

Resolution 57/2

Drug abuse prevention through sport: promoting a society free of drug abuse through sport and the Olympic ideal

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,¹ in which they expressed their determination to actively promote a society free of drug abuse and to take effective measures to emphasize and facilitate healthy, productive and fulfilling alternatives to the illicit consumption of drugs, in particular to invest in and work with youth by raising public awareness and providing youth with information, skills and opportunities to choose healthy lifestyles,

Supporting the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to counter the problem of doping in sports,

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on the issue of sport and the Olympic Games, in particular its resolutions 67/17 of 28 November 2012 and 68/9 of 6 November 2013, in which the Assembly emphasized the importance of the use of sport as a vehicle to foster development and strengthen education for children and young persons, prevent disease and promote health, including the prevention of drug abuse,

Recognizing the increasingly important role of sport in contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, noting that sport can foster peace and development, as underlined in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,² and reaffirming that sport is a tool for education that can promote cooperation, solidarity, social inclusion and health at the local, national, regional and international levels, as declared in the outcome document of the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,³

Recalling the report of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace, entitled “Sport for development and peace: towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals”, in which sport was recognized as an effective tool for improving public health by providing healthy alternatives to harmful behaviour, such as drug abuse and involvement in crime, and as a powerful vehicle for communicating messages of peace and development to diverse audiences, since sports can effectively increase awareness and galvanize support around key issues,

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

² General Assembly resolution 60/1.

³ General Assembly resolution 65/1.

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Sport for development and peace: mainstreaming a versatile instrument”,⁴ which reviews the programmes and initiatives implemented by States Members of the United Nations, by United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies and by other partners, using sport as a tool for development and peace,

Welcoming the mutually beneficial partnerships that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has established with the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee and the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace in such areas as human development, education and health promotion, and noting with satisfaction the increasing number of joint initiatives of the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including the “Global sport for youth” initiative and the meetings on the topics “Using sport for drug abuse prevention”, held in Rome from 12 to 14 November 2001, “Sports help prevent drug abuse”, held in Brasilia on 2 April 2008, and “Sport against drugs”, held in Ashgabat on 1 December 2011,

Affirming the invaluable contribution of the Olympic movement and other major international sporting events to establishing sport as a unique means of promoting a healthy way of life,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 49/29 of 7 December 1994 and 50/13 of 7 November 1995 on the Olympic ideal as a means to promote international understanding among the youth of the world through sport and culture in order to advance the harmonious development of humankind,

Recalling also that “healthy living” is one of the main concepts of sports, including at the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games,

Acknowledging the importance of participation by youth in sport, particularly at the Youth Olympic Games, in inspiring youth to choose a healthy lifestyle by offering a combination of sporting, cultural and educational experiences,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to cooperate with organizations related to sports, including the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee, in their efforts to use sport as a tool to promote a healthy lifestyle that is free from drug abuse and that discourages behaviour related to drug abuse that is harmful to the individual and society;

2. *Welcomes* the cooperation among Member States, the United Nations and its specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and sport-related organizations, including the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee, in seeking to make a constructive and sustainable contribution, through sport, to raising awareness of and to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and encourages all sport-related organizations, including the Olympic and Paralympic movements, to contribute to the achievement of the Goals;

⁴ A/67/282.

3. *Encourages* Member States and organizers of sporting events, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, civil society, including volunteer organizations, sport-related organizations, athletes, the media and the private sector, to use sporting events as a platform for promoting social inclusion and a healthy way of life and for increasing awareness of the dangers of drug abuse through printed and digital means, as appropriate;

4. *Encourages* Member States to promote equal access to sports, without discrimination of any kind, and other healthy pursuits for children and young people as a means of drug abuse prevention;

5. *Recognizes* the potential for athletes from all sports, including Olympic and Paralympic athletes, to play a leading role in and contribute to the promotion of a healthy lifestyle by emphasizing participation in sports as a healthy, productive and fulfilling alternative to drug abuse;

6. *Encourages* Member States to exchange experiences on the theme of drug abuse prevention through sport at a future session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.