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Documentation of the Work of the United Nations Commission on  
Narcotic Drugs (CND) NMUN Simulation\*



## Conference A

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## Summary Report

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. The Emerging Challenges of Synthetic Drug Trafficking
- II. Incorporating a Human Rights Focus into International Drug Policies

The session was attended by representatives of 44 Member States and 1 Observer.

On Sunday, the Commission adopted the agenda in the order of topics I and then II, beginning discussion on the topic of “The Emerging Challenges of Synthetic Drug Trafficking.” By Monday evening, the Dais received a total of seven working papers covering a wide range of sub-topics including border security, human rights, education, and alternative development. On Tuesday, working papers were returned to the delegates for editing. Thanks to the delegates diplomatic spirit and the atmosphere of collaboration, multiple working papers began to merge.

On Wednesday, two draft resolutions were approved by the Dais, one of which had amendments. Following voting procedures, both were adopted by the committee, one of which had clauses included as an annex. The resolutions presented a wide range of issues, including health and human rights, scheduling of substances, protection of borders from trafficking, and sharing of information and knowledge. The body exemplified a spirit of collaboration by utilizing diplomacy when seeking to address the emerging challenges of synthetic drug trafficking.



**Code:** 1/1

**Committee:** Commission on Narcotic Drugs

**Topic:** The Emerging Challenges of Synthetic Drug Trafficking

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*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Observing* the existing guidance set forth in the international drug control conventions, including the *Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs* (1961) as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the *Convention on Psychotropic Substances* (1971), and the *United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances* (1988), as they provide Member States with cooperative guidelines and regulations to combat production, trade and consumption of drugs, and declare substances classified as internationally controlled drugs by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) as illegal,

*Noting* the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in distributing information regarding the negative impact of drugs and drug trafficking to over 50,000 Member State officials via their eLearning program with the goal of improving their readiness and understanding of international security threats,

*Following* the framework previously established by the Early Warning Advisory (EWA) of 2013 within the Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends Programme (SMART) Program of 2008 and its effects on the existing *Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs* (1961) and its future amendments, the *Convention on Psychotropic Substances* (1971), and the *United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances* (1988),

*Acknowledging* that when dealing with issues regarding nations' borders and encouraging domestic and international changes within those borders, the individual sovereignty that all nations hold over their land, borders, and citizens, as upheld by the International Court of Justice (ICJ), must be respected as the autonomy of individual Member States is the foundation of the United Nations,

*Bearing in mind* the Sustainable Development Goal 17 ("strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development"), which emphasizes international cooperation between concerned actors of the global community,

*Promoting* the collection and analysis of reliable and comparable data to strengthen balanced, multidisciplinary and scientific evidence-based responses to the world drug problem, along with CND resolution 63/2 "Promoting and Improving the Collection and Analysis of Reliable and Comparable Data to Strengthen Balanced, Integrated, Comprehensive, Multidisciplinary and Scientific Evidence-based Responses to the World Drug Problem" and CND resolution 62/4 "Advancing Effective and Innovative Approaches, Through National, Regional and International Action, to Address the Multifaceted Challenges Posed by the Non-Medical use of Synthetic Drugs, Particularly Synthetic Opioids," pandemic and its consequences to address the illicit trade of synthetic drugs by the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs, and guided by existing international drug control treaties including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime-World Customs Organization (UNODC-WCO) Global Container Control Programme, the Global SMART, and CND resolution 55/1 "Promoting International Cooperation in Responding to the Challenges Posed by new Psychoactive Substances,"

*Highlighting* the necessity of collecting and sharing information between Member States, as emphasized by the CND resolution 63/2 "Promoting and Improving the Collection and Analysis of Reliable and Comparable Data to Strengthen Balanced, Integrated, Comprehensive, Multidisciplinary and Scientific Evidence-based Responses to the World Drug

Problem” on promoting and improving the collection and analysis of reliable and comparable data to strengthen balanced, integrated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary and scientific evidence-based responses to the world drug problem,

*Expressing its grave concern* about the international challenge that synthetic drug trafficking poses and the lack of chemical tracking tools and experts, and reaffirming the determination and oversight of UNODC to prevent and counter their illicit production, manufacture, diversion, and trafficking,

*Taking into account* the increasing demand for cross border collaboration to track and control the spread of illicit drugs over land, water, and air routes through international communication, and recognizing the role that private efforts could play in enabling or diminishing drug trafficking routes, as outlined in Article 14/4 of the *Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances* (1988), where it encourages private efforts in the field of prevention,

*Emphasizing* the importance of strengthening international and regional cooperation to combat the illicit drug trade using improved data collection methods with respect to the demands for alternative development, as outlined in CND resolution 60/2 “Strengthening International Cooperation to Assist the States Most Affected by the Illicit Transit of Drugs, Especially Developing Countries, Based on the Principle of Common and Shared Responsibility” and CND resolution 61/8 “Enhancing and Strengthening International and Regional Cooperation and Domestic Efforts to Address the International Threats Posed by the Non-Medical use of Synthetic Opioids,”

*Further noting* the significance of international programs and policies, including the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), that seek to build up Member States’ financial, infrastructural, and labor force capacity through the use of UN bodies and resources, furthermore aiming to increase the potential for Member States to participate in international measures with this support,

*Commending* the strides that Member States have made including international agreements such as the Airport Communications Project, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the World Customs Organizations (WCO), UNODC-WCO Container Control Program (CCP),

*Recognizing* international and national efforts made regarding the Application Programming Interface (API) and utilizing artificial intelligence in efforts to track popular maritime and air synthetic drug trafficking routes as exemplified by the Maritime Safety and Security initiative developed by the Global Maritime Crime Programme, and understanding the importance of shared information, where API would enable long distance mutual communication between data software programs in participating nations,

*Reaffirming* the UN *Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime* (2000), which emphasizes the importance of cooperation among legal systems, provides a framework for mutual legal assistance, and encourages information sharing among Member States to combat transnational organized crime,

*Noting with concern* the findings of the Fourteenth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (UN Congress) indicating the increased usage of cryptocurrencies in the purchase and transfer of illicit substances, and the challenges in tracking the movement of such currency since ownership on the blockchain is only identifiable after possession of the owners’ wallet is acquired,

*Taking into consideration* that developing countries are suffering consequences of drug trafficking, as already stated in the General Assembly Report 2724 “Identification of the Least Developed Among the Developing Countries,” General Assembly Special Session 2016, and CND resolution 60/2 “Strengthening International Cooperation to Assist the States Most Affected by the Illicit Transit of Drugs, Especially Developing Countries, Based on the Principle of Common and Shared Responsibility,” and will require support in order to fulfill the requests of the committee,

*Stressing once again* the importance of Article 9 in the *Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances* (1988) on encouraging increased expertise in national border security and control in an effort to implement heightened border official knowledge and skill set in regard to the identification of smuggling and trafficking behavior,

*Cognizant of* the evident strengths of the implementation of expert opinion through the Security Council Affairs Division Roster of Experts and recognizing, the specialized knowledge supplied by members of the scientific and political community of the Security Council Affairs Division Roster of Experts in developing best practices and contributing to an updated knowledge base for the purposes of informing evolving international affairs is an integral component in international affairs,

*Recognizing* the usefulness of the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs in countering the illicit synthetic drug trade through identifying comprehensive solutions to the threats posed by synthetic drugs and by providing Member States with over 230 cross-cutting resources and tools from UN systems,

*Affirming* the report of General Assembly resolution 2724 "Identification of the Least Developed Among the Developing Countries," and its findings that not all Member States have the means to enact high level policies due to financial, infrastructural, and labor force deficits, and the additional strain these types of policies place on these resources,

*Reiterating* the importance of inter-institutional cooperation to innovate methods employed by national drug combatting organs to detect and track the source of legally acquired synthetic drug precursors as stated by the UNODC in the Global SMART Update 2020,

*Recalling* CND resolution 56/4 "Enhancing International Cooperation in the Identification and Reporting of New Psychoactive Substances," which encourages Member States to take a comprehensive, harmonious, and integrated approach to the detection and identification of newly emerging synthetic substances,

*Recognizing* the effectiveness of programs such as UNODC-WCO CCP which employs specialized training programs to develop Member States' capacity to detect and identify narcotic drugs and precursor materials in order to prevent the trafficking within states borders and halt their progress to other states, which operates on the voluntary contributions and cooperation of international organizations and Member States,

*Fully aware* that INTERPOL's Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws On Crime (SHERLOC) and Global Assessment Program on Drug Abuse (GAP) databases provide the international community with reliable instruments for sharing information on drug trafficking,

*Welcoming* the European Commission's efforts toward developing chemical markers in various domains through the Specific Research and Technological Development Programme,

*Acknowledging* the potential for public-private partnerships to counter the trafficking of drugs, promote data collection, stimulate development, and encourage collaboration, as well as the ability to to effectively address problems faced on local and regional levels,

1. *Promotes* collaboration between Member States regarding security frameworks on an international scale by:
  - a. Encouraging cooperative expansion of sovereign border security operations in order to identify, categorize, and track synthetic drugs and aligning subsequent countermeasure procedure through recommending UNODC provide alerts on recorded criminal activity for willing participating states within standard data collection procedure and employing diagnostic measures in order to properly prepare for systemic issues efficiently;

- b. Calling upon ECOSOC to promote restructuring of existing systems in order to ensure mutual participation between Member States by:
    - i. Recommending the contribution of the SMART Program as a method to implement border control protocol in developing nations for the purpose of generating, managing, analyzing and reporting synthetic drug information, in addition, applying scientific evidence-based knowledge to design policies and programmes;
    - ii. Providing an opportunity for regional bodies to seek international assistance, noting the potential for programs such as UNODC-WCO CCP to compensate for any areas which may require improvement;
  - c. Recommending the collaboration between willing Member States and the Global Maritime Crime Programme of the UNODC through:
    - i. Further providing opportunities for working with an expansion of UNODC-WCO global container programme in an effort to standardize collaboration between neighboring states, focusing on personnel training, especially in the use of digital technologies, as well as increasing the amount of Joint Port Control Units in further Member States;
    - ii. A recommendation of the framework of Plan Orion for creating a similar international level focus on the introduction of a single intelligence doctrine, development and optimization of counterintelligence system and development of academic training programme for international staff;
2. *Advises* UNODC to facilitate an online database that allows sharing of non-sensitive information between member states and national law enforcement organization involved in combating the trafficking of synthetic drugs, accompanied by a Panel of Experts to operate under the direction of UNODC, with the purpose of acting as an advisory body to UNODC regarding the database operations and programs wherein:
- a. Expert representatives are to be appointed through joint nomination by CND and UNODC;
  - b. Nominee backgrounds shall be representative of knowledge mobilization and information technologies;
  - c. The panel would convene on an annual basis for the purpose of updating best practices and assessing operation and program goals;
  - d. The panel would have the ability to meet at the Vienna UNODC in any operative or administrative capacity;
3. *Draws attention* to the notion that UNODC's eLearning and law enforcement training programs should be expanded to distribute educational material and training for international law enforcement and border security agency via the internet and expert personnel paid for by UNODC for the purpose of:
- a. Encouraging that law enforcement officials have access to training to apply non-lethal force in their operations keeping in mind the international standards for human rights through UNODC;
  - b. Introducing alternative overdose intervention methods such as the Red Cross EpiPen project, but for recognizing overdoses and responding with nasal inhalant naloxone accessible to community organizations;

- c. Facilitating international exchange of information through support of cooperation between NGOs such as the Information Sharing and Analysis Center and Member States, also taking into account newly detected drug compositions to allow for the uniform detection and classification of psychoactive substances;
  - d. Providing adequate and comprehensive training to Member States national law enforcement and prosecutor agencies to enable the identification of precursor chemicals, as well as their divergence from licit to illicit trade such as their trainings on Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, the use of precursor kits, and chemical safety suits;
  - e. Aiding in standardizing national training and information distribution on the dangers of synthetic drugs and synthetic drug trafficking;
4. *Proposes* that ECOSOC builds one-on-one partnerships with Member States who identify as willing and able to develop Member States on implementing the knowledge from SHERLOC and GAP databases with the goal of:
- a. Developing, agreeing upon, and applying international framework agreements on transnational crime which, in the context of national specificities, can provide a tool to offset jurisdiction challenges;
  - b. Working with Member States in an effort to promote regional cooperation in terms of sharing information about transnational drug trafficking routes and patterns;
5. *Welcomes* Public-Private Partnerships to further strengthen drug security procedures to encourage information sharing and strategic planning, specifically acknowledging the role of the private industries accidentally involved in the international drug trade, and encourages these organizations to provide relevant data on common chemical compounds of illegal synthetic drugs;
6. *Recommends* that UNODC expands upon the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs by:
- a. Establishing a UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs affiliated technology hub, with a corresponding research group to report about latest technologies and Artificial Intelligence that can be used for the detection of suspicious postal items during customs controls by Member States and organizations including the International Narcotics Control Board;
  - b. Encouraging multilateral expansion of UN Toolkit by allowing modification of disciplinary resource direction and subsequent procedure by UNODC and other organizations in:
    - i. Assisting regional councils responsible for the collection and data regarding drug manufacturing and trafficking to expand their operations to share with other regional councils to facilitate international data sharing;
    - ii. The support of regional drug laboratories remain capable of testing synthetic drugs in order to determine the chemical composition and the effects of the drug that can be shared with other Member States;
    - iii. The endorsement of ECOSOC in the provision of cooperative regional conferences dedicated to the alignment of drug policies between neighboring states and identification of new synthetic drugs known to be trafficked between states;
  - c. Expanding upon the foundation for cryptocurrency tracking within the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs, and encouraging Member States to work towards the “Three Magic Principles” outlined



within the Toolkit to effectively counteract the use of cryptocurrency for illicit substances, being that “The blockchain is public - all information is permanent and cannot be deleted or modified,” “Whoever knows the private key owns the coins,” and “Gatekeepers’ or service providers are crucial to the prevention and investigation of money laundering;”

7. *Invites* support of the United Nations Office of Project Services in suggesting that ECOSOC and its provided resources to developing nations to assist in the implementation of the aforementioned programs, effectively contributing to Sustainable Development Goal 9, with specific regards given to CND Resolution 60/2 “Strengthening International Cooperation to Assist the States Most Affected by the Illicit Transit of Drugs,” Especially Developing Countries, Based on the Principle of Common and Shared Responsibility,” which emphasizes the principle of common and shared responsibility and the importance of international cooperation to alleviate the harms of illicit drug transit through:
  - a. Allocating aid in the form of financial assistance, as well as implementing appropriate infrastructure and training programs to allow their equal access to the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs through the implementation of UNDP in the drug trafficking domain;
  - b. Following the guidance outlined by the UNODC Strategy 2021-2025;
  - c. Inviting the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to assist the emerging Member States with providing adequate education and training opportunities with special focus on drug trafficking eradication;
  - d. Recommending the allocation of the necessary resources for emerging countries to allow their equal access to the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs through the implementation of UNDP in the drug trafficking domain;
8. *Supports* cooperation within regional bodies and with regional partners to grow underdeveloped aspects of infrastructure necessary to counteract drug trafficking, including customs agencies, police forces, justice systems, and border patrols, in order to create effective standardized methods conducive to cooperation;
9. *Appeals* to ECOSOC to establish a Substance Trafficking Overview Partnership (STOP), a philosophical and practical framework that proceeds from the conviction to track tracer chemicals in synthetic drug precursors by:
  - a. Affirming that values of innovation, proactivity, adaptivity, and human rights ought to guide approaches to solutions for the trafficking of synthetic narcotic drugs;
  - b. Noting that Member States may voluntarily pledge their support for the framework, demonstrating a commitment to pursue the implementation of chemical markers in synthetic drug precursors to an extent appropriate according to the capacity of the Member State;
  - c. Recommending a yearly assessment by the UNODC on the progress of pledged Member States toward the implementation of the STOP framework, which, may make them eligible for assistive funding sourced from the UNODC General Purpose Fund to provide incentives to pledged Member States that exhibit appropriate commitment to the implementation of the STOP framework according to their individual ability;
  - d. Encouraging international cooperation under ECOSOC sourced from the Global Chemicals Outlook II and the World Health Organization, working alongside relevant regional organizations to develop the chemical formulas of the markers used in synthetic drugs precursors in order to target the

supply chain of illicit synthetic drug trafficking and trace back the origin of legally available precursors used in the production of these drugs;

- e. Emphasizing incorporation of the information about the chemical marker into SHERLOC and GAP databases, providing Member States with equal access to data on the origin of the precursors;
10. *Further suggests* the analysis of the evolution of emerging synthetic drugs on the market to adapt the previously developed solutions accordingly by classifying substances awaiting scheduling as “Restricted” to limit their use exclusively for medical and scientific purposes;
11. *Further encourages* the exchange of information and intelligence while promoting financial transparency regarding illicit activity in relation to digital monetary transactions through a partnership between UNODC with the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering funding that can potentially use artificial intelligence for cross-checking sanctioned cryptocurrency users against a sanctions lists, freezing or reporting assets under their profiles to local jurisdiction administrators if transactions are related to illicit drug trafficking;
12. *Further recommends* the simplifying and accelerating the classification of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) by increasing the number of laboratories by either establishing new ones or collaborating with existing approved laboratories where identified psychoactive substances can be evaluated;
13. *Suggests* broadening the scheduling initiators to include approved Member States’ medical and pharmacology research institutions for rapid pre-precursor and precursor identification as part of amendment to all existing conventions of the commission;
14. *Reminds* UNODC, all Member States, and organizations that all contributions to data collection should be voluntary, and all Member States should have the right and responsibility to evaluate the efficacy of allowing any kind of data collection suggested;
15. *Further invites* CND to convene for a fourth session of the International Drug Control Conventions with the express purpose of ratifying a fourth convention, the *New Convention on Drug Trafficking and Controls (2022)* to reinforce the existing standards set forward by the conventions to account for advancements in technology, and a shifting social paradigm that creates new obstacles in countering the spread of illicit substances, such as the growing reliance upon the internet and dark web to circumvent international law in the trafficking of illicit substances, the increased prevalence of social distancing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the increased rates of NPS emergence since 2008 according to an EWA from UNODC.



**Code:** 1/2

**Committee:** Commission on Narcotic Drugs

**Topic:** The Emerging Challenges of Synthetic Drug Trafficking

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*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Recalling* that Article 55 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) aims for higher standards of living and promotes international solutions to health-related a 1QA to express unity and global solidarity in these times of synthetic drug crisis,

*Identifying* that human rights extend beyond physical safety to economic security from poverty and protection of fundamental social necessities as they relate to infrastructure, education, and health care goals as stated in the preamble of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) which can potentially be realized through creative and inclusive alternative measures in the global approach to synthetic drug trafficking,

*Noting* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 (“good health and well-being”) and its fifth target to strengthen prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse, as well as SDG 4 (“ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”) and its targets 4.4 and 4.7 to increase the number of youths who have relevant skills (for employment) and support skills needed to promote sustainable development through education,

*Recognizing* the importance of protecting human rights within the emerging challenges of synthetic drug trafficking, as referenced in 2021 CND resolution 63/5 on “Facilitating Access to Comprehensive, Scientific Evidence-Based Drug Demand Reduction Services and Related Measures, Including for People Impacted by Social Marginalization” by using preventive healthcare and education practices, ensuring the treatment of persons who choose to use synthetic drugs are regulated, and that individuals receive a fair trial,

*Bearing in mind* that the respect and the improvement of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human without any kind of distinction, it needs to be considered with a focus on aligning the practices with the respect, promotion and protection of all human rights and the inherent dignity of all individuals, especially in the context of drug use disorders (DUDs),

*Acknowledging* the financial and economic dependency created by the synthetic drug manufacturing industry, especially within the Global South, according to the UN’s World Economics and Prospects Situation,

*Considering* the importance of mitigating the proliferation of the global synthetic drug market, as discussed in the outcome document of the UN General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS) because of the increase in unemployment as a result of COVID-19 which is expected to exceed the rise in rates of unemployment in the aftermath of the 2009 global financial crisis,

*Reiterating* the importance of multilateral cooperation between Member States and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the fight against emerging synthetic drug problems as supported by Sustainable Development Goal 17, (“strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development”) and the General Assembly decision *Stockholm 51+*, promoting the involvement of NGOs, civil society organizations, indigenous people’s organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector, and philanthropic organizations,

*Recalling* the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in a international, regional and national level, which has the capacity to generate new innovations and dynamics emphasizing the world drug problem, and the relevance of international cooperation in consideration of COVID's constraints to handle and counter these difficulties in a comprehensive manner based on common and shared responsibilities,

*Highlighting* the World Health Organization (WHO) and UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) *International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders (2020)* collaboration to pursue and emphasize the importance of respecting human dignity within the treatment of DUDs, especially in areas that lack adequate access to medical rehabilitation resources,

*Taking note* of the importance of reformation on existing regulations, as stated in CND resolution 64/1 on "Statement of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the Impact of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic on the Implementation of Member States' Joint Commitments to Address and Counter all Aspects of the World Drug Problem" to only allow controlled use through registered patents for drug farms to monitor their use for alternative and safe products,

*Emphasizing* that those with DUDs often deal with various health issues, therefore illustrates that human rights cannot be fully attained without adequate physical and mental health care per Article 12 of the *International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (1966)*,

*Affirming* the importance of the health care programs such as the Four Pillars Program which has proven to successfully reduce the rate of drug abuse in many countries as shown in the 2021 Sustainable Development Report—this program is based on prevention, risk and harm reduction, treatment and social reintegration as well as supply reduction, which has decreased opioid-related deaths and the HIV infections among people who inject drugs in the last two decades,

*Fully alarmed* by the poor quality reflected by the international recidivism rates of those who are in jail for synthetic drug-related charges, and restating the importance of the *International Drug Control Convention* providing alternative measures, especially in treatment and rehabilitation,

*Taking into consideration* the *Convention on the Rights of a Child (1990)* wherein the responsibilities of the international community are laid out to work together to improve living conditions and prepare children to operate independently, following the tenets of the *United Nations Charter* such as dignity, freedom, and tolerance,

*Deeply concerned* that populations in poor socioeconomic circumstances and who have low levels of education are at a higher risk for developing a drug use disorder, and that COVID-19's adverse effect on both of these factors may lead to an acceleration of the world synthetic drug problem as noted in Book 5 of the *World Drug Report (2021)*,

*Acknowledging* the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, Second Edition (2018)*, which focuses on implementing a framework for policymakers to build solutions for children and families using drugs or being affected by drug use,

*Recognizing* the research conducted by the UN through WHO which highlights that childhood and adolescence are critical stages for the successful development of an individual, and that, due to the vulnerability of their psychological development in adolescence between the ages 11-18, children are more likely to develop long-term substance use disorders especially when exposed to socioeconomic pressures, noting especially the devastating effects that physical and sexual trauma have towards children and adolescents' inclination towards synthetic drug use as an easily accessible form of escapism,

*Guided by* international efforts involving non-profit organizations like Child Resilient and their program “Mentalligence,” which expands psychological knowledge and access to mental health counseling by learning about different kinds of therapy and wellness approaches, as well as national health ministries who serve their publics with science-based information about drugs and drug use in campaigns like the National Institute on Drug Abuse’s (NIDA) “NIDA for Teens” and Interior Ministry’s “Scuole Sicure,”

*Expressing its hope* that the educational curriculum and media content portfolios will be completed and ready for implementation by 2030, in line with the *Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030)*,

*Further inviting* UNODC, UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the Global Education Fund, and the International Narcotic Control Fund to provide funding and resources for the development of these educational programs, with an emphasis on supplying resources to least developed states to ensure equitable distribution of resources,

*Keeping in mind* the *Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961)*, the *Convention of Psychotropic Substances (1971)*, and the *United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988)* on the scheduling, drug control policy, and drug supply control guidelines they provide for Member States to create a resilient and safe global community,

1. *Encourages* UNODC to work with the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in collaboration with regional organizations to expand alternative programs similar to UNODC’s own because of the implications elicited from COVID-19 such as:
  - a. The Global Illicit Crop Monitoring Program which assists Member States in combating the problem of the illicit production in countries through suggesting and providing alternative options to reduce the amount of synthetic drugs that are produced and trafficked;
  - b. The Alternative Development Program: Boost Alternative Development Interventions Through Licit Livelihoods to reduce reliance on the illicit synthetic drug market by focusing on and offering alternative, legal destinations and purposes for these crops;
2. *Recommends* that international bodies such as the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) provide guidance and technical training for local law enforcement bodies under the purview of the UNODC’s *Guidelines for the Safe Disposal of Chemicals Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Drugs (2011)*, which provides law enforcement agencies with a set of best practices on the safe handling, storage, and disposal of chemicals and waste encountered at clandestine drug laboratory sites during the effort to combat synthetic drug trafficking rings;
3. *Suggests* that Member States consider implementing the *International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders* prepared by WHO and UNODC which ensures that the rights of persons who choose to use drugs are never violated in the healthcare system by laying out guidelines and measures that should be adhered to by any party;
4. *Calls for* the expansion of UNODC eLearning platforms to model programs after the LEAD National Support Bureau, a program that trains law enforcement in identifying people at risk of recidivism who use drugs and refers them to case workers for a wide range of support services like transitional and permanent housing or drug treatment to strengthen partnerships and constructive engagement between law enforcement officials and community members;
5. *Asks* WHO to work with the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) to devise suggested licensing policies and regulations on online pharmacies for Member States to consult in order to

enhance the identification process of drug trafficking parties to prevent the proliferation of synthetic drugs and the consequential infringement of human rights through methods including but not limited to:

- a. Requiring online pharmacies to register their head and branch offices in the state of their location;
  - b. Disclosing the identities and medical certificates of internet platforms to verify their qualifications regarding drug distribution;
  - c. Requiring the identification and registration of drugs prior to its sale by respective online pharmacies to the Member States to reduce the amount of civil exploitation and ease of access to potential threats to human health;
  - d. Requiring industries to cooperate in on-site inspections of the head and branch offices by the nation-state the online pharmacy is registered to;
6. *Appeals to ECOSOC* to consider the promotion of a healing and reintegration plan for drug addicts and their families based on the Four Pillars Drug Strategy that was successfully adopted by many Member States with the aim to give patients the right medical, psychological, and social assistance with:
- a. Cooperation of NGOs and the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) through the Committee on NGOs for the creation of medical centers managed by licensed medical professions which offer services of counseling and medical treatments by:
    - i. Providing psychological support through professional figures in order to support patients in regaining control over their addiction;
    - ii. Distributing clean needles and offering medical assistance and prescription of substitute substances in the treatment of addiction;
  - b. Support to patients and to their families to reintegrate into the community after a successful recovery through assistance of a licensed social service officer;
  - c. Utilization of international funds from UNOPS in order to finance the program for a three year trial period;
7. *Encourages WHO* to cooperate with Member States to gather information on the impact of stigmatizing attitudes on the availability, access to, and provision of complete and accurate empirical evidence of drug supply reduction services and related measures, especially for people affected by social marginalization, in their capabilities and educational opportunities, in full compliance with their national legislation to ensure that human rights remain a key focus of international drug policy;
8. *Suggests* that UNODC, as the UN system's advisory body for acknowledging and combating the global drug problem, expand the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs to include strategies to achieve scientifically evidence-based drug supply reduction services and related measures, including for people who are socially disempowered, and to pursue and coordinate efforts related to joint policy and protection programs;

9. *Affirms* that with the apprehension of suspected illegal drug manufacturers and distributors their right to fair trial will be upheld, in addition to ensuring legal guarantees and process safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings, taking into consideration the effectivity of Italy's existing policies regarding the apprehension of suspected perpetrators;
10. *Advocates* for the implementation of a health-oriented approach to drug-related prosecution through UNODC initiatives, as mentioned in Principle 2 of UNODC's *Treatment and Care for People with Drug use Disorders in Contact with the Criminal Justice System*, which would:
  - a. Build upon the work established by CND resolution 55/2 on "Promoting Programmes Aimed at the Treatment, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration of Drug-Dependent Persons Released From Prison Settings," focusing on opioid agonist therapy to integrate measures that address the needs of drug-dependent people in prison settings;
  - b. *Maintain* fair and equitable judicial sentences, taking into consideration the nuanced issues of synthetic opioid trafficking as recommended by a panel of experts in the UNODC's CRIMJUST program (Strengthening Criminal Investigation and Criminal Justice Cooperation Along Drug Trafficking Routes);
11. *Recommends* Member States work together and expand on practices to enhance rehabilitation efforts similar to the African Union's collaboration within the *Compendium of Good Practices on Drug Use, Prevention, Drug Use Disorders Treatment and Harm Reduction*;
12. *Encourages* UNODC to work with regional organizations to implement programs like UNODC Education for Justice (E4J) initiative in all levels of education (Primary - Tertiary), which seeks to support crime prevention and promote a culture of lawfulness through interactive educational activities designed to support cyber-enabled and offline drug crime prevention;
13. *Reiterates* the initiative of CND's 13th session, 2016 CND resolution 63/4 on "Promoting the Involvement of Youth in Drug Prevention Efforts," and requests the support of UNODC to:
  - a. Further expand existing their initiatives, such as the project GLO-K01, which aims to prevent drug use, HIV/AIDS and crime among young people through family skills training programmes in low and middle-income countries worldwide, to incorporate more Member States in need of assistance in order to provide drug abuse prevention programs and public awareness;
  - b. Encourage Member States to provide training to assess evidence of drug use, within the workplace and other relevant professions, to offer or recommend counseling if possible, prevention and other services of care in respects to CND resolution 57/6 "Education and Training on Drug use Disorders;"
  - c. Support the specific training of rehabilitated individuals in areas of mental health to better avoid the stigmatization of people who use drugs when they seek mental health assistance as exemplified by the CND resolution 54/5 "Promoting Rehabilitation- and Reintegration-Oriented Strategies in Response to Drug use Disorders and their Consequences that are Directed at Promoting Health and Social Well-Being Among Individuals, Families, and Communities," which seeks to:
    - i. Promote measures and strategies to develop a more comprehensive approach, including education, to address the disparities between women and drugs;

- ii. Highlight the need of accommodating drug-dependent parents as they seek mental and physical healthcare;
  - iii. Recognize gender-based violence against women, especially at-risk women, in order to develop a more inclusive approach to drug treatment and the need to fight against discrimination as it relates to the care of drug-dependent individuals;
  - iv. Note the importance of providing counseling services to drug-dependent individuals;
14. *Advises* ECOSOC's Committee for Programme and Coordination to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to devise programs in vulnerable regions, such as those in low socioeconomic standing and poverty, to prevent possible associations with human trafficking through methods such as, but not limited to:
- a. Conducting educational programs for citizens in regions vulnerable to the harms of illegal drug trafficking alerting the harms of synthetic drugs and its side effects;
  - b. Providing information on the operations of transnational organized crime groups in drug proliferation and human trafficking based on the analysis of existing precedents to enhance awareness and recognition of dangers associated with the involvement in the illicit involvement of drugs;
  - c. Supporting cost effective addiction treatment centers to prevent the abuse of drug addiction in human trafficking crimes;
15. *Invites* a joint UNODC-UNICEF-UNITAR collaboration following the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention* to create a voluntary culturally-sensitive global education curriculum from a interdisciplinary preventative approach that would address the issue of children developing long-term DUDs, a resource for primary and secondary school-aged children that could be based on several teaching strategies such as interactive apps, videos, live testimonials, book readings, and public officials contributions;
16. *Recommends* that the educational content built by UNODC, UNICEF, and UNITAR is used as a preventive measure for synthetic drug use is prepared inclusive to varying cognitive abilities, where primary-level children may receive simplified information on topics, sensitive to Member States' respective socio-cultural differences, possibly including:
- a. The definition of synthetic drugs and the potential short-term and long-term health risks;
  - b. Written and video testimonials from a diverse group of individuals who formerly had drug use disorders describing their experience;
  - c. Building emotional resilience through communication and consent in order to empower children to share their emotions;
  - d. Solving basic ethical and moral dilemmas through the development of materials that promote basic values, such as integrity, responsibility, and dignity;
17. *Further recommends* that the global drug use prevention education be extended to secondary schools using more advanced content, while maintaining sensitivities to Member States' respective socio-cultural differences, such as:



- a. Defining different types of synthetic drugs and their specific risks;
  - b. Providing detailed explanations of the mortality and morbidity risks of synthetic drug use;
  - c. Building emotional resilience through lessons on agency to help young adults recognize their options for communication and safety;
  - d. Developing practical and interactive educational materials to promote an understanding of basic concepts such as ownership, behavior, and responsibility;
  - e. Empowering students to identify, prevent, and resolve moral, ethical, and legal dilemmas;
18. *Encourages* UNODC-UNICEF-UNITAR collaboration to work with various entities including Member States, NGOs, and communities on regional-specific implementation plans to build and distribute media content portfolios promoting the curriculum for the production of banners, videos and social media messages on public channels which may include population-specific messaging that can be presented on various media platforms (tv, radios, social media) and teach about health problems associated with the use of synthetic drugs, identifying drug markets, and building emotional resilience to better promote the preventative education measures against the effects of synthetic drugs on the youth populations.

Attachments: Annex I

## Annex I

1. Proposes that WHO and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) include the following substances in Schedule II of the *Convention on Psychotropic Substances* (1971) because of their addictive and harmful nature through the:
  - a. Inclusion of (6-(2-aminopropyl)benzofuran) (6-APB) and derived empathic psychoactives because:
    - i. This substance is also called 6-APB which is composed of an unregulated aminopropyl group within the chemical compound of the substance causing amphetamine and ecstasy-like effects;
    - ii. The aminopropyl substance induces agitation and aggression instantly, and long term use can trigger cardiac compromise that may cause death;
  - b. Inclusion of 25I-NBOMe and chemically derived synthetic hallucinogens because:
    - i. This synthetic substance is composed of an unregulated iodo-substituted phenethylamine derivative that dominates the cell viability of cardiomyocytes depending on the concentration of the components;
    - ii. The synthetic substance causes significant behavioral and serotonergic toxicity that tends to induce cardiac compromise through excessive body temperature, tachycardia and hallucinations;
  - c. The inclusion of 2C-x new categories and numerous phenethylamine with methoxy and benzene rings because:
    - i. The 2C-x series of phenethylamines is a group of psychoactive drugs that work as an analogue of existing drugs with stimulant effects, including MDMA/amphetamine and an unregulated methoxy/benzene group in the chemical composition;
    - ii. The use of this substances generate empathogenic immediate effects compromising the safety of the consumer, but the long term use risks include high abuse potential, excited delirium, sympathomimetic toxidrome, neurotoxicity in the user, and death;
2. Proposes that WHO and INCB include the following substances in Schedule I of the *Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs* (1961) as amended by the 1972 Protocol because of their implications for chronic damage to organs and the overall risks posed as synthetic substances through the:
  - a. Inclusion of N-BENZYLPIPERAZINE (BZP) and 3-trifluoro metilfenolpiperazine (TFMPP) derivatives because:
    - i. BZP and TFMPP and their respective derivatives are in the piperazine category of illicit substances which have effects that mimic that of antidepressants;

- ii. When mixed, they impact the transmitter systems at the neurological level and degrade motor skills;

b. Inclusion of Methylenedioxypropylamphetamine (MDPV) and derived stimulants because:

- i. MDPV is a stimulant of the synthetic cathinone class and is a stimulant that has similar effects to that of amphetamines;
- ii. The risks include behaviors related to self-harm as well as high risk bodily implications that can cause rapid muscle breakdown, brain injury, and death.