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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

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Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: demand reduction and related measures

El Salvador, Ireland and Israel: revised draft resolution**

Intensifying the efforts to achieve the targets of the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS among people who use drugs, in particular the target to reduce HIV transmission among people who inject drugs by 50% by 2015

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming the commitments of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,¹ in which States parties expressed concern for the health and well-being of humankind;

Reiterating the commitments of the United Nations Millennium Declaration² and the Millennium Development Goals, in particular goal 6, on halting and beginning to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015,

Reiterating the commitments made in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,

Recalling its resolution 53/9 of 12 March 2010, on achieving universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support for drug users and people living with or affected by HIV,

* E/CN.7/2013/1.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

² General Assembly resolution 55/2.

Recalling also its resolution 54/13 of 25 March 2011, on achieving zero new infections of HIV among injecting and other drug users,

Noting with great concern that women who use drugs, in particular women who inject drugs, are even less likely to have access to HIV prevention and drug demand reduction services than their male counterparts,

Further noting with concern that women with substance abuse problems are often deprived of or limited in their access to the effective treatment that takes into account their specific needs and circumstances, and, in this regard, recalling its resolution 55/5 of 16 March 2012, on promoting strategies and measures addressing specific needs of women in the context of comprehensive and integrated drug demand reduction programmes and strategies,

Reiterating the political commitments made in the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS,³ adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, particularly the commitment to reduce transmission of HIV among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015,

*Noting the Global Report: UNAIDS Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2012,*⁴ published by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), which shows sharp declines in HIV transmission in countries that have implemented comprehensive prevention, care, treatment and support programmes for those most vulnerable to HIV infection,

Noting with great concern that the same report records a continuing rise in HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases, particularly hepatitis B and C, among people who inject drugs in some countries;

Also noting with concern that the prevalence of tuberculosis and viral hepatitis among HIV-infected people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, remains greater than the national average in many countries, and recognizing the value of integrating tuberculosis and viral hepatitis screening and treatment into existing services, such as HIV prevention and treatment services, where feasible;

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director of the UNODC entitled “Responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users”, which recognizes that people who inject drugs are vulnerable to viral hepatitis and tuberculosis infections,

Noting the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012,⁵ which states that a high prevalence of HIV among people who inject drugs has emerged as a serious social issue in many countries, posing new public health challenges, such as the spread of HIV and viral hepatitis,

Taking note that injecting new psychoactive substances may pose potential risk for spreading the HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases, in some countries,

³ General Assembly resolution 65/277, annex.

⁴ Available from www.unaids.org/en/resources/campaigns/20121120_globalreport2012/globalreport.

⁵ *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.1).

Affirming that close cooperation at the national level among experts from the criminal justice, health, social and drug control sectors is a critical element of devising effective responses to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support among drug users,

Reaffirming the central importance of promoting the involvement of people living with or affected by HIV and drug use in shaping responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, as well as working with civil society, a key partner in the global response to HIV/AIDS, including the response to the spread of HIV/AIDS through drug injection in the global efforts to achieve the targets set in the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS agreed in 2011,

Reaffirming also the importance of global coordination efforts to scale up sustainable, intensified and comprehensive HIV/AIDS responses, in a comprehensive and inclusive partnership with people living with HIV, vulnerable groups, the most affected communities, civil society and the private sector, as called for in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,⁶ within the framework of the “Three Ones” principles,

Noting that 2013 marks the halfway point between the setting of the target and the date when it should be met, and concerned that the coverage of HIV prevention services for people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, provided in accordance with the international drug control treaties, is far from adequate in many countries with a high prevalence of HIV transmission among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, despite more than 30 years of the HIV/AIDS epidemic,

1. *Urges* Member States to strengthen their efforts to ensure continued political commitment to combating HIV/AIDS among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, and to strive to achieve the target set in the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS³ to reduce HIV transmission among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015;

2. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its leadership and guidance, to significantly expand its work with relevant civil society groups in order to address the gap in access to services for people living with or affected by HIV, including people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, to tackle the issues of stigmatization and discrimination and to support increased capacity and resources for the provision of comprehensive prevention programmes and treatment, care and related support services including for co-occurring common mental health disorders, in full compliance with the international drug control conventions, in accordance with national legislation, taking into account all relevant General Assembly resolutions;

3. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as the convening agency of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) for reducing HIV transmission among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, including those in prisons, to work with the other co-sponsors of

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

UNAIDS, especially the World Health Organization, and the UNAIDS Secretariat, to implement, as appropriate, the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users: 2012 Revision*;⁷

4. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support the World Health Organization in the implementation of its newly published *Guidance on Prevention of Viral Hepatitis B and C among People Who Inject Drugs*,⁸, as appropriate, and encourages them to work together to ensure that health services for people who inject drugs include the elements set forth in that publication;

5. *Requests* Member States to ensure, in full compliance with the international drug control conventions and national legislations, that adequate access for people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs to nine core interventions mentioned in the *Technical Guide* referred to above is provided, as appropriate, without stigma, discrimination and while ensuring gender equality;

6. *Strongly requests* Member States, in accordance with national legislation, to reinforce the coordination among relevant national authorities, inter alia, health, criminal justice and law enforcement authorities, as well as civil society and to develop strategies to ensure that HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs are affordable, available and accessible in order to achieve maximum efficiency of those interventions, without stigma, discrimination and while ensuring gender equality;

7. *Also Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide the leadership and guidance necessary to support Member States, upon request, in their efforts to scale up access to evidence-based HIV prevention, care, treatment and support services for people who inject drugs including family-friendly services, especially for women who are pregnant and/or with young children;

8. *Recommends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and UNAIDS to develop and assist Member States, upon request, in implementing regional strategies to address HIV among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, both male and female;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to inform Member States on a yearly basis about the measures taken to achieve a 50 per cent reduction in HIV transmission among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs by 2015;

10. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extra budgetary contributions for the purposes of the present resolution in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

⁷ Available from www.who.int/hiv/pub/idu/targets_universal_access/en/index.html.

⁸ Available from www.who.int/hiv/pub/guidelines/hepatitis/en/index.html.