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The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) has the honour to request the cooperation of the competent authorities of your Government in the following matter.

With reports of over 300,000 Ukrainians having already fled their homes, with many crossing into neighboring countries, the acute humanitarian needs resulting from this emergency situation requires urgent action to ensure shipments of medications, including medicines containing internationally controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are available.

The Board would like to remind all Governments that in acute emergencies, such as the urgent humanitarian needs in Ukraine, it is possible to apply simplified control procedures for the export, transportation and provision of controlled medicines. Under the current circumstances, competent authorities may, therefore, permit the export of controlled medicines containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances to affected countries in the absence of corresponding import authorizations and/or estimates. Urgent deliveries need not be included in the estimates of the receiving country.

Further information on this subject is available in the [Guidelines for the International Provision of Controlled Medicines for Emergency Medical Care](#), and [Lessons from countries and humanitarian aid organizations in facilitating the Timely Supply of Controlled Substances during Emergency Situations](#).

Competent authorities are invited to contact the Board, in case any assistance is required to facilitate the supply of controlled medicines to Ukraine.

The Board trusts that this matter will receive the prompt attention of your Government.

Vienna, 1 March 2022

