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Reference: C.N.70.2011.TREATIES-24 (Depositary Notification)

SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, 1961, AS AMENDED BY THE
 PROTOCOL AMENDING THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC
 DRUGS, 1961

NEW YORK, 8 AUGUST 1975

PROPOSAL OF AMENDMENTS BY THE PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA TO ARTICLE
 49, PARAGRAPHS 1 (C) AND 2 (E)¹: LATVIA

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary,
 communicates the following:

Reference is made to the decision by the Economic and Social Council on the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e) of the above Convention, to initiate the procedures established in article 47, paragraph 1 (b), which states that the parties shall be asked whether they accept the proposed amendment and also asked to submit to the Economic and Social Council any comments on the proposal. The Secretary-General communicated to all States concerned the text of the Council's decision in depositary notification C.N.474.2009. TREATIES-3 dated 30 July 2009.

On 26 January 2011, the Secretary-General received a note verbale, dated 24 January 2011, from the Permanent Mission of Latvia to the United Nations, addressed to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, on the matter. The Secretary-General subsequently communicated to the Council, by way of a Note by the Secretary-General, the note verbale from the Permanent Mission of Latvia.

..... On 1 February 2011, the Secretary-General received from the Economic and Social Council the attached Council document E/2011/52, dated 26 January 2011, for circulation to all States parties.

25 February 2011

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "JGW", is written over the date.

¹ Refer to depositary notification C.N.194.2009.TREATIES-2 of 6 April 2009 (Proposal of amendments by Bolivia to article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e)).

Attention: Treaty Services of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of international organizations concerned. Depositary notifications are issued in electronic format only. Depositary notifications are made available to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in the United Nations Treaty Collection on the Internet at <http://treaties.un.org>, under "Depositary Notifications (CNs)". In addition, the Permanent Missions, as well as other interested individuals, can subscribe to receive depositary notifications by e-mail through the Treaty Section's "Automated Subscription Services", which is also available at <http://treaties.un.org>.



Economic and Social Council

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Organizational session for 2011

18 January, 15-18 February and 27 and 28 April 2011

Agenda item 3

Basic programme of work of the Council

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 (New York, 8 August 1975)

Proposal of amendments by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e)

Note by the Secretary-General

In its decision 2009/250 of 30 July 2009, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of the note by the Secretary-General (E/2009/78) on the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,¹ decided, in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1, of the Convention as amended, to initiate the procedures established in paragraph 1 (b) of that article, which states that the parties shall be asked whether they accept the proposed amendment and also asked to submit to the Economic and Social Council any comments on the proposal.

The Secretary-General, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicated to the parties to the Convention the text of Council decision 2009/250 in a depositary notification² dated 30 July 2009.

The Secretary-General is hereby communicating to the Council a note verbale dated 24 January 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Latvia to the United Nations (see annex).

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

² C.N.474.2009.TREATIES-3.



Annex

Note verbale dated 24 January 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Latvia to the United Nations addressed to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Latvia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and has the honour to forward, enclosed herewith, note No. 41/47-245 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia regarding the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (see enclosure).

Enclosure**Note verbale dated 24 January 2011 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia presents its compliments to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and, referring to the note by the Secretary-General contained in document E/2009/78 regarding the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 (New York, 8 August 1975), has the honour to convey the following.

According to article 4, paragraph (c), of the Single Convention, the purpose of the Single Convention is to limit the production, manufacture, export, import, distribution of, trade in, use and possession of drugs exclusively to medical and scientific purposes. The proposal of Bolivia contained in its letter dated 12 March 2009 (E/2009/78, enclosure) to the Secretary-General and its after-effects go beyond this purpose, having broad consequences for all the States parties to the Single Convention and production, manufacture, export, import, distribution of, trade in, use and possession of drugs derived from coca leaves. As indicated by Bolivia in its letter mentioned above, the purpose to allow coca leaf chewing for Andean indigenous people of Bolivia is a need to maintain a habit and sociocultural practice, not a medical or scientific purpose.

Now therefore, in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1 (b), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia informs the Economic and Social Council that the Republic of Latvia rejects the proposed amendment to the Single Convention submitted by Bolivia.



Consejo Económico y Social

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Período de sesiones de organización de 2011

18 de enero, 15 a 18 de febrero y 27 y 28 de abril de 2011

Tema 3 del programa

Programa básico de trabajo del Consejo

Convención Única de 1961 sobre Estupefacientes, enmendada por el Protocolo de modificación de la Convención Única de 1961 sobre Estupefacientes (Nueva York, 8 de agosto de 1975)

Propuesta de enmiendas al artículo 49, párrafos 1 c) y 2 e) presentada por el Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia

Nota del Secretario General

En su decisión 2009/250, de 30 de julio de 2009, el Consejo Económico y Social, tomando nota de la nota del Secretario General (E/2009/78) sobre la propuesta del Gobierno del Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia de enmendar el artículo 49, párrafos 1 c) y 2 e), de la Convención Única sobre Estupefacientes de 1961, modificada por el Protocolo de 1972¹, decidió, de conformidad con lo dispuesto en el artículo 47, párrafo 1 de la Convención en su forma enmendada, iniciar los procedimientos establecidos en el párrafo 1 b) de ese artículo, en que se dispone que se pregunte a las partes si aceptan la modificación propuesta y se les pida que presenten al Consejo comentarios acerca de la misma.

El Secretario General, actuando en su calidad de depositario, comunicó a las partes en la Convención el texto de la decisión 2009/250 del Consejo en una notificación del depositario² de fecha 30 de julio de 2009.

El Secretario General comunica por la presente al Consejo Económico y Social una nota verbal de fecha 24 de enero de 2011 enviada por la Misión Permanente de Letonia ante las Naciones Unidas (véase el anexo).

¹ Naciones Unidas, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, núm. 14152.

² C.N.474.2009.TREATIES.3.



Anexo

Nota verbal de fecha 24 de enero de 2011 dirigida al Consejo Económico y Social de las Naciones Unidas por la Misión Permanente de Letonia ante las Naciones Unidas

La Misión Permanente de la República de Letonia ante las Naciones Unidas saluda atentamente al Consejo Económico y Social de las Naciones Unidas y tiene el honor de transmitir adjunta la nota núm. 41/47-245 del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la República de Letonia relativa a la propuesta del Gobierno del Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia de enmendar la Convención Única sobre Estupefacientes (véase el apéndice).

Apéndice

Nota verbal de fecha 24 de enero de 2011 dirigida al Consejo Económico y Social de las Naciones Unidas por el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la República de Letonia

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la República de Letonia saluda atentamente al Consejo Económico y Social de las Naciones Unidas y, haciendo referencia a la nota del Secretario General que figura en el documento E/2009/78 relativa a la propuesta del Gobierno del Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia de enmendar el artículo 49, párrafos 1 c) y 2 e), de la Convención Única de 1961 sobre Estupefacientes, enmendada por el Protocolo de modificación de la Convención Única de 1961 sobre Estupefacientes (Nueva York, 8 de agosto de 1975), tiene el honor de señalar lo siguiente:

Con arreglo al artículo 4, párrafo c), de la Convención Única, su finalidad es limitar exclusivamente la producción, la fabricación, la exportación, la distribución, el comercio, el uso y la posesión de estupefacientes a los fines médicos y científicos. La propuesta de Bolivia que figura en su carta de fecha 12 de marzo de 2009 dirigida al Secretario General (E/2009/78, apéndice), y sus repercusiones trascienden esa finalidad, y entrañan amplias consecuencias para todos los Estados partes en la Convención Única, así como para la producción, la fabricación, la exportación, la distribución, el comercio, el uso y la posesión de estupefacientes derivados de la hoja de coca. Como señala Bolivia en la carta mencionada, permitir a los indígenas andinos de Bolivia mascar hojas de coca responde a la necesidad de mantener un hábito y una práctica sociocultural, no a un fin médico o científico.

En consecuencia, de conformidad con el artículo 47, párrafo 1 b), de la Convención Única sobre Estupefacientes, el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la República de Letonia informa al Consejo Económico y Social de que la República de Letonia rechaza la enmienda a la Convención Única propuesta por Bolivia.
