



*Chairperson of the Commission on
Narcotic Drugs at its sixty-fourth session*

20 April 2021

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to write to you in my capacity as Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and would like to first of all express my sincere appreciation for the video message you sent at the occasion of the ceremonial segment to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs and the 50th anniversary of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

I am also pleased to inform you that, at the opening of the General Debate of the sixty-fourth session last week, the Commission adopted by consensus a statement 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. The joint statement expresses grave concern about the devastating impact of the pandemic across the world, and outlines new challenges, good practices and actions to take in addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the statement, the Commission among others also urges Member States to ensure that no one affected by the world drug problem is left behind in the health response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in efforts to mitigate the drug-related consequences of the pandemic.

I am attaching the statement to this letter and kindly ask you, on behalf of the Commission, to accept it as an additional substantive contribution by the Commission to this year's ECOSOC high-level political forum on sustainable development, with the main theme "*Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development*" and to make it available on the HLPF website.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Dominika Krois
Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Permanent Representative of Poland to the
United Nations (Vienna)

His Excellency
Munir Akram
President of the Economic and Social Council
New York