003/235** of 22 July, the Council took note of the Commission's report on its forty-sixth session [E/2003/28/Rev.1] and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-seventh (2004) session, on the understanding that intersessional meetings would be held in Vienna, at no additional cost, to finalize the items to be included in the provisional agenda and the documentation requirements for the forty-seventh session.

#### **Demand reduction**

In 2003, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs had before it a February report by the Executive Director on optimizing systems for collecting information and identifying the best practices to counter the demand for illicit drugs [E/CN.7/2003/8]. The report, submitted in response to

Commission resolution 45/13 [YUN 2002, p. 1248], reviewed the implementation of demand reduction activities and contained a proposed programme of work for 2003-2008 intended to achieve measurable results in demand reduction by 2008 by improving information systems for reporting on activities for reducing demand; facilitating the sharing of information on best practices; and supporting Member States seeking expertise in developing their own strategies and activities. An addendum to the report [E/CN.7/2003/8/Add.1] summarized some main principles of best practices to counter the demand for illicit drugs as reflected in the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, adopted in General Assembly resolution S-20/3 [YUN 1998, p. 1137].

In a 15 April resolution [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/1)], the Commission urged States to allocate sufficient resources to demand reduction; to ensure that reduction programmes were based on effective, evidence-based standards of research; and to develop a framework for assessing and reporting on the achievements of their national strategies, in line with the Declaration. The Commission encouraged States to share best practices and requested UNDCP to ensure that the programmes promoted had effectiveness in reducing the illicit use of drugs and in facilitating recovery from dependence or addiction. It called on States to develop knowledge of drug abuse and dependence; to use evidence-based interventions to develop prevention programmes; to develop and implement intervention programmes targeting non-dependent drug users; and to improve treatment and rehabilitation programmes for drug-dependent users as well as in community-based services.

#### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 22 July [meeting 44], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs [E/2003/28/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2003/33** without vote [agenda item 14 (d)].

#### Reduction of illicit drug demand

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

*Recognizing* that the rapid evolution of the socio-economic situation, combined with cultural, personal and social factors and compounded by the availability of illicit drugs, has exacerbated the global problem of consumption of psychoactive substances,

*Conscious* that the problem of consumption has a greater impact on populations at risk, in particular children and young people, who, for various family

and cultural reasons, have become more vulnerable and susceptible to illicit drug consumption and hazardous behaviour regarding illicit drugs,

*Aware* that programmes for the reduction of illicit drug demand must form part of a global strategy and that, if they are integrated and coordinated so as to offer a wide variety of appropriate measures in the community and in the education, health, labour and social welfare sectors, they will enable the targeted persons, families and communities to diminish the adverse effects of improper drug use,

*Considering* that the world drug problem must be dealt with on the basis of shared responsibility, which requires an integrated and balanced approach, offering people comprehensive care that will foster their development as individuals and within the community,

1. *Supports* the implementation of programmes for the reduction of illicit drug demand with global impact and scope that target the people at risk of consuming illicit drugs and the problems associated with illicit drug consumption, to be implemented in an integrated and coordinated manner in the community and in the education, health, labour and social welfare sectors;

2. *Invites* Member States to share their experience with models for intervention in the various sectors with a view to restructuring their programmes for the reduction of illicit drug demand so that the programmes will have greater impact.

#### Drug abuse

The Commission considered a January Secretariat report [E/CN.7/2003/4], which reviewed global patterns and trends in illicit drug consumption covering 2001 and analysed abuse patterns by drug type. It also discussed developments in the capacity to monitor illicit drug abuse. The analysis was based on the responses submitted by the 103 countries (54 per cent) that had completed and returned the annual reports questionnaire for the year 2001 by 20 November 2002, in compliance with their obligations under the international treaties.

The Commission, by a 15 April resolution [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/7)] on measures to promote the exchange of information on new patterns of drug use and on psychoactive substances consumed, urged States to implement its resolution 45/6 [YUN 2002, p. 1248]. It invited UNODC and WHO to convene a meeting of experts to establish guidelines applicable to recording cases of drug abuse and dependence, to improve the assessment of the potential of abuse and dependence of psychoactive substances, and to establish a worldwide databank. The UNODC Executive Director was requested to report in 2004.

#### HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne viruses

A January report by the Executive Director [E/CN.7/2003/5], submitted in response to Commission decision 45/1 [YUN 2002, p. 1249], provided

an overview of the status of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, in particular its linkage with drug use, and highlighted activities as reported by Member States through the annual reports questionnaire for the reporting period 2001, and the biennial questionnaire for the reporting cycle 2000-2002. At the end of 2002, an estimated 42 million people were living with HIV/AIDS; over 95 per cent of them were in developing countries. More than 130 countries reported the injecting of illicit drugs, and more than 110 reported HIV infections among injectors. Between 5 and 10 per cent of HIV/AIDS cases were attributable to injecting drug use, which was a major driving force of the epidemic in East Asia and the Pacific, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, where it continued to expand the fastest. In East and South-East Asia, the epidemic spread rapidly through injections, and in many Latin American and Caribbean countries, its spread through the sharing of injecting equipment was a growing concern. In North America, injecting drug use was a prominent route of HIV infection in the United States, whereas the HIV prevalence in Canada remained very low. Although the Middle East and North Africa region was one of the least affected by the epidemic, injecting drug use was a major mode of transmission. Both hepatitis B and hepatitis C were also highly prevalent among injecting drug users.

On 15 April [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/2)], the Commission encouraged Member States to strengthen efforts to achieve the targets set in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, contained in General Assembly resolution S-26/2 [YUN 2001, p. 1126], in the area of HIV prevention, and to ensure that prevention, education, treatment and rehabilitation measures were accessible to all individuals, including HIV-infected drug abusers. Reiterating its concern at the negative consequences of injecting drug abuse, the Commission called on States to implement measures to reduce it; to take into account issues involving drug-related HIV infection in their national policies; and to establish monitoring and evaluation systems to assess progress. It called on the international community to invest in programmes to prevent the spread of HIV related to drug abuse. The Executive Director was requested to report in 2004.

#### *Guidelines for travellers*

The Commission, in a 15 April resolution on provisions regarding travellers under medical treatment with drugs containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/6)], encouraged the States parties to the drug conventions (see p. 1267) to notify INCB of restrictions applicable to those

travellers and requested INCB to publish that information in a unified form, in order to ensure wide dissemination and facilitate the task of government agencies. States were urged to implement recommendations on national regulations relating to travellers under medical treatment, taking into account national legal requirements and practical considerations. The UNODC Executive Director was requested to report in 2004.

#### **Illicit cultivation and trafficking**

The Commission considered a report by the Executive Director on international assistance to the States most affected by the transit of drugs [E/CN.7/2003/11], prepared in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/21 [YUN 2002, p. 1250]. The report reviewed activities to support transit States through programmes in Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Africa. Assistance was provided to upgrade technical skills and strengthen competencies, such as data collection in support of informed responses to illicit trafficking; the provision of equipment to front-line operations; projects to build cross-border and regional cooperation; and self-sustaining instruction to provide agency training in best operating practices.

A January report by the Executive Director on strengthening international cooperation in the control of opium poppy cultivation [E/CN.7/2003/10], submitted pursuant to Commission resolution 45/10 [YUN 2002, p. 1246], stated that advisory and technical support was provided to the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan and to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) through policy support, legislation and advocacy; elimination of illicit crops; suppression of illicit drug trafficking; and drug abuse prevention and reduction. The potential positive role of microcredit and other financing schemes was studied to dissuade farmers from cultivating opium poppy.

Another January report of the Executive Director [E/CN.7/2003/9], submitted in response to Commission resolution 44/6 [YUN 2001, p. 1170], reviewed action to develop technical assistance and training on cooperation against illicit drug trafficking by sea. It analysed progress made in developing a guide for national authorities responsible for receiving and responding to requests made pursuant to article 17 of the 1988 Convention (see p. 1267). The guide contained an overview of maritime cooperation under the provisions of the Convention, provided guidelines on the establishment of a legal framework at the national level and reviewed the tasks of national authorities. To support States in their cooperation

against illicit trafficking by sea, the directory of competent national authorities under the 1988 Convention was published on a quarterly basis.

On 15 April [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/3)], the Commission, noting progress made by UNDCP in developing a practical guide for national authorities, invited States to evaluate its usefulness as an instrument for enhancing international cooperation against drug trafficking by sea. States were encouraged to establish channels for the exchange of information and to provide to UNDCP information to enable the preparation, distribution and maintenance of a directory of a national contact or contacts. The Commission also urged States with expertise in maritime interdiction to provide, in cooperation with UNDCP, assistance, training and equipment to interested States.

#### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 22 July [meeting 44], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs [E/2003/28/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2003/34** without vote [agenda item 14 (d)].

##### International assistance to the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2002/21 of 24 July 2002 and the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 2001/16 of 24 July 2001 on international assistance to the States most affected by the transit of drugs,

*Taking note* of the second biennial report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, his report on international assistance to the States most affected by the transit of drugs and other relevant reports submitted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-sixth session,

*Bearing in mind* the principle of shared responsibility and the need for all States to promote and implement the actions necessary to counter the world drug problem and crimes related to that problem,

*Acknowledging* efforts by national authorities and the international community, including the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, to reduce the demand for and to combat international trafficking in illicit drugs,

*Noting* the fact that the transit States continue to face grave and multifaceted challenges, owing to both the problems related to illicit drug trafficking and supply and the rising levels of drug abuse resulting from the transiting of illicit drugs through their territories,

*Bearing in mind* the need to strengthen law enforcement capacities at all levels and the importance of inter-agency coordination to the achievement of effective

drug control strategies addressing all aspects of the world drug problem,

*Recognizing* the need to provide, for that purpose, international assistance to the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs,

1. *Encourages* the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs to continue to implement and strengthen law enforcement initiatives at all levels and cross-border cooperation between transit States, as well as countries of destination, with a view to promoting coordinated drug control activities and unified responses to drug trafficking;

2. *Also encourages* the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs to continue to implement and strengthen comprehensive policies for the reduction of illicit drug demand;

3. *Calls upon* the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs to ensure well-coordinated and focused policies to suppress drug trafficking through greater coordination between key agencies responsible for drug law enforcement;

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, subject to the availability of voluntary funds and in accordance with the guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds, adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and Member States to facilitate such initiatives by providing assistance and technical support to the drug control authorities of the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs, in particular developing countries, including countries with economies in transition, that are in need of such assistance and support;

5. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and Member States, in providing such assistance to the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs, to integrate, subject to availability of voluntary funds and in accordance with guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds adopted by the Commission, projects for the reduction of illicit drug demand and the strengthening of treatment and rehabilitation services for drug abusers;

6. *Urges* the international financial institutions and other potential donors to provide financial assistance to the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs, including for empowering and building the capacity of locally available human resources, so that those States may intensify their efforts to combat drug trafficking and deal with its consequences, in particular increased drug addiction;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

On the same day [meeting 44], the Council, also on the recommendation of the Commission [E/2003/28/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2003/35** without vote [agenda item 14 (d)].

##### Strengthening the prevention and suppression of illicit drug trafficking

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recognizing* that, in order to be effective, the elimination of illicit drug crops must be based on a regional strategy that involves international cooperation, including the strengthening of capacity to prevent traf-



ficking in illicit drugs from producer countries, taking into account the need to make alternative development products competitive,

*Recalling* that Governments have adopted various measures to promote multilateral, regional, sub-regional and bilateral cooperation between judicial, law enforcement and tax authorities so as to deal in a comprehensive manner with criminal groups involved in drug trafficking,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of broad policies to eliminate illicit drug crops and of the implementation of legislation, in particular legislation to facilitate the interdiction of illicit drug shipments, in support of illicit drug crop eradication and elimination, alternative development and strong law enforcement efforts at reducing the supply of illicit drugs;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt effective measures to strengthen international cooperation projects aimed at the prohibition and control of drug trafficking and to deal with the activities of criminal groups involved in such trafficking and the diversification of their methods and transport routes;

3. *Urges* States to include among those measures the exchange of mutual legal and investigatory assistance to combat criminal groups involved in drug trafficking, and to promote the further development of effective models for cooperation, in particular in the areas of air, sea and port control, and the enhanced monitoring of controlled precursors and chemical components.

**Secretariat report.** A report by the Secretariat [E/CN.7/2004/4] described global trends and patterns in illicit drug production during 2002-2003 and trafficking up to 2002. Information on illicit cultivation and production was drawn from the illicit crop-monitoring surveys presented by UNODC. Information on seizures in 2002 was drawn from the annual reports questionnaire submitted by Governments to UNODC, and, in 2003, it was drawn from government reports on significant seizures. Other sources included country reports received by UNODC or submitted to the Commission and reports from UNODC field offices.

### Alternative development

A February report [E/CN.7/2003/17] by the Executive Director, prepared in response to Commission resolution 45/14 [YUN 2002, p. 1250], described development-oriented drug control mechanisms and discussed possibilities for innovative funding mechanisms. UNODC undertook pilot projects and advocated and built alternative development interventions and projects. At the country level, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and the resident coordinator system helped to integrate the drug component in the UN agenda and promoted inter-agency cooperation. In most countries with alternative development schemes, including in Bolivia,

Colombia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Peru and Viet Nam, the drug aspect was addressed through UNDAF. In the area of alternative product marketing, partnerships with the private sector, foundations and corporate entities facilitated the sharing of commitments and resources for alternative development. Regarding possibilities for innovative funding mechanisms, the report stated that, although UNODC had not established a special funding mechanism for alternative development, it had made approaches to secure more attention, support and resources. The report concluded that efforts to support alternative development would be positively affected by a stable and predictable core funding base; the long-term commitment of resources to alternative development projects; and the inclusion of alternative development in sustainable development policies and operations by the major development and financial institutions.

### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 22 July [meeting 44], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs [E/2003/28/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2003/37** without vote [agenda item 14 (d)].

#### Strengthening alternative development through trade and socio-environmental preservation

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, which states that alternative development is an important component for generating and promoting lawful, viable and sustainable economic options to illicit drug crop cultivation, that States with illicit drug crops will need continued funding to support national efforts to eliminate drug crops and that the success of alternative development programmes depends, inter alia, on the long-term political and financial commitment of the Governments of the affected countries and the international community,

*Reaffirming* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 45/14 of 15 March 2002, in which the Commission invited Member States to make more comprehensive and determined efforts in the area of financial and technical cooperation aimed at promoting alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development, and urged the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to enlarge its base of donors and to use available voluntary resources to increase the financial and technical assistance that it provides to alternative development programmes, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development,

*Aware* of the importance of programmes promoting alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development,

*Urging* Member States to consider that the presence of illicit drug crops and illicit cultivation and production leads to the degradation of the environment,

*Noting with concern* that the existence of illicit crops and illicit cultivation and production seriously damages the environment and causes severe socio-economic problems, in particular for highly vulnerable populations, and that effective crop control strategies require an integrated and balanced approach, in particular alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development,

1. *Urges* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and all Member States to continue to cooperate effectively on programmes to promote alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development, in accordance with the provisions of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 45/14;

2. *Calls upon* the international community and Member States to promote an economic environment that is favourable to products from alternative development and that facilitates the access of such products to international markets as an effective and efficient means of eliminating the illicit economy;

3. *Reiterates* the necessity of encouraging access to international markets for products, including produce, from alternative development areas;

4. *Urges* Member States, in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility and as a sign of their commitment to the fight against illicit drugs, to extend cooperation in the area of alternative development to include technical assistance, support for the protection of the environment, sustainable development of forest resources, creation of social and productive infrastructure and promotion of private investment and agro-industry, as well as facilitation of the access of alternative development products to markets;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to share their experience in programmes to eliminate or reduce illicit crop cultivation, thereby taking into account common socio-economic and environmental factors, and to encourage the participation of local inhabitants in such programmes;

6. *Encourages* Member States, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks and non-governmental organizations to focus attention on measures designed to protect society, in particular highly vulnerable populations, and the environment from the harmful effects of illicit drugs;

7. *Resolves* to promote the implementation of programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of voluntary funds, which might be from general-purpose funds, in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, or from earmarked funds, and programmes of other relevant organizations for alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development, through an integrated approach to the development of vulnerable areas that includes strategies for the preservation of the environment, security, monitoring, education, health, sanitation and community development.

### Regional cooperation

In a report to the Commission [E/CN.7/2004/5], the Secretariat reviewed action taken by the Commission's subsidiary bodies in 2003. Following a review of trafficking trends and regional and sub-

regional cooperation, each subsidiary body addressed drug law enforcement issues of priority concern to its region and made recommendations. The thirty-eighth session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East (Amman, Jordan, 23-27 June) [UNODC/SUBCOM/2003/5], considered regional trends in opiate trafficking; identifying traffickers through effective document control; and illicit manufacture and distribution of stimulants. The thirteenth meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Africa (Port Louis, Mauritius, 8-12 September) [UNODC/HONLAF/2003/5] considered regional trends in opiate and cannabis trafficking; illicit manufacture and distribution of stimulants; identifying sound practice in training for Africa's law enforcement officials; and mobilizing community support for law enforcement anti-drug strategies. The thirteenth meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean (Salvador, Brazil, 20-24 October) [UNODC/HONLAC/2003/5] examined the value of effective controlled delivery operations; strengthening information exchange and operational cooperation at the inter-agency, cross-border and regional levels; and new global threats: challenges to law enforcement from globalization. The twenty-seventh meeting of HONLEA, Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok, Thailand, 8-12 December) [UNODC/HONLAP/2003/5] reviewed effective mechanisms to support operational cross-border cooperation; the appropriateness of national drug law enforcement strategies to the current world situation; identifying traffickers through effective document control; and the region's response to the increasing availability of ATS.

### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 22 July [meeting 44], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs [E/2003/28/Rev.1], adopted **resolution 2003/38** without vote [agenda item 14 (d)].

#### **Funding of travel for participants in meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 53/115 of 9 December 1998, 54/132 of 17 December 1999, 55/65 of 4 December 2000 and 56/124 of 19 December 2001, in which the Assembly stressed the importance of the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, in all regions of the world, and the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and encouraged them to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, taking into account the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,

*Recalling also* its resolution 1985/11 of 28 May 1985, in which it requested the Secretary-General to convene regular meetings of the operational heads of the national drug control and law enforcement agencies of States in the African region to study questions related to illicit drug traffic in the region and to establish more effective mechanisms for cooperation and mutual assistance in the suppression of illicit drug traffic within, from and into the region,

*Recalling further* its resolution 1987/34 of 26 May 1987, in which it invited the Governments of the Latin American and the Caribbean countries and other interested Governments to participate in the regional meeting of the heads of national drug law enforcement agencies with a view to establishing the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, and requested the Secretary-General to adopt the necessary measures and to provide the financial resources required for holding the regional meeting,

*Recalling* its resolution 1988/15 of 25 May 1988, in which it requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to convene annually the Meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean, and to provide the financial resources required from available resources and, if necessary, to seek additional extrabudgetary resources,

*Recalling also* its resolution 1992/28 of 30 July 1992 on improvement of the functioning of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in which it requested the Commission to examine further, on a regular basis, the functioning of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission,

*Recalling further* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 45/2 of 15 March 2002, in which the Commission reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to provide the regional meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies with the financial resources to assist those States which could not otherwise be represented, by defraying the travel expenses for one participant from each of those States,

1. *Confirms* that the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, as subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, have the same status as the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East;

2. *Recognizes* that the annual meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies relate to the programme of work of the United Nations Inter-

national Drug Control Programme, which is funded from the regular budget of the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, from within available resources of the regular budget of the United Nations, the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies with the financial resources to assist those States which could not otherwise be represented, by defraying the travel expenses for one participant from each of those States, as is done for the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East.

### Strengthening UN mechanisms

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs had before it a report by the UNDCP Executive Director on strengthening the drug control programme and the role of the Commission [E/CN.7/2003/14]. The report, prepared in response to Commission resolution 45/17 [YUN 2002, p. 1252], reviewed progress made to implement its resolution 44/16 [YUN 2001, p. 1172] regarding strengthening dialogue between Member States and the programme; improving the effectiveness of the Commission's work; the programme's operations and management; and funding.

On 15 April [E/2003/28/Rev.1 (res. 46/8)], the Commission urged the continued reform of the drug control programme, based on resolutions 44/16 and 45/17 and the recommendations contained in the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services [YUN 2001, p. 1167], the Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit [YUN 2002, p. 1358], and called on the Executive Director to complete their implementation and develop existing reforms. Reaffirming its governing role in the programme's budget process, the Commission requested UNDCP to continue to present briefings and reports to States, such as the progress report on management reform entitled "Commitment to good governance". The Commission called on the Executive Director to consider as priorities the development and application of expertise in evaluation and monitoring. He was requested to report in 2004.