

**Committee: United Nations Official Drugs and Crime**

**Country: State of Qatar**

**Agenda Items: Modern Human Trafficking in Arabian and African Regions, Effects Of Drug Decriminalization on Drug Abuse**

The State of Qatar continues to steadfastly pursue its commitment to combatting human trafficking, actively aligning itself with regional and global initiatives that aim to implement effective solutions. While we have taken substantial steps in enacting domestic legislation, such as the enactment of Law No.15 of 2011 targeting human trafficking, we acknowledge the ongoing challenges plaguing our region and beyond.

Qatar is dedicated to maintaining collaborative relationships with fellow Arab and African nations, international agencies, and non-governmental organizations, to promote comprehensive and victim-oriented strategies in the fight against human trafficking. Our participation in the Arab Initiative to Build National Capacities to Combat Human Trafficking in the Arab Countries, and our adherence to international standards like the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its human trafficking protocol, bear testament to our commitment.

We support enhanced cooperation and data exchange between nations, and advocate for the progressive development of national legal structures in alignment with international norms. Furthermore, Qatar endorses intensified efforts to raise public awareness, particularly on the socio-economic conditions that foster vulnerabilities to trafficking, with a view to preventing such appalling crimes.

The State of Qatar persistently upholds the health and safety of its citizens as a fundamental element of national policy. With regard to the topic of drug decriminalization, Qatar continues to champion a balanced approach that takes into account both public health and security issues, recognizing the intricate nature of the matter.

Our commitment to the three international drug control conventions remains steadfast. While acknowledging the right of states to design drug policies that best align with their unique cultural, legal, and public health contexts, we advise against precipitous drug decriminalization devoid of comprehensive supporting measures.

Drug decriminalization needs to be bolstered by strong health-focused interventions such as improved access to education, prevention, treatment, and harm reduction services. While Qatar recognizes the potential of decriminalization to reduce drug-related harm and stigma, we underscore the need for careful policy formulation and insist that any shift be based on rigorous evidence and evaluation.

Qatar stands prepared to partake in meaningful dialogues on these subjects, with the aim of cultivating a global atmosphere conducive to mutual learning and sharing of best practices. We call upon fellow member states to join hands in a collective effort towards finding sustainable solutions to these urgent challenges.