

Annex IV

Shanghai Declaration adopted at the event marking the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission

We, the representatives of the Republic of Austria, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, the French Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Italian Republic, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Union of Myanmar, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Portuguese Republic, the Russian Federation, the Kingdom of Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam participating in the event on 26 February 2009 marking the centennial of the convening of the International Opium Commission in Shanghai, China,

Recalling that the International Opium Commission, the first multinational initiative in the field of narcotics control, was convened in Shanghai, China, from 1 to 26 February 1909, during which the representatives of thirteen nations, namely, Austria-Hungary, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Persia, Portugal, Russia, Siam, and the United States of America, participated in the deliberations, and that the Shanghai conference, which laid the groundwork for the elaboration of the first international drug control treaty, the 1912 Hague International Opium Convention, is a landmark event in the history of the international anti-drug campaign;

Paying tribute to those who made unremitting efforts and even dedicated their lives to the international endeavour to countering the problem of illicit drugs, and appreciating their great visions and important contributions;

Recognizing the great progress made by the international community in narcotics control and international cooperation since 1909, in particular, the remarkable achievements, successful experience and useful lessons in significantly reducing illegal opium poppy cultivation and actively promoting sustainable alternative development in the Southeast Asia in the past decades which could be shared with other parts of the world;

Reaffirming our political commitment to pursuing on the basis of shared responsibility, a comprehensive, balanced and mutually reinforcing approach to supply and demand reduction, devoting more resources and international cooperation at the national, regional and international levels in addressing drug abuse as a health and social issue, while upholding the law and its enforcement;

Deeply concerned that, despite continued increased efforts by States and relevant organizations, the world drug problem remains a serious threat to public health, safety, harmonization and the well-being of humanity, in particular children and young people and their families, and to the national security and sovereignty of States, and that it undermines socio-economic and political stability and sustainable development;

Noting with concern the fact that the lack of adequate financial and technical support to evidence-based demand and supply reduction policies seriously impedes the effectiveness of the global endeavour against illicit drugs;

Recognizing in some instances the links between poverty, lack of licit economic alternatives, social marginalization, social exclusion, gender-based violence and the production, trafficking and abuse of drugs, as well as the increasing hazard posed by synthetic drugs and their precursors, and abuse of licit prescription drugs;

Taking note of the possible connections between drug-related crime and other transnational organized crime, such as, money laundering, trafficking in firearms and corruption in some parts of the world, and their links with terrorism;

Underlining the importance of full implementation of the relevant United Nations conventions, in particular the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the 2000 United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its related protocols and the 2003 United Nations Convention against Corruption, and relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

Reaffirm that international drug control cooperation must be in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms, on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States;

Reaffirm also the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and its Action Plan, the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;

Urge all States to act in accordance with the spirit of this conference and increase efforts in monitoring and eradicating the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and promoting sustainable alternative development with due consideration of the protection of the environment, as well as in monitoring and preventing the diversion of chemical precursors; strengthen information exchange and law enforcement cooperation in the fight against transnational drug-related crimes, share experiences and promote research in the fields of drug treatment and reduction of adverse health consequences of drug use, mobilize resources for drug prevention and education, and raise public awareness and resistance against illicit drugs;

Urge also all States Parties to fully implement the international drug control conventions and fulfil other relevant international drug control obligations in accordance with their own national laws and regulation;

Support the United Nations in its important role in international drug control, continue to mobilize resources in drug control and pledge to consistently and closely cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board;

Invite international financial institutions, major development banks, foundations and, where appropriate, private donors to continue to provide financial and technical support to countering the drug problem;

Thank the Government of the People's Republic of China for generously hosting this conference and according thoughtful arrangements and warm hospitality to the delegates, which has served as a good platform for delegates to explore solutions for the world drug problem;

Request the Government of the People's Republic of China that this declaration, along with the results of the Conference of the Centennial of the International Opium Commission, be presented at the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs.