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THE ROAD TO UNGASS 2016

**UNGASS
2016**

**SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ON THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM**

ACHIEVING THE 2019 GOALS - A BETTER TOMORROW FOR THE WORLD'S YOUTH

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Presentation overview

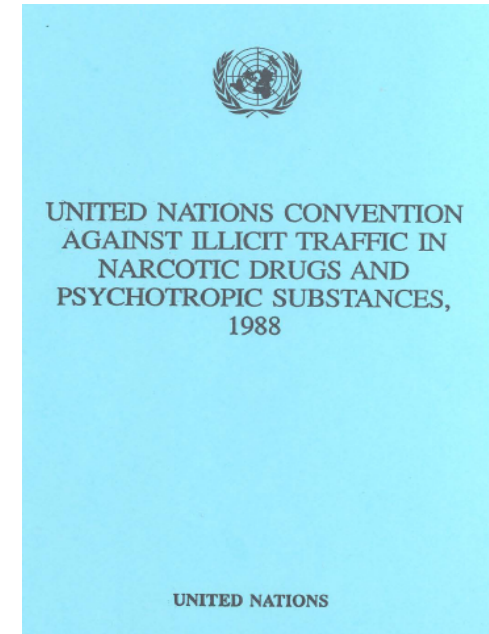
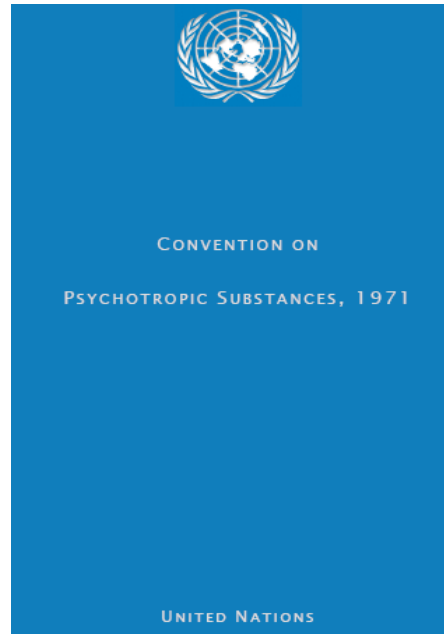
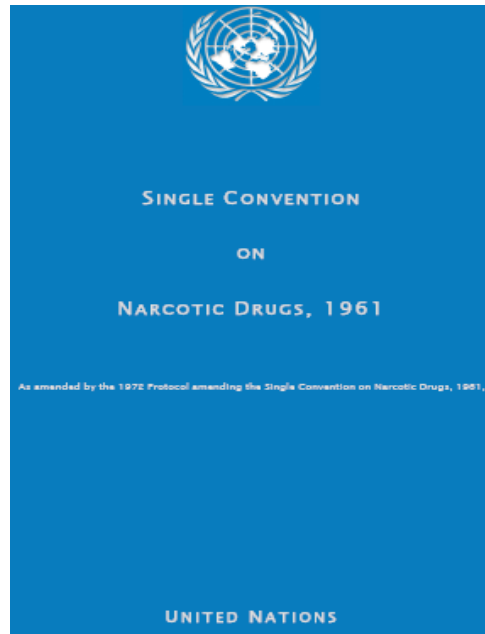
- International regulatory framework
- Commission on Narcotic Drugs
- UN General Assembly Special Session
- Resolution
- Outcome document
- Drugs and Health



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Mandate from the International Drug Control Conventions





Provisions of the Conventions

- Government import-export authorization
- Provision to the INCB annually of estimates of medical and scientific needs for narcotic drugs
- Record-keeping by governmental authorities and persons engaged in manufacture, trade and distribution, and conduct of inspections by government
- Requirement of medical prescriptions for supply or dispensation to individuals
- Prohibition of advertising to the general public with due regard to constitutional provisions
- Requirement of adequate labelling
- Requirements for commercial documents
- Suppression of use of the mails in accordance with basic principles of domestic legal systems
- Prohibition of export to post office box
- Establishment of penal provisions for contraventions of the above requirements



Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)

The principle role played by the CND is one of the United Nations organs with prime responsibility for drug control matters. In line with its mandates, the CND monitors the world drug situation, develops strategies on international drug control and recommends measures to combat the world drug problem, including through reducing demand for drugs, promoting alternative development initiatives and adopting supply reduction measures.



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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The Political Declaration and Plan of Action

The Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation Towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem of 2009 is the main policy document of the United Nations guiding action by the international community in this field.

Two important milestones in addressing the world drug problem are the Political Declarations adopted by the Member States of the United Nations in 1998 and in 2009. Both declarations aim at enhancing international cooperation in countering the world drug problem, which is a common and shared responsibility. Specific goals and targets to reduce the supply and the demand for illicit drugs were also agreed by Member States.



Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The Political Declaration and Plan of Action

At the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held on 11 and 12 March 2009, Member States evaluated the progress made since 1998 towards meeting the goals and targets established at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly. They identified future priorities and areas requiring further action and established goals and targets for drug control beyond 2009.



Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The Political Declaration and Plan of Action

In 2014, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session conducted a high level review of the implementation by Member States of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action and adopted a Joint Ministerial Statement.



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The General Assembly discusses drug- and crime-related issues under its agenda item entitled "Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations". This item is considered at the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs Committee of the General Assembly, commonly referred to as the "Third Committee", in early October each year.



UNGASS – April 19 through 21, 2016



UNGASS RESOLUTION:

The themes for the five interactive discussions held during the special segment of the fifty-eighth session, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016



- (a) Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion (“drugs and health”):
 - (i) Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues, including HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care;
 - (ii) Ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion;



(b) Supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation (“drugs and crime”):

(i) Domestic, regional and cross-regional responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering, including, where appropriate, in connection with the financing of terrorism, and promoting judicial cooperation in criminal matters;

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(ii) Addressing emerging issues, including new psychoactive substances, precursors and the misuse of the Internet;



(c) Cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities:

(i) Addressing drug-related issues in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

(ii) Drugs and youth, women, children and communities;



(d) Cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions; strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation:

- (i) New challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;
- (ii) Strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and enhancing international cooperation, including technical assistance, leading up to 2019;



(e) Alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues:

(i) Drugs, addressing socioeconomic issues and fostering alternative development, including preventive alternative development;

(ii) Enhancing regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy.



5 Areas of Focus for UNGASS

1.Demand Reduction

2.Supply Reduction

3.Cross Cutting issues – human rights, youth, women, children and communities

4.Cross Cutting issues – new challenges, threats and realities

5.Alternative Development



5 Areas of Focus for UNGASS

1.Demand Reduction

2.Supply Reduction

3.Cross Cutting issues – human rights, youth, women, children and communities

4.Cross Cutting issues – new challenges, threats and realities

5.Alternative Development



Preliminary High Focus Elements

- 1.Demand Reduction as health-related issues**
- 2.Ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes**
- 3.Supply reduction – domestic, regional and cross-regional responses**
- 4.Countering money laundering**
- 5.Addressing emerging issues – psychoactive substances, precursors and misuse of internet**
- 6.Alternative development**



What is the Drug Prevention and Health Branch doing? Involved?

- **Keeping the focus on drug demand reduction at the upcoming CND – March 2016**
- **Supporting Member States:**
 - **Substantive information for “Outcome Document”**
 - **Substantive support for meetings during UNGASS – Scientific Hearing, Health and Recovery, Ensuring Access for Medical Purposes, Prevention Media Campaign, Civil Society Hearing**



What is the Drug Prevention and Health Branch doing? Involved?

- **Support and highlight work of Civil Society**
- **Alternative Development activities**



What can you do? How can you be involved?

- **Understand the process and clarify**
- **Support your country and Member States in the region**
- **Be substantive experts**
 - **Contribute to documents, reports**
 - **Support a clear and consistent message**
 - **Educate your delegation**
- **Partner with Civil Society**



Prevention Media Event

- **Evidence-based prevention of drug use is effective and cost-effective and it helps children and youth grow healthy and safe.**
- **International Standards on Drug Use Prevention have been endorsed by the Member States in TWO occasions**
 - **High-level review**
 - **Resolution 57-3**



Prevention Media Event

- **Coverage is often poor**
- **Quality is often low**
 - **Activities are not based on evidence**
 - **Activities are not evaluated (less than 8%)**
 - **No standards or professionalization - anybody can stand up and do “prevention”**
- **Less resources are provided to drug prevention than to other components of drug control**



Prevention Media Event

UNGASS is an opportunity to raise the profile of evidence-based drug prevention

2 Components:

- **High-level special event during UNGASS highlighting the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of evidence-based prevention**
- **(Social) media campaign**



Prevention Media Event

The Campaign

- **This campaign is NOT aimed at preventing drug use.**
- **The aim IS to raise awareness about what drug prevention is and what it can do when it is based on science.**



Prevention Media Event

Target Audience

- **Policy makers are the main target group**
- **Secondary target groups (mediators)**
 - **Parents**
 - **Teachers**
 - **Healthcare workers**
 - **Practitioners**
- **Policy makers are influenced by public opinion**
- **Evidence-based practices brought to the attention of the secondary target groups.**



Prevention Media Event

Outcomes

Policy makers:

Policy makers demonstrate interest in using evidence-based prevention to help children and youth grow healthy and safe



Prevention Media Event

Outcomes

Secondary target groups (mediators)

- The campaign will highlight some evidence-based practices relevant to each group (parents, teachers, health workers, practitioners).**
- Each target group demonstrates interest in evidence-based practices disseminated by the campaign**



Prevention Media Event

Components

- **Overarching slogan and logo**
- **Social media posts (two or three per target group) and a hashtag linked to the slogan**
- **Micro website with factsheets (one per target group) and links to more resources**
 - **Testimonies and real-life examples**
- **One video, launched during UNGASS**



Prevention Media Event

Timeline

- **Campaign will begin in January**
- **Activities will extend 6 months**
- **Social media messages 2-3 times per month**
- **Video launched at UNGASS and on social media**
- **Coincide with CND, World Health Assembly**



Prevention Media Event

Partners

- **France, Sweden, WHO**
- **Open to all Member States and International Organizations**



Prevention Media Event

Monitoring and Evaluation

- **How many people were reached?**
 - **Count the views of posts, factsheets and video (full views)**
- **How many people took (positive) action?**
 - **Liking or sharing**
 - **Reaching the resources**
 - **Tracking the hashtag**
- **Use of polls or quizzes**
- **Survey on the micro website?**
- **Caught on mainstream media?**



Prevention Media Event

Message

- **Empathetic listening is at the basis of good parenting practices that are protective**
 - **Parents: listening with attention and acceptance is at the basis of bonding and monitoring, important protective factors.**
 - **Other sub-target groups – same**
- **Policy makers should listen and respond to the needs of children and youth AND should listen to science.**



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Prevention Media Event

Show presentation

Show slogan

Feedback?



Summary

- **The three Drug Conventions are framework**
- **CND is the annual meeting of Member States to implement the Conventions**
- **UNGASS is a Special Session focused on 5 areas per the resolution passed by Member States in March 2015**
- **Demand reduction will be a strong focus**
- **Media Campaign**



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Thank you!

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