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First Standing Committee
Peace and International Security

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**COOPERATION AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY IN THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST
ORGANIZED CRIME, IN PARTICULAR DRUG TRAFFICKING, ILLEGAL ARMS SALES,
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND CROSS-BORDER TERRORISM**

***Preliminary draft resolution submitted by the co-Rapporteurs
Ms. Maria Teresa Ortuño (Mexico) and Mr. Apiwan Wiriyachai (Thailand)***

The 122nd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Cognizant* of the fact that while globalization fosters many positive advancements, interdependence between States and the opening of borders, it also facilitates transnational organized crime, in particular drug trafficking, illegal arms sales, human trafficking, cross-border terrorism and money laundering, involving an increasing number of stakeholders, actors and agencies and requiring global, regional, subregional and national responses, including the implementation of related conventions,
- (2) *Aware* that drug trafficking is one of the principal illicit activities worldwide, that it constitutes a serious threat to the global community, and that, compounded by drug abuse, is not only harmful to the stability and integrity of the world, but also adversely affects the health of human beings and social security,
- (3) *Also aware* that trafficking in persons is a modern form of slavery and a human rights violation affecting men, women, children and adolescents worldwide, that practices, negative attitudes and maltreatment of trafficked victims persist and that the well-being of these vulnerable groups is threatened by the global financial and economic downturn and new forms of transnational organized crime,
- (4) *Recognizing* the links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and, in some cases, cross-border terrorism and money laundering, including money laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism,
- (5) *Also recognizing* the significant challenges faced by law enforcement and judicial authorities in responding to the ever changing means used by transnational criminal organizations to avoid detection and prosecution,

(6) *Appreciating* the positive roles of the IPU, governments, non-governmental organizations and international organizations in joint parliamentary activities to combat transnational organized crime, such as drafting stringent legislative measures, combating the root causes and financing of terrorism and cross-border terrorism, and implementing the parliamentary measures set forth in the joint IPU-United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) Handbook for Parliamentarians on *Combating Trafficking in Persons* to address the problem of trafficking in persons,

1. *Fully affirms* the strong determination and clear commitment of IPU Member Parliaments to strengthening and harmonizing laws, regulations and additional measures on drugs, pursuing strong regional cooperation to combat drug trafficking within the framework of international cooperation with international legal instruments on drugs, and to enhancing the technical capability of law enforcement and judicial agents;
2. *Reaffirms* its unwavering determination and commitment to intensify efforts to counter the illicit cultivation, production, manufacture, sale, abuse, transit, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, especially heroin, cocaine, amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), the diversion of precursor chemicals, misuse of pharmaceutical medicines and preparations as well as drug-related criminal activities, through a balanced, comprehensive and sustainable approach;
3. *Agrees* to work on forging a drug control partnership on the basis of existing cooperation mechanisms and to pursue mutual understanding, trust, coordination and support in addressing and solving drug problems;
4. *Decides* to intensify joint parliamentary efforts to share best practices and experiences in combating drug trafficking and developing national laws to comply with universal human rights standards and the rule of law;
5. *Invites* IPU Member Parliaments to pursue dialogue and cooperation with a view to developing and harmonizing efforts to combat the production, abuse and trafficking of illicit drugs and counterfeit medicines, noting that enhanced technological capabilities enable counterfeiters to produce drugs and packaging that can barely be distinguished from the original product;
6. *Invites* IPU Member Parliaments to support tax exemption, in compliance with World Trade Organization rules and regulations, for products from drug-related alternative development projects, and for private sector companies that contribute to drug-control activities as incentives to combat the drug menace;
7. *Encourages* IPU Member Parliaments to continue their integrated efforts to better monitor their arms stockpiles, assess and evaluate their existing legal framework against international standards, as well as their national capacity and financial and technical ability to take action against illegal arms sales;
8. *Urges* the IPU to seriously discuss the harmonization of laws on trafficking in persons in each country to ensure compatibility and seamless cooperation in order to combat trafficking in persons;

9. *Encourages* IPU Member Parliaments to be more proactive in combating trafficking in persons by drawing up a comprehensive work plan and laws consistent with international standards, which include prevention, protection and assistance measures;
10. *Calls on* IPU Member Parliaments to heighten public awareness and promote cooperation in the fight against trafficking in persons, tackle the root causes of the problem and enhance awareness by the competent authorities of the need to preserve the human rights of trafficked victims;
11. *Calls on* the IPU to provide its Member Parliaments with recommendations and best practices for the establishment of a special parliamentary committee on combating trafficking in persons, the appointment of a national rapporteur to monitor the development and implementation of national measures to combat human trafficking and to monitor and evaluate the implementation of relevant national action plans;
12. *Calls on* IPU Member Parliaments to ensure that all measures taken to combat terrorism are in line with their respective State's international obligations, in particular international human rights standards, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, specifically as they relate to protection of the rights of victims of terrorist acts, and to affirm that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group;
13. *Invites* IPU Member Parliaments to strengthen their respective legal systems in accordance with the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism with a view to combating money laundering and financing of terrorist activities and ensure that all measures taken are in line with their respective State's international obligations;
14. *Urges* the IPU to promote international cooperation to combat financial safe havens in the form of extradition agreements, confiscation and forfeiture of assets, social sanctions, mutual legal assistance, democratic reform and good governance in order to combat money laundering;
15. *Urges* national parliaments to adopt clear and strict legislation providing inter alia more stringent penalties for perpetrators of corruption and individuals who assist networks of organized crime;
16. *Urges* States to undertake a thorough evaluation and screening of officials in charge of public institutions with a view to preventing their involvement in activities related to transnational organized crime;
17. *Recommends* the establishment of enhanced mechanisms for international cooperation, particularly among intelligence services and systems, in the fight against organized crime.