STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

ON THE VOTING OUTCOME WHO SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS ON CANNABIS AND CANNABIS-RELATED SUBSTANCES

2 DECEMBER 2020

Mr. Chair,

My delegation would like to express our appreciation for your leadership throughout the process of consultations in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Indonesia appreciates the developments and progress of the discussions conducted in the Commission, leading up to the voting of the ECDD Recommendations today.

Nevertheless, our delegation must express disappointment at the outcome of the voting, particularly on Recommendation 5.1. Despite consistently expressing our concerns to the ECDD Recommendations, our position, intended to preserve the long-established consensus for drug control, has been ignored.

There is clear evidence that the use of cannabis and cannabis-related substances has brought more harm than benefit. For this reason, Indonesia calls upon all relevant parties to carefully decide the next measures after the decision of the Commission to accept the recommendations that have been voted in favor.

It should be clear that accepting the recommendations is not an attempt to legitimize the wider use of cannabis.

Each member state should maintain sovereignty to enact their respective domestic laws to control cannabis and cannabis-related substances, in order to protect their citizens from the implication of the narcotic drug.

As Indonesia has consistently advocated for the rights of vulnerable individuals and their families to good health and welfare, we remain committed to safeguard these rights and help our society remain healthy.

We must remain consistent.

We have committed ourselves to implementing the three international conventions on drug control to address the world drug problem.

This commitment has for decades been safeguarded by our Vienna-based community, and we call upon all member states to continue honouring this commitment.

Thank you.