

(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,⁹¹

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 1971⁹² 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

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

⁹² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

substances listed in Schedules III and IV is to be prevented,

Recalling targets 8 and 10 of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control,⁹³

Bearing in mind the Political Declaration and the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session,⁹⁴ in particular the section of the Global Programme of Action on the control of the supply of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Reiterating its request, contained in its resolutions 1985/15 of 28 May 1985 and 1987/30 of 26 May 1987, to all Governments, to the extent possible, voluntarily to extend the system of import and export authorizations provided for in article 12, paragraph 1, of the Convention to cover international trade in substances listed in Schedules III and IV,

Recalling its resolution 1981/7 of 6 May 1981, in which it invited all Governments to assess from time to time their medical and scientific requirements for substances listed in Schedule II of the Convention,

Noting with satisfaction that the system of assessment of annual medical and scientific requirements for substances listed in Schedule II of the Convention has contributed effectively to the prevention of diversion of those substances from licit international trade into illicit channels,

Having considered the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1990,⁹⁵ in particular paragraph 38, concerning the successful operation of the simplified estimate system with regard to substances listed in Schedule II of the Convention,

1. *Invites* all Governments to extend the system of voluntary assessments of annual medical and scientific requirements for substances listed in Schedule II to include also substances listed in Schedules III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971;

2. *Calls upon* importing countries to exercise continuing vigilance to ensure that imports of psychotropic substances are in accordance with requirements for medical and scientific purposes and to cooperate with exporting countries and with the International Narcotics Control Board in order to prevent the diversion of such substances into illicit channels;

3. *Invites* all Governments to communicate from time to time their assessments of annual medical and scientific requirements for substances listed in Schedules III and IV of the Convention to the International Narcotics Control Board for publication, with a view to providing guidance for manufacture and export;

4. *Also invites* all Governments to develop mechanisms to ensure that exports of psychotropic substances are in line with the assessments of importing countries and, if necessary, to consult with the Governments of such countries or with the International Narcotics Control Board on such matters;

⁹³ See *Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17-26 June 1987* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. A.

⁹⁴ General Assembly resolution S-17/2, annex.

⁹⁵ E/INCB/1990/1 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XI.3). For a summary of the report see E/1991/11.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to all Governments and to invite them to bring it to the attention of the competent national authorities in order to ensure the implementation of its provisions.

15th plenary meeting
21 June 1991

1991/45. Implementation of the International Drug Abuse Assessment System

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind that the parties to the international drug control treaties have an obligation to submit to the Secretary-General an annual report on the workings of the treaties within their territories,

Recognizing that an assessment of the nature and extent of drug abuse constitutes the basis of drug demand reduction policies and programmes at the local, national and international levels,

Recalling Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 3 (S-X) of 19 February 1988⁹⁶ on the establishment of an international drug abuse assessment system,

Recalling also that the General Assembly, in paragraph 13 of the Global Programme of Action annexed to its resolution S-17/2 of 23 February 1990, requested States to establish databases consistent with the international drug abuse assessment system being developed by the Division of Narcotic Drugs of the Secretariat,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its thirty-fourth session,⁹⁵

1. *Urges* all States to give high priority to the collection of quality drug abuse data for use, *inter alia*, in annual reports to the Secretary-General;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the work done by the Division of Narcotic Drugs of the Secretariat, with the expert assistance of and in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, the World Health Organization and other international and regional organizations, on the development of the International Drug Abuse Assessment System;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to Governments that have contributed to the development and field testing of the International Drug Abuse Assessment System;

4. *Endorses* Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 1 (XXXIV) of 9 May 1991,⁹⁷ in which the Commission decided to use, beginning with the annual reports questionnaire for the calendar year 1991, the revised version of part B of the annual reports questionnaire, incorporating the changes recommended by the Expert Group Meeting on the Establishment of an International Drug Abuse Assessment System, held at Vienna from 29 to 31 October 1990;⁹⁸

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to revise also other parts of the annual reports questionnaire and, using modern presentation techniques, to make such

⁹⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1988, Supplement No. 3* (E/1988/13), chap. X, sect. A.

⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, 1991, Supplement No. 4 (E/1991/24), sect. XIV.B.

⁹⁸ See E/CN.7/1991/23