

Report on November intersessional meeting

(7-8 November 2018)



On **7-8 November 2018**, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs continued the fourth round of thematic discussions on the implementation of the operational recommendations contained in the UNGASS outcome document. These discussions focused on the practical implementation of joint commitments as well as on furthering preparations for the sixty-second session.

As decided by the Commission on 26 June 2018, each day of these meetings had a particular thematic focus:

- November 7: (i) *Strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility*; (ii) *Enhancing international cooperation, including technical assistance, to assist the States most affected by the illicit transit of drugs, especially developing countries*; (iii) *Strengthening cooperation efforts at the bilateral, regional and global levels to reduce demand for synthetic opioids for non-medical use and to counter illicit trafficking in synthetic opioids*; (iv) *Cooperation and collaboration between the CND and the UNODC, as well as WHO, INCB and with other relevant entities*;
- November 8: *Taking stock of the implementation of the commitments made to jointly address and counter the world drug problem, in particular in light of the decision to establish 2019 as a target date for the goals set in paragraph 36 of the Political Declaration.*

H.E. Ambassador Alicia Buenrostro Massieu, Chair of the 61st session of the Commission, opened the meetings and moderated the thematic discussions.

They consisted of a **panel discussion** with interventions from the floor, followed by a **thematic debate**. The panels included representatives from the five **Regional Groups**, **UN entities** and other **intergovernmental organizations**, as well as **civil society**. Following general practice, civil society speakers were nominated by the Vienna NGO Committee. Participants who were not able to join the meeting in person could participate through a video-message or videoconference.

7 November 2018

- (i) *Strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility*
- (ii) *Enhancing international cooperation, including technical assistance, to assist the States most affected by the illicit transit of drugs, especially developing countries*
- (iii) *Strengthening cooperation efforts at the bilateral, regional and global levels to reduce demand for synthetic opioids for non-medical use and to counter illicit trafficking in synthetic opioids*
- (iv) *Cooperation and collaboration between the CND and the UNODC, as well as WHO, INCB and with other relevant entities*

For the first discussion, the panel included the following speakers:

AFRICAN GROUP	Col. Muhammad Mustapha Abdallah, <i>Chairman/Chief Executive, Nigeria Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA)</i>
ASIA PACIFIC	Mr. Khalil-ur-Rahman Hashmi, <i>Director General (United Nations), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad, Pakistan</i>
WEOG	Ms. Laura D'arrigo, <i>Diplomatic Advisor, Inter-Ministerial Mission for combatting drugs and addictions (MILDECA), Office of the Prime Minister, France</i>
CSTF	Mr. Paul Kogi Mburu, <i>Soberlife Mentorship Society, Kenya</i>
UNODC	Ms. Miwa Kato, <i>Director, Division for Operations</i>
WHO	Dr. Vladimir Poznyak, <i>Coordinator for the WHO Management of Substance Abuse Team</i>
UNDP	Mr. Tenu Avafia, <i>Team Leader, Human Rights, Law and Treatment Access</i>
INTERPOL	Ms. Floriane Bacconier, <i>Liaison officer to UNODC</i>
<i>Additional experts</i>	
CICAD/OAS	H.E. Amb. Adam Namm, <i>Executive Secretary</i>
OSCE	Mr. Eduard Lokotunin, <i>Police Affairs Officer on Combating Illicit Drugs, Transnational Threats Department</i>

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Ms. Miwa Kato of UNODC opened the panel discussion, speaking on UNODC's field offices as well as on cooperation with regional entities and other UN agencies. She was accompanied by her colleague Mr. Alan Cole, who shared examples from Southeast Asia on UNODC's regional approach. The floor was then given to the representative of WHO, [Dr. Vladimir Poznyak](#),

presenting on WHO activities for addressing public health dimensions of the world drug problem. His presentation was followed by [Mr. Tenu Avafia](#) of UNDP, who provided an overview of the international guidelines on human rights and drug policy as a potential tool in drug policy design and implementation. Ambassador Alicia Buenrostro Massieu then gave the floor to [Ms. Floriane Bacconier](#) of INTERPOL, who encouraged delegations to use and populate Interpol databases and informed of the available solutions developed to address specific challenges of the drug problem.



Next, [Col. Muhammad Mustapha Abdallah](#)/Nigeria spoke on the joint regional operations that had been recently held and facilitated by UNODC. The floor was then passed to Mr. Khalil-ur-Rahman Hashmi/Pakistan, speaking on the importance of technical assistance and capacity-building while strengthening cooperation. His intervention was followed by Ms. Laura D'arrigo/France, who spoke on the balanced approach to

cooperation, encompassing measures to address both supply and demand of drugs, and by [Mr. Paul Kogi Mburu](#) of Soberlife Mentorship Society, presenting on the Prevention Practitioners Network of Kenya aiming to prevent drug abuse among young people and to support current drug abusers. The last two interventions were made by [H.E. Amb. Adam Namm](#) of CICAD/OAS, who presented on CICAD's contribution to the implementation of seven thematic operational recommendations of the UNGASS outcome document, and Mr. Eduard Lokotunin of OSCE, who spoke on the outcome of the annual anti-drug conference to discuss pros and cons of current international drug control policy.



After the panel, interventions were made by UNODC representative, [Ms. Giovanna Campello](#), speaking on international cooperation through the prism of family based prevention programme in Central America. The floor was also given to [Mr. John Walsh](#)

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of Washington Office on Latin America, who spoke on legal regulation of cannabis under the international law, and to [Prof. John Toumbourou](#) of Deakin University and Dalgarno Institute Australia, presenting on the prevention science approach to limiting alcohol and drug related harm. Finally, a [video message](#) from Mr. Rajesh Didiya/Nepal was displayed.



8 November 2018

Taking stock of the implementation of the commitments made to jointly address and counter the world drug problem, in particular in light of the decision to establish 2019 as a target date for the goals set in paragraph 36 of the Political Declaration



The panel was composed of the following experts:

AFRICAN GROUP	Col. Muhammad Mustapha Abdallah, <i>Chairman/Chief Executive, Nigeria Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA)</i>
GRULAC	Mr. Issac Morales, <i>Director General Adjunto para Seguridad Multidimensional de la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores de México</i>
WEOG	Ms. Michelle Boudreau, <i>Health Canada, on Canada's health-centred approach to drug policy</i>
CSTF	Ms. Ann Fordham, <i>International Drug Policy Consortium, UK</i>
UNODC	Ms. Angela Me, <i>Chief, Research and Trend Analysis Branch</i>
<i>Additional experts</i>	
Council of Europe	Ms. Florence Mabileau, <i>Head of the Mediterranean Co-operation and Gender Unit, Secretariat of the Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group) (video message)</i>



[Mr. Angela Me](#) of UNODC provided an overview of the available data on the implementation of the targets established by OP36 of the Political Declaration 2009. Her intervention was followed by [Col. Muhammad Mustapha Abdallah](#)/Nigeria, presenting on the national strategy on the implementation of the three drug control conventions. The floor was then handed over to Mr. Issac Morales/Mexico, who spoke on the national efforts to address the drug problem, including on the implementation of all seven chapters of the UNGASS outcome document. [Ms. Michelle Boudreau](#)/Canada then presented on the country's strategy to face the opioids crisis, comprising prevention measures, enhanced border control mechanisms, considerations to schedule additional substances and other

measures. The floor was then given to [Ms. Ann Fordham](#) of IDPC, who reported on organization's shadow report on the implementation of the targets set by the Political Declaration. Her presentation was followed by a [video message](#) from Ms. Florence Mabileau of Council of Europe.

Each presentation was followed by a Q&A session, which opened the floor for interventions from Member States. During the thematic debate, superseding the panel discussion, 2 Member States shared their statements:

- [Austria on behalf of the European Union](#)
- Colombia



The floor was also given to UNODC representatives: [Mr. Enrico Bisogno](#), speaking on the reasons behind the lack of good quality data on the targets of OP36 of the Political Declaration 2009; [Mr. Kamran Niaz](#), presenting on trends in the demand for drugs, and [Mr. Justice Tettey](#), speaking on the phenomenon of synthetic drugs. They were followed by [Mr. Hussein Abdalla Tayab](#) of Muslim Education and Welfare, who presented on the mechanisms of protection of health and human rights of people who use drugs in Kenya. The floor was then handed over to [Mr. Peter Sarosi](#) of Rights Reporter Foundation/Hungary, speaking on the urgent need to support harm reduction in Central-Eastern Europe, and [Mr. Brun González](#)



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[Aguilar](#) of International Network of People who use Drugs, who spoke on link between the drug policy and the Sustainable Development Agenda.



This round of thematic discussions was closed with concluding remarks from Ambassador Alicia Buenrostro Massieu, who thanked the participants for their presentations and the delegates for their valuable contributions. Ambassador also informed that presentations of the panellists and experts will be posted on the Commission's website dedicated to the preparations for 2019: https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/2019/2019-high-level-ministerial-segment-preparatory-process.html#November_ISM.