



SRMUN Charlotte
March 26-28, 2021
*Unity: Coming Together to
Address a Changing World*

Draft Resolution 1-3

Committee: Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Subject: Preventing Illicit Drug Usage by At-Risk Youths

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Acknowledging that the international body of nations and states has yet to come to a consensus in terms of crafting an acceptable terminology and definition suitable for all Member States relating to “at risk youth,”

Recalling that both the United Nations and the World Health Organization have previously supported decriminalization at the Geneva Convention in 2014, stating, “Countries should work toward developing policies and laws that decriminalize injection and other use of drugs and, thereby, reduce incarceration,”

Bearing in mind that decriminalization has been shown to be effective in numerous Member States in bettering the cost-effectiveness of public health systems, as well as reducing racial and income-based inequalities in the current global prison systems,

Recognizing the importance of compassionate care in preventing and treating drug abuse,

Realizing the effectiveness of anti-drug-use education in preventing and stopping youth drug use,

Understanding that poor mental health can be detrimental and catalyzing to a youth’s drug abuse,

Welcoming greater international cooperation that addresses the problem from every front and incorporates a multitude of perspectives, including border control and customs,

1. *Adopts* the definition of at-risk youth at a minimum to be based upon the following standards but are not limited to any threat directly or indirectly that affects, injures, or places youth in harm's way purposely, directly or indirectly, socially, physically, emotionally, or verbally inadvertently or purposely, including:
 - a. Youth with (family) history of mental illness,
 - b. Youth with history of childhood violence,
 - c. Youth with family history of substance abuse,
 - d. Youth living below the poverty line, and,
 - e. Youth subject to other factors based upon the importance given by the Member State;

2. *Recommends* the review of each Member State's policies to reevaluate the benefits of decriminalizing the recreational use of drugs by underage young people and/or adults, based upon factors such as drug usage, drug production, drug imports, and other factors deemed important to the Member State - especially those that are often targeted towards and advertised to youth, and suggests pre-existing general strategies be used, such as:
 - a. distinguishing between personal use possession amounts, typically 14 days worth of a substance, and dealer-level possession amounts, which is any more than 14 days worth of a substance, and,
 - b. giving underage young people found guilty of recreational-use-level possession the choice to pay a fine and attend an anti-drug-use educational session or attend a rehabilitation clinic sponsored by the Member State;

3. *Encourages* governments to help public schools and education centers for youth sponsor events and activities that can occupy youth's time to prevent them from ending up on the street by:
 - a. Focusing on rehabilitation among at-risk youth, with an emphasis on children and adolescents that have already started consuming/using drugs who can be treated and educated,
 - b. Implementing localized community outreach programs which are tailored to the specific needs of the adolescent and their role within the region,
 - c. Utilizing programs that in turn would make at-risk youth active members of their community and deter them from succumbing to illicit drugs, and,
 - d. Encouraging non-governmental organizations (NGOs) - such as regional Boys and Girls Clubs, Big Brothers/Big Sisters clubs, etc. - to sponsor these activities;

4. *Urges* Member States to create or update pre-existing anti-drug-use educational programs at a local or statewide level, and keep these programs updated with new research to teach young people accurate and detailed information about:
 - a. Withdrawal and the effects of drug usage on a psycho- and physiological level,
 - b. Modern strategies dealers use to promote youth drug use and how to avoid them, and,
 - c. Other environmental risks of using drugs such as diseases from using dirty needles and drugs cut with fillers;

5. *Invites* Member States to collaborate with rehabilitation facilities to combat the mental illnesses that correlates with drug usage or that are produced from drug usage by:
 - a. Focusing on the history of the youth and what was the reason as to why the youth decided to use drugs,
 - b. Reaching out to local psychiatrists to ask who would like to volunteer to help, and,
 - c. Providing a small medical program that will distribute the medications that are needed for mental illnesses;

6. *Calls upon* developed and industrialized nations, as well as NGOs, to assist with funding for educational programs and awareness campaigns in areas of the world that are developing or need additional financial assistance by:
 - a. Collaborating with local NGOs, such as International Medical Corps, World Federation Against Drugs, etc., and,
 - b. Accepting voluntary donations from Member States and philanthropists in order to support the implementation of rehabilitation and education programs in less wealthy nations; and,
7. *Suggests* Member States work to reduce the supply of drugs coming through their borders by improving drug and substance supply chain research and working with other nations to improve their own customs policies and strategies regarding substance searches using updated information.