

ECOSOC Resolution 2003/35

Strengthening the prevention and suppression of illicit drug trafficking

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing that, in order to be effective, the elimination of illicit drug crops must be based on a regional strategy that involves international cooperation, including the strengthening of capacity to prevent trafficking in illicit drugs from producer countries, taking into account the need to make alternative development products competitive,

Recalling that Governments have adopted various measures to promote multilateral, regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation between judicial, law enforcement and tax authorities so as to deal in a comprehensive manner with criminal groups involved in drug trafficking,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of broad policies to eliminate illicit drug crops and of the implementation of legislation, in particular legislation to facilitate the interdiction of illicit drug shipments, in support of illicit drug crop eradication and elimination, alternative development and strong law enforcement efforts at reducing the supply of illicit drugs;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt effective measures to strengthen international cooperation projects aimed at the prohibition and control of drug trafficking and to deal with the activities of criminal groups involved in such trafficking and the diversification of their methods and transport routes;

3. *Urges* States to include among those measures the exchange of mutual legal and investigatory assistance to combat criminal groups involved in drug trafficking, and to promote the further development of effective models for cooperation, in particular in the areas of air, sea and port control, and the enhanced monitoring of controlled precursors and chemical components.

*44th plenary meeting
22 July 2003*