

Joint Intervention by the Delegation of Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico in the Third Committee of the 67th session of the General Assembly under items 103: Crime prevention and criminal justice and Item 104: International drug control

New York, October 10, 2012

Mr. President,

It is an honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Delegations of Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico.

In the General Debate of the Assembly, the Presidents of our countries exposed the painful reality that we face, not only in our region, but in all regions of the world. We are confronted with an onslaught of organized crime which compromises development, security, and constitutes one of the main challenges for democracy in the XXI century.

It is not our intention to repeat the statements made by our leaders. These are reflected in the Joint Declaration ¹ issued by our governments, which we have asked to be circulated to all members of the Organization.

What we would like to highlight in this forum is that, despite the efforts undertaken in the previous decades, it is evident that the strategy of the international community aimed at addressing the global problem of drugs has not been effective.

Consequently, it is critical that the United Nations spearhead a profound debate, which would allow for the evaluation of the achievements and limitations of the current policy to confront this scourge.

In accordance with the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation for an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the General Assembly in 2009, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs will hold at its 2014 session a high level review on the implementation of these instruments by States.

In this Commission, acting on the recommendation contained in the aforementioned Declaration, we will promote a decision by the General Assembly to hold, in 2014, a high-level meeting that will benefit from the Commission's assessment.

¹ also available at the following address: http://mision.sre.gob.mx/onu/images/Dec Con Drogas Ing.pdf

As a priority this meeting should adopt the necessary actions in order to develop a policy that effectively addresses the world drug problem, including the violence that it generates worldwide. The aforementioned evaluation must examine with honesty, academic rigor and global responsibility possible options, in particular regulatory or market alternatives.

Mr. President:

In the same sense that the UN examines and provides solutions to overcome global problems that threaten the health and the lives of millions of people worldwide and addresses climate change and HIV / AIDS, it must also adopt actions to stop this wave of violence that causes so much suffering to our peoples.

Thank you Mr. President