

Resolution 55/2

Promoting programmes aimed at the treatment, rehabilitation and reintegration of drug-dependent persons released from prison settings

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session¹ and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,²

Recalling also the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol³ and, in particular, the need to assist drug abusers, to the extent possible, in their rehabilitation and social reintegration,

Recalling further the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,⁴ adopted by the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in which Member States expressed their conviction of the importance of preventing youth crime and supporting the rehabilitation of young offenders and their reintegration into society, including efforts to prevent their revictimization, as well as of, in general, addressing the treatment of prisoners,

Considering that in prison settings in many countries of the world there are a significant number of drug-dependent persons and that the need for treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and related support services aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities is common all over the world,

Concerned that drug-dependent persons released from prison settings are at high risk of relapse or reoffending unless provided with appropriate continued treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and related support services,

Considering that such a situation may lead to high levels of drug-related crime,

Stressing the importance of a multisectoral and fully coordinated approach in which multiple government agencies and non-governmental organizations within communities participate in order to support the development of a full continuum of policies and programmes that promote prevention, early detection and intervention,

¹ General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 65/230, annex.

treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and related support services,

Bearing in mind that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, acting within its mandate, can play an important role in addressing the strategies focusing on the treatment, care, rehabilitation and social reintegration of persons released from prison settings,

1. *Invites* Member States to develop, implement and enhance measures, as appropriate, facilitating continued treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and related support services for drug-dependent persons being released from prison settings;

2. *Also invites* Member States to consider, as appropriate, developing or strengthening regulatory frameworks for the implementation of the measures mentioned above;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to consider, where appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, developing and implementing pre-release and post-release programmes aimed at preventing relapse and reoffending;

4. *Encourages* Member States to integrate those measures addressing the specific needs of drug-dependent persons released from prison settings into comprehensive national strategies on drug demand reduction;

5. *Recommends* that Member States ensure that service providers have access to the training and acquire the skills necessary to work with drug-dependent persons in pre-release and post-release programmes, in order to assist their treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and related support services;

6. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in cooperation with the World Health Organization, to collect and disseminate information on relevant experiences of evidence-based treatment, rehabilitation and reintegration programmes and measures, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to include rehabilitation- and reintegration-oriented modules for drug-dependent persons being released from prison settings in its relevant technical assistance and training programmes that are aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities;

8. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission, at its fifty-seventh session, on the implementation of the present resolution.

*9th Plenary Meeting
16 March 2012*