

Commission: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Session: NATIONAL MUN-2024

Sponsors: Afghanistan, Australia, Denmark, France, India, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Nepal, Nigeria, Qatar, Thailand, Vietnam

QUESTION OF: **ADDRESSING THE RISE OF SYNTHETIC DRUGS AND NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES (NPS)**

The General Assembly,

Alarmed by the detrimental effects of synthetic drugs and New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) on individuals, communities, societies, and economies,

Recognising the joint efforts among neighbouring Member States which help in the fight against the proliferation of drugs,

Noting with regret that Fentanyl and Tramadol, crucial for pain relief, are often illicitly produced in makeshift laboratories, resulting in increased drug-related illness and death worldwide,

Affirming the commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 3, which aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, particularly target 3.5, which seeks to strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse by 2030,

Deploring that there were more than 1,120 NPS in 2023, according to UNODC,

Grieved by the fact that many Member States rely heavily on a punitive and incarceration-based approach for drug addicts instead of focusing on rehabilitation and harm reduction,

1. Urges the World Health Organization to work closely with national health authorities to develop novel strategies and treatments based on scientific evidence to improve the monitoring, reporting, and clinical management of NPS;
2. Requests the strengthening of international border controls to prevent the introduction of synthetic drugs into concerned countries:
  - a) Increase the salaries of customs officers to reduce bribery and subsequently mitigate drug smuggling;
  - b) Provide specialised training for national drug control agencies;

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3. Calls upon Member States to strengthen international ties to collectively disrupt drug supply chains across borders;
4. Recommends the creation of public awareness campaigns to educate communities about the dangers of synthetic drugs and NPS, along with the integration of drug education into school curricula;
5. Advocates the use of various media outlets, such as social media and television channels, to reach a wide audience with a focus on vulnerable groups like youth;
6. Invites the implementation of effective taxation systems to diversify government revenue sources away from reliance on illicit activities such as drug trafficking, thereby reducing the economic incentives for individuals involved in the drug trade;
7. Further recommends enhancing the monitoring of the sale of precursor chemicals and apparatus used in the production of NPS;
8. Further invites governments to reduce their heavy reliance on incarceration and to provide funding for rehabilitative measures for drug abusers;
9. Renews its appeal for Member States to strengthen their national drug control policies, information sharing, and law enforcement to efficiently respond to challenges caused by synthetic drugs and NPS;
10. Demands that all Member States take immediate and effective actions to support adopting broad definitions of drugs, including the categorization of NPS and synthetic drugs;

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11. Endorses the implementation of harm reduction strategies, including the provision of safe consumption spaces, needle exchange programs, distribution of methadone, and access to addiction treatment services for individuals affected by synthetic drugs and NPS;
12. Welcomes international bodies to provide funds to underprivileged countries that face economic challenges;
13. Draws the attention to the need to mitigate the environmental impact of synthetic drug production, including proper disposal of chemical waste and remediation of contamination through clean-up activities.