



**SRMUN CHARLOTTE 2021**  
**Unity: Coming Together to Address a Changing World**  
**March 26 - 28, 2021**  
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Greetings Delegates,

Welcome to the Virtual SRMUN Charlotte 2021 and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), the 53-member governing body of the United Nations' (UN) drug programme. The UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) commissioned the CND to serve as the central organ in implementing and supervising international drug treaties and conventions. As a governing body, the CND approves the budget of the Fund of the UN International Drug Control Programme, which is administered by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and finances measures to combat the world drug problem. Since its inception, the CND's mandate has expanded as the international community takes a more active approach to eradicate drugs, psychotropic substances or precursors.

By focusing on the mission of the CND and the SRMUN Charlotte 2021 theme of *Unity: Coming Together to Address a Changing World*, we have developed the following topics for the delegates to discuss come conference:

- I. Preventing Illicit Drug Usage by At-Risk Youths
- II. Combating the Proliferation of Chemically Enhanced Illicit Drugs

The background guide provides a strong introduction to the committee and the topics and should be utilized as a foundation for the delegate's independent research. However, the guide should only serve as a starting point for delegates, as it is a surface level analysis of each topic. Delegates are expected to go beyond the background guide and engage in deep research on the topics, as well as their Member States' position on said topics. The position papers for the committee should reflect the complexity of these issues as well as their implications on the international community as a whole. Delegations are expected to submit a position paper and be prepared for a vigorous discussion at the conference.

Position papers should be no longer than two pages in length (single spaced) and demonstrate your Member State's position, policies and recommendations on each of the two topics. For more detailed information about formatting and how to write position papers, delegates can visit [srmun.org](http://srmun.org). **All position papers MUST be submitted no later than Friday, March 7, 2021, by 11:59pm EST via the SRMUN website in order to be eligible for Outstanding Position Paper Awards.**

We are enthusiastic about SRMUN's first virtual CND, and we wish you all the best of luck in your conference preparation and look forward to working with you in the near future. Please feel free to contact Director-General Vanessa DuBoulay, Deputy Director-General Chantel Hover, or the committee email address if you have any questions while preparing for the conference.

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## History of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

On February 16, 1946, the United Nations' (UN) Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) established The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) through resolution 9(I).<sup>12</sup> Originally the committee was primarily focused on supervising the application of international conventions and agreements dealing with narcotic drugs, advising on all matters pertaining to the control of narcotic drugs, and proposing changes that could be made on the existing machinery for international control.<sup>3</sup> The first meeting took place on November 29, 1946, in Lake Success, New York, with only 15 Member States in attendance.<sup>4</sup> The Protocol on Narcotic Drugs, created at Lake Success, New York, was the first protocol created by the CND, which took past Agreements, Conventions and Protocols on narcotic drugs and amended them to the system of international control, which entered into force on December 11, 1946.<sup>5</sup>

The CND is responsible for the three main international drug control treaties: Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol (1961 Convention); the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (1971 Convention); and the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (1988 Convention).<sup>6</sup> The 1961 Convention discusses the distribution and manufacturing of drugs exclusively to medical and scientific purposes.<sup>7</sup> The 1971 Convention responds to the wide range of drug abuse and controls over a number of synthetic drugs according to their abuse potential.<sup>8</sup> The 1988 Convention takes comprehensive measures against drug trafficking.<sup>9</sup>

In recent decades, the CND has been taking on more responsibilities. In 1991, the UN General Assembly (GA) expanded the controls of CND by allowing it to become the governing body of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); it also allowed for the CND to approve the budget of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, this fund accounts for 90 percent of the resources the UN makes available for drug control.<sup>10</sup> The CND also had two important milestones in addressing the world drug problem, they are the Political Declarations adopted by the Members States of the UN in 1998 and in 2009. These declarations aim to better the cooperation of the international community in countering the world drug problem, which is a common and shared responsibility.<sup>11</sup>

The CND continues to act as the main commission on narcotic drugs for the UNODC. To help with cooperation in drug law enforcement, ECOSOC created subsidiary bodies within the CND called Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA).<sup>12</sup> There are four different regions that this subsidiary is located, they are:

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<sup>1</sup> "Commission on Narcotic Drugs," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/commissions/CND/> (accessed March 6, 2016)

<sup>2</sup> "Commission on Narcotic Drugs," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>3</sup> "ECOSOC Resolution 9(I)," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/ECOSOC\\_Res-9I\\_E.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/ECOSOC_Res-9I_E.pdf) (accessed March 6, 2016)

<sup>4</sup> "Twenty Years of Narcotics Control Under the United Nations," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, [https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/bulletin/bulletin\\_1966-01-01\\_1\\_page002.html](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/bulletin/bulletin_1966-01-01_1_page002.html) (accessed March 6, 2016)

<sup>5</sup> "Twenty Years of Narcotics Control Under the United Nations," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>6</sup> "Treaties" United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, <https://unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/index.tml?ref=menuaside> (accessed March 6, 2016)

<sup>7</sup> "Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961" United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/single-convention.html?ref=menuaside> (accessed March 6, 2016)

<sup>8</sup> "Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971" United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/psychotropics.html?ref=menuaside>

<sup>9</sup> "United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/illicit-trafficking.html?ref=menuaside> (accessed March 6, 2016)

<sup>10</sup> "United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>11</sup> "Political Declarations on the world drug problem", United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, [https://unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Political\\_Declarations/Political-Declarations\\_Index.html](https://unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Political_Declarations/Political-Declarations_Index.html) (accessed March 6, 2016)

<sup>12</sup> "Subsidiary Bodies," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

European, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asian and the Pacific, and Africa.<sup>13</sup> There is also a Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East composed of 23 Member States that was established by resolution 6 of the CND and by ECOSOC resolution 1776.<sup>14</sup>

The CND has actively focused on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which serves as the follow up to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The commission believes the success of achieving the 2030 Agenda's goals, also known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), require both broad and comprehensive perspectives to tackle the world drug problem.<sup>15</sup> According to the CND, Member States can achieve SDG3, which ensures healthy lives and the promotion of well-being regardless of age, by addressing the role of drug abuse in public health and safety.<sup>16</sup> The commission has also focused on SDG5, achieving gender equality, by ensuring the needs of vulnerable populations, particularly adolescents and women, are met.<sup>17</sup> The CND has organized events to further highlight and promote the 2030 Agenda in collaboration with the GA and other commissions.<sup>18</sup>

The ECOSOC increased the number of Member States in CND from 40 to 53 with specific distribution of seats across several regional groups.<sup>19</sup> The CND members includes 14 seats for the Western European and other States group, 11 seats for African Member States, 11 seats for Asian Member States, ten for Latin American and Caribbean States, six for Eastern European States, and one rotational seat between the Asian and the Latin American and Caribbean group every four years.<sup>20, 21, 22</sup> Membership into the commission is based on certain factors, as outlined in ECOSOC resolution 845 (XXXII), and 1147 (XLI), including:

*“(a) from among the States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and the Parties to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961,*

*(b) with due regard to the adequate representation of countries that are important producers of opium or coca leaves, of countries that are important in the field of the manufacture of narcotic drugs, and of countries in which drug addiction or the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs constitutes an important problem and,*

*(c) taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution.”<sup>23</sup>*

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[https://undoc.org/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary\\_Bodies/Subsidiary-Bodies\\_index.html](https://undoc.org/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary_Bodies/Subsidiary-Bodies_index.html) (accessed March 6, 2016)

<sup>13</sup> “Subsidiary Bodies,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>14</sup> “Subsidiary Bodies,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>15</sup> “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/SDG/commissions-2030.html> (accessed January 20, 2021).

<sup>16</sup> “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>17</sup> “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>18</sup> “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>19</sup> “Membership and Bureau,” United Nations on Drugs and Crime, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Membership/Membership.html> (accessed January 20, 2021).

<sup>20</sup> “Membership and Bureau,” United Nations on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>21</sup> “Members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs effective 1 January 2020,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Membership/MEMBERS\\_OF\\_THE\\_COMMISSION\\_ON\\_NARCOTIC\\_DRUGS\\_1\\_January\\_2020\\_2.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Membership/MEMBERS_OF_THE_COMMISSION_ON_NARCOTIC_DRUGS_1_January_2020_2.pdf) (accessed January 20, 2021).

<sup>22</sup> “Fact sheet on elections and membership,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND\\_CCPCJ\\_joint/Membership/Elections\\_and\\_Membership\\_Factsheet-status\\_January\\_2020.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND_CCPCJ_joint/Membership/Elections_and_Membership_Factsheet-status_January_2020.pdf) (accessed January 20, 2021).

<sup>23</sup> “Fact sheet on elections and membership,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

## I. Preventing Illicit Drug Usage by At-Risk Youths

### *Introduction*

Globally, some 269 million people used drugs in 2018, an increase of 30 percent from 2009, with young adults and adolescents representing the largest share of users.<sup>24</sup> Approximately 35.6 million people suffer from drug use disorders worldwide, and more frequently in developed Member States than in developing Member States.<sup>25</sup> According to the United Nations' Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the global effort to combat drug trafficking has improved with seizures of amphetamines quadrupling between 2009 and 2018.<sup>26</sup> Drug manufacturers and traffickers, however, have managed to create alternative methods to distribute drugs such as using chemicals to synthesize amphetamines, methamphetamines, and ecstasy.<sup>27</sup> Cocaine and heroin production remain at its highest levels.<sup>28</sup> Drug demand continues to pose challenges to law enforcement and national governments have dedicated to address these obstacles. Based on data, the assistance to address drug control has "actually fallen over time."<sup>29</sup>

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) recognizes the need to combat the spread of illicit use of drugs, and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have further disrupted drug activities.<sup>30</sup> According to the World Drug Report for 2020, the economic downturn and related lockdowns during the COVID-19 pandemic may lead to people in poor and disadvantaged areas to engage in harmful patterns of drug use and turn to illicit acts associated to drugs such as production or transport.<sup>31</sup> To help deliver improved public health results, UNODC Executive Director Ghada Waly noted there must be better cooperation with youth organizations and civil society with health-centered, rights-based, and gender-responsive approaches.<sup>32</sup>

### *History*

The United Nations (UN) has recognized the complicated times adolescents may experience as they transition into adulthood. Adolescence includes individuals experimenting with ideas and sometimes the choices may steer them towards the wrong direction.<sup>33</sup> One direction is the experimentation of drugs.<sup>34</sup> The excessive usage of drug substances may result in substance abuse and result in negative health effects.<sup>35</sup> According to the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs regarding youth, drug abuse might be used as a "strategy" to cope with an individual's issues such as neglect, sexual abuse, and psychological or socioeconomic problems.<sup>36, 37</sup> The UN, acknowledging

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<sup>24</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Booklet 4: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. 2020. [https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20\\_BOOKLET\\_4.pdf](https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20_BOOKLET_4.pdf)

<sup>25</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Booklet 4: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>26</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Booklet 4: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>27</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Booklet 4: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>28</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Booklet 4: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>29</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Booklet 4: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>30</sup> *The International Drug Control Conventions*, The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2013, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Int\\_Drug\\_Control\\_Conventions/Ebook/The\\_International\\_Drug\\_Control\\_Conventions\\_E.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Int_Drug_Control_Conventions/Ebook/The_International_Drug_Control_Conventions_E.pdf)

<sup>31</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Booklet 4: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. 2020. [https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20\\_BOOKLET\\_4.pdf](https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20_BOOKLET_4.pdf)

<sup>32</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Booklet 4: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>33</sup> "Substance abuse," United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, <https://www.un.org/development/desa/youth/world-programme-of-action-for-youth/substance-abuse.html>

<sup>34</sup> "Substance abuse," United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

<sup>35</sup> "Substance abuse," United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

<sup>36</sup> "Substance abuse," United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

<sup>37</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

that youths are a vulnerable population, has called for the international community to address drug abuse among at-risk youths.<sup>38</sup>

In 1999, the UN Economic and Social Council's (ECOSOC) E/CN.7/1999/8 noted there has been "considerable" drug abuse among youths particularly in the industrialized world.<sup>39</sup> The resolution, during the 42nd-session of the CND, highlighted that a significant portion of the global youth population engaged themselves into drug use as a result of "being exposed to a culture that appears to be more tolerant towards the use of drugs."<sup>40</sup> Before the turn to the 21st century, the CND described the use of cannabis was on the increase in "many regions," while western European Member States battled with the abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and ecstasy, and the expansion of heroin injection in eastern Europe.<sup>41</sup> The United States of America (US) and western Europe also had heroin issues but by smoking. The US youth population was also reported to encounter cocaine use.<sup>42</sup>

According to the CND, the surveying of youths and drug abuse can be complicated. While surveys may be valuable to identify youths' attitudes and trends, the youths might be hesitant to admit to drug use due to the presence of their families.<sup>43</sup> The CND did identify that drugs can be appealing to young people as they search for their own identity and struggle for independence.<sup>44</sup> E/CN.7/1999/8 stated, "Because of their innate curiosity and thirst for new experiences, peer pressures, their resistance to authority, sometimes low self-esteem and problems in establishing positive interpersonal relationships, young people are particularly susceptible to the allure of drugs."<sup>45</sup>

In 1995, the UN General Assembly (GA) committed to A/RES/50/81, known as The World Programme of Action for Youth on Drug Abuse (WPAY).<sup>46</sup> The GA expressed major concern about the vulnerability of young people to drug abuse and the consequences of its widespread use and trafficking. While youths are already considered as a "vulnerable" population, the problems and concerns worsen within specific groups, namely street children, working children, refugee and displaced children, sexually exploited children, child soldiers, and youths in institutional care.<sup>47</sup> For the aforementioned groups, the CND stated drug use might serve for "functional reasons," which range from staying awake for work, trying to sleep, reducing physical and emotional pain, and alleviating hunger.<sup>48</sup> Based on survey data, the CND stated that the earlier use of illicit drugs, of any kind, begins, then the odds increases that the individual will accept other drug types at a more frequent rate.<sup>49</sup> As a result, the risk of more severe and long-term consequences for education, health, and emotional maturity may be expected.<sup>50</sup>

The international community had placed emphasis to reduce supply and demand of illegal drugs by implementing drug abuse prevention initiatives and treatment programs based on cultural and social context.<sup>51</sup> The UN's WPAY proposed the youth require the development of skills that may lead to employment and other recreational activities.<sup>52</sup> In order to further achieve this, youth organizations need to play a key role to designing and facilitating education programs, plus individual counseling to boost young people's integration into society.<sup>53</sup> WPAY's plan of action also

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[https://www.unodc.org/pdf/document\\_1999-01-11\\_2.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/pdf/document_1999-01-11_2.pdf)

<sup>38</sup> "Substance abuse," United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs,

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/youth/world-programme-of-action-for-youth/substance-abuse.html>

<sup>39</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

[https://www.unodc.org/pdf/document\\_1999-01-11\\_2.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/pdf/document_1999-01-11_2.pdf)

<sup>40</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

<sup>41</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

<sup>42</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

<sup>43</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

<sup>44</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

<sup>45</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

<sup>46</sup> "Substance abuse WPAY," United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs,

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/youth/substance-abuse-wpay.html>

<sup>47</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

[https://www.unodc.org/pdf/document\\_1999-01-11\\_2.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/pdf/document_1999-01-11_2.pdf)

<sup>48</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

<sup>49</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

<sup>50</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Youth and drugs: a global overview*, E/CN.7/1999/8. January 11, 1999.

<sup>51</sup> "Substance abuse WPAY," United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs,

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/youth/substance-abuse-wpay.html>

<sup>52</sup> "Substance abuse WPAY," United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

<sup>53</sup> "Substance abuse WPAY," United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

called for national governments, relevant UN agencies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to cooperate in the efforts to combat illicit drugs, tobacco, and alcohol.<sup>54</sup> As the world entered the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the UN still found themselves tackling the issue of drug abuse among youths.

### ***Current Situation***

Over the last two decades, the global drug market expanded partly as a result of the worldwide population growth.<sup>55</sup> Population growth has been reported as "uneven," according to the UNODC World Drug Report of 2020, but the greatest growth occurred among the developing Member States.<sup>56</sup> Between 2008 and 2018, the population rate grew 28 percent across developing Member States; however, the figure was only seven percent for developed Member States.<sup>57</sup> Among adolescents and young adults in most Member States, drug use was highly prevalent particularly with the 18-25 age group.<sup>58</sup> Since 2000 until 2018, the 18-25 age group population was more common to live in developing Member States.<sup>59</sup> While the 18-25 age group increased by 18 percent between 2000 and 2018, the same age group decreased by ten percent among developed Member States during the same timeframe.<sup>60</sup>

During the last decade, the Americas maintained consistency as the region with the highest annual prevalence of cannabis use, including youths as young as 15 years old.<sup>61</sup> In the US, cannabis use has increased since 2007, especially with the young adults ages 18-25, but also older adults ages 26 and older.<sup>62</sup> Cannabis use doubled between 2009 and 2018, with consumption at a daily or nearly-daily rate.<sup>63</sup> In 2018, according to the World Drug Report of 2020, 11.6 million people in the US, ages 18 and older, were recorded as daily or nearly-daily cannabis users.<sup>64</sup> In comparison to western and central Europe's cannabis use rate, approximately one percent of the adult population was estimated as daily or nearly-daily cannabis users, while it's 4.7 percent in the US.<sup>65</sup>

Although cannabis use increased in the US, the rate has been stable in western and central Europe during the last decade.<sup>66</sup> In South America, the use of cannabis has also seen an increase, notably in Uruguay where 12.1 percent of men and 5.8 percent of women reported they used the drug during their last 30 days and the data includes youth as young as 15 years old. The largest population of Uruguayans using cannabis was among the youth ages 19-15, followed by the 26-35 age brackets.

Opioids have also been a concern in North America. In the US during 2018, 10.3 million people, or 3.7 percent of the population ages 12 and older, had already used opioids.<sup>67</sup> Overdose deaths reached its peak in 2017 at 70,237 deaths, and 47,600 were attributed to opioids.<sup>68</sup> A slight decline occurred in 2018, where 46,802 overdose deaths were attributed to opioids.<sup>69</sup> For neighboring Canada, opioid overdoses also increased, notably by 50 percent from 2016 to 2018. For Canadians, the majority of overdoses involved fentanyl.<sup>70</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> "Substance abuse WPAY," United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

<sup>55</sup> *Executive Summary: Impact of Covid-19: Policy Implications*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, June 2020, [https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20\\_BOOKLET\\_1.pdf](https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20_BOOKLET_1.pdf)

<sup>56</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Supply*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, June 2020, [https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20\\_Booklet\\_3.pdf](https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20_Booklet_3.pdf)

<sup>57</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Supply*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>58</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Supply*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>59</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Supply*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>60</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Supply*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>61</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, June 2020, [https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20\\_Booklet\\_2.pdf](https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20_Booklet_2.pdf)

<sup>62</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>63</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>64</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>65</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>66</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>67</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>68</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>69</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>70</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

## *Actions Taken by the United Nations*

According to the UN Youth Strategy in 2018, the world today includes the largest generation of youth in history with 1.8 billion inhabitants.<sup>71</sup> The UN recognizes the youth as a major source for development efforts and that is why the UN seeks their involvements in the organization's global development processes.<sup>72</sup> When it comes to drug use prevention, the UN has continued to seek the involvement of youths. Running alongside the CND, the UNODC, which is governed by commission, launched the annual Youth Forum to unite young people to exchange ideas and different perspectives on how to improve and protect their peers and convey their message to policymakers.<sup>73</sup>

Ahead of the CND's 63rd session, the UNODC published a handbook on youth participation in drug prevention work with the intention of offer examples, encouragement, and advice to increase young people's participation in drug abuse prevention.<sup>74</sup> The handbook was created following input from the 2018 and 2019 Youth Forums.<sup>75</sup> The hope of the handbook has been to "unravel the misconception" that the youth population has limited capabilities and resources to contribute to drug use prevention. Furthermore, young people shouldn't feel hesitant to take part of the solution.<sup>76</sup>

In response to the CND's resolution 58/2, Member States were mandated to consider the implementation of evidence-based treatment and recovery programs for children and young people, which may include the inclusion of family.<sup>77</sup> After a pilot program in three Asian regions, which tailored to satisfy the culture and needs of the participating Member States, the Treatnet Family program launched.<sup>78</sup> The "Treatnet Family" is a capacity-building program for the treatment of adolescents with drug abuse disorders and may be at risk with the criminal justice system.<sup>79</sup> First taking place in Indonesia, initial results have been viewed as "encouraging."<sup>80</sup> According to E/CN.7/2020/4, that further detailed the program, Treatnet Family has the potential in developing new skills for criminal justice, health, and social workers.<sup>81</sup> The program can be implemented in outpatient and inpatient settings and social service settings.<sup>82</sup>

For the 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the CND in March 2020, E/CN.7/2020/2 mentioned the additional recent progress made towards the prevention of drug use and its role in youth violence and child maltreatment.<sup>83</sup> According to the UNODC, two new prevention programs were created, as a pilot, titled "Strong Families" for families in "difficult" situations and "Families United," for "all" families.<sup>84</sup> The aforementioned programs were part of the implementation of evidence-based programs for families in 14 Member States and for schools in five Member States.<sup>85</sup> The programs reached a total of 31,675 people.<sup>86</sup> The UNODC's Youth Initiative brought more than 6,000 youths from

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<sup>71</sup> Economic and Social Council, *UNODC Handbook on Youth Participation in Drug Prevention Work*, E/CN.7/2020/CRP.12, February 12, 2020, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND\\_Sessions/CND\\_63/CRPs/ECN72020\\_CRP12\\_e\\_V200148\\_9.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND_Sessions/CND_63/CRPs/ECN72020_CRP12_e_V200148_9.pdf)

<sup>72</sup> Economic and Social Council, *UNODC Handbook on Youth Participation in Drug Prevention Work*, E/CN.7/2020/CRP.12.

<sup>73</sup> Economic and Social Council, *UNODC Handbook on Youth Participation in Drug Prevention Work*, E/CN.7/2020/CRP.12.

<sup>74</sup> Economic and Social Council, *UNODC Handbook on Youth Participation in Drug Prevention Work*, E/CN.7/2020/CRP.12.

<sup>75</sup> Economic and Social Council, *UNODC Handbook on Youth Participation in Drug Prevention Work*, E/CN.7/2020/CRP.12.

<sup>76</sup> Economic and Social Council, *UNODC Handbook on Youth Participation in Drug Prevention Work*, E/CN.7/2020/CRP.12.

<sup>77</sup> Economic and Social Council, *World situation with regard to drug abuse*, E/CN.7/2020/4, <https://undocs.org/E/CN.7/2020/4>

<sup>78</sup> Economic and Social Council, *World situation with regard to drug abuse*, E/CN.7/2020/4.

<sup>79</sup> Economic and Social Council, *World situation with regard to drug abuse*, E/CN.7/2020/4.

<sup>80</sup> Economic and Social Council, *World situation with regard to drug abuse*, E/CN.7/2020/4.

<sup>81</sup> Economic and Social Council, *World situation with regard to drug abuse*, E/CN.7/2020/4.

<sup>82</sup> Economic and Social Council, *World situation with regard to drug abuse*, E/CN.7/2020/4.

<sup>83</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Report of the Executive Director*, E/CN.7/2020/2, January 6, 2020, <https://undocs.org/E/CN.7/2020/2>

<sup>84</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Report of the Executive Director*, E/CN.7/2020/2.

<sup>85</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Report of the Executive Director*, E/CN.7/2020/2.

<sup>86</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Report of the Executive Director*, E/CN.7/2020/2.

43 Member States to engage in one of two forums.<sup>87</sup> The first was a youth forum alongside the CND and the other was online and community-based activities forum.<sup>88</sup>

In E/CN.7/2020/2, the UNODC noted it collaborated with 11 Member States in using sports as a method to bolster youth resilience and prevent crime.<sup>89</sup> The sports program served as a crime prevention and criminal justice tool as it addressed risks related violent extremism. The organization also performed modules on crime prevention and criminal justice into the French language for seven universities as part of the UNODC Education for Justice Initiative.<sup>90</sup> The modules were also adapted for Latin America for postgraduate students in numerous educational institutions.<sup>91</sup>

## **Conclusion**

Overall, the drug abuse prevention and treatment have continued to fall short in many areas of the world. According to the UN, one in seven people with drug abuse disorders receive treatment each year. Adolescents and early adulthood can be a time of increased vulnerability to the initiation of drug use.<sup>92</sup> People as young as 12 years old can be at critical risk of engaging with substance abuse.<sup>93</sup> In the 15-64 age groups, it is the 18-24 age demographic where drug use levels are at its peak.<sup>94</sup> Globally, in 2018, the UNODC reported 13 million people used drugs within only the 15-16 year old group.<sup>95</sup> In the same aforementioned age group, 11.6 million individuals disclosed to using cannabis.<sup>96</sup>

The UN, in reports and resolution in and outside the CND, has consistently made it a priority to combat the use of illicit drug abuse among young populations. To tackle the issue, it does need to involve the peers of the youths.<sup>97</sup> The CND recognizes that effective substance abuse prevention has to include youth participation and will result in positive results for all involved.<sup>98</sup> The UNODC, governed by the CND, concluded that youths must be considered and heard when drafting policies on health and their age groups.<sup>99</sup> Based on feedback with consultation from youths nominated by CND Member States, programs must be tailored to the different customs of all Member States, with particular consideration of diversity, culture, and religion, to ensure transparent and honest outcomes for all involved parties.<sup>100</sup>

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<sup>87</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Report of the Executive Director*, E/CN.7/2020/2.

<sup>88</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Report of the Executive Director*, E/CN.7/2020/2.

<sup>89</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Report of the Executive Director*, E/CN.7/2020/2.

<sup>90</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Report of the Executive Director*, E/CN.7/2020/2.

<sup>91</sup> Economic and Social Council, *Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Report of the Executive Director*, E/CN.7/2020/2.

<sup>92</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, June 2020, [https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20\\_Booklet\\_2.pdf](https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20_Booklet_2.pdf)

<sup>93</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>94</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>95</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>96</sup> *World Drug Report 2020: Drug Use and Health Consequences*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>97</sup> Economic and Social Council, *UNODC Handbook on Youth Participation in Drug Prevention Work*, E/CN.7/2020/CRP.12, February 12, 2020, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND\\_Sessions/CND\\_63/CRPs/ECN72020\\_CRP12\\_e\\_V200148\\_9.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND_Sessions/CND_63/CRPs/ECN72020_CRP12_e_V200148_9.pdf)

<sup>98</sup> Economic and Social Council, *UNODC Handbook on Youth Participation in Drug Prevention Work*, E/CN.7/2020/CRP.12.

<sup>99</sup> Economic and Social Council, *UNODC Handbook on Youth Participation in Drug Prevention Work*, E/CN.7/2020/CRP.12.

<sup>100</sup> Economic and Social Council, *UNODC Handbook on Youth Participation in Drug Prevention Work*, E/CN.7/2020/CRP.12.

### ***Committee Directive***

The CND, along with other UN agencies, have taken numerous approaches to understand and tackle youths' use of illicit drugs. For several decades, the UN made efforts connect with youths to address and empower them from substance abuse. In preparation for the CND at SRMUN Charlotte 2021, delegates must become familiar with the drug statistics of their respective Member States, namely among adolescence and young adult age groups. What types of the drugs have been prevalent in your Member State and region? Delegates should research the campaigns and programs their respective Member State established to tackle this issue within national, regional, and international levels. Were there bilateral or multilateral initiatives and programs made with other Member States or NGOs? If so, what progress was made? Were there setbacks? Was there room for improvements? If so, what were the areas that other Member States or organizations to learn and try to implement to address the issue of substance abuse among youths? How recommendations might your Member State suggest for the CND?

## II. Combating the Proliferation of Chemically Enhanced Illicit Drugs

### *Introduction*

The initiative to curb the trade and use of chemically enhanced illicit drugs has been a concern from the United Nations (UN) for decades but the methods of illegally obtaining these substances continue to evolve.<sup>101</sup> According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the trafficking of chemicals required for the manufacture of drugs such as cocaine, heroin, and stimulants including amphetamine, methamphetamine, and ecstasy, can be complex yet possessing the chemicals often stem from legal means.<sup>102</sup> Chemicals that are used in the illegal manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychoactive substances are referred to as one of three names: precursor chemicals, scheduled substances, and drug precursors.<sup>103</sup> These types of substances do have legitimate and legal uses in the commercial industry such as consumer products, flavorings, fragrances, and medicines.<sup>104</sup>

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), along with its subsidiary bodies, have taken multiple approaches on the evolving illicit cultivation and production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The CND remains committed to bolster its work with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) to monitor and make informed decisions regarding harmful substances such as synthetic drugs, psychoactive substances, chemicals, and solvents as traffickers seek new ways to divert from law enforcement and trade controls.<sup>105</sup> In addition, the safe disposal of the chemically enhanced illicit drugs is an issue for Member States to address.

### *History*

In early 1971, UN Member States recognized the use of psychotropic drugs, which is a chemical substance that can alter perception and behavioral moods, have legitimate benefits in the medical and scientific communities.<sup>106</sup> During the UN Conference for the Adoption of a Protocol on Psychotropic Substances in Vienna, Member States acknowledged the need to prevent and combat the abuse of the chemical substances and its illicit trafficking.<sup>107</sup> By the end of February 1971, the Member States approved the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and it established an international control system for chemical substances in response to the increasing abuse of drugs and synthetic substances.<sup>108</sup> Under the guidance of the 1971 convention and the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, the CND can add or remove drugs from international control or revise the schedule(s) which the substances are listed.<sup>109</sup> In the 1988 Illicit Trafficking Convention, the CND “can bring under international control chemicals frequently used in the manufacture of illicit drugs.”<sup>110</sup>

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<sup>101</sup> "Initiative to curb trade in chemicals for illicit drugs," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, September 4, 2009, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2009/September/initiative-to-curb-trade-in-chemicals-for-making-illicit-drugs.html>

<sup>102</sup> "Initiative to curb trade in chemicals for illicit drugs," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>103</sup> "Precursor Chemicals," HPRAs, [www.hpra.ie/homepage/controlled-substances/precursor-chemicals](http://www.hpra.ie/homepage/controlled-substances/precursor-chemicals)

<sup>104</sup> "Precursor Chemicals," HPRAs.

<sup>105</sup> "Initiative to curb trade in chemicals for illicit drugs," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, September 4, 2009, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2009/September/initiative-to-curb-trade-in-chemicals-for-making-illicit-drugs.html>

<sup>106</sup> "United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Protocol on Psychotropic Substances 11 January-21 February 1971, Vienna," United Nations, <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/drug/vienna1971>

<sup>107</sup> *Convention on Psychotropic Substances*, United Nations, February 21, 1971, [https://treaties.un.org/doc/Treaties/1976/08/19760816%2008-16%20AM/Ch\\_VI\\_16p.pdf](https://treaties.un.org/doc/Treaties/1976/08/19760816%2008-16%20AM/Ch_VI_16p.pdf)

<sup>108</sup> "United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Protocol on Psychotropic Substances 11 January-21 February 1971, Vienna," United Nations, <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/drug/vienna1971>

<sup>109</sup> *The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND): A Briefing on the sixty-first session (12-16 March 2018) for NGOs and CSOs*, Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs, <http://vngoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Guide-to-CND-2018.pdf>

<sup>110</sup> *The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND): A Briefing on the sixty-first session (12-16 March 2018) for NGOs and CSOs*, Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs.

The 1961, 1971, and 1988 conventions include classifications to control and limit the use of the psychoactive substances, protect the public, and reduce the diversion of the chemicals to illegal drug producers.<sup>111</sup> The three conventions would cover drugs with cannabis-, cocaine-, and opium-like effects, plus amphetamine-type stimulants (ecstasy), barbiturates, benzodiazepines, hallucinogenics, and more.<sup>112</sup>

### ***Current Situation***

The World Drug Report 2020 revealed nearly 269 million people used drugs in 2018, which represents an increase of 30 percent from 2009.<sup>113</sup> While the rate of people using drugs increased, the seizure of amphetamines quadrupled from 2009 to 2018, but this has led to traffickers to improvise and use “designer” chemicals aimed to further evade law enforcement.<sup>114</sup> The designer chemicals are used to synthesize substances such as amphetamine, methamphetamine (meth), and ecstasy.<sup>115</sup>

According to the UNODC, recent synthetic drug seizures have shown the “intensified scale of [precursor chemicals] trafficking.”<sup>116</sup> UNODC Drug Programme Analyst Inshink Sim noted that organize crime groups are continuously seeking and finding innovate approaches to evade law enforcement detection of precursor chemicals.<sup>117</sup> Sim added that one major key to the issue is intelligence sharing.<sup>118</sup> With enhanced information, form multiple national governments’ involvement, law enforcement can improve operational responses to traffickers’ plans.

In one example of exchanging information, in February 2020, the UNODC gathered intelligence specialists from Australia, Canada, the US, and from East, South, and Southeast Asia, regarding recent chemical trafficking cases with the intention to develop an action plan for the region.<sup>119</sup> A significant setback for the Asia Pacific region has been the limited intelligence exchanges.<sup>120</sup> With limited to no intelligence sharing, investigations into the sources of seized chemicals are unsuccessful and often only small amounts of precursor seizures occur.<sup>121</sup> UNODC Precursor Programme Coordinator Reiner Pungs stated, “There is a lot of room for improvement in intelligence sharing to address trafficking in precursor chemicals as well as laboratory equipment and tools required for the manufacture of illicit drugs - these things have been seriously overlooked in the region and we are pleased to help address this challenge.”<sup>122</sup>

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<sup>111</sup> “WHO work on controlled substances,” The World Health Organization, <https://www.who.int/medicines/access/controlled-substances/ecdd/work-on-ecdd/en/>

<sup>112</sup> “WHO work on controlled substances,” The World Health Organization.

<sup>113</sup> *The World Drug Report: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, June 2020, [https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20\\_BOOKLET\\_4.pdf](https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/field/WDR20_BOOKLET_4.pdf)

<sup>114</sup> *The World Drug Report: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>115</sup> *The World Drug Report: Cross-Cutting Issues: Evolving Trends and New Challenges*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>116</sup> “UNODC partners with governments to disrupt precursor chemical trafficking in the Asia Pacific region,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, February 20, 2020, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2020/February/unodc-to-assist-in-disrupting-precursor-chemical-trafficking-in-the-asia-pacific-region.html>

<sup>117</sup> “UNODC partners with governments to disrupt precursor chemical trafficking in the Asia Pacific region,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>118</sup> “UNODC partners with governments to disrupt precursor chemical trafficking in the Asia Pacific region,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>119</sup> “UNODC partners with governments to disrupt precursor chemical trafficking in the Asia Pacific region,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>120</sup> “UNODC partners with governments to disrupt precursor chemical trafficking in the Asia Pacific region,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>121</sup> “UNODC partners with governments to disrupt precursor chemical trafficking in the Asia Pacific region,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>122</sup> “UNODC partners with governments to disrupt precursor chemical trafficking in the Asia Pacific region,” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

With regions such as the Asia Pacific encountering a "steep" increase of manufactured synthetic drugs, particularly methamphetamines in Myanmar, the UNDOC identified the following to help address transnational drug and chemical trafficking:

- “1. *Strengthening systems in order to better gather information and develop intelligence;*
2. *Enhancing knowledge and skills to investigation, case preparation and prosecution;*
3. *Improving interdiction capacity through training programmes;*
4. *Enhancing capabilities to identify, profile and share information; and,*
5. *Strengthening networks for cross-border cooperation.*”<sup>123</sup>

Combatting the proliferation of chemically enhanced illicit drugs require the careful handling of its disposal. Due to the fact that chemicals can be found in difficult conditions or lack of adequate resources within a Member State, it is possible the best solution to dispose the chemically enhanced illicit drugs would affect environmental surroundings.<sup>124</sup> According to the UNODC, the most environmentally safe methods to dispose chemically induced illicit drugs include recycling or reuse of the chemicals to recognized institutions, fuel blending, and disposal in neutralized sewers.<sup>125</sup>

### ***Actions Taken by the United Nations***

The CND has called for the strengthening of the international cooperation to combat the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.<sup>126</sup> The CND’s Resolution 53/15 highlighted UN General Assembly's (GA) A/RES/59/162, which called for the improvements of controls against precursor chemicals and its trafficking.<sup>127, 128</sup> A/RES/59/162 recommended Member States to develop or adopt their respective national regulatory and operational procedures to counter the diversion of chemical substances into illicit drug production.<sup>129</sup> The GA resolution also echoed the importance of "real-time" information and intelligence exchange relating to the suspected diversion and sources of precursor chemicals.<sup>130</sup> CND’s Resolution 53/15

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<sup>123</sup> "Overview: Drugs and Precursors," United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, <https://www.unodc.org/southeastasiaandpacific/en/what-we-do/toc/drugs-overview.html>

<sup>124</sup> *Guidelines for the Safe handling and disposal of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2011, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/southeastasiaandpacific/Publications/2011/Disp.Manual\\_English.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/southeastasiaandpacific/Publications/2011/Disp.Manual_English.pdf)

<sup>125</sup> *Guidelines for the Safe handling and disposal of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>126</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs, *Strengthening international cooperation and regulatory and institutional frameworks for the control of substances frequently used in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances*, Resolution 53/15, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Drug\\_Resolutions/2010-2019/2010/CND\\_Res-53-15.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Drug_Resolutions/2010-2019/2010/CND_Res-53-15.pdf)

<sup>127</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs, *Strengthening international cooperation and regulatory and institutional frameworks for the control of substances frequently used in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances*, Resolution 53/15.

<sup>128</sup> United Nations General Assembly, *Follow-up on strengthening the systems of control over chemical precursors and preventing their diversion and trafficking*, A/RES/59/162, <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N04/485/98/PDF/N0448598.pdf?OpenElement>

<sup>129</sup> United Nations General Assembly, *Follow-up on strengthening the systems of control over chemical precursors and preventing their diversion and trafficking*, A/RES/59/162.

<sup>130</sup> United Nations General Assembly, *Follow-up on strengthening the systems of control over chemical precursors and preventing their diversion and trafficking*, A/RES/59/162.

encouraged national legislation that would establish mechanisms to identify transactions of suspected chemicals containing substances often found in narcotic and psychotropic drugs.<sup>131</sup> If Member States were to identify such transactions, the resolution recommended the information be reported to competent authorities, where information will be appropriately stored.<sup>132</sup>

The CND's Resolution 62/1 called for the UNODC, which is governed by the commission, to assist Member States in their commitments to control chemically enhanced illicit drugs.<sup>133</sup> Furthermore, Resolution 62/1 encouraged Member States to build or strengthen “partnerships with business-to-business and business-to-customer web-based platforms in order to prevent those platforms from being used for trafficking in precursors for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.”<sup>134</sup> Member States were also invited to create codes of conduct in an effort to promote “responsible commercial practices” that should prevent the diversion of chemicals to illicit drug producers.<sup>135</sup>

## **Conclusion**

The international community’s efforts to combating chemically enhanced illicit drugs has been complicated. For many manufacturers of illicit drugs, obtaining the chemical substances have come from manufacturers who are using the substances legally for legitimate means. Some of the common ways to divert chemical substances can be as simple as buying the items at over-the-counter pharmacies or theft from commercial stores.<sup>136</sup> As a result of both common and uncommon approaches to diverting legitimate chemicals, it has been recommended that prevention has to include multiple layers of coordination including law enforcement, farmers, retailers, and even individuals who sell such products.<sup>137</sup>

The CND, along with other UN agencies, have researched, discussed, and reported several concepts for Member States to consider and implement, ranging from ideas within their borders and beyond. The CND has consistently called upon Member States to share information and intelligence with other Member States.<sup>138</sup> The sharing of information is also vital in identifying not only new approaches by traffickers but in detecting new substances on illicit markets.<sup>139</sup> It does appear, in recent years, that the level of interaction between

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<sup>131</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs, *Strengthening international cooperation and regulatory and institutional frameworks for the control of substances frequently used in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances*, Resolution 53/15, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Drug\\_Resolutions/2010-2019/2010/CND\\_Res-53-15.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Drug_Resolutions/2010-2019/2010/CND_Res-53-15.pdf)

<sup>132</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs, *Strengthening international cooperation and regulatory and institutional frameworks for the control of substances frequently used in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances*, Resolution 53/15.

<sup>133</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs, *Strengthening international cooperation and comprehensive regulatory and institutional frameworks for the control of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances*, Resolution 62/1, [https://www.incb.org/documents/PRECURSORS/Resolutions-Precursors/CND\\_resolution\\_62\\_1\\_2019.pdf](https://www.incb.org/documents/PRECURSORS/Resolutions-Precursors/CND_resolution_62_1_2019.pdf)

<sup>134</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs, *Strengthening international cooperation and comprehensive regulatory and institutional frameworks for the control of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances*, Resolution 62/1.

<sup>135</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs, *Strengthening international cooperation and comprehensive regulatory and institutional frameworks for the control of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances*, Resolution 62/1.

<sup>136</sup> "Controlling Precursor Chemicals," The White House, <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/ondcp/precursor-chemicals>

<sup>137</sup> "Controlling Precursor Chemicals," The White House.

<sup>138</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs, *Promoting efforts by Member States to address and counter the world drug problem, in particular supply reduction-related measures, through effective partnerships with private sector entities*, Resolution 63/1, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Drug\\_Resolutions/2020-2029/2020/Resolution\\_63\\_1.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Drug_Resolutions/2020-2029/2020/Resolution_63_1.pdf)

<sup>139</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs, *Promoting efforts by Member States to address and counter the world drug problem, in particular supply reduction-related measures, through effective partnerships with private sector entities*, Resolution 63/1.

Member States and the private sector in identifying and exchanging information about illicit drug trafficking financial flows have improved but there is room to enhance those interactions.<sup>140</sup>

### ***Committee Directive***

Tackling the issue of chemically enhanced illicit drugs requires several approaches. In preparation for the CND at SRMUN Charlotte 2021, delegates should become familiar with the common types of chemical substances that have unfortunately become too frequent and abused within their Member State. Delegates should identify how the chemical substances have been diverted from its legitimate use. What programs has your Member State launched in terms of information sharing and partnering with commercial businesses? Were the illicit drugs trafficked from other Member States? If so, which Member States and have there been initiatives and partnerships to combat the issue? Were there bilateral or multilateral initiatives and programs made with other Member States or NGOs? If so, what progress or setbacks occurred?

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<sup>140</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs, *Promoting efforts by Member States to address and counter the world drug problem, in particular supply reduction-related measures, through effective partnerships with private sector entities*, Resolution 63/1.

## **Annotated Bibliography**

### **I. Preventing Illicit Drug Usage by At-Risk Youth**

*Technical Brief: HIV and Young People Who Inject Drugs*, World Health Organization, WHO/HIV/2015.10, 2015, [https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/WHO\\_HIV\\_2015.10\\_eng.pdf](https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/WHO_HIV_2015.10_eng.pdf)

The World Health Organization (WHO) published this technical brief alongside the Interagency Working Group on Key Populations, which is comprised of various different organizations such as but not limited to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Refugee Agency, United Nations Populations Fund (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund, and more. The brief was created as one in a series used to address four young key populations and is aimed to create and inform discussions about how best to provide health care services and support for the youth who inject drugs. This brief highlights the implications in relation to HIV.

*International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, Second Updated Edition*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization, 2018, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/prevention/standards\\_180412.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/prevention/standards_180412.pdf)

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the WHO summarized the global levels of drug usage and prevention and was used to identify effective strategies. As well, the publication highlights how these protocols ensure that the children and youth along with the marginalized and poor are able to grow and stay healthy and safe into adulthood and old age. This is a great publication for delegates to use as it summarizes current available scientific evidence as well as describes interventions and policies that been found to be useful in improving drug use prevention outcomes.

*Drugs and Age: Drugs and Associated Issues Among Young People and Older People, World Drug Report*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2018 [https://www.unodc.org/wdr2018/prelaunch/WDR18\\_Booklet\\_4\\_YOUTH.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/wdr2018/prelaunch/WDR18_Booklet_4_YOUTH.pdf)

The UNODC regularly publishes a World Drug Report and the 2018 edition is highlighted as it showcases gender as well as age-sensitive drug policies and explores the particular needs and challenges of women and the youth. The report provides various examples about trends in age demographics, the extent of drug use being higher for youth, patterns and pathways of substance abuse as well as supply chains.

## II. Combating the Proliferation of Chemically Enhanced Illicit Drugs

*Economic and Social Consequences of Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 1998

[https://www.unodc.org/pdf/technical\\_series\\_1998-01-01\\_1.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/pdf/technical_series_1998-01-01_1.pdf)

The UNODC explained in detail about the illicit drug problem as a whole and specifically targets those drugs that are natural plant products as well as synthetically produced illicit drugs. This is a different approach to the topic as it highlights the effects that drug abuse and trafficking have on the economy and social aspects which when first considering the topic would not be the first thought to come to mind. The report is good for delegates to gain a better understanding outside of the background guide and can assist with finding a solution that can be beneficial at conference that may have a different approach to the topic as to how to combat the proliferation.

*Illicit Drugs: Social Impacts and Policy Responses*, UNRISD Briefing Paper No. 2, World Summit for Social Development, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, November 1994

[https://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/\(httpAuxPages\)/4C3D0BE90FAD550480256B6400419B57/\\$file/bp2.pdf](https://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/(httpAuxPages)/4C3D0BE90FAD550480256B6400419B57/$file/bp2.pdf)

The briefing paper listed here examines as well “the social consequences of illicit drug production, trafficking and consumption, as well as the factors contributing to the global drug problem.” This paper as well reviews the potential and limitations of differed possible policy responses. The paper begins with identifying the problem itself of illicit drug consumption, production, etc. and then provides policy options including decriminalization. Although dating back in 1994, the briefing can still be used by delegates to understand the problem and can help them as well review what may have been used between then and now to help create a plan of action to use at conference.

*Addressing the Development Dimensions of Drug Policy*, United Nations Development Programme, June 2015

<https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/hiv-aids/addressing-the-development-dimensions-of-drug-policy.html>

The UNDP report showcased “the relationship between drug control policy and human development.” It illustrated that the correlation between the aforementioned is complex and multifaceted in that they both share the common objective to reduce drug-related harms. This is as well another great read for delegates to understand the global response to illicit drugs and can assist greatly with finding a solution as we see that illicit drugs have a harmful collateral consequence not only on an individual’s health but further impacts as well individual Member States as well as regional bodies and the international community.