



WASHINGTON, DC  
31 October - 2 November 2014  
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## COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS BACKGROUND GUIDE 2014

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# NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS



# NMUN•DC Position Papers Guidelines

**Due 1 October 2014**

Each committee topic should be addressed in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned country. You should identify and address international and regional conventions, treaties, declarations, resolutions, and programs of action that are relevant to the policy of your country. You should also include recommendations for action to be taken by your committee. A delegate's role as a Member State, Observer State, or NGO should affect the way a position paper is written. The [Delegate Preparation Guide](#) will provide you with additional information.

A position paper should be submitted for each assigned committee.

- The two page position paper should cover all the topics in the background guide, not a separate paper for each topic.
- Do not submit papers for committees not assigned to your country (see [DC matrix](#)).
- No more than two delegates can represent a single country in a committee. If you assign two delegates to represent a country on a committee, they submit one position paper jointly, not separate position papers from each individual.
- NMUN position papers are not cited as is required for an academic paper. They are written as if they are a policy statement coming from the foreign ministry. While they may reference UN data or past UN Resolutions, like in our samples, formal citations are not used.

Please pay careful attention to the following guidelines when drafting and submitting your position papers. Only those delegations that follow the guidelines and meet the submission deadline will be eligible for [position paper awards](#).

Follow the layout in our [Sample Position Paper](#) using the standards below:

- Length must not exceed two pages
- Margins must be set at 1 inch or 2.54 cm. for the whole paper
- Font must be Times New Roman sized between 10 pt. and 12 pt.
- Country/NGO name, school name, and committee name must be clearly labeled on the first page
- Agenda topics must be clearly labeled in separate sections
- National symbols (headers, flags, etc.) are deemed inappropriate for NMUN position papers
- Convert your paper to pdf format

Please note that position papers must be comprised of entirely original writing. **NMUN will not tolerate plagiarism**, including copying from Committee Background Guides. Violation of this policy may result in dismissal from the conference. Although United Nations documentation is considered within the public domain, we do not allow the verbatim re-creation of these documents.

## How to Submit Your Position Papers

- One person, preferably the faculty advisor or head delegate, should submit all papers from your delegation.
- Complete a separate form for each country/assignment.
- Use the committee name and your assignment in the filename (example: GA1\_Cuba).
- Submit all papers as pdf documents.

Use the link on the [DC position paper page](#), following the guidelines above, to submit your position papers. If you have questions or concerns about the position paper submission process, please email the Secretary-General at [secgen.dc@nmun.org](mailto:secgen.dc@nmun.org). Please do not submit position papers to this email account.

If you are requesting an [Embassy Briefing](#), we encourage your delegation to also submit a copy of your position papers to the embassy for the country you've been assigned along with an explanation of the conference.

Many, many papers will be read by the Secretariat. Your patience and cooperation in adhering to the above guidelines is greatly appreciated.



## Official Welcome

On behalf of the committee staff of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, we welcome you to the 2014 National Model United Nations Washington D.C. (NMUN•DC) Conference. This year, your Director will be Omar Torres-Vasquez, with Jeffrey Thorpe as your Assistant Director. Omar holds a BA from California University Fullerton in Political Science with an emphasis on political theory. Currently Omar works for a Credit Union in Southern California as a financial consultant. This is his third year on staff at NMUN and his first year at NMUN•DC. Jeffrey recently graduated with Master of Public Administration with a concentration in Public Management from Georgia Southern University. He is currently working for an auditing firm as a Coding Specialist in the transportation sector. This is Jeffrey's second year on staff at NMUN and first year at NMUN•DC. Throughout the year, everyone at NMUN•DC has worked tirelessly preparing for this conference, and to also provide you with an experience that would give you a greater appreciation for global affairs.

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs is the principal organ of the United Nations that reviews and analyses the global drug situation, considering the interrelated issues of prevention of drug abuse, rehabilitation of drug users and supply and trafficking in illicit drugs. This year, the issues facing the Commission on Narcotic Drugs reflect some of the recent challenges that the world as a whole faces relating to issues involving international illicit drug trade. We hope that as passionate representatives of your Member States, you will come prepared to engage in fascinating debates about the committee topics.

Model United Nations serves as a truly unique opportunity for delegates to improve important skills, ranging from public speaking to writing. More importantly, it is an excellent environment to engage in high-level discussions about the important issues that are currently affecting our world. We have prepared this background guide to help you begin, and hopefully instruct, your research on your Member State's policies on the committee topics.

Please take note of the [NMUN Policies and Codes of Conduct](#) on the website and in the [Delegate Preparation Guide](#) regarding plagiarism, codes of conduct/dress code/sexual harassment, awards philosophy/evaluation method, etc. Adherence to these guidelines is mandatory. We wish you good luck in your preparation for the conference, and we look forward to meeting you in Washington, D.C. in October.

The NMUN•DC Staff

### History of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The United Nations (UN) Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) created the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) with ECOSOC resolution 1946/9(I) as a subsidiary committee under the UN Office of Drug and Crime (UNODC), a subsidiary organ of ECOSOC, to assist ECOSOC with the supervision and implementation of treaties such as the *International Opium Convention* (1946), the *Convention for the Suppression of the Illicit Traffic in Dangerous Drugs* (1946), and other international drug control treaties. In 1991, the UN General Assembly (GA) amended the original mandate of the CND to increase the commission's overall influence and importance by making CND the governing body of the UNODC. Along with its newly increased status, CND was also made responsible for approving the budget for the Fund of the UN International Drug Control Programme. The approval of the budget is one of the most important roles of the CND because the Fund accounts for 90% of the UN's budget for international drug control. In addition to the mandate amendments by the GA, ECOSOC sought to increase the functionality of the CND with the passing of resolution 1999/30. In this Resolution, CND's agenda is divided into: a normative segment and an operational segment. In the normative section, the CND discusses and assigns its responsibilities based on treaty obligations. For the operational segment, the CND acts out its role as the governing body of the UNODC. The various changes made to CND's mandate by ECOSOC makes the CND the UN's strongest and best contender against the illicit drug trade.

When the CND was established, its membership consisted of 15 Member States that all had a stake in the control and elimination of illicit drug traffic. As mentioned in CND's mandate, each of the original Member States were considered high stake areas that were important to the trafficking of illicit drugs or that served as manufacturing centers for such products. Today, with increases in both the production and trade of illicit drugs as well as the world's population, the membership has been increased to 53 Member States in accordance with ECOSOC

resolution 1991/49, which also establishes that membership be divided up regionally. Additionally, CND has subsidiary bodies called the Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA) and the Sub-commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, both of which act as regional bodies to aid and inform the CND.

In March 2014, the Member States of CND convened for its 57<sup>th</sup> session in Vienna, Austria. CND uses its sessions to update ECOSOC on current operations that CND is engaged in, to propose various resolutions to ECOSOC, to have round table discussions, to review implementation of their various plans of actions, and to compile the CND Annual Report. At the 57<sup>th</sup> session, the CND introduced a review of a newer, psychoactive drug, which has risen in production and distribution. With the emergence of this popular drug, the CND emphasized the need for more international cooperation around illicit drug control, especially through reporting incidents, to hinder the production and trafficking of illicit drugs as mentioned in CND resolutions 57/8 and 57/9 (2014), which were adopted at the 57<sup>th</sup> session.

Ultimately, the goal of CND is to minimize the flow of illicit drugs in the world in an attempt to completely eliminate the production of these drugs. However, at its 57<sup>th</sup> session, CND also submitted several resolutions focused more on providing education and aid to people internationally affected by illicit drug use. The CND proposed five resolutions: 57/2, 57/3, 57/4, 57/6, and 57/7, which seek to help affected families to avoid becoming victims to the many other dangers present in connection with illicit drugs as well as to provide education and aid to help their current situations. Because of the growing issue of illicit drugs use, the CND submitted a special resolution, 57/5, requesting a special meeting in 2016 with the GA to address the world drug problem and the goals set by the *Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem*, another important treaty promoting international cooperation, and its targeted milestone date of 2019.

Currently, the 57<sup>th</sup> session is scheduled to reconvene in December 2014 to continue conversations and the debates that took place during the first half the session. While preparing for the second session, planning for the 58<sup>th</sup> session has already started as well as preparations for the aforementioned special meeting with the GA. These meetings are crucial as CND is faced with growing international drug issues including an ever-evolving complex set of new challenges due to new technology and the world's growing population. The introduction of newer and more potent drugs, health issues that surround families of drug users, and sophisticated trafficking techniques have made the CND's mission even more difficult, and yet the work still attainable through international cooperation.

## I. Evaluating the Global Drug Regime

- How can the CND update the current drug regime to reflect the evolving dynamics of drug trafficking?
- If greater effort is given to shift policy towards health based approaches, how can the CND make sure such policies respect human rights?

At the last High-Level Review of the implementation of the *Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem* in 2009, participants discussed the existing challenges in implementing conventions and policy on counter-narcotic efforts. One of those challenges is ultimately the way in which certain countries, led by the United States, have used the conventions to wage a war on drugs, which other countries believe represents a misconception of the treaties. Member States are frustrated as there is little doubt that the global war on drugs has failed, with devastating consequences for individuals and societies around the globe. Vast expenditures on criminalization and repressive measures directed at producers, traffickers, and consumers of illegal drugs have failed to effectively curtail supply or consumption. Additionally, repressive efforts directed at consumers impeded public health measures to reduce HIV/AIDS, overdose fatalities, and other harmful consequences of drug abuse. Instead of investing in effective prevention and treatment programs, governments continue to waste billions of dollars each year punishing drug users, which could be more efficiently used for public health and preventive approaches. Given this problem, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) has the responsibility to engage the international community on refocusing policy towards counter-narcotic efforts in the original spirit of the conventions. In line with its mandate, the CND strives to develop strategies on international drug control and recommends measures to combat the world drug problems, including through reducing demand for drugs, promoting alternative development initiatives and adopting

supply reduction measures. The CND has worked closely with Member States in adapting a more pragmatic or health approach as an effective method to counter-narcotic drugs.

Within the last 10 years, all organizations involved in the combat against the illicit sale and use of narcotic drugs have recognized a new trend – that of zero-tolerance and prohibitionist efforts, which are led by the United States and which have created more issues than benefits. The former Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Antonio Maria Costa, confirmed this trend in a 2011 report of the Global Commission on Drug Policy, as well as numerous failures of the global war on drugs. Particularly, he identified the following areas a major issues present in the war on drugs: the perception and treatment of drug users, who are stigmatized, marginalized and excluded; the increase in substance displacement, also known as the movement of consumers to new substances when their previous drug of choice becomes too difficult to obtain due to pressure from law enforcement; and the growth of large criminal black markets, which are highly financed by the promise of profits from supplying international demand for illicit drugs. Additionally, this trend of zero tolerance exacerbates health concerns. A recent report by the Global Commission on Drug Policy, *The Negative Impacts of the War on Drugs on Public Health: The Hidden Hepatitis Epidemic*, asserts that of the 16 million individuals that inject drugs around the world, 10 million of them are infected with Hepatitis C. The report argues that the war on drugs has fueled this epidemic and it has called for major reform of the global drug regime and its penchant towards zero-tolerance and prohibitionist efforts.

This trend is heavily fuelled by the United States' efforts in Afghanistan, where the cultivation of opium has actually increased since the United States invasion in 2002, with experts predicting production to continue to increase for years to come. According to a US Congressional Research Service Report, *Afghanistan: Drug Trafficking and 2014 Transition*, the drug problem in Afghanistan has worsened, yet since 2002, the United States has spent an estimated \$7 billion in counter-narcotic efforts in Afghanistan alone. In 2012, Afghanistan's production and cultivation of opium accounted for 95% and 94% of the world's supply, respectively. As such, the United States Department of State labeled counter-narcotic efforts as an uphill struggle in Afghanistan. Eradication and alternative development methods implemented by the United States and Afghan governments have not seen positive outcomes. In fact, some regions that were not traditionally poppy suppliers have switched to poppy as their preferred crop because of its income yields.

The principle example of this is that of Opium, which contains over 50 types of alkaloids including codeine and morphine. Opium is an annual plant with a growth cycle of 120 days. In the 1990s, Afghanistan became the world's largest producer of opium poppy, the plant whose pods are used to make the drugs opium, heroin, and morphine. With 90% of the world's illicit opium, Afghanistan's economy reaps billions of dollars per year from the global heroin trade. Other crops that were introduced in Afghanistan as alternatives to poppy have caused farmers greater financial problems since local markets for alternative crops do not exist. Many farmers that chose to cultivate alternative crops hoping to receive subsidization from the government received no payment for their legal crops and were left with no other choice but to return to cultivating opium poppies. In Afghanistan, the United States Agency for International Development and other international donors have primarily provided funds for subsidization, but much of those funds do not reach the farmers. Even though Afghanistan has established zero-tolerance legal policies with the help of the United States, farmers still prefer to grow poppy because they know it pays what they need to feed their families. Afghan farmers are also aware that local police and government officials turn a blind eye to the cultivation of illegal crops since they too financially benefit from the illicit trade with the taxes they impose on those illegal crops. Corruption within the government-led eradication program in Afghanistan has resulted in only the poppy farms that do not pay bribes being eradicated while the farmers that do pay are allowed to keep their illegal crops.

The CND's pragmatic approach has been fairly successful in terms of measureable results by treating drug addiction as a health issue as opposed to the criminalization of drug use. This approach has also reduced demand for narcotic drugs through proven education initiatives and by legally regulating some narcotic drugs such as heroin. Europe for the last few decades has been the center for this pragmatic and health-focused approach to combat the illicit trade and use of narcotic drugs. More recently, momentum has also grown in other regions of the world, notably in Uruguay and the states of Colorado and Washington within the United States. Countries where harm reduction and public health strategies have been implemented have experienced lower rates of HIV transmission among individuals that inject drugs. Crime reduction, health improvement, and overcoming drug dependence has been a result of treating drug addiction as a health issue rather than a punishment or societal stigmatization. For example, in

the Netherlands, an estimated number of people dependent on heroin was about 28-30,000 in 2001, but by 2008 that number dropped to roughly 18,000 when medically prescribed heroin was approved by the Dutch government. Within the CND, countries that advocate for a pragmatic and health approach have traditionally kept a low profile, afraid to fuel tension that might risk the criticism of their approach in the international community.

In Switzerland, heroin substitution was introduced 30 years ago when the Swiss government wanted to respond to the increased drug problem occurring within its borders. Thus, the Swiss government introduced a new set of policies and programs that would target heavy consumers. These new policies received support over the zero-tolerance approach, which was already beginning to show signs of failure in other countries. In order to prove its approach, Switzerland scientifically studied and documented its program. Within a period of 15 years, Switzerland substantially reduced consumption among heroin users with only 150 new registered users in 2005 down from 850 in 1990. According to a report by the Global Commission on Drug Policy, Switzerland also saw a reduction in criminal activity and violence of about 90% from the participants of the new programs. Using these studies, the health approach to drug addiction has gained greater momentum, convincing other countries to begin creating their own pragmatic and health policies. The CND works with all governments in to place health at the center of drug control, so as to put addicts in the hands of doctors rather policemen.

Governments are encouraged by the CND's policy shift to undermine the power of organized crime and safeguard the health and security of their citizens by a more pragmatic approach, such as decriminalization and drug regulation of certain drugs such as cannabis. The most recent places to decriminalize the use and sale of cannabis are the states of Colorado and Washington within the US. It might be too soon to know its long-term effects but the immediate financial benefits to Colorado were seen within the first month. Colorado gained an estimated \$2 million in taxes from the first month of sales. Much of these needed funds may in turn be used to create new programs, such as health-centered approach programs. Additionally, according to the Global Commission on Drug Policy, countries that have long since introduced decriminalization of drug use have not had an increase of drug use as skeptics fear. For instance in Portugal, decriminalization of all illicit drugs in 2001 has not seen a major increase in drug use, but rather has seen a reduced burden on the judicial system and law enforcement.

The development and implementation of drug policies should be a global, shared responsibility, but this development and implementation also needs to take into consideration diverse political, social, and cultural realities. Policies should respect the rights and needs of people affected by production, trafficking, and consumption, as explicitly acknowledged in the 1988 *Convention on Drug Trafficking*. The CND contends that drug policies must be based on solid empirical and scientific evidence. The primary measure of success should be the reduction of harm to the health, security, and welfare of individuals and society as a whole. In pursuit of the evaluation of the current global drug regime, the CND monitors the world drug situation, attempts to develop strategies on international drug control, and recommends measures to combat the world drug problem. Addressing key public health and safety issues, particularly as human rights are concerned, should be considered a shared responsibility as the centerpiece of international cooperation to confront the very challenges posed by the global drug problem.

## **II. Addressing the Link between Drug Trafficking and Cyber and Identity Crime**

- How can the CND the issue of Internet Pharmacies and their mass distribution of illicit drugs? Is there a possibility for a universally accepted policy to identify and unplug these sites from further use?
- What is the role of the CND in limiting the amount of information provided by public databases that lead to identity theft?

The use of the Internet for illicit purposes, though prominent, is relatively new in the grand scheme of combating drug trafficking. International crime prevention organizations, such as INTERPOL and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), have made attempts in the prevention of cyber and identity crime through investigation and monitoring of the Internet. However, the prevention of cyber and identity crime continues to fall heavily on Member States. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) have both adopted resolutions, CND resolution 50/11 (2014) and ECOSOC resolution 2004/42 (2004), concerning the matter of Member State cooperation with United Nations (UN) organizations and their mission to reduce drug trafficking through the Internet. Specifically, CND resolution 50/11 (2014) requests that Member States report to the International Narcotics Board about seizures of illicit substances that were sold through the Internet. In

regards to cyber and identity crime, the most that the CND and ECOSOC have been able to do, through the efforts of the International Narcotics Board, is push reporting initiatives set forth by the *Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs* (1961), which essentially requests Member States report their findings and share new information. Even though the treaty is important to establishing the role of the CND and other UN agencies focused on narcotics, it is limited by its main focus of information sharing and lacking operative functions for incentivizing Member States to engage in cooperative reporting.

According to the *World Drug Report 2013*, overall drug use globally continues to remain stagnant in comparison to the general increase of the global population. Though it is good that drug use has not proportionally increased, still, as the report states, “in 2011, between 167 and 315 million people aged 15–64 were estimated to have used an illicit substance in the preceding year.” Drug use has not reduced recently as hoped because governments and organizations like the CND are unable to monitor and detour individuals from selling and buying illegal drugs by alternative means. KMPG International, one of the largest auditing corporations in the world, notes that “...since the mid-1990s, the Internet has increasingly been used by drug traffickers to sell illicit drugs or the chemical precursors required to manufacture such drugs. At the same time, illegal Internet Pharmacies advertise illicit sales in prescription medicines, including substances under international control, to the general public.” Despite the large amount of users of illicit substances, it is also difficult to determine how much of the illegal substances are obtained by cyber and identity crime. However, studies have concluded that cyber and identity crimes for the purpose of trafficking drugs as well as other crimes are increasing and gross more than the illicit drug market as a whole. As a result, policy makers as well as law enforcement are trailing behind in their response to this relatively new wave of crime.

As explained, the production and distribution of illicit drugs internationally remains a major issue. Cannabis, cocaine, and opiates are the most commonly used of the illicit drugs and still remain major contributors to the illicit drug trade worldwide. Though organizations such as the CND, the UN Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC), and INTERPOL have made significant strides in trying to minimize production and the trafficking of illicit drugs, the majority of the fight against illicit drugs lies with individual Member States and their willingness to work with the aforementioned organizations and international policies set by them. A challenge for organizations, like the CND, is conflicting ideologies about the “scheduling”, or the process by which drug officials categorize different drugs into schedules, which hinders policy for some Member States.

The mission of controlling the illicit drug trade becomes more complicated with the emergence of stronger drugs called New Proactive Substances. New proactive substances (NPS), a term coined in CND resolution 55/1 (2012), is an umbrella term for unregulated (new) psychoactive substances or products intended to mimic the effects of controlled drugs such as cocaine. The majority of NPS production has been pinpointed to East and South Asia; however, the regions where the drugs are most prevalently used are Europe and North America. Of countries that have participated in a CND drug survey, 88% said that the Internet and online illicit drug markets played a vital role in the distribution of NPS in their countries. NPS are particularly hard to regulate because they are technically considered legal substances. The International Narcotics Control Board labels these drugs as “designer drugs” meaning they were created specifically to avoid penalty of law while still providing the same type of “high.” Although there are not international regulations for NPS, some Member States, like the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, have taken it upon themselves to create national policies to regulate and penalize NPS distribution through what traffickers call Internet Pharmacies. However, until governments can all decide on a best practice for scheduling NPS, Internet Pharmacies will still be able to distribute large amounts of the drugs with little consequence.

Internet Pharmacies are one of the most efficient ways for distributors to sell their products to the general public. These pharmacies are Websites for individuals wishing to buy pharmaceutical products, narcotic drugs, and other illicit substances through a seemingly legitimate online store. However, these pharmacies are typically not affiliated with normal, legal pharmacies from which most individuals would receive their prescriptions. In fact, many of the pharmacies are owned and operated directly by the criminal systems that produce the illicit products. Internet Pharmacies thus provide a direct link for the trafficking of illicit drugs from the distributors to drug users. They are also very dangerous for the person choosing to buy medicines. Medicines from Internet Pharmacies are typically counterfeit and cannot be used for their intended purpose. For a user, counterfeit medicines and/or large amounts of these medicines, especially NPS, can lead to fatal overdoses. Dismantling Internet Pharmacies, however, is not as simple as disconnecting the server. Internet Pharmacies commonly are linked to several computer servers that are

scattered across the globe, thus limiting the ability of officials to pinpoint their source, making it harder for INTERPOL, governments, and organizations like the CND unable to dismantle these operations. Internet pharmacies also allow traffickers a certain level and anonymity, making it more alluring for traffickers to frequent these sites for distribution.

Internet pharmacies, though effective, are not the only way the traffickers enlist the Internet to aid them in distribution of illicit drugs. It is important to realize that cybercrime comes in many forms and drug trafficking networks commit many of them. Today's economic and political life depends on digital communications; however, our reliance on this makes us uniquely vulnerable to new and emerging types of crime like identity theft. Consequently, a common way that criminals in the drug trafficking industry move their products is through identity theft. In these particular situations, people seeking to move drugs in and out of countries will steal an individual's identity, through a passport or banking information, and use that as a means of transporting their product. In some cases, the use of the false identity can lead to damaging effects to the victim's reputation. The victim in some identity theft cases is even subjected to harassment by creditors due to credits cards taken out in their name and in extreme cases the victim may be incarcerated and forced to serve time for crimes committed under their name. It is important to note that even the deceased are subject to identity crime. The UNODC's *Handbook on Identity-related Crime* notes that in states like the Netherlands and the United States, deaths are made public and criminals use that information to recycle an identity for their purposes. This demonstrates a need for better accountability of the side of the governments and how they decide to handle identification information.

Today's technologies have given hackers and others that commit cyber and identity crime the ability to develop more sophisticated means of carrying out illegal activities and to themselves adapt to today's world. As a result of these new technologies, more attacks are being committed against tablet and mobile phone users than in recent years, due in part to the rise in the popularity and use of these items. Nevertheless, identity thieves still use traditional means of stealing identities such as obituaries and documents like death certificates, which in many countries are made public. Criminal networks have taken complete advantage of the Internet and its ability to shuffle information fast and anonymously, as best evidenced by the growing use of Internet Pharmacies. The rising popularity of these services is known but the dangers are rarely taken into consideration, including fatality of the users. The CND and other organizations do their best to assist in educating, reporting, and aiding efforts to minimize cyber and identity crime, but greater international cooperation will be needed in the future if the international community hopes to stay ahead of the combined electronic drug trafficking market. Moreover, though the CND has and is continually active in the fight against the Internet drug trade and related crimes, greater emphasis will need to be put on the Member States to work more closely with the CND, INTERPOL, and other international organizations to unify against the growing merger of cybercrime and the drug trade.

### **III. Strengthening Partnerships with the Private Sector in Counter-Narcotic Efforts**

- What more can the CND do to grown and solidify private sector partnerships?
- How may the private sector further coordinate with the CND and Member States to help implement health-centered demand reduction methods?
- What responsibility does the private sector have in implementing alternative development and how can the CND leverage the resources and advantages of the private sector to integrate the approach into the post-2015 development agenda?

Continued dialogue between the private sector and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) is required to effectively combat the illicit trade of narcotic drugs since criminal organizations are constantly adapting to newer technologies, expanded infrastructures, and new policies. The CND's responsibility is to expand its resources to also adapt to changing situations, and strengthening partnerships with the private sector will ensure that is the case. While the CND has made great efforts and strides to include the private sector in all efforts to counter-narcotic drugs, criminal organizations continue to exploit international information and communications and commercial infrastructures that are developed, operated, and maintained by the private sector. Through mutual and effective sharing of information, knowledge, and experience and through joint and coordinated actions, governments and businesses can develop, improve, and implement measures to prevent illicit trade of narcotics by the organized crime.

Recently, the CND has been shifting its counter-narcotic efforts away from a zero-tolerance policy to one of pragmatism, in which the focus is demand reduction. Pursuing a balanced and mutually reinforcing approach to supply and demand reduction, the CND has devoted more effort to the realization of demand reduction with resources and international cooperation in addressing drug abuse as a health and social issue while also reducing supply through alternative development programs. The CND efforts to shift to such a demand reduction approach have encouraged policies that include the partnership with the private sector. For example, emphasizing the need for the private sector to have accessible medical prescriptions that would be an alternative to illicit drugs is one case of a demand reduction approach integrated into policy. Demand reduction programs also include all areas of prevention such as: reducing drug use and reducing the negative health and social consequences of drug abuse. Demand reduction efforts produce best results when the private sector is involved with public awareness, education, information sharing, rehabilitation, and social reintegration programs. This is because including the private sector in the equation improves public awareness and enhances communities to deal with adverse effects from drug abuse.

The CND's efforts to improve relations with the private sector have been hampered by leading Member States that refuse to endorse or fund demand reduction policies due to lack of political will or corruption. Funding that can otherwise be used for demand reduction programs are instead diverted to criminalization and repressive measures directed at traffickers and consumers of illegal drugs, which have proven to not be cost effective according to the Global Commission on Drugs. Even with growing appeal to demand reduction strategies by many Member States, about one third of the Member States favoring demand reduction do not have the funds needed for these programs, particularly in the continent of Africa. Other Member States with allotted funding for demand reduction strategies have very limited funding making their programs ineffective. The private sector, however, has the resources to spur public awareness programs that enhance the ability of countries to strengthen the political will for the funding of demand reduction programs. On the local level, the private sector can establish effective drug awareness campaigns in schools and community, including the use of the media and advertising resources, that will also help support these programs. Equally important is the private sector's influence in the health industry to ensure that access to drug treatment is affordable and cost effective making it available to a greater public where funds are limited.

Additionally, the CND, as part of its efforts to shift to a demand reduction approach in combating narcotics has recognized alternative development as a fundamental component of a comprehensive drug control strategy. Alternative development is the process of preventing and eliminating the illicit cultivation of plants generating narcotic drugs through designed rural development measures in the context of sustained national economic growth. The CND has recognized the potential benefits to communities for sustainable development in countries taking action against illicit drugs. That said, the partnership between civil society, NGOs, and the private sector is important in providing resources and technical assistance to identify market niches, establish new markets, and encourage financial support and marketing for these projects. Additionally, the private sector can provide market research and recommendations on policies, institutional frameworks, and financial support. For instance, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) partnered with the Colombian government and the supermarket giant Carrefour to wean farmers from illicit crops by providing free space in its supermarkets for produce and even buying products at a loss. To further this cause, the UNODC has facilitated the sale of alternative development products on national and international markets in partnering the private sector and Member States.

Alternative development methods face greater problems particularly in certain regions of the world. For instance, the CND has recognized that areas seriously affected by the cultivation of illicit drug crops do not have effective alternative development programs, in particular in areas that are directly influenced by insurgency and unrest. Regions with high rates of inequality where unequal access to education, health, water, and electricity has shown to slow the pace of poverty reduction programs like alternative development methods. Additionally, some Member States with limited or no private sector involvement have reported difficulties maintaining viable, stable markets for alternatives, which makes development unsustainable. Other problems with alternative development arise from the lack of international consensus on alternative development policies, which create adverse conditions for national policy formulation. This is the case in Peru, where 95% of alternative development funding is provided by the United States, but the deal is conditional on the establishment of an eradication policy within Peruvian national legislation. The CND has the responsibility to partner with the private sector to ensure that international and regional agencies working on alternative development engage in dialogue to strengthen consensus on policy. The CND is also responsible for ensuring that the design of alternative development programs involves all appropriate stakeholders, such as the private sector, so as to customize alternative development programs to fit specific characteristics of every Member State' drug problem.

Afghanistan's alternative development programs implemented since 2002 with the help of the United States have demonstrated some success. Afghanistan partnered with the private sector to help market the sale of alternative crops. The private sector was tasked with establishing local businesses that issued contracts with farmers to guarantee sales at favorable prices for their legal crops. Afghanistan's alternative development efforts have been coupled with eradication efforts of illicit crops in order to lower the risks of farmers returning to the cultivation of illicit crops. Afghanistan's private sector partnership provides subsidies by grant-financing for the development of alternative crops that yield income in the short and long-term, as well as managing the financing of rural infrastructures and markets for the crops. As such, the private sector is crucial to making sure that alternative development programs in Afghanistan provide incentives to drive economic growth and job creation. Economic growth has to be equitable to create opportunities for farmers and all parties involved. Ultimately, alternative development with private expertise in Afghanistan managed to train thousands of farmers, government representatives, and business owners. Thousands of women also received training in business and agricultural skills as a result. Yet, in spite of these successes, the private sector assistance in alternative development programs in Afghanistan did not perform as expected due to lack of funding and large regions still under the influence of insurgents that hampered efforts being made in this regard.

With the constant evolution of criminal organizations involved in the illicit sale of narcotic drugs, the private sector has a crucial role in assisting Member States in preventing and countering crime in all its forms. The CND recognizes the importance of strengthening private partnerships in preventing and countering the proliferation of narcotic drugs especially. Through mutual and effective sharing of information, knowledge and experience and through joint and coordinated actions, Member States and the private sector can develop, improve, and implement effective policy these drugs. Cooperation between the CND and the private sector collect, analyze, and disseminate information to Member States in the effort to promote public-private partnerships in countering narcotic drugs. Despite some significant progress made in certain areas, efforts have not led to a significant overall decrease in the global illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs. As the CND moves away from a zero-tolerance to a more pragmatic approach in counter-narcotic efforts, much of the difficulties arise from leading Member States that prefer a zero-tolerance approach. CND's lack of understanding the demand/supply drug market dynamics and lack of a long-term balanced approach have also complicated its efforts in creating strong partnerships with the private sector to combat narcotic drugs.

Therefore, the CND and the private sector need to continue dialogue in order to effectively combat the illicit trade of narcotic drugs. The expansion of CND resources to adapt to changing situations requires constant partnership with the private sector. Some major questions remain to be answered in the strengthening partnerships with the private sector in combating narcotic drugs. For example, the CND recognizes the need for the promotion of demand reduction efforts that the private sector can provide and the role it plays in combating narcotic drugs. In so doing, the greater spectrum of such partnerships becomes clear. The private sector may be able to help implement health-centered demand reduction methods that respect human rights and equal access in coordination with the CND and nationally with Member States. It may also aid in implementing alternative development and integrating such approaches into the post 2015 development agenda. Yet how other international actors can participate in these efforts and partnerships has not been made clear. Moreover, within the UN system, the demand reduction approach to counter narcotic efforts has received significant opposition. In considering these gaps, the CND is responsible for coordinating and collaborating in the best interests of counter-narcotic drug efforts and in the best interest of the global population to curb the global drug issue.

## **Annotated Bibliography**

### ***History of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs***

Commission on Narcotic Drugs. (2014). *CND Website*. Retrieved 4 May 2013 from:  
<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/index.html?ref=menuaside>

*The UN Office on Drug and Crime and the CND provide basic information about the CND through this document. In addition to other materials, this Website provides a very board view of the CND and the committees that it has created. Also, the Website further validates the information provided by the CND mandate and the CND fact sheet.*

United Nations, Office on Drug and Crime. (1946). *Resolution 9(I)*. Retrieved 4 May 2013 from: [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/ECOSOC\\_Res-9I\\_E.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/ECOSOC_Res-9I_E.pdf)

*The mandate of the CND will provide delegates with a clear understanding of the purpose and authority that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have given the CND. The mandate is essential to the workflow of the CND committee. Delegates will need this document when writing working papers in order to operate within the authority of the commission.*

United Nations, Office on Drug and Crime. (2014). *Fact Sheet on Elections and Membership*. Retrieved 4 May 2013 from:

[http://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Membership/Fact\\_sheet\\_on\\_elections\\_and\\_membership.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Membership/Fact_sheet_on_elections_and_membership.pdf)

*This document will help delegates understand the history of the CND and how each of their Member States joined the CND. The CND has the benefit of significant representation from across the world's regions. This document may help delegates if they seek to establish regionally focused policies.*

### ***I. Evaluating the Global Drug Regime***

Congressional Research Services. (2014). *Afghanistan: Drug Trafficking and the 2014 Transition*. Retrieved 15 May 2014 from: <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R43540.pdf>

*This document presents the current situation in Afghanistan with regards to what has worked in alternative development and what has not, concluding that efforts to reduce the cultivation of the poppy have failed with cultivation actually rising. As well, a correlation between regional insecurity and higher cultivation of poppy has been discussed in this document. Most experts expect the drug cultivation and production in Afghanistan will continue to increase in the coming years.*

Global Commission on Drug Policy. (June 2011). *War on Drugs: Report of the Global Commission on Drug Policy*. Retrieved 15 May 2014 from: [http://www.globalcommissionondrugs.org/wp-content/themes/gcdp\\_v1/pdf/Global\\_Commission\\_Report\\_English.pdf](http://www.globalcommissionondrugs.org/wp-content/themes/gcdp_v1/pdf/Global_Commission_Report_English.pdf)

*This document calls for an end to the war on drugs. To support this, case studies of successful alternatives to the zero-tolerance approach can be found in this report as well as examples of why the prohibitionist approach has created more violence and increased the use of illicit drugs. Approaches to drug addiction as a health issue and humane treatments may also be found.*

Global Commission on Drug Policy. (May 2013). *The Negative Impact of the War on Drugs on Public Health: The Hidden Hepatitis C Epidemic*. Retrieved 15 May 2014 from:

[http://www.globalcommissionondrugs.org/hepatitis/gcdp\\_hepatitis\\_english.pdf](http://www.globalcommissionondrugs.org/hepatitis/gcdp_hepatitis_english.pdf)

*The Global Commission on Drugs Policy makes the argument in this report that the war on drugs has actually created a health disaster among those that are drug users by making accessing clean needles almost impossible. This document also contends that the incarceration of people who use drugs fuels the Hepatitis C epidemic. Around the world, the high cost of Hepatitis C treatment is having a devastating effect on its availability. Recommendations for the prevention and treatment of Hepatitis C can subsequently be found in this document.*

Transnational Institute. (July 2002). *Polarisation & Paralysis in UN Drug Control: Breaking the Impasse*. Retrieved 14 May 2014 from: <http://www.tni.org/sites/www.tni.org/files/download/debate5.pdf>

*The United States' stubbornness to shift efforts away from prohibitionist policies is explained in this document, presenting a debate on the issue. Examples of the United States war on drugs escalation are also given while presenting how Europe has taken a different stance on drug addiction. Clues to reform of the UN Office on Drug and Crime can be found in this document explaining what should be done. For example, one recommendation is to balance responsibilities between the health, justice, and internal and foreign affairs departments. Delegates may find this source helpful in understand the contrasting viewpoints of the war on drugs and its implementation.*

United Nations, Office on Drugs and Crime. (6 December 2013). *Contribution of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to the high-level review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to*

*Counter the World Drug Problem, to be conducted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2014 (UNODC/ED/2014/1)* [Report]. Retrieved 15 May 2014 from: [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND\\_Sessions/CND\\_57/\\_UNODC-ED-2014-1/UNODC-ED-2014-1\\_V1388514\\_E.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND_Sessions/CND_57/_UNODC-ED-2014-1/UNODC-ED-2014-1_V1388514_E.pdf)

*As a recent report, this document calls for a shift to a less prohibitionist approach in combating the illicit trade of narcotic drugs. Successful, pragmatic examples are detailed in this document and global challenges that have recently emerged may also be found in this document giving light as to what else can be done to address the issue. One of these challenges is the emergence of new psychoactive substances that are not yet under international control but may pose a public health. Delegates will find this source helpful in understand the most up to date discussions on the topic as well as highly relevant examples.*

## **II. Addressing the Link between Drug Trafficking and Cyber and Identity Crime**

Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs. (2013). *Drug Related Cybercrime and Associated use of the Internet*. Retrieved 21 May 2014 from: [http://www.coe.int/T/DG3/Pompidou/Source/Documents/P-PG-\(2013\)4Cybercrime-internet.pdf](http://www.coe.int/T/DG3/Pompidou/Source/Documents/P-PG-(2013)4Cybercrime-internet.pdf)

*The European Union has pushed the fight against the illicit drug trade and its connection to cyber and identity crime. Delegates should also look to this source as a means to form policy that could be universally accepted by other Member States. Furthermore, this report can help to form more connections between the illicit drug trade and cybercrime.*

KPMG International. (July 2011). *Cyber Crime- A Growing Challenge for Governments*. Retrieved 6 May 2014 from: <https://www.kpmg.com/Global/en/IssuesAndInsights/ArticlesPublications/Documents/cyber-crime.pdf>

*KPMG International is an internationally known and highly respected auditing organization that has a myriad of statistics for delegates to fully grasp the severity of the illicit drug trade and how it is interconnected with cyber and identity crime. Unlike other sources, KPMG provides a look into the drug trade from a business perspective. Grasping the private sector aspect could prove critical in promoting international cooperation.*

United Nations, Office on Drug and Crime. (2009). *Political Declaration and Place of Action on international Cooperation Towards and Intergraded and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem*. Retrieved 23 May 2014 from: <http://www.unodc.org/documents/ungass2016/V0984963-English.pdf>

*In 2009, the UN Office on Drug and Crime drafted a plan of action on how to handle the illicit drug trade and how the CND and other like-minded organizations should move forward for the next decade. This plan seeks to improve cooperation between Member States and international organizations such as the CND and the International Narcotics Board. This is an invaluable source of knowledge for the delegates in their research and mission to increase cooperation between governments and the CND.*

United Nations, Office on Drug and Crime. (April 2011). *Handbook on Identity-Related Crime*. Retrieved 16 June 2014 from: [http://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/Handbook\\_on\\_ID\\_Crime/10-57802\\_ebooke.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/Handbook_on_ID_Crime/10-57802_ebooke.pdf)

*The UN Office on Drug and Crime provides the Handbook on Identity-Related Crime as a resource for understanding identity crime. This resource can be very useful in trying to understand what has already been done both internationally and in specific Member States. Most importantly, the handbook provides insight into the broad, multifaceted realm of identity crime. Though criminals can use identity crime for drug trafficking, there are many different aspects of the crime that CND can take a pre-emptive approach on in order to stay ahead of the drug trafficking trade.*

United Nations, Office on Drug and Crime. (February 2013). *Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime*. Retrieved 5 May 2014 from: [http://www.unodc.org/documents/organized-crime/UNODC\\_CCPCJ\\_EG.4\\_2013/CYBERCRIME\\_STUDY\\_210213.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/organized-crime/UNODC_CCPCJ_EG.4_2013/CYBERCRIME_STUDY_210213.pdf)

*The UN Office on Drug and Crime Comprehensive Study of Cybercrime is a document that gives highly useful insight into cybercrime. This study provides a strong basis to understand cybercrime from an objective standpoint. Additionally, the comprehensive study allows delegates a platform to expand their individual Member States' stance. More importantly, delegates are given a more in-depth look into what has been done internationally to combat cybercrime.*

United Nations, Office on Drug and Crime. (2013). *World Drug Report 2013*. Retrieved 5 May 2014 from: [http://www.unodc.org/unodc/secured/wdr/wdr2013/World\\_Drug\\_Report\\_2013.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/secured/wdr/wdr2013/World_Drug_Report_2013.pdf)

*In 2013, the UN Office on Drug and Crime produced a comprehensive drug report that gave the global community an all-inclusive perspective of illicit drug use internationally. Also, this report provides an unbiased view of the illicit drug trade. This information is vital to the background guide because it is able to give an in-depth depiction of the illicit drug market and will prove to be a vital source of information for delegates.*

### **III. Strengthening Partnerships with the Private Sector in Counter-Narcotic Efforts**

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. (n.d.). *Strengthening public-private partnerships to counter crime in all its forms and manifestations*. Retrieved 1 May 2014 from:

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/Crime\\_Resolutions/2010-2019/2010/CCPCJ/Resolution\\_19-1.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/Crime_Resolutions/2010-2019/2010/CCPCJ/Resolution_19-1.pdf)

*This document endorses the strengthening of partnerships between the private sector and the CND in preventing and countering crime in all its forms and manifestations. The document also recognizes the need for the private sector in the curtailing of organized crime in its adaptation to technology and globalization. As such, efforts to promote public-private partnerships to counter crime in all its forms and manifestations through greater dialogue between the private sector and intergovernmental organizations are found in this document.*

United Nations, Commission on Narcotic Drugs. (2009). *Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation Towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem*. Adopted at the High-level segment. Retrieved 2 May 2014 from:

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND\\_Sessions/CND\\_52/Political-Declaration2009\\_V0984963\\_E.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND_Sessions/CND_52/Political-Declaration2009_V0984963_E.pdf)

*Recommendations are given in this source for the private sector to get involved in health-care services in order to help implement the shift to a more humane approach towards drug addiction. The private sector is encouraged to also get involved with educational programs on counter-narcotics consumption. The expertise that is available from the private sector makes private sector organizations crucial to the continuation of partnerships with intergovernmental organizations and governments. This document highlights this expertise and its significance.*

United Nations, Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Fifty-seventh session. (27 December 2013). *Report of the Executive Director: Action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/CN.7/2014/7)*. Retrieved 16 May 2014 from:

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND\\_Sessions/CND\\_57/E-CN7-2014-07/E-CN7-2014-7\\_V1389056\\_E.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND_Sessions/CND_57/E-CN7-2014-07/E-CN7-2014-7_V1389056_E.pdf)

*This document presents how the private sector has expertly created markets that have helped to spur economic growth in some countries. It also highlights how contracts created by the private sector with farmers help them to sell their goods at reasonable prices. According to this document, the private sector needs continued investments in order to maintain stable markets. Delegates may find this report helpful in understand practical applications of the topic on which future recommendations could be based.*

United Nations, Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Fifty-seventh session. (20 February 2014). *Outreach to new Stakeholders in the Field of Alternative Development (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.7)* [Report]. Retrieved 16 May 2014 from:

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND\\_Sessions/CND\\_57/E-CN7-2014-CRP07\\_V1401225\\_E.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND_Sessions/CND_57/E-CN7-2014-CRP07_V1401225_E.pdf)

*This recent document argues why the private sector is so crucial to implementing alternative development programs. It argues that the expertise of the private sector is best suited for creating markets and promoting the sale of alternative crops. This document also presents reasons why the private sector is better suited to establishing the necessary infrastructure to create economic growth.*

United Nations, General Assembly. (June 1998). *Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction*. Retrieved 2 May 2014 from: <http://www.un.org/ga/20special/demand.htm>

*The need for the private sector to get more involved with community-wide participation to improve public awareness is presented in this declaration. This partnership is important for communities to deal with the negative consequences of drug abuse. As well, the partnership of private sectors for demand reduction efforts should be integrated into broader social welfare and health promotion policies. Such details are presented from an international perspective through this document, which delegates will find useful in beginning their research into their own countries' policies.*

## **Rules of Procedure of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)**

### ***Introduction***

1. These rules shall be the only rules that apply to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) and shall be considered adopted by the Committee prior to its first meeting.
2. For purposes of these rules, the Director, the Assistant Director, and the Director of Conference Services are designates and agents of the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General, and are collectively referred to as the “Secretariat.”
3. Interpretation of the rules shall be reserved exclusively to the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General or her/his designate. Such interpretation shall be in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the National Model United Nations (NMUN) and in furtherance of the educational mission of that organization.
4. For the purposes of these rules, “President” shall refer to the chairperson or acting chairperson of the Committee, which can be any member of the Secretariat or their designate.
5. The practice of striving for consensus in decision-making shall be encouraged. NMUN also acknowledges it may sometimes be necessary for a Member State to abstain or vote against a resolution it cannot support for policy reasons.

### **I. SESSIONS**

#### **Rule 1 - *Dates of convening and adjournment***

The Committee shall meet every year in regular session, commencing and closing on the dates designated by the Secretary-General.

#### **Rule 2 - *Place of sessions***

The Committee shall meet at a location designated by the Secretary-General.

### **II. AGENDA**

#### **Rule 3 - *Provisional agenda***

The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Deputy Secretary-General and communicated to the members of the Committee at least sixty days before the opening of the session.

#### **Rule 4 - *Adoption of the agenda***

The agenda provided by the Deputy Secretary-General shall be considered adopted as of the beginning of the session. The order of the agenda items shall be determined by a majority vote of those present and voting.

*The vote described in this rule is a procedural vote and, as such, observers are permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, those present and voting means those Member States and observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote. Should the Committee not reach a decision by conclusion of the first night’s meeting, the agenda will be automatically set in the order in which it was first communicated.*

### **Rule 5 - Revision of the agenda**

During a session, the Committee may revise the agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending items. Only important and urgent items shall be added to the agenda during a session. Debate on the inclusion of an item in the agenda shall be limited to three speakers in favor of, and three against, the inclusion. Additional items of an important and urgent character, proposed for inclusion in the agenda less than thirty days before the opening of a session, may be placed on the agenda if the Committee so decides by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. No additional item may, unless the Committee decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, be considered until a commission has reported on the question concerned.

*For purposes of this rule, the determination of an item of an important and urgent character is subject to the discretion of the Deputy Secretary-General, or his or her designate, and any such determination is final. If an item is determined to be of such a character, then it requires a two-thirds vote of the Committee to be placed on the agenda. The votes described in this rule are substantive votes, and, as such, observers are not permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, —the members “present and voting” — means members (not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.*

### **Rule 6 - Explanatory memorandum**

Any item proposed for inclusion in the agenda shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if possible, by basic documents.

## **III. SECRETARIAT**

### **Rule 7 - Duties of the Secretary-General**

1. The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall act in this capacity in all meetings of the Committee.
2. The Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Deputy Secretary-General, shall provide and direct the staff required by the Committee and be responsible for all the arrangements that may be necessary for its meetings.

### **Rule 8 - Duties of the Secretariat**

The Secretariat shall receive and distribute documents of the Commission to the Members, and generally perform all other work which the Committee may require.

### **Rule 9 - Statements by the Secretariat**

The Secretary-General or her/his designate, may make oral as well as written statements to the Committee concerning any question under consideration.

### **Rule 10 - Selection of the President**

The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall appoint, from applications received by the Secretariat, a President who shall hold office and, *inter alia*, chair the Committee for the duration of the session, unless otherwise decided by the Secretary-General.

### **Rule 11 - Replacement of the President**

If the President is unable to perform her/his functions, a new President shall be appointed for the unexpired term at the discretion of the Secretary-General or her/his designate.

## IV. LANGUAGE

### **Rule 12 - Official and working language**

English shall be the official and working language of the Committee during scheduled sessions (both formal and informal) of the Committee.

### **Rule 13 - Interpretation (oral) or translation (written)**

Any representative wishing to address any body or submit a document in a language other than English shall provide interpretation or translation into English.

*This rule does not affect the total speaking time allotted to those representatives wishing to address the body in a language other than English. As such, both the speech and the interpretation must be within the set time limit. The language should be the official language of the country you are representing at NMUN.*

## V. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

### **Rule 14 - Quorum**

The President may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when representatives of at least one-third of the members of the Committee are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the members of the Committee shall be required for any decision to be taken.

*For purposes of this rule, members of the Committee means the total number of members (not including observers) in attendance at the first night's meeting (session).*

### **Rule 15 - General powers of the President**

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Committee, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to vote and announce decisions. The President, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the Committee and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. He or she shall rule on points of order. The President may propose to the Committee the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the speakers time and on the number of times the representative of each member may speak on an item, the adjournment or closure of the debate, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting.

*Included in these enumerated powers is the power to assign speaking times for all speeches incidental to motions and amendment. Further, the President is to use her/his discretion, upon the advice and at the consent of the Secretariat, to determine whether to entertain a particular motion based on the philosophy and principles of the NMUN. Such discretion should be used on a limited basis and only under circumstances where it is necessary to advance the educational mission of the Conference and is limited to entertaining motions.*

### **Rule 16 - Authority of the Committee**

The President, in the exercise of her or his functions, remains under the authority of the Committee.

### **Rule 17 - Voting rights on procedural matters**

Unless otherwise stated, all votes pertaining to the conduct of business shall require a favorable vote by the majority of the members "present and voting" in order to pass.

*For purposes of this rule, the members present and voting mean those members (including observers) in attendance at the meeting during which this rule is applied. Note that observers may vote on all procedural votes; they may, however, not vote on substantive matters (see Chapter VI). Every delegation must cast a vote in procedural votes. Further, there is no possibility to abstain or pass on procedural votes*

### **Rule 18 - Points of order**

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order, and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with the rules of procedure. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting. A representative rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

*Such points of order should not under any circumstances interrupt the speech of a fellow representative. They should be used exclusively to correct an error in procedure. Any questions on order arising during a speech made by a representative should be raised at the conclusion of the speech, or can be addressed by the President, sua sponte (on her/his own accord), during the speech. For purposes of this rule, the members present and voting mean those members (including observers) in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to vote.*

### **Rule 19 - Speeches**

No representative may address the Committee without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

*In line with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN, in furtherance of its educational mission, and for the purpose of facilitating debate, the Secretariat will set a time limit for all speeches which may be amended by the Committee through a vote if the President, at his or her discretion, decides to allow the Committee to decide. In no case shall the speaker's time be changed during the first scheduled session of the Committee. Consequently, motions to alter the speaker's time will not be entertained by the President. The content of speeches should be pertinent to the agenda as set by the Committee.*

### **Rule 20 - List of Speakers**

Members may only be on the list of speakers once but may be added again after having spoken. During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Committee, declare the list closed. Once the list has been closed, it can be reopened upon by a vote of the Committee. When there are no more speakers, the President shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by decision of the Committee.

*The decision to announce the list of speakers is within the discretion of the President and should not be the subject of a motion by the Committee. A motion to close the speakers list or reopen (if the list has already been closed) is within the purview of the Committee and the President should not act on her/his own motion.*

### **Rule 21 - Right of reply**

If a remark impugns the integrity of a representative's State, the President may permit that representative to exercise her/his right of reply following the conclusion of the controversial speech, and shall determine an appropriate time limit for the reply. No ruling on this question shall be subject to appeal.

*For purposes of this rule, a remark that impugns the integrity of a representative's State is one directed at the governing authority of that State and/or one that puts into question that State's sovereignty or a portion thereof. All interventions in the exercise of the right of reply shall be addressed in writing to the Secretariat and shall not be raised as a point of order or motion. The reply shall be read to the Committee by the representative only upon approval of the Secretariat, and in no case after voting has concluded on all matters relating to the agenda topic, during the discussion of which, the right arose. The right of reply will not be approved should it impugn the integrity of another State.*

**Rule 22 - Suspension of the meeting**

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the suspension of the meeting, specifying a time for reconvening. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to a vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. Delegates should not state a purpose for the suspension.

*This motion should be used to suspend the meeting for lunch or at the end of the scheduled board session time. Delegates should properly phrase this motion as "suspension of the meeting," and provide a length of time when making the motion.*

**Rule 23 - Adjournment of the meeting**

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move to the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to the vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. After adjournment, the Committee shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

*As this motion, if successful, would end the meeting until the Committee's next regularly scheduled session the following year, and in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and in furtherance of its educational mission, the President will not entertain such a motion until the end of the last meeting of the Committee.*

**Rule 24 - Adjournment of debate**

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. Two representatives may speak in favor of, and two against, the motion, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.

**Rule 25 - Closure of debate**

A representative may at any time move the closure of debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified her/his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. Closure of debate shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. If the Committee favors the closure of debate, the Committee shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under that agenda item.

**Rule 26 - Order of motions**

Subject to Rule 18, the motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

1. To suspend the meeting;
2. To adjourn the meeting;
3. To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
4. To close the debate on the item under discussion.

**Rule 27 - Proposals and amendments**

Proposals and amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretariat. Any proposal or amendment that relates to the substance of any matter under discussion shall require the signature of twenty percent of the members of the Committee [sponsors].

The Secretariat may, at its discretion, approve the proposal or amendment for circulation among the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be put to the vote at any meeting of the Committee unless copies of it have been

circulated to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments or of motions as to procedure, even though such amendments and motions have not been circulated.

If the sponsors agree to the adoption of a proposed amendment, the proposal shall be modified accordingly and no vote shall be taken on the proposed amendment. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the Committee for all purposes, including subsequent amendments.

*For purposes of this rule, all proposals shall be in the form of working papers prior to their approval by the Secretariat. Working papers will not be copied, or in any other way distributed, to the Committee by the Secretariat. The distribution of such working papers is solely the responsibility of the sponsors of the working papers. Along these lines, and in furtherance of the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and for the purpose of advancing its educational mission, representatives should not directly refer to the substance of a working paper that has not yet been accepted as a draft resolution during formal speeches. After approval of a working paper, the proposal becomes a draft resolution and will be copied by the Secretariat for distribution to the Committee. These draft resolutions are the collective property of the Committee and, as such, the names of the original sponsors will be removed. The copying and distribution of amendments is at the discretion of the Secretariat, but the substance of all such amendments will be made available to all representatives in some form. Should delegates wish to withdraw a working paper or draft resolution from consideration, this requires the consent of all sponsors.*

**Rule 28 - Withdrawal of motions**

A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting has commenced, provided that the motion has not been amended. A motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any member.

**Rule 29 - Reconsideration of a topic**

When a topic has been adjourned, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Committee, by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, so decides. Reconsideration can only be moved by a representative who voted on the prevailing side of the original motion to adjourn. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall be put to the vote immediately. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.

**Rule 30 - Invitation to silent prayer or meditation**

Immediately after the opening of the meeting and immediately preceding the closing of the final meeting, the President shall invite the representatives to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation with the motion to do so by a representative.

## VI. VOTING

**Rule 31 - Voting rights**

Each member of the Committee shall have one vote.

*This rule applies to substantive voting on amendments, draft resolutions, and portions of draft resolutions divided out by motion. As such, all references to member(s) do not include observers, who are not permitted to cast votes on substantive matters.*

**Rule 32 - Request for a vote**

A proposal or motion before the Committee for decision shall be voted upon if any member so requests. Where no member requests a vote, the Committee may adopt proposals or motions without a vote.

*For purposes of this rule, proposal means any draft resolution, an amendment thereto, or a portion of a draft resolution divided out by motion. Just prior to a vote on a particular proposal or motion, the President may ask if there are any objections to passing the proposal or motion by acclamation, or a*

*member may move to accept the proposal or motion by acclamation. If there are no objections to the proposal or motion, then it is adopted without a vote. Adoption by “acclamation” or “without a vote” is consistent not only with the educational mission of the conference but also the way in which the United Nations adopts a majority of its proposals.*

**Rule 33 - Majority required**

1. Unless specified otherwise in these rules, decisions of the Committee shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.
2. For the purpose of tabulation, the phrase “members present and voting” means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

*All members declaring their representative States as “present and voting” during the attendance roll-call for the meeting during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative vote, and cannot abstain on substantive votes.*

**Rule 34 - Method of voting**

1. The Committee shall normally vote by a show of placards, except that a representative may request a roll-call, which shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with the member whose name is randomly selected by the President. The name of each member shall be called in any roll-call, and one of its representatives shall reply “yes,” “no,” “abstention,” or “pass.”

*Only those members who designate themselves as present or present and voting during the attendance roll-call, or in some other manner communicate their attendance to the President and/or Secretariat, are permitted to vote and, as such, no others will be called during a roll-call vote. Any representatives replying pass must, when requested a second time, respond with either a yes or no vote. A pass cannot be followed by a second pass for the same proposal or amendment, nor can it be followed by an abstention on that same proposal or amendment.*

2. When the Committee votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of placards and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call vote. A representative may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Committee shall dispense with the procedure of calling out the names of the members.
3. The vote of each member participating in a roll-call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in the record.

**Rule 35 - Explanations of vote**

Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanation of their votes after the voting has been completed. The representatives of a member sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended, and the member has voted against the proposal or motion.

*All explanations of vote must be submitted to the President in writing before debate on the topic is closed, except where the representative is of a member sponsoring the proposal, as described in the second clause, in which case the explanation of vote must be submitted to the President in writing immediately after voting on the topic ends. Only delegates who are sponsors of a draft resolution that has been adopted with an unfriendly amendment, whom subsequently voted against the draft resolution may explain their vote.*

**Rule 36 - Conduct during voting**

After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representatives shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual process of voting.

*For purposes of this rule, there shall be no communication among delegates, and if any delegate leaves the Committee room during voting procedure, they will not be allowed back into the room until the Committee*

*has convened voting procedure. Should a delegate who is also serving as Head Delegate leave the room, they may reenter but they may not retake their seat and participate in the vote.*

**Rule 37 - Division of proposals and amendments**

Immediately before a proposal or amendment comes to a vote, a representative may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment should be voted on separately. If there are calls for multiple divisions, those shall be voted upon in an order to be set by the President where the most radical division will be voted upon first. If an objection is made to the motion for division, the request for division shall be voted upon, requiring the support of a majority of those present and voting to pass. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be given only to two speakers in favor and two speakers against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment which are approved shall then be put to a vote. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

*For purposes of this rule, most radical division means the division that will remove the greatest substance from the draft resolution, but not necessarily the one that will remove the most words or clauses. The determination of which division is most radical is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.*

**Rule 38 - Amendments**

An amendment is a proposal that does no more than add to, delete from, or revise part of another proposal. Permission to speak on the amendment shall be given only to two speakers in favor and two speakers against.

*An amendment can add, amend, or delete entire operative clauses, but cannot in any manner add, amend, delete, or otherwise affect preambular clauses or sub-clauses of operative clauses. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule. These speeches are substantive in nature.*

**Rule 39 - Voting on amendments**

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal shall be voted on first and then the amendment next furthest removed there from, and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on.

*For purposes of this rule, furthest removed in substance means the amendment that will have the most significant impact on the draft resolution. The determination of which amendment is furthest removed in substance is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.*

**Rule 40 - Order of voting on proposals**

If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Committee decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted.

**Rule 41 - The President shall not vote**

The President shall not vote but may designate another member of her/his delegation to vote in her/his place.

**VII. CREDENTIALS**

**Rule 42 - Credentials**

The credentials of representatives and the names of members of a delegation shall be submitted to the Secretary-General prior to the opening of a session.

**Rule 43 - Authority of the General Assembly**

The Committee shall be bound by the actions of the General Assembly in all credentials matters and shall take no action regarding the credentials of any member.

**VII. PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

**Rule 44 - Participation of non-Member States**

The Committee shall invite any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Committee and any other State, to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.

A sub-board or sessional body of the Committee shall invite any State that is not one of its own members to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State. A State thus invited shall not have the right to vote, but may submit proposals which may be put to the vote on request of any member of the body concerned.

*If the Committee considers that the presence of a Member invited, according to this rule, is no longer necessary, it may withdraw the invitation. Delegates invited to the Committee according to this rule should also keep in mind their role and obligations in the Committee that they were originally assigned to. For educational purposes of the NMUN Conference, the Secretariat may thus ask a delegate to return to his or her board when his or her presence in the Committee is no longer required. Delegates may request the presence of a non-member of their board simply by informing the President that this is the desire of the body, there is no formal procedural process.*

**Rule 45 - Participation of national liberation movements**

The Committee may invite any national liberation movement recognized by the General Assembly to participate, without the right to vote, in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that movement.

*National liberation movements are only represented at NMUN in two ways: (1) if their delegation has been assigned explicitly the national liberation movement itself; or (2) should the Security Commission wish to hear from a representative of the movement in their deliberations, the Secretariat shall provide the appropriate representative.*

**Rule 46 - Participation of and consultation with specialized agencies**

In accordance with the agreements concluded between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the specialized agencies shall be entitled: a) To be represented at meetings of the Committee and its subsidiary organs; b) To participate, without the right to vote, through their representatives, in deliberations with respect to items of concern to them and to submit proposals regarding such items, which may be put to the vote at the request of any member of the Committee or of the subsidiary organ concerned.

*NMUN does not assign delegations to Specialized Agencies.*

**Rule 47 - Participation of non-governmental organization and intergovernmental organizations**

Representatives of non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations accorded consultative observer status by the Economic and Social Council and other non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or a continuing basis by the Committee on the recommendation of the Bureau, may participate, with the procedural right to vote, but not the substantive right to vote, in the deliberations of the Committee on questions within the scope of the activities of the organizations.

*NMUN will assign delegations an NGO instead of a Member State upon request.*