**COMMITTEE:** United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

**ISSUE:** Legalization and Regulation of Marijuana to Undermine Criminal Cartels and Redirect Resources Toward Rehabilitation and Harm Reduction

**MAIN SUBMITTER:** The Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

**SIGNATORIES:** Russian Federation, People's Republic of China,

To the Office on Drugs and Crime,

*Acknowledging* the global nature of the illicit marijuana trade, which fuels transnational organized crime, undermines national security, and poses significant public health challenges,

*Recognizing* that while some nations have chosen to legalize marijuana, strict cultural, religious, and societal norms in others, such as the Islamic Republic of Iran, necessitate alternative approaches to addressing this issue,

*Concerned* about the potential for increased drug use, particularly among youth, in countries that choose to legalize marijuana, which could lead to long-term societal harms,

Stressing the importance of protecting the sovereignty of nations to determine their drug policies in accordance with their cultural and religious values,

*Appreciating* the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in providing data, research, and technical support to member states in addressing drug-related issues,

*Emphasizing* that combating drug cartels requires a multi-faceted approach that includes international cooperation, law enforcement, and targeted social and health interventions,

1. Encourages all member states to collaborate in combating drug cartels by:
2. Enhancing border security and anti-trafficking measures through the sharing of intelligence and resources;
3. Establishing international task forces under UNODC to disrupt the supply chains of criminal organizations;
4. Urges the international community to address the root causes of marijuana demand, particularly in lower-income communities, by:
5. Supporting alternative economic opportunities to reduce reliance on the black market;
6. Developing affordable and accessible rehabilitation programs for vulnerable populations;
7. Encourages member states considering legalization to ensure policies do not exacerbate black-market activities by:
8. Setting competitive pricing and reasonable tax rates for legal marijuana products;
9. Implementing robust quality control systems akin to the Dutch "closed cannabis chain";
10. Requests UNODC and WHO to expand research on the global impacts of marijuana legalization, focusing on:
11. Long-term health and societal outcomes in countries with legalized marijuana markets;
12. Effective regulatory frameworks to minimize youth access and prevent misuse;