

(d) To conduct research and impact studies on the use of the manual;

(e) To continually update and develop supplementary, specialized drug law enforcement training material;

(f) To establish collaborative subregional training centres for drug law enforcement officials;

2. *Invites* the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre, the Colombo Plan Bureau, the Customs Co-operation Council, the International Criminal Police Organization and other parties concerned to work jointly with the Secretariat in the implementation of the present resolution.

*15th plenary meeting  
21 June 1991*

**1991/42. Convening of a meeting at the ministerial level in the Near and Middle East to enhance the effectiveness of cooperation in resolving matters related to illicit trafficking and drug abuse**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Considering* the alarming increase in the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs in the Near and Middle East,

*Aware* of the supply of illicit narcotic drugs in certain States in the region and the spill-over effects it may have on transit and neighbouring States in the region,

*Convinced* of the importance of concerted efforts by States to cooperate in combating these problems,

1. *Recommends* that all States members of the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East should ensure that their delegations at the twenty-eighth session and at all subsequent sessions of the Subcommittee held in the region include the heads of operational law enforcement units, with a view to elaborating practical recommendations to resolve matters related to illicit trafficking;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene a meeting at the ministerial level in the Near and Middle East to enhance the effectiveness of regional cooperation by considering the early implementation of the recommendations made by the Subcommittee at its twenty-eighth session, particularly in respect of transit routes, including the Balkan route.

*15th plenary meeting  
21 June 1991*

**1991/43. Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 1979/8 of 9 May 1979, 1980/20 of 30 April 1980, 1981/8 of 6 May 1981, 1982/12 of 30 April 1982, 1983/3 of 24 May 1983, 1984/21 of 24 May 1984, 1985/16 of 28 May 1985, 1986/9 of 21 May 1986, 1987/31 of 26 May 1987, 1988/10 of 25 May 1988, 1989/15 of 22 May 1989 and 1990/31 of 24 May 1990,

*Emphasizing once again* that achieving a balance between the licit supply of opiates and the legitimate de-

mand for opiates for medical and scientific purposes constitutes an important aspect of the international strategy and policy of drug abuse control and that resolving the problem of excess stocks of opiate raw materials is an essential step in that direction,

*Noting* the fundamental need for international cooperation and solidarity in overcoming the problem of excess stocks, which imposes heavy financial and other burdens on the traditional supplier countries,

*Having considered* the special report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1989 on the demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs, and the recommendations contained therein,<sup>91</sup>

1. *Urges* all Governments to give serious consideration to ways to bring about a rapid improvement in solving the problem of excess stocks of opiate raw materials held by the traditional supplier countries;

2. *Commends* the International Narcotics Control Board for its special report on the demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs, in which the Board, *inter alia*, highlighted the impediments to the availability of opiates for medical use, impediments which make it difficult to assess the full licit medical needs for opiates realistically;

3. *Requests* the International Narcotics Control Board to accord priority to monitoring the implementation of the recommendations contained in the above-mentioned report;

4. *Requests* the World Health Organization to develop guidelines on the rational use of opiates and on the treatment of conditions for which opiates may be prescribed, with a view to assisting Governments in evolving national policy in this regard;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to all Governments for consideration and implementation.

*15th plenary meeting  
21 June 1991*

**1991/44. Prevention of diversion from international trade into illicit channels of psychotropic substances listed in Schedules III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting with concern* the widespread and increasing abuse of psychotropic substances in many countries and the related trafficking, which often involves diversion from licit channels,

*Alarmed* by the large quantities of substances listed in Schedules III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971<sup>92</sup> that have been diverted from international trade into illicit channels,

*Recognizing* that the present control mechanisms for international trade set forth in the Convention require further strengthening if diversion into illicit channels of

<sup>91</sup> E/INCB/1989/1/Supp. (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.89.XL5).

<sup>92</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.