



PERMANENT MISSION OF MEXICO
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by the Delegation of Mexico
Item 109: International Drug Control
Third Committee of the 68th session of the General Assembly

New York, October 9, 2013

Mr. President:

Today we are discussing a central issue in the agenda of the United Nations.

The world drug problem affects all countries, generates violence, harms the health of youth, destroys the social fabric and disturbs the security and institutions of the States.

This scourge is not present only in one region and it requires cooperation and the further commitment of all governments under the principle of shared responsibility.

Mr. President:

Despite the efforts undertaken, and the international legal structures in place, it is a reality that the current policies have not been sufficiently effective. The growing presence of organized crime and trade of narcotic drugs demonstrate that the global drug problem continues to be a challenge that needs to be urgently addressed by the international community.

It is necessary to evaluate the policies implemented in past years in order to determine their level of effectiveness, taking into consideration the challenges presented, in particular with regard to demand of illicit substances.

The Government of Mexico is addressing the problem through an integrated policy that focuses on health and privileges prevention, without omitting our obligations to maintain and strengthen the rule of law in accordance with our international commitments; lowering social violence associated with the drug problem and strengthening international cooperation in order to reduce the illicit flow of arms and currency that feed criminal networks.

In this context, Mexico does not only welcome international debate on this issues, but considers it a priority that this be undertaken with an aim of generating new consensus.

It is necessary to agree on a new global strategy arising from an open and inclusive debate at the regional and global level; this is what this transnational matter requires today.

Acting outside the current international regime does not constitute an alternative. Instead, it is important to privilege a multilateral focus in order to strengthen international cooperation.

The Special Session of the General Assembly, which will take place during the first trimester of 2016, should generate necessary new international consensus in order to effectively face an issue that has surpassed the actions of States and the international community as a whole.

For this reason, we must provide our best efforts in the adequate preparation of the Special Session.

Because of its universal nature and considering that it has the highest political level, the Delegation of Mexico considers that the General Assembly should address the preparations of the Special Session. We will present for the consideration of the membership a proposal in this sense, as part of the omnibus resolution facilitated by the Delegation of Mexico.

The high level review taking place in 2014 by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action adopted in 2009 constitutes an excellent starting point and a very important input for the preparation of the Special Session.

Proper preparation for the Special Session in 2016 is essential in order to address in a decisive manner the immense challenge posed by the world drug problem.

Mr. President:

The international community is faced with a global problem that we must consider as a priority. It is necessary to focus all of our efforts and express our political commitment to address it with responsibility. It is a fact that the world drug problem, with all of its implications, affects the lives of millions of people and families, in some cases it constitutes one of the most important threats to the survival of States.

The universal scope of the United Nations allows us to affirm that it is the only institution capable of implementing strategies that can successfully address organized crime. The challenges we face is to review and consolidate our capacity for agreement.

This is not a minor task, and we hope that Member States and this Organization will be up to the challenge.

Thank you.