

## Resolution 55/11

### **Follow-up to the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Reaffirming* the commitments undertaken by Member States in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,<sup>1</sup> in which Member States recognized that action against the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility and expressed their conviction that it must be addressed in a multilateral setting,

*Welcoming* the Paris Pact initiative, one of the most important frameworks in the fight against opiates originating in Afghanistan and aimed at the reduction of illicit traffic in opiates, including opium poppy cultivation and production and global consumption of heroin and other opiates, and at the establishment of a broad international coalition to combat illicit traffic in opiates,

*Welcoming also* the international conferences of the Paris Pact partners at the ministerial level, held in Paris in 2003 and in Moscow in 2006, and looking forward to future such ministerial meetings on a regular basis,

*Taking note with concern* of the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled *Afghanistan: Opium Survey 2011*, in which it was stated that, despite the continued efforts of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community, in 2011, following a decrease in previous years, caused mostly by plant disease, estimated opium production there had significantly increased,

*Noting with concern* that the number of poppy-free provinces in the country decreased from 20 in 2010 to 17 in 2011 following increases in previous years, and acknowledging the strong link between lack of security and opium poppy cultivation,

*Noting also* the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2011 on precursors and chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,<sup>2</sup> in which the Board stressed the need to implement the tools of precursor control provided by the international system of controls more comprehensively within countries and at the global level and emphasized that the diversion of some chemicals, such as acetic anhydride, from domestic distribution channels — with subsequent

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<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

<sup>2</sup> *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2011 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.12.XI.4).

cross-border smuggling — had become the most common method of obtaining precursor chemicals for use in the illicit manufacture of drugs, including heroin,

*Aware* of the need to enhance coordinated, comprehensive and effective measures to reduce the cultivation of opium poppy and the production of, trafficking in and consumption of opiates, and noting that Paris Pact partners, in the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan,<sup>3</sup> recognized the threat they pose to international peace and stability in different regions of the world,

*Acknowledging* the principle of full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States,

*Noting* that the sustained menace of illicit drugs adversely affects the social, economic, cultural and political foundations of society and undermines sustainable development,

*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/11 of 25 July 2007, entitled “Support to the counter-narcotics measures and programmes of Afghanistan”,

*Welcoming* the ongoing efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in the fight against narcotic drugs,

*Commending* the activities carried out by the States neighbouring Afghanistan to promote cooperation aimed at countering the illicit traffic in opiates and the smuggling of their precursor chemicals into Afghanistan,

*Expressing its support* for the efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening international and regional cooperation in order to counter the threat to the international community posed by illicit traffic in opiates, paying due attention to strengthening and implementing regional initiatives to combat illicit traffic in opiates, detecting and blocking financial flows linked thereto, preventing the diversion of precursor chemicals used in illicit manufacturing of opiates in Afghanistan and reducing drug abuse and dependence through a comprehensive approach,

*Acknowledging* the importance of a regional approach in tackling the illicit cultivation of opium poppy and the production of and trafficking in opiates originating in Afghanistan,

*Supporting* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its efforts to coordinate effective and results-oriented assistance to Afghanistan and neighbouring countries, including through its regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries,

*Bearing in mind* the outcomes of the international conferences on Afghanistan held in Istanbul, Turkey, in November 2011 and in Bonn, Germany, in December 2011, which included counter-narcotics as a cross-cutting theme,

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<sup>3</sup> See E/CN.7/2012/17.

*Recalling* its resolution 54/7 of 25 March 2011, in which it welcomed the decision taken by the reconvened meeting of the Paris Pact Policy Consultative Group, held in Vienna on 17 March 2011, to convene in Vienna in the second half of 2011, in continuation of the Paris Pact initiative, an international conference at the ministerial level, and encouraged that conference to contribute to strengthening the commitment of Member States to combating the illicit trade in opiates,

*Convinced* that the results of the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan, held in Vienna on 16 February 2012, should be translated into effective action by States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, competent organs of the United Nations and other relevant actors,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the Paris Pact initiative;<sup>4</sup>

2. *Welcomes* the outcome of the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan, facilitated by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in cooperation with the Governments of Austria, France and the Russian Federation, in continuation of the Paris Pact initiative;

3. *Expresses* its satisfaction with the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation that made the preparations for the Conference and the Conference itself a success;

4. *Calls upon* Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board and other competent international organizations, to promote the full implementation of the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Conference,<sup>5</sup> including, as appropriate, by means of facilitating partnerships with the private sector and civil society;

5. *Calls upon* the international community, including the Government of Afghanistan, to continue those efforts while making them more comprehensive, effective and results-oriented;

6. *Encourages* Member States to enhance coordination through existing regional mechanisms, including through the Paris Pact initiative, in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchange with a view to countering trafficking in opiates originating in Afghanistan;

7. *Notes* the importance of taking measures to ensure effective follow-up to the Conference;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the initiative of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to prepare a compendium of concrete ideas and proposals aimed at strengthening the Paris Pact initiative and implementing the Vienna

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<sup>4</sup> E/CN.7/2012/10.

<sup>5</sup> See E/CN.7/2012/17.

Declaration as expressed by Paris Pact partners at the Conference, which may be used by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its programme activities in consultation with Member States;

9. *Welcomes* the third phase of the Paris Pact and the operational outcome it is to deliver, and also welcomes the intention of Paris Pact partners to discuss the modalities of a fourth phase at their next Policy Consultative Group meeting after due evaluation of the third phase;

10. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to cooperate with Member States in identifying and meeting the needs for technical assistance, including in the priority areas mentioned in the Vienna Declaration;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the work done in the preparations for and facilitation of the organization of the Conference;

12. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Governments of Austria and the Russian Federation for providing the extrabudgetary resources and facilities that were necessary to convene the Conference;

13. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission at its fifty-sixth session on the measures taken and on progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Invites* Member States and other donors to contribute extrabudgetary resources for these purposes in accordance with the rules and regulations of the United Nations.

*9th Plenary Meeting  
16 March 2012*