

ECOSOC Resolution 2006/33

Strengthening international cooperation for alternative development, including preventive alternative development, with due regard for environmental protection

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the Joint Ministerial Statement and further measures to implement the action plans emanating from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, adopted during the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in which States were urged to provide greater access to their markets for products of alternative development programmes, which were necessary for the creation of employment and the eradication of poverty,¹

Reaffirming also its resolution 2003/37 of 22 July 2003 on strengthening alternative development through trade and socio-environmental preservation, in which it called upon the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and all Member States to continue to cooperate effectively on programmes to promote alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development,

Reaffirming further Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 45/14, in which the Commission invited Member States to make more comprehensive and determined efforts in the area of financial and technical cooperation aimed at promoting alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development,

Bearing in mind Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 48/9 and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on strengthening alternative development as an important drug control strategy and establishing alternative development as a cross-cutting issue,²

Recognizing with concern that in some Member States illicit crop cultivation and illicit drug production degrade, among other things, forest areas, areas under environmental protection and areas used for licit crops, causing serious environmental damage,

Taking into account the Millennium Development Goals,³ the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development⁴ and Agenda 21,⁵ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and

¹ A/58/124, sect. II.A, para. 21.

² E/CN.7/2006/7.

³ See A/56/326, annex, and A/58/323, annex.

⁴ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

⁵ *Ibid.*, annex II.

Development in 1992, and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,⁶

Noting with concern that, in lands adjacent to areas used for the cultivation of illicit crops, there is a high risk of displacement of licit crops and their replacement by illicit crops,

Recognizing the importance of achieving a balance between law enforcement, demand reduction, interdiction, eradication and alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development,

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development, into national and international development strategies as well as into development efforts;

2. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, and all Member States to continue to cooperate effectively on programmes and projects to promote alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development;

3. *Urges* donor Governments, in conformity with the principle of shared responsibility and as a sign of their commitment to fight against illicit drugs in a comprehensive and balanced manner, to increase their cooperation on alternative development matters, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development, by taking into account environmental protection, sustainable forest management, including agroforestry and reforestation, technical assistance, production infrastructure and the promotion of private investment and the agricultural industry;

4. *Calls upon* Member States, consistent with their national and international obligations, and invites relevant international organizations to consider measures to facilitate access to and positioning in international markets for alternative development products;

5. *Invites* Member States, relevant international organizations, financial institutions, regional development banks, funds for the protection of the environment and non-governmental organizations to support and promote financing for programmes and projects in the context of alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development, taking into account that, in areas affected by or vulnerable to illicit crop cultivation and illicit drug production, protecting the environment, preventing its degradation and promoting its sustainable recovery should be considered;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Member States and relevant international organizations to redouble their efforts to obtain new and additional voluntary financial resources, at the bilateral and multilateral levels, in support of programmes and projects

⁶ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

relating to alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development, with due regard for environmental protection;

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

*41st plenary meeting
27 July 2006*