



INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

2009

Report



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The Report of the *International Narcotics Control Board for 2009* (E/INCB/2009/1) is supplemented by the following reports:

Narcotic Drugs: Estimated World Requirements for 2010; Statistics for 2008 (E/INCB/2009/2)

Psychotropic Substances: Statistics for 2008; Assessments of Annual Medical and Scientific Requirements for Substances in Schedules II, III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (E/INCB/2009/3)

Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2009 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (E/INCB/2009/4)

The updated lists of substances under international control, comprising narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, are contained in the latest editions of the annexes to the statistical forms (“Yellow List”, “Green List” and “Red List”), which are also issued by the Board.

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The text of the present report is also available on the website of the Board (www.incb.org).



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Report

of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2009



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IV. Recommendations to Governments, the United Nations and other relevant international and regional organizations

782. The Board monitors the implementation of the international drug control treaties by Governments and examines the functioning of the international drug control regime at the national and international levels. Based on its analysis, the Board makes recommendations to Governments, international and regional organizations.

783. In the present chapter, the Board highlights key recommendations contained in chapters II and III of its annual report. The recommendations contained in chapter I are not included in chapter IV. The Board invites all Governments and relevant international and regional organizations to examine all recommendations made by the Board in its annual report and to implement them, as appropriate. The Board calls upon those concerned to keep it informed of their action in response to the recommendations.

A. Recommendations to Governments

784. The recommendations to Governments are grouped according to the following subject areas: treaty accession; treaty implementation and control measures; prevention of illicit drug production, manufacture, trafficking and abuse; prevention of diversion of precursors into the illicit traffic; availability and rational use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical purposes; and illegal Internet pharmacies.

1. Treaty accession

785. The 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the 1971 Convention and the 1988 Convention form the basis of the international drug control system. The accession of all States and the universal implementation of the provisions of the conventions are a fundamental prerequisite for efficient drug control worldwide.

Recommendation 1: While nearly all States have acceded to the international drug control treaties, there are still a few States which are not yet parties to one or more of the treaties.⁵³ **The Board requests those**

⁵³ The following States are not parties to the international

States which are not yet parties to one or more of the international drug control treaties to accede to the treaties without further delay.

2. Treaty implementation and control measures

786. Universal accession to the three main international drug control treaties will, however, not be sufficient without effective and universal implementation of all the provisions of the treaties and the application of the necessary control measures by all Governments.

Recommendation 2: The provisions of the treaties must be implemented in the entire territory of each State party, including its federated states or provinces. Local, regional and/or state measures that violate the provisions of the international drug control treaties facilitate the trafficking in and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. **The Board calls upon States to ensure that the provisions of the international drug control treaties are implemented on their entire territory and that drug control laws and policies are nationally consistent and in line with the provisions of those treaties.**

Recommendation 3: The timely submission to the Board of information required under the international drug control conventions is one of the key elements of the international drug control system. **The Board calls upon Governments to furnish in a timely manner all**

drug control treaties and/or the 1972 Protocol amending the 1961 Convention:

- (a) States not parties to the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol or to the 1961 Convention in its unamended form: Cook Islands, Equatorial Guinea, Kiribati, Nauru, Samoa, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu and Vanuatu;
- (b) States not parties to the 1972 Protocol amending the 1961 Convention: Afghanistan and Chad;
- (c) States not parties to the Convention of 1971: Cook Islands, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti, Kiribati, Liberia, Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu and Vanuatu;
- (d) States not parties to the 1988 Convention: Equatorial Guinea, Holy See, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Timor-Leste and Tuvalu.

statistical reports required under the conventions. Governments are encouraged to seek from the Board any information that will help them in meeting their reporting obligations under the conventions.

Narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

Recommendation 4: The Governments of some countries did not submit to the Board their estimates of requirements for narcotic drugs for 2010; therefore, the estimates for those countries were established by the Board. **The Board urges the Governments concerned to examine their national requirements for narcotic drugs for 2010 and provide their own estimates to the Board for confirmation as soon as possible, in order to prevent any potential difficulties in importing the quantities of narcotic drugs required for medical and scientific purposes.**

Recommendation 5: Supplementary estimates continue to be an important tool for meeting unexpected shortfalls in the availability of narcotic drugs. The Board notes that the number of supplementary estimates submitted by Governments is increasing. **The Board requests Governments to determine their annual estimates of requirements for narcotic drugs as accurately as possible, so that resorting to supplementary estimates is reserved only for unforeseen circumstances. However, when developments in medical treatment, including use of new medicaments, result in additional needs for narcotic drugs, Governments should not hesitate to submit supplementary estimates.**

Recommendation 6: The system of assessments of annual medical and scientific requirements for psychotropic substances, as recommended by the Economic and Social Council in its resolutions 1981/7 and 1991/44, is a very effective control measure applied to international trade in psychotropic substances. However, some Governments issued import authorizations for psychotropic substances in absence or in excess of the corresponding assessments. Among those Governments, some have for several years not updated the assessments of their requirements for psychotropic substances. **The Board requests Governments not to authorize imports of psychotropic substances in quantities exceeding their assessments and calls upon Governments to examine their assessments of requirements for**

psychotropic substances on a regular basis. Changes in the annual licit requirements of psychotropic substances should be communicated to the Board without delay.

Recommendation 7: The import and export authorization system for all psychotropic substances has proved particularly effective in preventing the diversion of those substances from international trade. **The Board requests Governments that have not yet done so to introduce the requirement of import and export authorizations for substances in Schedules III and IV of the 1971 Convention, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 1985/15, 1987/30, 1991/44, 1993/38 and 1996/30.**

Recommendation 8: Traffickers keep using falsified import authorizations when attempting to divert narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances from international trade. **The Board encourages Governments of exporting countries to continue to examine the legitimacy of orders for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and to use the estimates for narcotic drugs and the assessments for psychotropic substances, which are published by the Board, for this purpose. Import orders identified as suspicious because they exceed the estimates or assessments of the relevant importing country should be verified with the Board, or brought to the attention of the importing countries, prior to authorizing such export.**

Recommendation 9: In some countries, the advertising of psychotropic substances to the general public continues through various communication channels, including mass media and the Internet. Direct-to-consumer advertising may lead to the excessive use and, ultimately, the abuse of pharmaceutical preparations containing psychotropic substances. **The Board requests the Governments concerned to comply with the requirements of the 1971 Convention and to prohibit the advertisement of psychotropic substances to the general public.**

Precursors

Recommendation 10: Governments report to the Board seizures of substances in Tables I and II of the 1988 Convention on form D. While such seizure data are useful, they would be more valuable for the analyses carried out by the Board if the circumstances

of the seizures, such as methods used for the diversion and the illicit manufacture of the substances, were included in the reports. **The Board requests Governments to furnish to the Board information on the results of investigations concerning seizures and intercepted shipments of precursors.**

Recommendation 11: An increasing number of Governments have furnished to the Board estimates of their annual requirements for selected precursors of amphetamine-type stimulants. Those estimates are published each year in the report of the Board on the implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention and are posted on the website of the Board (www.incb.org). That information has assisted Governments in identifying shipments with the potential for diversion. **The Board encourages Governments to review the estimates they have furnished and to inform the Board of any changes or updates to ensure that the estimates published by the Board remain as accurate as possible.**

Recommendation 12: PEN Online, the automated online system for the exchange of pre-export notifications, has continued to demonstrate its usefulness in identifying suspicious shipments of precursors and the prevention of their diversion. **The Board encourages all Governments that have not yet done so to register for and utilize the PEN Online system, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1817 (2008).**

3. Prevention of illicit drug production, manufacture, trafficking and abuse

787. One of the key objectives of the international drug control treaties is to limit to legitimate purposes the production, manufacture, export, import and distribution of, trade in and use of internationally controlled substances and to prevent their diversion and abuse.

Recommendation 13: The Board remains concerned that the level of illicit opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan continues to be high. In addition, Afghanistan has become a significant manufacturer of heroin and other opiates, as well as a major source of cannabis. Afghanistan also has one of the world's highest rates for the abuse of opiates. **The Board urges the Government of Afghanistan to pursue its National Drug Control Strategy in order to achieve a substantial and permanent reduction in opium**

poppy and cannabis plant cultivation and in opium and cannabis production, trafficking and abuse. The Board calls upon the international community to continue to assist the Government of Afghanistan.

Recommendation 14: Countries in South-East Asia have made significant progress in reducing illicit opium poppy cultivation over the years. However, the Board notes with concern that in 2008, the total area under illicit opium poppy cultivation in the region increased by over 3 per cent compared with 2007. Increases were reported in countries such as the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. **The Board urges the Governments concerned to strengthen their efforts to eradicate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy.**

Recommendation 15: Surveys conducted by the Government and UNODC indicate that in 2008 illicit coca bush cultivation in Colombia declined substantially compared with the previous year and that such cultivation returned to levels recorded at the beginning of the decade. **The Board encourages the Government of Colombia to continue its eradication programme and to further strengthen its efforts in addressing drug abuse and drug trafficking in the country.**

Recommendation 16: The Board notes with concern that both the reported total area under coca bush cultivation and the expected coca leaf production have increased over the past few years in the Plurinational State of Bolivia. The Board recalls the expressed commitment of the Government when introducing its present policies towards coca bush cultivation and coca leaf production: zero tolerance of trafficking in cocaine and all related activities (cultivation, production etc.). **The Board urges the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to adopt more effective policies and strengthen its efforts to eradicate illicit coca bush cultivation in the country, as well as to address in a decisive manner the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in cocaine.**

Recommendation 17: The Board is also concerned that both the reported total area under coca bush cultivation and the potential cocaine manufacture have increased over the past few years in Peru. In 2008, the total area of illicitly cultivated coca bush eradicated in the country decreased compared with the previous year. **The Board urges the Government of Peru to**

strengthen its eradication efforts and, in particular, to prevent the expansion of coca bush cultivation in the country.

Recommendation 18: In Morocco, there continues to be significant illicit cultivation of cannabis plants. Morocco is also an important source of illicitly produced cannabis and cannabis resin. **The Board encourages the Government of Morocco to continue its efforts in implementing eradication measures, alternative livelihood programmes and awareness-raising campaigns in areas where illicit cannabis cultivation takes place and to ensure that further progress is made in addressing such cultivation and related problems.**

Recommendation 19: The Board notes that countries in Africa are used as transit areas for consignments of cocaine from South America destined for Europe and are also used for the diversion of precursor chemicals, for subsequent use in the illicit drug manufacture in other regions. The Board is concerned by evidence uncovered in Guinea in 2009 suggesting that, to some degree, the processing of cocaine, as well as the illicit manufacture of MDMA (“ecstasy”), had taken place in that country. **The Board calls upon Governments of African countries to be aware of the risk that their countries might be used for illicit drug manufacture and to take appropriate measures to prevent such illicit activities from taking place in their countries.**

Recommendation 20: In most countries in Africa, medical facilities for the treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependence are inadequate or non-existent. Frequently, only small numbers of drug-dependent patients can be accommodated in the psychiatric wards of national general hospitals. The treatment and rehabilitation of drug-dependent persons often depend on assistance provided by relevant international organizations, such as WHO and UNODC, and non-governmental organizations. **The Board encourages African Governments to conduct surveys on the extent and nature of drug abuse in their countries, and to design appropriate programmes for drug abuse prevention and demand reduction that target young people. The Board also urges African Governments to provide adequate support to existing treatment services and facilities, in order to ensure proper treatment of drug-dependent persons, and to provide the support necessary to**

establish and maintain suitable rehabilitation facilities.

Recommendation 21: The diversion of pharmaceutical preparations containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances from domestic distribution channels has increased. In addition, now there are new channels for trafficking in those pharmaceutical preparations, such as illegally operating Internet pharmacies and smuggling through the mail. Most countries do not systematically collect data on the abuse of and/or trafficking in pharmaceutical preparations containing controlled substances. As a result, drug control authorities and policymakers have little or no relevant information on which to base their decisions. **The Board calls upon Governments to include pharmaceutical preparations containing controlled substances in their national surveys on drug abuse, in order to obtain information on the types of controlled substances abused and the extent of their abuse, which would allow them to introduce the most appropriate drug control strategies.**

Recommendation 22: The diversion and abuse of pharmaceutical preparations containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for which prescriptions are required under the international drug control treaties represent a serious problem in some countries. **The Board encourages the Governments concerned to introduce or expand programmes for monitoring the domestic distribution of prescription drugs. Furthermore, in order to reduce the problem of improper prescribing practices, Governments should consider carrying out programmes to inform health-care professionals and the general public of the dangers of misusing prescription drugs containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.**

Recommendation 23: Diversion of preparations containing buprenorphine for subsequent trafficking and abuse continues, particularly in countries where buprenorphine is used for the treatment of opioid addicts. **The Board calls upon Governments to inform the Board of new developments regarding trafficking in and abuse of preparations containing buprenorphine. The Board urges the Governments of countries in which buprenorphine is used to review the adequacy of the current controls applied to buprenorphine, identify any gaps that might need to be closed and consider enhancing the control**

mechanisms applied to the distribution of buprenorphine in their territory, with a view to preventing illicit activities.

Recommendation 24: The use of methylphenidate, a stimulant in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention, for medical purposes continues to increase, as more and more countries are using the substance for such purposes. The diversion and abuse of preparations containing methylphenidate have been noted, in particular in countries with a high level of consumption of methylphenidate. **The Board calls upon the Governments concerned to ensure that the control measures foreseen by the 1971 Convention are fully applied to methylphenidate and to take additional measures to prevent both the diversion from licit distribution channels and the abuse of preparations containing that substance.**

Recommendation 25: Some countries in Central America lack forensic expertise in analysing the composition of seized pharmaceuticals, including those containing substances under international control. **The Board invites countries in the Americas with advanced forensic capabilities to provide assistance to partner countries within the framework of regional agreements to combat drug trafficking and abuse, in order to improve the forensic capabilities of those other countries (see also recommendations 46 and 50 below).**

Recommendation 26: The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in its resolution 52/8, on the use of pharmaceutical technology to counter drug-facilitated sexual assault, urged Member States to take measures to address the emerging problem of the use of psychoactive substances to facilitate the commission of sexual assault. The substances covered by that resolution include internationally controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and substances not under international control. **The Board calls upon Governments to implement Commission resolution 52/8 as soon as possible. The Board encourages Governments to alert vulnerable segments of their population to that problem, to share information on the subject with law enforcement agencies and the judiciary and to solicit the support of the industry.**

Recommendation 27: The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in its resolution 51/13, on responding to the threat posed by the distribution of internationally

controlled drugs on the unregulated market, requested Member States to continue to offer to affected States cooperation and support in dealing with the problem and encouraged affected States to consider adopting measures to enable the swift detection of new forms of illicit distribution of internationally controlled drugs. **The Board calls upon Governments to implement Commission resolution 51/13 without delay. In that regard, the Board encourages Governments to consider providing training and introducing the use of technology by customs authorities to identify counterfeit medicaments.**

Recommendation 28: Traffickers continue to smuggle opium poppy seeds from countries where the cultivation of opium poppy is prohibited. The Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1999/32, on the international regulation and control of trade in poppy seeds, called upon Member States to take measures to fight such international trade in poppy seeds from countries in which no licit cultivation of opium poppy is permitted. **The Board calls upon the Governments of countries that permit the importation of poppy seeds to implement the provisions of Council resolution 1999/32 and to require a certificate from the country of origin of the seeds as the basis for importation.**

Recommendation 29: A number of Governments have reported an increase in the illicit cultivation of cannabis plants, especially indoor cultivation. The increasing availability of cannabis seeds, in particular over the Internet, is contributing to that development. Related sale sites and advertisement obviously incite illicit cultivation of cannabis plants. The Board notes that article 3, paragraph 1 (c) (iii), of the 1988 Convention requires States parties to establish as a criminal offence, inter alia, public incitement or inducement of others to engage in the illicit cultivation of the cannabis plant or to use cannabis illicitly. **The Board calls upon Governments to apply the relevant provisions of the 1988 Convention and to take appropriate measures against the sale of cannabis seeds for illicit purposes, including through the Internet.**

Recommendation 30: Herbal mixtures sold under the name "Spice" have recently been the focus of attention of health authorities and drug regulators in many countries. The identification of synthetic cannabinoids in some of those herbal mixtures has raised concern

about their abuse liability and their potential health effects. Those concerns have prompted several countries to adopt measures to regulate the use of and trade in some synthetic cannabinoids and products that contain them. **The Board urges Governments to closely monitor new developments with regard to the abuse of synthetic cannabinoids, which are often marketed as innocuous products such as herbal incense. The Board encourages Governments to identify the manufacturers of Spice products containing synthetic cannabinoids. The Board requests Governments to provide to the Board and to WHO all information available regarding the abuse in their countries of herbal mixtures such as Spice products and the synthetic cannabinoids contained therein.**

Recommendation 31: Governments should be aware that changes in drug abuse patterns may require adjustments in programmes for the treatment of drug addiction. If the controlled substance that is abused is contained in a prescription drug, adequate treatment options will need to be identified and implemented. **The Board encourages Governments of countries in which prescription drugs containing narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances are abused to develop and pursue adequate treatment options.**

Recommendation 32: The Board notes with concern that, in a small number of countries, “drug consumption rooms” and “drug injection rooms”, where persons can abuse with impunity drugs acquired on the illicit market, continue to operate. **The Board calls upon Governments to close those facilities and similar outlets and to promote the access of drug abusers to health and social services, including services for the treatment of drug abuse, in conformity with the provisions of the international drug control treaties.**

4. Prevention of diversion of precursors into the illicit traffic

788. One of the objectives of the 1988 Convention is to prevent the diversion of precursors for subsequent use in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances.

Recommendation 33: The Board prepares each year a report on the implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention containing recommendations to Governments on the control of precursors. **The Board**

calls upon Governments to implement recommendations contained in the 2009 report of the Board on the implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention.⁵⁴

Recommendation 34: The Board is concerned that traffickers have continued to divert precursors from domestic distribution channels, as indicated by the fact that most of the acetic anhydride seized in 2008 had been diverted from such channels. **The Board calls upon Governments to take effective measures to prevent the diversion of precursors from domestic distribution channels.**

Recommendation 35: Ephedrine and pseudoephedrine in the form of pharmaceutical preparations are increasingly being diverted for subsequent use as precursors in the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants. **The Board urges Governments to control ephedrine and pseudoephedrine in the form of pharmaceutical preparations in the same manner as they control the scheduled substances themselves.**

Recommendation 36: As many Governments have introduced or strengthened controls over precursors, traffickers are increasingly attempting to divert those substances through countries or regions with less stringent controls. **The Board urges Governments to continue to ensure that adequate controls over precursors are in place to prevent the diversion of those substances on their territory and to notify the Board about any new substances that they have identified as being used in illicit drug manufacture.**

Recommendation 37: In Africa, there is a need to build capacity, including in the form of forensic skills, at the national level in the area of precursor control. **The Board calls upon the Governments of all African countries to strengthen their national mechanisms for precursor control and to cooperate with the Governments of other countries in the region and relevant international bodies in that regard.**

Recommendation 38: Although seizures of large amounts of precursor chemicals under international control, as well as precursor chemicals under national control, continue to be reported in South America,

⁵⁴ *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2009 ...*

information on the trafficking routes and diversion methods used and, in particular, on the sources of seized chemicals is scarce. **The Board calls upon Governments of countries in South America to design strategies similar to those developed in the framework of Project Cohesion, in order to identify gaps in precursor control measures and the sources of precursors used in illicit drug manufacture.**

5. Availability and rational use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical purposes

789. One of the fundamental objectives of the international drug control treaties is to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes and to promote access to and rational use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Recommendation 39: Significant discrepancies in consumption levels of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances continue to be observed in different regions. Although some of those differences can be explained by differences in medical treatment and by varieties in prescription patterns, excessively high or low levels in drug consumption require special attention. **The Board calls upon Governments to examine trends in the consumption of internationally controlled substances in their countries, to promote access to and rational use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, to adopt measures against unlawful medical practice and to ensure that domestic distribution channels are adequately controlled.**

Recommendation 40: Discrepancies in the consumption levels of opioid analgesics in different countries continue to be very significant. Factors such as knowledge limitations and administrative barriers stricter than the control measures required under the 1961 Convention affect the availability of opioid analgesics. **The Board requests the Governments concerned to identify the impediments in their countries to access to and adequate use of opioid analgesics for the treatment of pain and to take steps to improve the availability of those narcotic drugs for medical purposes, in accordance with the pertinent recommendations of WHO.**

Recommendation 41: The consumption of opioid analgesics for the treatment of pain in many countries remains very low. The Access to Controlled

Medications Programme, to be implemented by WHO, will provide effective assistance to Governments in promoting rational use of opioid analgesics. **The Board calls upon Governments to support and cooperate with WHO in the implementation of the Access to Controlled Medications Programme.**

6. Illegal Internet pharmacies

790. The global nature of the problems of illegal sales of controlled substances through the Internet and the smuggling of controlled substances by mail require concerted action by the international community.

Recommendation 42: The *Guidelines for Governments on Preventing the Illegal Sale of Internationally Controlled Substances through the Internet*,⁵⁵ developed by the Board, were launched in March 2009. The Board hopes that the Guidelines will help each Government to identify the control measures most appropriate for its country. **The Board calls upon Governments to implement the recommendations contained in the Guidelines without delay and to the fullest extent possible.**

Recommendation 43: In Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 50/11, on international cooperation in preventing the illegal distribution of internationally controlled licit substances via the Internet, Governments were encouraged to notify the Board, in a regular and standardized manner, of seizures of internationally controlled licit substances ordered via the Internet and delivered through the mail. The Board distributed in February 2009 to all Governments a standard format to be used for reporting such seizures. **The Board invites Governments that have not yet done so to establish national mechanisms for collecting data on seizures as requested by the Commission in its resolution 50/11 and to report to the Board using the standard format sent to them. The information received by the Board will allow it to analyse the situation with respect to internationally controlled substances ordered via the Internet and delivered through the mail and to report on that situation to the Commission.**

Recommendation 44: An increasing number of illegal transborder trade transactions involving internationally controlled substances are carried out using modern information technology and communication

⁵⁵ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XI.6.

technology, such as the Internet and international call centres. **The Board calls upon Governments to take appropriate action to prevent such misuse of modern information technology and communication technology. The Board also requests Governments to consider measures to influence those responsible for the management of Internet websites and other forms of modern communication technology to ensure that illegal activities are prevented or stopped.**

B. Recommendations to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and to the World Health Organization

791. UNODC is the primary United Nations entity responsible for providing technical assistance in drug control matters and for coordinating the provision of such assistance by Governments and organizations. The treaty-based function of WHO is to provide recommendations, based on medical and scientific assessments, regarding changes in the scope of control of narcotic drugs under the 1961 Convention and psychotropic substances under the 1971 Convention. In addition, WHO plays a key role in supporting access to and rational use of substances under international control.

Recommendation 45: The Board notes that the lack of qualified drug control administrators is at the origin of persistent difficulties in many countries in implementing the control measures for licit activities involving narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals. **The Board encourages UNODC to provide training for national drug control administrators responsible for the control of licit activities involving narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors.**

Recommendation 46: Some countries in Central America lack the forensic expertise necessary to analyse the composition of seized pharmaceutical preparations, including those containing substances under international control. **The Board requests UNODC to include, in the programmes on building capacity in countries in Central America, the provision of assistance to improve their forensic capabilities (see also recommendation 25 above and recommendation 50 below).**

Recommendation 47: The capacity to provide treatment to drug addicts remains limited in many low- and middle-income countries. **The Board requests WHO to increase its support of Governments' efforts to strengthen their capacity to provide treatment for drug abuse and to ensure that the treatment is of high quality.**

C. Recommendations to other relevant international organizations

792. International organizations such as INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization play an important role in international drug control. In cases where States require additional operational support in specific areas, such as drug law enforcement, the Board addresses relevant recommendations pertaining to the specific spheres of competence of the relevant international and regional organizations, including INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization.

Recommendation 48: Drug traffickers are attempting to increase the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in various narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and some psychoactive substances not under international control. **The Board requests INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization to share with the Board, WHO and UNODC any information they may have on new developments regarding the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and psychoactive substances not under international control, such as synthetic cannabinoids and ketamine.**

Recommendation 49: In several countries, the awareness of customs officers of diversion of and trafficking in precursor chemicals continues to be insufficient. **The Board encourages the World Customs Organization to ensure that its training programmes include guidance for customs officers on the prevention of trafficking in precursor chemicals. The World Customs Organization may also develop tailor-made training programmes focusing on the control of precursors in regions where trafficking in precursors represents a serious problem.**

Recommendation 50: Some countries in Central America lack the forensic expertise necessary to analyse the composition of seized pharmaceutical

preparations, including those containing substances under international control. **The Board invites CICAD to include, in its programmes on capacity-building, the provision of assistance to member States to improve their forensic capabilities (see also recommendations 25 and 46 above).**

(Signed)
Sevil Atasoy
President

(Signed)
Camilo Uribe Granja
Rapporteur

(Signed)
Koli Kouame
Secretary

Vienna, 13 November 2009

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