



The 64th Session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held online on 12-16 April 2021 in Vienna, Austria

ASEAN-NARCO

The virtual 64th Session of Commission on Narcotics Drugs was held for the first time on 12-16 April 2021 at Vienna International Centre, Austria due to the pandemic of COVID-19. The Commission, therefore, was held in hybrid format, combining an in-person component with virtual participation.

The year 2021 marked the 60th anniversary of the Single Convention on Narcotics Drugs, 1961 and 50th anniversary of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances. The opening segment of the 64th Session of the Commission addressed to the anniversary of those two Conventions together with the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988. These Conventions are the cornerstone of the international drug control system.

The opening of the 64th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was on 12 April 2021 at 11.00 hrs. (Vienna time) with the messages of Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, H.E. Ambassador Munir Akram, President of Economic and Social Council, followed by remarks of Ms. Ghada Waly, Executive Director of UNODC, Mr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO, Mr. Camelis de Joncheere, President of INCB and Mr. Jarmie Bridge, Chair of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs.



credit photo: UNODC



The 64th Session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held online on 12-16 April 2021 in Vienna, Austria

ASEAN-NARCO

The 64th Session of the Commission was chaired by H.E. Ambassador Dominica Krois, Poland. The general debate at the 64th Session of the Commission focused on the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the world drug problem. ASEAN Member States made statements at the general debates, namely, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.



credit photo: UNODC

The Commission adopted Statement of the Commission on the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the implementation of Member States' joint commitments to address and counter all aspects of the world drug problem and 4 resolutions as follows:

1. Facilitating access to comprehensive, scientific evidence-based drug demand reduction services and related measures, including for people impacted by social marginalization.
2. Promoting alternative development as a development-oriented drug control strategy, including in the context of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and its consequences



The 64th Session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held online on 12-16 April 2021 in Vienna, Austria

ASEAN-NARCO

3. Promoting scientific evidence-based, quality, affordable and comprehensive drug prevention, treatment, sustained recovery and related support services.
4. Improving data collection on, and responses to, the harmful effects of the non-medical use of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and new psychotropic substances.



credit photo: UNODC



The 64th Session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held online on 12-16 April 2021 in Vienna, Austria

ASEAN-NARCO



credit photo: UNODC

The Commission considered the recommendation of WHO on changes the scope of control of substances and decided as follows:

- a) To add isotonitazene to Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by Protocol 1972
- b) To add two synthetic cannabinoids, CUMYL- PEGACLONE, MDMB-4en-PINACA; 3-Methoxyphencyclidine, Diphenidine to Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances 1971
- c) To add Clonazolam, Diclazepam, Flubromazolam to Schedule IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances 1971



The 64th Session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held online on 12-16 April 2021 in Vienna, Austria

ASEAN-NARCO



credit photo: UNODC



credit photo: UNODC



The 64th Session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held online on 12-16 April 2021 in Vienna, Austria

ASEAN-NARCO

During the session of the Commission, side events on various issues concerning drug control and the impact of the COVID-19 were organized by member states, international organizations, international NGOs, UN entities. ASEAN Member States took part in co-organizing or supporting the organization of the side events. Some interesting side events were such as:

- COVID and the Mekong: How the Drug Situation has Changed and What It Means for the Future.
- Opportunities and Challenges in the Role of Development in Drug Control Policies.
- COVID-19 Pandemic and Its Influence on the World Drug Problem: New Challenges and Prospect.
- Way Forward in the Control and Monitoring of Cannabis and Cannabis-Related Substances: Development of INCB Guidelines on the International Drug Control Requirements for the Cultivation, Manufacture and Utilization of Cannabis for Medical and Scientific Purposes
- Strengthening Community Support for Recovery.
- Non-Scheduled and Designer Precursor Chemicals - Global Challenges and Global Solutions
- Promoting Mental Health, Well-being and resilience in Families and Communities in the COVID-19 Crisis Through Evidence-based Drug Use Prevention, Treatment and Mental Health Initiatives.
- Online Trafficking in Synthetic Drugs: Cyber Threats, Detection and Response
- Shifting the Needle: The Impact of Global Drug Policy on Women
- INCB Learning - Capacity-Building Solutions: Supporting Member States during Emergencies and the Way Forward



The 64th Session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held online on 12-16 April 2021 in Vienna, Austria

ASEAN-NARCO



credit photo : UNODC

The Reconvened 64th session of the Commission is tentatively set on 9 -
10 December 2021.



credit photo: UNODC