

The Lima Ministerial Declaration on Alternative Development

We the representatives convened in Lima for the High Level International Conference on Alternative Development on 16th November 2012,

Underscoring that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, in particular its article 14 (2) and (3), constitute the framework of the international drug control system, and urge their full and effective implementation,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its 20th Special Session and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on international cooperation towards an integrated and balanced strategy to counter the world drug problem, adopted in 2009,

Noting that it was stated at the International Workshop and Conference on Alternative Development in Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai, Thailand, 6-11 November 2011, that the Political Declaration and Plan of Action mentioned above together with the Action Plan on International cooperation on the Eradication of illicit drug crops and on alternative development represent a significant advance as it promotes alternative development, within the framework of broad national rural development, and emphasize the need to address poverty, inter alia, as a driver of illicit crop cultivation and suggest the coupling of both human development and crop reduction indicators to measure the success of alternative development efforts,

Reaffirming that development oriented drug policies and programmes should be undertaken in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and, in particular, respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, human rights and fundamental freedoms and the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the principle of common and shared responsibility, as well as the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, also taking into account the rule of law, the specific situations of countries and regions and, where appropriate, security concerns,

Recalling CND resolutions 53/6, 54/4, 55/4 and 55/8,

Recognizing that alternative development, which, in accordance with ECOSOC resolutions, includes, as appropriate, preventive alternative development as part of sustainable and effective crop control strategies, which also may include eradication and law enforcement measures,

Recognizing that AD is a process to prevent and eliminate the illicit cultivation of plants containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through specifically designed rural development measures in the context of sustained national economic growth and sustainable development efforts in countries taking action against drugs, recognizing the particular sociocultural characteristics of the target communities and groups, within the framework of a comprehensive and permanent solution to the problem of illicit drugs,¹

Recognizing that the problem of the illicit production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is often related to development problems and that those links require, within the context of common and shared responsibility, close cooperation among States, the competent organs of the United Nations system, in particular, the UNODC, regional bodies and international financial institutions,²

Acknowledging the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, being a governing body of the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime, along with its subsidiary bodies, together with the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), as the United Nations organs with prime responsibility for drug control matters,

Reaffirming that alternative development is one of the tools to fight against the world drug problem,

Recalling and noting with appreciation the inputs for the draft international guiding principles on AD agreed by participants at the international workshop on AD held in the provinces of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai, Thailand, from 6 to 12 November, 2011,

¹ Action plan on international cooperation on the eradication of illicit drug crops and on alternative development - 1998

² 1998 Political Declaration

1. Welcome the outcome of the High Level International Conference on Alternative Development which includes the present Ministerial Declaration and the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development as contained in the Annex;
2. Encourage States, competent international organizations, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take into account the present Ministerial Declaration and the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development when designing and implementing alternative development strategies and programmes;
3. Submit the present Declaration including the Annex thereto to the Executive Director of UNODC for inclusion in his report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its 56th session;
4. Express its appreciation and gratitude to the Government of Peru for the convening of the High Level International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Lima from 14 to 16 of November 2012.

ANNEX

International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development

A. General Provisions

1. Alternative development policies are an important component of enhancing development in states affected by, or in some cases under risk of, the illicit crop cultivation used for illicit drug production and manufacture, and plays an important role in national, regional and international development policies and into integral policies of poverty reduction and cooperation;
2. Alternative development, as an integral component of policies and programs for reducing drug production, is an important, viable and sustainable option for preventing eliminating or reducing significantly and measurably the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through tackling poverty and lack of livelihood opportunities;
3. Alternative development, including in some cases preventive alternative development, constitutes an international policy founded on the principle of shared and common responsibility that seeks to discourage the cultivation of illicit crops in countries affected by that problem and those vulnerable to illicit activities;
4. Alternative development including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development strategies and programmes should be formulated and implemented taking into account the vulnerability and specific needs of affected communities and groups by illicit crop cultivation used for drug production and manufacture, within the broader framework of national policies ;

5. Effective alternative development strategies and programmes require, as appropriate, the strengthening of relevant governmental institutions at the national, regional and local levels. Public policies should be supported to the extent possible, by, inter alia, strengthening legal frameworks; involvement of the local communities and relevant organizations; identifying and providing adequate financial support; technical assistance; increased investment; and the definition and enforcement of property rights, including access to land;
6. Local communities and relevant organizations should be involved in the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of all alternative development programmes in order to truly reflect the needs of targeted communities.
7. Civil society can contribute significantly to the design of effective and sustainable alternative development programs, and their active participation should be encouraged in all phases of alternative development programs;
8. An integrated and complementary approach for alternative development, programmes and strategies is crucial and should be implemented in concert with broader drug control policies, including demand reduction, law enforcement, illicit crop elimination and awareness raising. It should take into account demographic, cultural, social and geographic considerations, as appropriate and in line with the three drug conventions;
9. States should ensure the proper and coordinated sequencing of development interventions when designing alternative development programmes; and in this connection, the issues of the establishment of agreements and viable partnerships with small producers, favourable climatic conditions, strong political support and adequate market access should be taken into account;
10. Alternative development programmes in the areas where crops are cultivated for illicit drug production and manufacture should be undertaken with a clear understanding of the overall objectives, as appropriate, of eliminating or significantly and measurably reducing the supply of drugs, promoting integral development, social inclusion, alleviating poverty, as well as strengthening social development, rule of law, security and stability

at country and regional levels, taking into account the promotion and protection of human rights;

11. Alternative development programs should include measures to protect the environment at local level according to national and international law and policies, through the provision of incentives for conservation, proper education and awareness programs so that the local communities can improve and preserve their livelihoods and to mitigate negative environmental impacts;
12. Alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, programmes should be designed to address sub-regional and regional needs, and should be integrated, when circumstances require it, into broader regional, sub regional and bilateral treaties and arrangements;
13. International cooperation, coordination and stakeholder ownership are essential for the successful implementation and sustainability of alternative development programs. Alternative development should be considered by all involved parties as a long-term commitment whose results may require time to attain;
14. International cooperation programs aimed at alternative development should take into account the experience of different countries, including South-South cooperation, to identify best practices and lessons learned in alternative development programs and projects; and, bearing in mind the available financial and technical support provided by donors;
15. Alternative development policies, as one of the tools available in the fight against the world drug problem, should be implemented alongside efforts made by States to strengthen the rule of law, and promote health, safety and security to ensure a comprehensive approach to tackling the challenges that may exist by the possible links between drug trafficking, corruption and different forms of organized crime and, in some cases, terrorism;
16. Alternative development can be an integral element of the overall development strategy and it should complement economic efforts in the fight against poverty;

17. The impact of alternative development programs should be assessed by its contribution to illicit crop control including the eradication and estimates by human development indexes, socioeconomic and environmental indicators, and by means of impartial and proper evaluations;

B. Action and Measures of Implementation

Member States of the United Nations, international organizations, regional organizations, development agencies, donors and international financial institutions, as well as civil society, should apply their utmost efforts, as appropriate, to:

1. target illicit cultivation and production of crops used for the production and manufacture of illicit drugs, and address related factors such as, by alleviating poverty, strengthening rule of law and institutional frameworks, as appropriate, and promoting sustainable development aimed at enhancing the welfare of the population;
2. build and maintain confidence, dialogue and cooperation with and between stakeholders from people at the local and communities level and local authorities to leaders at the national and regional level, to ensure participation and ownership for long-term sustainability;
3. implement long-term projects and programmes to provide opportunities to fight poverty, diversify livelihoods and strengthen development, institutional frameworks and the rule of law;
4. develop policies and programmes that take into account an evidence- and scientifically-based assessment of the potential impact of alternative development on illicit cultivation of crops used for the production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, on rural and socio-economic development, including gender dimension, and the environment;

5. Take into account the need to promote the diversification of licit crops cultivated and licit economic activities when implementing alternative development programmes;
6. due to the transnational nature of drug-related crimes, encourage and support coordinated cross-border collaboration and transboundary alternative development activities, where appropriate and feasible with the support of international cooperation;
7. address with specific measures the situation of women, children and youth, and other high-risk populations including, in some cases , dependent drug users, due to their vulnerability and exploitation in the illicit drug economy;
8. provide, within a holistic and integrated development approach, essential basic services and legal livelihood opportunities to the communities affected by or in some cases vulnerable to illicit crop cultivation;
9. recognize that alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, requires the implementation of articulated short, medium, and long term plans and actions from all relevant stakeholders to promote positive and sustainable socio-economic changes of the affected and, in some cases, vulnerable areas;
10. promote coordination and encourage alternative development programmes to be complementary in their measures, at the local, regional and national level;
11. ensure, when considering crop control measures, that small-farmer households have opportunities for viable and sustainable licit livelihoods so that the measures may be properly sequenced in a sustainable fashion and appropriately coordinated, taking into account the circumstances of the region, country and area;
12. ensure that programmes or projects related to alternative development do effectively discourage illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of drugs;

13. to ensure that drug control programmes are implemented in a comprehensive and balanced manner so as to avoid the shifting of illicit crop cultivation domestically as well as from one country or region to others;
14. to respect legitimate interests and specific needs of the local affected and in some cases vulnerable population when designing and implementing alternative development programmes;
15. address basic human needs, in full conformity with the three drug conventions and relevant human rights instruments in order to promote the welfare of targeted communities;
16. integrate communities in marginalized regions into the economic and political mainstream; if appropriate, such integration should include the possibility of supporting access to roads, schools, primary health-care services, electricity and other services and infrastructure;
17. promote increased coordination and cooperation between relevant governmental agencies, when appropriate, and adopt an integrated approach to drug control which involves all relevant stakeholders;
18. ensure that the implementation of alternative development is conducted in a manner that helps enhance synergy and confidence among the national government, regional authorities and local administrations and communities in building local ownership and coordination and cooperation;
19. promote the strengthening of the justice and security sectors and social development as well as institutional legal frameworks and anticorruption measures in a manner conducive to enhancing alternative development efforts;
20. promote governance capabilities, when appropriate, in order to strengthen the rule of law including at the local level;
21. ensure that measures aimed at strengthening the rule of law are included in development oriented drug control policies in order to, inter

alia, support farmers in their efforts to stop and in some cases prevent cultivating illicit crops;

22. apply, in addition to estimates of illicit cultivation and other illicit activities related to the world drug problem, human development, socio-economic, rural development, alleviation of poverty, institutional and environmental indicators, in assessing alternative development programmes in order to ensure that the outcomes are in line with national and international development objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, and reflect accountable use of donors funds and truly benefit the affected communities;
23. utilize objective impact evaluations that examine a broad range of social, economic, and environmental factors and incorporate the lessons learned from these evaluations in future projects to ensure that the design and implementation of alternative development programmes are evidence based and grounded in a reliable and evidence-based evaluation and thorough analysis of local socio-economic, geographical and cultural realities as well as the assessment of benefits and risks;
24. Undertake further research, and strengthen data collection with a view to providing a basis for more effective and evidence-based alternative development programmes; and conduct research to assess the factors leading to the illicit cultivation of drug crops used for the production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
25. utilize data and conduct analysis to identify areas, communities and affected population vulnerable to illicit cultivation and related illicit activities and tailor the implementation of programmes and projects to address identified needs;
26. partners in transboundary alternative development activities should consider measures to support the implementation of alternative development strategies and programmes that may include, inter alia, special preferential policies, property protection and entry and exit convenience in accordance with relevant international law, including trade agreements;

27. enhance technical support, including exchange of expertise, best practices and resources, and seek to secure long-term flexible funding for alternative development programmes, in order to ensure their sustainability;
28. consider the possibility of creating an international fund for alternative development programmes which could be used in order to face major emergency situations, in order to ensure continuity;
29. recognize that international cooperation resources for alternative development programmes should be implemented in consultation and in coordination with partner countries, supporting efforts to eliminate, reduce and in some cases prevent illicit crops through reducing poverty and enhancing rural development in areas affected by or, in some cases, vulnerable to illicit cultivations and effective law enforcement measures;
30. Long-term cooperation, coordination and commitment of multilevel and multisectoral stakeholders are essential to a holistic and integrated approach to the effectiveness and sustainability of alternative development programmes;
31. consider voluntary and pragmatic measures in appropriate fora with the view to enabling alternative development products to gain easier access to international markets, in accordance with applicable multilateral trade rules, and treaties and taking into consideration the ongoing negotiation processes in the framework of the WTO. This might include the possibility of promoting cost-effective marketing regimes in the field of alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, such as a global stamp for products stemming from alternative development programmes and voluntary certification to support the sustainability of alternative development products;
32. promote, where appropriate, the socio-economic and conducive infrastructure including, inter alia, development of roads and transportation networks the promotion and enhancement of farmer associations, micro-finance schemes and schemes aimed at

enhancing the effectiveness of the management of available financing resources;

33. combine local wisdom, indigenous knowledge, public-private partnerships, and available resources to promote, inter alia, a legal market driven product development approach when applicable, capacity building, skill training of the involved population, effective management, and entrepreneurship in order to support the creation of internal and sustainable commercial systems a viable value chain at the local level, when applicable;
34. support policies conducive to cooperation with the international financial institutions and, where appropriate, private sector involvement and investment to help ensure long-term sustainability, including through the use of public-private partnerships. Encourage fostering of alternative development into rural associations or cooperatives and supporting their management capacity in order to maximize value from primary production and to ensure the integration of areas affected by or, in some cases, vulnerable to illicit cultivation into national, regional and, as appropriate, international markets; and
35. promote local ownership and participation of the involved parties in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of alternative development programmes and projects;
36. promote empowerment, including articulation, communication and participation of the community and local authorities and other stakeholders to sustain achievements of the projects and programmes;
37. take into account land rights and other related land management resources when designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating alternative development programmes, including those of the indigenous peoples and local communities in accordance to national legal frameworks;
38. raise awareness among rural communities of the negative impacts that illicit drug crop cultivation, related deforestation, and the illicit use of natural resources in accordance with national or international law, have on long-term development and the environment.