

ECOSOC Resolution 2003/34

International assistance to the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2002/21 of 24 July 2002 and the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together,¹ the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction² and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,³

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/16 of 24 July 2001 on international assistance to the States most affected by transit of drugs,

Taking note of the second biennial report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,⁴ his report on international assistance to the States most affected by the transit of drugs⁵ and other relevant reports submitted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-sixth session,

Bearing in mind the principle of shared responsibility and the need for all States to promote and implement the actions necessary to counter the world drug problem and crimes related to that problem,

Acknowledging efforts by national authorities and the international community, including the United Nations International Drug Control Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to reduce the demand for, and to combat international trafficking in, illicit drugs,

Noting the fact that the transit States continue to face grave and multifaceted challenges, owing to both the problems related to illicit drug trafficking and supply and the rising levels of drug abuse resulting from the transiting of illicit drugs through their territories,

Bearing in mind the need to strengthen law enforcement capacities at all levels and the importance of inter-agency coordination to the achievement of effective drug control strategies addressing all aspects of the world drug problem,

Recognizing the need to provide, for that purpose, international assistance to the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs,

1. *Encourages* the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs to continue to implement and strengthen law enforcement initiatives at all levels and cross-border cooperation between transit States, as well as

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

² General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex.

³ General Assembly resolutions S-20/4 A to E.

⁴ E/CN.7/2003/2 and Add.1-6.

⁵ E/CN.7/2003/11.

countries of destination, with a view to promoting coordinated drug control activities and unified responses to drug trafficking;

2. *Also encourages* the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs to continue to implement and strengthen comprehensive policies for the reduction of illicit drug demand;

3. *Calls upon* the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs to ensure well-coordinated and focused policies to suppress drug trafficking through greater coordination between key agencies responsible for drug law enforcement;

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of voluntary funds and in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for the use of general-purpose funds,⁶ and Member States to facilitate such initiatives by providing assistance and technical support to the drug control authorities of the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs, in particular developing countries, including countries with economies in transition, that are in need of such assistance and support;

5. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and Member States, in providing such assistance to the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs, to integrate, subject to availability of voluntary funds and in accordance with guidelines adopted by the Commission for the use of general-purpose funds, projects for the reduction of illicit drug demand and the strengthening of treatment and rehabilitation services for drug abusers;

6. *Urges* the international financial institutions and other potential donors to provide financial assistance to the States affected by the transit of illicit drugs, including for empowering and building the capacity of locally available human resources, so that those States may intensify their efforts to combat drug trafficking and deal with its consequences, in particular increased drug addiction;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*44th plenary meeting
22 July 2003*

⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 8, Part Two (E/2001/28/Rev.1 (Part II)), chap. I, resolution 44/20, annex.*