

Montevideo, June 26, 2020

Message from the Deputy Secretary of the Presidency of the Republic and President of the National Drug Board on the occasion of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

Since 1987, every June 26, the United Nations commemorates the “International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”.

This year, under the slogan "***Better knowledge for better care***", the United Nations emphasizes the need to improve the understanding and knowledge of the world drug problem, promoting international cooperation between people, non-profit organizations, the private sector and Member States, with the objective of countering its impact on health, governance and security.

Problematic drug use affects the lives of individuals, families and communities worldwide. On the other hand, illegal markets and drug trafficking promote acts of violence that seriously affect the social coexistence and development of the countries.

The globality and complexity of this issue requires political, legal and scientific cooperation between countries to build effective, efficient and mutually beneficial responses.

In this sense, Uruguay actively participates in international forums, promoting joint reflection and collaboration, from a comprehensive approach, focus on people, with a perspective of Human Rights, Public Health and Gender.

Our country, through the National Drug Board, assumes this commitment by developing comprehensive, decentralized public policies, based on scientific evidence and broad social participation, in the areas of prevention, treatment, social integration and the fight against illicit drug trafficking.

Strengthening these policies is our objective, while we invite society to reflect on this issue, in which we all have shared roles and responsibilities to assume.

Dr. Rodrigo Ferrés
Deputy Secretary of the Presidency of the Republic
President of the National Drug Board