

Highlights from the INCB website

- ◇ INCB President participates in the ECOSOC Coordination and Management Meeting
- ◇ INCB Learning project kicks off regional training for Europe in Vienna
- ◇ INCB participation in the Seminar on “Women and Drugs: from policy to good practice”
- ◇ INCB participates at WHO forum on alcohol, drugs and addictive behaviours
- ◇ Statement on the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
- ◇ Mission to the Arab Republic of Egypt
- ◇ France’s Deputy Director of Foreign Affairs division visits INCB Secretariat
- ◇ Special event on implementing the scheduling decisions
- ◇ Honduras’ Deputy Health Minister visits INCB Secretariat
- ◇ INCB Staff Visit the Federal Opium Agency Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices (BFARMS) in Bonn Germany
- ◇ INCB convenes for its 119th session, electing new President and Bureau Members
- ◇ INCB calls for adequate access to medicines for treatment of mental illness on occasion of World Health Day
- ◇ INCB side event on proportionality at CND
- ◇ INCB President addresses high-level opening of 60h session of CND
- ◇ President of INCB says scheduling fentanyl precursors will help protect public health

Past events:

ECOSOC, Coordination and Management Meeting, New York, 6-7 July 2017

INCB Training Seminar for Competent National Authorities in Europe, Vienna, 4-6 July 2017

Mission to Egypt, Cairo, 11-14 June 2017

119th Session of INCB, Vienna, 15-26 May 2017

60th CND Session, Vienna, 13-17 March 2017

INCB President presents annual report to ECOSOC and holds consultations with Presidents of the General Assembly and ECOSOC

On 6 July, Dr. Viroj Sumyai, President of the Board presented the INCB annual report for 2016 to the Economic and Social Council at its Coordination and Management Meeting.

In his presentation, the President highlighted the 2016 report's focus on the issue of women and drugs and highlighted the fact that women continue to be disproportionately affected by drug use and dependency given their comparatively lesser access to treatment than men.



He echoed the Board's call to States to integrate gender perspectives in the elaboration of their drug policies to address this discrepancy.

The President also drew the attention of council members to the Board's pronouncements on the need for proportionate responses to drug-related criminality, including through the use of alternative measures to conviction and punishment, and called upon States that continue to retain the death penalty for drug-related crimes to consider abolishing it for this category of offence. The President

also reiterated the Board's condemnation of extrajudicial responses to drug-related criminality. The full text of the President's speech can be accessed online [here](#).

During his mission to New York, the INCB President also held consultations with H.E. Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, President of the Economic and Social Council, as well as H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson, President of the General Assembly.

Bilateral meetings were also held with the Permanent Representatives of Jamaica and of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

Upcoming events:

120th Session of INCB, Vienna, 31 October-17 November 2017

INCB Learning project kicks off regional training for Europe

The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) organised a three-day training seminar for European national authorities responsible for implementing the international drug control conventions on 4-6 July 2017 in Austria. The seminar was part of the global INCB Learning project. Fifty-seven participants from the national authorities of Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden took part in the seminar.

During the seminar, participants strengthened their knowledge of the international drug control framework and the technical reporting obligations of the conventions related to narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals. Participants were also trained on the use of INCB tools, such as the International Import Export Authorization System (I2ES), the Pre-Export Notification (PEN) Online system, the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS), and IONICS. It was highlighted during the seminar that monitoring the licit trade in internationally controlled substances and effective reporting to INCB helps prevent



Mission to the Arab Republic of Egypt

An INCB mission visited the Arab Republic of Egypt from 11 to 14 June 2017. The mission was conducted by Mr. Bernard Leroy, Member of the Board, accompanied by Mr. Adrian Moicean of the INCB secretariat. The objective of the mission was to discuss the implementation by the Arab Republic of Egypt of the three international drug control conventions and to review drug control developments in the country regarding the implementation of the international drug control conventions since the Board's last mission in 2001.



The mission, which was coordinated by the Anti-Narcotics General Administration (ANGA), held consultations with Deputy Ministers and senior officials of the Ministries of Interior and Social Security, Health, Justice and Foreign Affairs. Meetings with senior officials of the Customs Authority, the Fund for Rehabilitation and Countering drug abuse of the Ministry of Social Solidarity and the Attorney General Office were also held. The mission also visited the Elmatar Hospital for Drug Abuse Rehabilitation in Cairo. A visit to the UNODC Regional Office for Middle East and Northern Africa (ROMENA) in Cairo was also included in the programme of the mission.

Discussions focused on latest developments in drug control situation in Egypt, trafficking and abuse of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals and measures taken to address them, as well as challenges regarding availability for medical purposes of substances under international control.

The findings of the mission will be considered by the Board at its session in November 2017 and will be reflected in the INCB Annual Report for 2017, expected to be released in March 2018.

INCB President addresses high-level opening of 60th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The INCB President Werner Sipp addressed the high-level opening segment of the 60th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which is taking place in Vienna from 13 to 17 March 2017. In his [statement](#), the INCB President called upon Governments to ensure that drug-related policies and programmes take into account the specific needs of women, referring to the thematic chapter of the [Board's annual report for 2016](#).

President Sipp reiterated that the drug control conventions do not require the imprisonment of people who use drugs or who commit minor drug-related offences but that alternative measures such as education, treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration remain underutilized. The INCB President also encouraged States to consider the abolition of the death penalty for drug-related offences, and condemned the extrajudicial targeting of people suspected of illicit drug-related activity.

In closing, the INCB President urged all Governments to reinforce their efforts to meet the goals set out in the three drug control conventions and in the political declarations adopted by the General Assembly and Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 1998, 2009 and 2016.



The statement by the INCB President is available [here](#).

INCB holds side event on proportionality at the 60th session of the CND

International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) President, Mr. Werner Sipp, held a side event on 'The Need for Proportionality: State Responses to Drug-related Offences' today at the margins of the 60th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. Members of the panel included the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Mr. Yury Fedotov, and the Vienna NGO Committee Chair, Mr. Esbjörn Hörnberg.



Mr. Sipp emphasised the principle of proportionality, in the context of drug-related offences, as a key aspect of a sound and effective drug policy. Disproportionate responses to drug-related offenses undermine the aims of the International Drug Control Conventions. The INCB President noted that drug dependency is a disease and should be treated as such, as over-reliance on punitive measures may have significant human costs while yielding limited results. INCB encourages member States to pursue alternatives to conviction and punishment, such as education, treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration, as allowed for by the Conventions.

Mr. Fedotov congratulated the INCB for their clear and steady guidance on the matter throughout the years and emphasised the growing importance of human rights in the context of the international drug-control framework. Mr. Hörnberg expanded on the matter by stating that the death penalty for drug-related offences goes against the fundamental human right to life and supported INCB's encouragement that member states should refrain from and eventually abolish this course of action.

Mr. Sipp then responded to questions from the floor regarding the INCB's stance on proportionality and decriminalisation.

The INCB President's statement at the side event is available [here](#).

Scheduling Decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)

At its sixtieth session, the Commission decided to include twelve substances in the relevant schedules of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, as follows: U-47700 included in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention; butyrfentanyl, 4-MEC (4-methylethcathinone), ethylone, pentedrone, ethylphenidate, MPA (methiopropamine), MDMA-CHMICA, 5F-APINACA (5F-AKB-48) and XLR-11 included in Schedule II of the 1961 Convention; 4-anilino-N-phenethylpiperidine (ANPP) and N-phenethyl-4-piperidone (NPP) included in Table I of United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.

INCB Staff Visit the Federal Opium Agency Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices (BFARMS) in Bonn Germany

To strengthen its continuous dialogue with the national competent authorities, a visit at BFARMS was conducted by INCB staff from 8 to 12 May 2017.

Topics including the organizational structure of BFARMS, the national drug control system in Germany, measures and initiatives taken to comply with the international drug control conventions, and the challenges faced by the national competent authorities were discussed. In-depth demonstration of the electronic system adopted by BFARMS in fulfilling its reporting obligations were also performed. In particular, exchange of ideas and concern among BFARMS team members and INCB staff greatly facilitated understanding of the challenges involved in the implementation of drug conventions.

Two Precursors of Fentanyl Placed Under International Control

After an independent assessment of two precursors of fentanyl, namely ANPP and NPP, by INCB the CND unanimously decided to include these two chemicals in Table I of the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 during its 60th Session. The scheduling will become effective on 18 October 2017, at which point Governments will have to apply the measures under Article 12 of the 1988 Convention. As an interim measure, until the scheduling is in place, INCB has included ANPP and NPP in the international special surveillance list (ISSL). INCB will make all necessary amendments to Form D, the Red List and the PEN-Online system to help Governments comply with their obligations.

Governments are encouraged to facilitate seizures of ANPP and NPP when used in illicit drug manufacture and to share details about incidents involving the chemicals in the Precursors Incident Communications System (PICS). More information about the work of the Board with helping to prevent the illicit uses of NPP and ANPP and the importance of the international controls established in the 1988 Convention to public health can be [found here](#).

Recent UNODC publications on drugs:

World Drug Report 2017

Sustainable development in an opium production environment - Afghanistan Report 2016

Evidence for enhancing resilience to opium poppy cultivation in the Shan State, Myanmar

2017 Afghanistan Synthetic Drugs Assessment Report

Useful links:

United Nations

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

United Nations Economic and Social Council

World Health Organization

World Customs Organization

INTERPOL