



Special Event to Commemorate International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, 26 June

ASEAN-NARCO



On 25 June 2021, at 13.30 hrs. (Vienna Time), the Commission on Narcotic Drugs organized the Special Event in a hybrid format to commemorate the International Day against Illicit Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and launch the UNODC 2021 World Drug Report. The Event was held under the theme for this year, “Share Facts on Drugs, Save Lives” which was aimed at countering the misinformation and promoting the evidence-based prevention and raising the public awareness.



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H.E. Ms. Dominica Krois, Permanent Representative of Poland to United Nations (Vienna) and Chair of the 64th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs delivered the welcoming remarks as well as moderated the session. The event was opened by Ms. Ghada Waly, Executive Director of UNODC, followed by the presentation of the main findings of the 2021 World Drug Report comprising of five separate booklets by Ms. Angela Me, Chief of the UNODC Research and Trend Analysis Branch. Two youth representatives, Wang Pengchao and Sarah Jul-Rasmussen who participated in the 2021 Youth Forum were provided opportunity to deliver statements asking to hear their voice and work with them.



Ms. Ghada Waly, Executive Director of UNODC



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H.E. Ms. Dominika Krois, Chair of the CND



The event featured the interactive panel discussion with interventions from the members of the Bureau of the 64th Session of the Commission, H.E. Miguel Camilo Ruiz Blanco, Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations in Vienna)

(Second Vice Chair), H.E. Mr. Suleiman Dauda Umar, Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations in Vienna (Third Vice Chair), Ms. Begaiym Nurlan, Permanent Mission of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations in Vienna (Rapporteur)





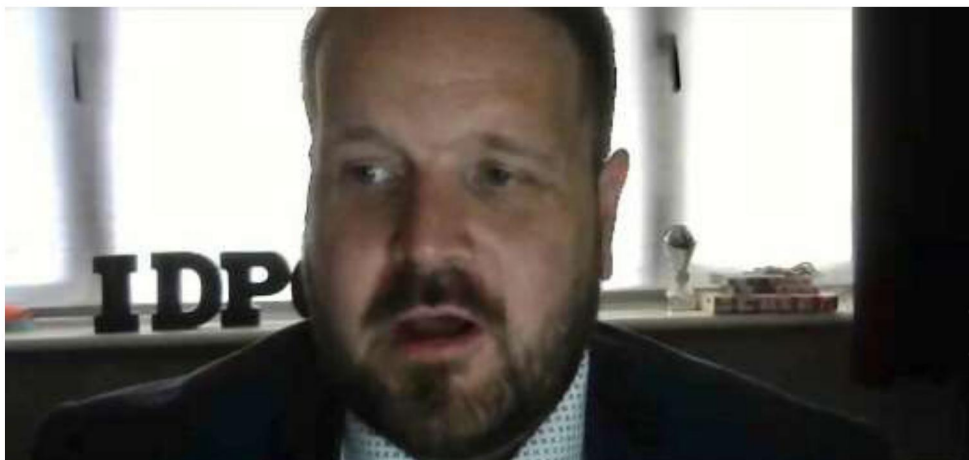
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President of the International Narcotics Control Board, Ms. Jagjit Pavadia and Chair of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs, Mr. Jamie Bridge also delivered statements as well as more than 30 representatives of Member States and 3 civil society organizations.



Ms. Jagjit Pavadia, President of INCB



Mr. Jamie Bridge, Chair of Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs



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Executive Director of UNODC emphasized that health and safety should depend on reliable information. “Using the World Drug Report and its data as a basis”.

On 26 June 2021, Ms. Ghada Waly, Executive Director of UNODC delivered statement reiterating that health and safety depended on reliable information. She highlighted the need for evidence-based approaches to equip the public as well as health providers and decision makers with tools to inform choices and effective services. “We need to fill gaps in trusted public information with greater investments in health, science, and data,” she said. “Governments need to expand evidence-based prevention and treatment programmed as well as monitoring and early warning mechanisms to help lower-income countries detect and counter new substances and use trends.”

Source: UNODC

Credit Photo: UNODC webcast