

Resolution 60/8

Promoting measures to prevent HIV and other blood-borne diseases associated with the use of drugs, and increasing financing for the global HIV/AIDS response and for drug use prevention and other drug demand reduction measures

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming the commitments of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,¹ the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971² and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,³ in which States parties expressed concern for the health and welfare of humankind,

Reiterating its commitment to the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,⁴ in which Member States noted with great concern the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, reaffirmed their commitment to tackling those problems in the context of comprehensive, complementary and multi-sectoral drug demand reduction strategies, in particular such strategies targeting youth, also noted with great concern the alarming rise in the incidence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among injecting drug users, and reaffirmed their commitment to working towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes and treatment, care and related support services, in full compliance with the international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, taking into account all relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Recalling the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”,⁵ in which relevant national authorities were invited to consider, in accordance with their national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, including in national prevention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures and programmes, in the context of comprehensive and balanced drug demand reduction efforts, effective measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, including appropriate medication-assisted therapy programmes, injecting equipment programmes, pre-exposure prophylaxis, antiretroviral therapy and other relevant interventions that prevent the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, as well as consider ensuring access to such interventions, including in treatment and outreach services, prisons and other custodial settings, and promoting in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the *Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users*, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS,

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

² *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

⁴ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

⁵ General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex.

Recalling also the commitments made in the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030,⁶ in which Member States noted with alarm that people who inject drugs are 24 times more likely to acquire HIV than adults in the general population,

Reaffirming that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is the leading entity in the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem and the convening agency for addressing HIV and drug use, and HIV in prison settings, within the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS division of labour, in close partnership with the World Health Organization and the secretariat of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and in collaboration with other co-sponsors of the Programme,

Recalling its resolution 56/6 of 15 March 2013 concerning intensifying the efforts related to HIV and AIDS among people who use drugs, resolution 54/13 of 25 March 2011 on achieving zero new infections of HIV among injecting and other drug users, and 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,

Taking note of the report of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS entitled *Get on the Fast Track: the Life Cycle Approach to HIV*,⁷ according to which the available data suggest that new HIV infections among people who inject drugs globally climbed from an estimated 114,000 in 2011 to 152,000 in 2015, resulting in a failure to achieve the target of reducing transmission of HIV among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁸ in which Heads of State and Government pledged that no one would be left behind, and recalling also their commitment to ending, by 2030, the epidemics of AIDS and tuberculosis, as well as to combating viral hepatitis and other communicable diseases, inter alia, among people who use drugs, including people who inject drugs,

Reaffirming its commitment to promoting the health, welfare and well-being of all individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, and facilitating healthy lifestyles, through effective scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives at all levels, covering, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse,

Welcoming the decision taken by the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS at its thirty-ninth meeting, held from 6 to 8 December 2016, to encourage all co-sponsors, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue to mitigate the impact of the budgetary shortfall through efficiencies and through renewed and innovative resource mobilization strategies, including by broadening the donor base, and to work towards greater accountability and clearer reporting that more effectively demonstrates the contribution of all co-sponsors, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

⁶ General Assembly resolution 70/266, annex.

⁷ Geneva, 2016.

⁸ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

Noting with concern that overall investments in the HIV/AIDS response in low- and middle-income countries have fallen since 2013 and that related spending by donor Governments declined by more than \$1 billion in 2015, highlighting a downward trend in the availability of resources and funding for the global HIV/AIDS response, in particular for programmes targeting the prevention and treatment of HIV among people who use drugs,

1. *Urges* Member States, in the context of addressing and countering the world drug problem, to strengthen their domestic and global efforts, including through their health systems, to ensure continued political commitment to effectively addressing and countering HIV/AIDS among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, and to strive to achieve target 3.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals (“By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, waterborne diseases and other communicable diseases”), and target 3.5, (“Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol”), and related targets;

2. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as the convening agency of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS for matters relating to HIV/AIDS and drug use and to HIV/AIDS in prisons, to continue to provide, through its HIV/AIDS Section, its leadership and guidance on those matters, in partnership with relevant United Nations and government partners and other relevant stakeholders, such as civil society, affected populations and the scientific community, as appropriate, and to continue to support Member States, upon their request, in their efforts to increase their capacity and mobilize resources, including national investment, for the provision of comprehensive HIV prevention and treatment programmes;

3. *Urges* Member States and other donors to continue to provide bilateral and other funding for the global HIV/AIDS response, including to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and to strive to ensure that such funding contributes to addressing the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic among people who inject drugs, and HIV/AIDS in prison settings, in the spirit of the pledge made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind;

4. *Encourages* Member States and other donors to make extra-budgetary contributions to the HIV/AIDS work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to secure adequately financed, targeted and sustainable responses related to HIV and drug use, and HIV in prison settings, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to engage fully in the work and consultations of the Global Review Panel on the Future of the Joint Programme Model of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to make recommendations for a sustainable and fit-for-purpose Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS by revising and updating the operating model with a focus on joint work, financing, accountability and governance;

6. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to inform Member States, on a yearly basis, about the measures taken to prevent new HIV infections among people who use drugs, and to provide HIV treatment, care and support to people who use drugs, as well as in prison settings, and about necessary and available funding for relevant programmes and projects of the Office, including implementation of interventions contained in the *Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets*

for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

7. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extra-budgetary resources for these purposes, including the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to strengthen comprehensive and scientific evidence-based drug demand reduction, including in the areas of prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration, as well as initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, as appropriate, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.