

SPECIAL DECLARATION 3: BY THE COMMUNITY OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STATES ON THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, on occasion of the Fifth Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), held on the 25th of January, 2017;

1. We reiterate that the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs amended by the 1972 Protocol, the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, the United Nations Convention against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, constitute the corner stone of the international drug control system, and other relevant international instruments.
2. We reaffirm the consensus reached by Ministers and High-Level Authorities of drug regulatory institutions of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), in Santo Domingo on the occasion of the III Ministerial Meeting on the World Drug Problem, on March 3 and 4, 2016.
3. We welcome the celebration of the Thirtieth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly dedicated to the World Drug Problem, held in New York from 19 to 21 April 2016, reaffirming and recognizing that the Global Drug Problem must be addressed in a multilateral environment through stronger and more effective international cooperation, and requires a comprehensive, multidisciplinary, balanced, sustainable and ample approach based on scientific evidence, with mutually reinforcing measures; we take note of the practical applications of the operational recommendations of the 2016 UNGASS, in its seven axes.
4. We reaffirm the need to approach the fundamental causes and consequences of the World Drug Problem, including the social, economic and health, human rights, justice, public safety and application of law spheres, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, and we recognize the importance of broad and balance interventions on the subjects of policies, including promotion of viable and sustainable livelihoods sphere.
5. Convinced that strengthening international cooperation, under the principle of common and shared responsibility, is a key component of efforts to address the World Drug Problem. As well, it is also necessary to strengthen the exchange of experiences, political dialogue and cooperation at the technical level, including increased financial resources and logistical support to countries that require it, especially transit countries, to increase their capacity to counter the World Drug Problem, in all its dimensions.

6. We welcome with satisfaction the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and we take into account that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the World Drug Problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing.
7. We encourage the convening of the IV Ministerial Meeting on the World Drug Problem of CELAC and the participation in the II COPOLAD Annual Conference, and the 19th High-Level Meeting of the CELAC-EU Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on the matter of Drugs, to be held in Buenos Aires from May 15 to 19, 2017.

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, January 25th, 2017