



39ème session du Conseil des droits de l'homme

Déclaration conjointe sur les droits de l'homme et les drogues

General Debate Item 3

Genève, le 14 septembre 2018

Déclaration conjointe du Mexique avec l'Albanie, le Brésil, la Colombie, la Grèce, le Guatemala, le Mexique, le Paraguay, le Portugal, la Suisse et l'Uruguay

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the core group on human rights and the world drug problem: Albania, Brazil, Colombia, Greece, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Portugal, Switzerland and Uruguay.

When the international community adopted the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015, we committed to achieving a better and more sustainable future for all, which includes addressing global challenges as the world drug problem.

Also in 2015, the Human Rights Council adopted the first resolution on this topic. One year later, in its Special Session in 2016, the UN General Assembly confirmed human rights as one of the seven pillars to address the world drug problem from a balanced and comprehensive approach, and as a key component in the development and implementation of drug policies. Furthermore, Member States reaffirmed the need to strengthen cooperation between UN entities to achieve this end.

The new High Commissioner, Ms. Michelle Bachelet, has stated that "drug issues everywhere are best tackled through a focus on health, education and opportunities – not the death penalty, or death squads." We couldn't agree more with her.

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As the goals set out in the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action to Counter the World Drug Problem reach their target date in 2019, we reiterate the importance to incorporate in the forthcoming discussions a holistic approach that truly takes human rights at its core. With this in mind, our countries jointly and successfully submitted the resolution 37/42 “the Contribution to the implementation of the joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem with regard to human rights” which was adopted by the HRC earlier this year.

Pursuant to this resolution, the Office of the High Commissioner has now submitted the report on more effective and human rights compliant measures to address narcotic drugs issues. We are pleased that a high number of States, international organizations, UN bodies, national human rights institutions and NGOs submitted contributions to the study. The report is highly illustrative of how States can design and implement effective drug policies while respecting human rights.

Taking our joint commitment of UNGASS 2016 seriously, means striving for a modern, holistic and evidence-based approach to drugs that is compliant with our international human rights obligations.

I thank you, Mr. President.
