

**Oral statement on revised draft resolution A/C.3/69/L.8
entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the
world drug problem to be held in 2016"**

1. The present statement is made in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
 2. By operative paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of draft resolution A/C.3/69/L.8, the General Assembly would:
 - "5. *Decide that the special session shall be convened following the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, scheduled to be held in March 2016;*
 - "6. *Also decide that the special session on the world drug problem in 2016 shall have an inclusive preparatory process that includes extensive substantive consultations, allowing organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to fully contribute to the process, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice;*
 - "7. *Further decide that the Commission, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, shall lead this process by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, and in this regard invites the President of the General Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the process;"*
 3. With regard to the substantive and conference servicing of the Special session scheduled to be held in March 2016, referred to in paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, the resource requirements amounting to approximately \$938,800 will be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, in accordance with established budgetary procedures.
 4. With regard to operative paragraph 6, it should be noted that the implementation of the preparatory process as approved by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in operative paragraph 7 of resolution 57/5, will be undertaken within the number of meetings already programmed for the biennium 2014-2015. Accordingly, no additional conference servicing resources would be required.
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5. With regard to the request contained in operative paragraph 7, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management has indicated that the requested services could be provided on the assumption that the timelines for the submission and processing of documentation, as well as the dates for the holding of the inter-sessional meetings, are determined in consultation between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs secretariat and the Conference Management Service of United Nations Office at Vienna.

 6. Hence, adoption of the draft resolution A/C.3/69/L.8 would not entail any additional appropriation under the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 and, as indicated above, the resource requirements amounting to approximately \$938,800 for 2016-2017 will be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.
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