

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

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Foreword

1. The International Narcotics Control Board is the successor to drug control bodies the first of which was established by international treaty over sixty years ago. A series of treaties confer on the Board specific responsibilities. The Board "shall endeavour to limit the cultivation, production, manufacture and use of drugs to an adequate amount required for medical and scientific purposes" and "to ensure their availability for such purposes". The Board shall also endeavour "to prevent illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of, and illicit trafficking in and use of, drugs". In carrying out its responsibilities, the Board is enjoined to act in co-operation with Governments and to maintain continuing dialogue with them to further the aims of the treaties. Such dialogue is pursued through periodic consultations and through special missions arranged in agreement with the Governments concerned.

2. The Board consists of 13 members, elected by the Economic and Social Council, who serve in their personal capacities, not as government representatives. ^{1/} Three members with medical, pharmacological or pharmaceutical experience are elected on the nomination of the World Health Organization and 10 on the nomination of States Members of the United Nations and of Parties to the treaties which are not members of the United Nations. Members of the Board (see annex for current membership) are to be persons who, by their competence, impartiality and disinterestedness, can command general confidence. The Council is enjoined, in consultation with the Board, to make all arrangements necessary to ensure the full technical independence of the Board in carrying out its functions. This emphasis is reinforced in article 16 of the 1961 Convention, which requires that the Secretary of the Board shall be appointed by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Board. Arrangements designed to ensure the Board's full technical independence were established by the Council following consultation with the Board in 1967 and reaffirmed in 1973 and 1976. ^{2/}

3. The Board collaborates with other international bodies concerned with drug control, including not only the Council and its Commission on Narcotic Drugs, but also the relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations, particularly the World Health Organization. It also co-operates with bodies outside the United Nations system, especially the International Criminal Police Organization. In the pursuit of their distinct yet complementary tasks, day-to-day collaboration takes place between the Board's secretariat and the staff of the Division of Narcotic Drugs as well as the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control. By decision of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna serves as co-ordinator for all United Nations drug control related activities.

4. The treaties require the Board to prepare an annual Report on its work. The annual Report analyses the drug control situation world-wide, so that Governments are kept currently aware of existing and potential situations which may endanger the objectives of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971. The Board draws Governments' attention to gaps and weaknesses in national control and in treaty compliance; it also makes suggestions and recommendations for

improvements at both the national and international levels. The Conventions envisage special measures available to the Board to ensure the execution of the Conventions' provisions. The Board's annual Report is supplemented by two detailed technical reports containing data on the licit movement of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances required for medical and scientific purposes, together with the Board's analysis of the data. These data are required for the proper functioning of control over the legitimate movement of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

5. The Board extends technical co-operation to national administrations to help them meet their obligations under the drug treaties. To that end, it conducts regional training seminars and programmes for drug control administrators either in one of the countries of the particular region concerned or at the Board's headquarters. The Board is enhancing the capacity of its secretariat to train national administrators. In this connection, the Board intends to publish in 1989/1990 a manual to provide further guidance to national administrations in their control tasks.

6. The Board's work is continuously expanding as a result of Governments' implementation of the voluntary measures to tighten the control of psychotropic substances; the growing number of substances placed under international control; the additional responsibilities assigned to the Board under the 1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; and the need for frequent dialogues with Governments to promote remedial measures to stem illicit production, trafficking and abuse.

7. Extrabudgetary funds are making it possible for the Board to expand technical assistance activities and conduct training programmes. Such funds also enable the Board to undertake action to prepare the way for carrying out its responsibilities under the 1988 Convention. The Board wishes to thank the Governments of Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States for providing extrabudgetary funds in 1989, and the Government of Canada for furnishing the services of a consultant for three months.

Notes

1/ Article 9, paragraphs 2 and 3, of the 1961 Convention.

2/ Economic and Social Council resolutions 1196 (XLII) of 16 May 1967, 1775 (LIV) of 18 May 1973 and 2017 (LXI) of 3 August 1976.

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I. OVERVIEW

1. The deterioration in the world situation in respect of the illicit production and abuse of drugs, together with the attendant escalating violence, has reached a new and dangerous stage. Despite the unprecedented counteraction taken by the world community, an interlocking network of criminal drug trafficking organizations, heavily financed and armed, has become ever bolder and more ruthless. The danger of undermining and paralyzing the political institutions and economies of some countries has never been greater. The peril in some countries to the very lives of political leaders, jurists, journalists and private citizens has also never been greater. The traffickers' declaration of war against a single country endangers the security and integrity of all countries and constitutes war against the whole international community. The response of the international community must be concerted, swift, more forceful, more comprehensive, more innovative. For the criminal trafficking organizations, linked within countries, within regions, inter-regionally, and often with terrorist insurgents, to prevail in the struggle in any one country would imperil all countries. The war to defeat them must be waged globally.

2. Accordingly, the international community should in its own interest provide promptly and to the greatest extent possible the assistance requested by any Government under siege by the traffickers. Such requests for assistance may well range from means to protect officials, judges and witnesses to the provision of aircraft, weapons and training to bolster security forces.

3. Traffickers are motivated by voracious financial greed which can be satisfied only by ever-growing illicit drug consumption which now occurs in virtually all countries, both developed and developing. All countries, particularly those in which such consumption is widespread, bear a special responsibility for enacting and vigorously pursuing comprehensive measures to contain and reduce demand. It should also be recognized that every individual who consumes illicit drugs bears a personal responsibility for contributing to the perpetuation of the illicit activities of drug traffickers.

4. Countries in which illicit narcotics cultivation takes place and has long been entrenched should be provided access to modern reconnaissance technology to permit location and destruction of such cultivation. At the same time development assistance is required to enable farmers to make their living through licit agricultural or other enterprises. Marketing possibilities and fair export prices, together with general economic development, must go hand-in-hand with such an approach if it is to succeed. On their side, the producing countries should pursue sustained and comprehensive programmes designed progressively to reduce and eventually to eliminate such cultivation. It is of utmost importance that illicit cultivation not be permitted to expand further, as has occurred in recent years when licit traditional crops have been increasingly replaced by illicit ones. It is also essential that methods which permit large-scale eradication of illicit narcotic crops be further development and employed.

5. Since 1988, illicit production of narcotic drugs has increased and more countries are now involved. In the latter connection, an ominous development is the spread of opium poppy cultivation to Guatemala and Colombia. In pursuing their criminal activities, drug traffickers have severely damaged the environment in a number of countries where illicit cultivation of the opium poppy and the coca bush takes place. This damage includes not only the

destruction of forests, with the consequent erosion of the soil through the use of slash-and-burn techniques, but also the contamination of rivers and streams by the disposal of chemicals used for the illicit manufacture of opiates and cocaine. The producer countries and the entire world community should have access to information which shows the dimensions of the problem. In this connection, the Board believes that it would be useful for a small group of environmental experts, under the auspices of the United Nations, to conduct a study of this problem and make recommendations as appropriate.

6. The Board considers the conclusion in December 1988 of the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances to constitute a milestone. This Convention provides a valuable new tool to fight illicit drug trafficking. As of 1 November 1989, 77 States and the European Economic Community were signatories to the Convention; of these, the Bahamas and China had become Parties through ratification. The Board urges all States to become Parties at the earliest possible time. The Board also urges that all States respond affirmatively to the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council that they provisionally apply the provisions of the Convention to the greatest extent possible even before formally becoming Parties. In this connection, special attention is required with respect to levying appropriate penalties on traffickers, extradition, money laundering and seizure of assets. Furthermore, the early implementation of the provisions of article 12, concerning the control of precursors, can greatly enhance co-ordinated international action to reduce the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The Board is preparing to implement the role assigned to it under article 12, as is discussed in paragraphs 49-50 of this Report. The Board is also preparing to assume responsibilities assigned to it under other provisions of the Convention.

7. Article 5 of the 1988 Convention specifies that Parties should adopt measures to enable their authorities to identify, trace and freeze or seize proceeds or property derived from or used in the illicit traffic. The Board notes that an intergovernmental meeting held in Paris in September 1989 brought together finance officials from 15 countries to examine how they could improve international co-operation against money laundering and interrupt the movement of the huge illicit proceeds generated by drug trafficking. A Financial Action Task Force will assess the flow of such illicit proceeds and draw up a strategy to combat it by the first half of 1990. In elaborating an approach to the problem, it will be necessary to recognize that a balance must be struck between some form of bank secrecy for licit commerce, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, the need to share information on money transfers if the struggle against drug trafficking is to be effective. The Board hopes that this effort will be successful and that consideration will be given to developing a mechanism to facilitate co-ordinated action in all regions.

8. Within one generation, the abuse of drugs has expanded so quickly that virtually all countries and segments of society are menaced. Abuse is now prevalent everywhere - in the streets, in schools, in the work place, in sports arenas. The toll to society in the waste of lives, health costs, rising crime and lost productivity remains high.

9. Health hazards continue to be aggravated by the simultaneous consumption of more than one drug, frequently in combination with alcohol. Such perilous consumption patterns complicate detoxification and treatment. The Board reiterates the importance it attaches to sustained progress in containing and

reducing the illicit demand for drugs, which it considers as central to any improvement in the overall drug trafficking situation. The reduction of illicit supply in one area can have significant but only temporary impact unless demand is also reduced, since the elimination of one source of supply will merely be offset by another. Accordingly, the Board welcomes the initiative taken by the United Kingdom to convene in London in April 1990 a World Ministerial Summit to Reduce Demand for Drugs and to Combat the Cocaine Threat.

10. The association between intravenous drug abuse and AIDS is viewed with deep anxiety throughout the world. AIDS cases caused by such abuse are becoming ever more numerous, mainly in certain metropolitan areas. The adoption of measures that may decrease the sharing of hypodermic needles among intravenous drug abusers is necessary to reduce the spread of AIDS. To this end, the Board, jointly with the World Health Organization (WHO) in the context of WHO's Global Programme on AIDS, is studying the legal aspects related to the controlled distribution of hypodermic needles and syringes. In this context, the Board must again stress that any prophylactic measures which are urgently needed should neither promote nor facilitate drug abuse.

11. The perils of drug abuse which have now become even more lethal because of the prevalence of AIDS, make it imperative that drug abuse prevention and treatment programmes aimed at high risk groups be given priority attention. Treatment modalities, especially for poly-drug and cocaine abuse, present a formidable challenge. The lack of effective detoxification and treatment modalities in the case of cocaine have prompted specialized studies in some countries. The Board once again reiterates that WHO should provide timely and sorely needed assistance to the international community by convening a panel of experts knowledgeable about the effects of poly-drug and cocaine abuse to advise on the most efficacious treatment modalities available.

12. The Board emphatically joins its voice with those of Governments which have rejected the view expressed by some individuals who advocate the legalization of the use of some or all drugs. Such an approach sends a signal in the wrong direction. It would undoubtedly be interpreted by potential drug abusers as sanctioning drug use and can be expected to lead to an explosion of abuse, accompanied by drug related-deaths, escalating health care costs, and destruction of families as well as of basic values which govern behaviour in society. Moreover, any slackening of the control effort is morally indefensible and tantamount to the surrender of the world community to the drug cartels.

Status of the 1961 and 1971 Conventions

13. The number of States Parties to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, in its original or amended form, now stands at 126, of which 94 States are Parties to the Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol. Since the Board's Report for 1988, Mauritania has become a Party to the 1961 Convention and that Convention as amended and Jamaica has become a Party to the 1972 Protocol. Most non-Parties comply in fact with the provisions of the 1961 Convention. The number of Parties to the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances currently stands at 94. This represents an increase of only two, namely Jamaica and Mauritania, since the Board's last Report. Adequate functioning of the international control system for psychotropic substances

requires the full co-operation of all countries. Therefore, the Board urges Governments which have not yet done so to take the necessary steps to become Parties to the 1971 Convention. In this connection, the Board notes with satisfaction that the Government of Japan has completed the requisite preparatory work for ratification and hopes that this manufacturing and exporting country will soon become a Party. The Board also looks forward to early adherence on the part of Belgium, Burundi, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Suriname, whose intention to become Parties was announced in 1987 by their representatives to the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Assessment of Operation of the Conventions

14. Effective control of drugs required for medical and scientific use constitutes a basic element in the effort of the world community to prevent drug abuse. Generally speaking, the international control system elaborated in the 1961 Convention continues to operate satisfactorily. Diversion of narcotic drugs from the licit trade into illicit channels remain relatively rare and the quantities involved are small in comparison with the large volume of transactions. That holds true both for drugs in the international trade as well as in domestic wholesale circuits. Reference is made in paragraphs 24-25 below to additional action which countries might take to buttress further the international control of narcotic drugs.

15. With regard to the control system for psychotropic substances set forth in the 1971 Convention, Parties and non-Parties alike apply satisfactorily the controls stipulated in the Convention for substances in Schedules I and II, as well as the special voluntary measures recommended by the Board to bolster those controls. In concerted action with Governments, the Board continues its efforts to prevent traffickers from diverting psychotropic substances from sources of licit manufacture and trade into illicit channels. Such co-operation continues to thwart the diversion of large quantities of methaqualone, fenetylline and secobarbital. In the case of fenetylline alone, approximately 280 million tablets, amounting to 14 tonnes, have been prevented from falling into traffickers' hands since 1985. In the case of methaqualone, which was diverted in enormous quantities only a few years ago, the controls have now taken effect, and attempted diversion is now nearly always identified and prevented. However, such attempts continue to be made, particularly in those countries which are considered by traffickers to have insufficient controls. The international system is therefore working well for substances controlled under Schedule II. In the case of Schedule III and IV substances, however, effective control and monitoring of international trade still requires improved action by some manufacturing and exporting countries, on the one hand, and some importing countries on the other. The situation and the need for remedial action are dealt with in paragraphs 31-37 of this Report.

Reinforcement of the Control System

16. Inadequate financial resources have prevented the Board from carrying out fully its mandate under the 1961 and 1971 Conventions and the 1972 Protocol. If additional resources were made available to the Board through the regular United Nations budget, or by extrabudgetary means, a number of steps to strengthen the control system for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances could be taken.

17. In analyzing data submitted by Governments on production, manufacture, conversion, consumption, stocks, international trade and seizures, the Board identifies weaknesses in control and suggests remedial action. However, staff resources at the present level do not permit the necessary sustained follow-up to ensure that remedial action has actually been taken and produced the expected results.

18. Moreover, to ensure a balance between the supply of and demand for opiates, the Board carries out activities aimed at providing information to producer countries regarding forecasts of medical needs so that production can be matched to projected medical needs, thus assisting them to draw up more realistic production plans. Additional staff resources would permit the Board to extend such forecasts to other narcotic drugs and to psychotropic substances so that manufacturing and exporting countries could more accurately plan their production to meet legitimate demand and avoid over-production. Accumulation of excessive stocks and the risk of their diversion into illicit channels could thus be largely prevented.

19. With regard to psychotropic substances in Schedules III and IV, a special effort could be made by the Board to gather additional information on the movement of these substances to compensate for the lack of mandatory information called for under the 1971 Convention. The database thus established would facilitate comparison of statistical data provided by Governments in order to determine possible leakage of such substances into illicit channels.

20. In 1980 the Board recommended that Governments assess their annual legitimate requirements for psychotropic substances in Schedule II. The assessments published by the Board have proven very effective in preventing diversion. It would be highly desirable for the Board to be in a position to implement a similar informal system for other psychotropic substances in order to improve control over international trade and prevent diversion. The extension of the system to substances in Schedules III and IV, and the necessary follow-up action with Governments, are activities which cannot be undertaken within existing resources.

21. The Conventions attach fundamental importance to the Board's monitoring functions and the need for continuing dialogue between Governments and the Board to ensure their implementation. The Board could unquestionably carry out additional and wide-ranging monitoring functions, together with follow-up activities to assist Governments in treaty implementation and to reinforce national controls if the Board's secretariat were provided additional staff resources. The Board's function of promoting greater compliance with the treaties would particularly benefit from such action.

II. OPERATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL SYSTEM

A. Narcotic Drugs

Co-operation with Governments

22. As of 1 November 1989, complete statistical returns for 1988 as well as estimates for 1990 had been received from 126 States and territories, while 51 others provided only partial data. No information had been received from Central African Republic, Democratic Kampuchea, Gambia, Gibraltar, Israel, Mongolia, Nepal, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone and Viet Nam. It is indispensable that all countries and territories furnish all required data to the Board in a timely manner. Without such co-operation between Governments and the Board, the latter will not be able to fulfill the supervisory and remedial functions assigned to it by the international community. The Board maintains continuing dialogues with the authorities of those countries whose co-operation remains unsatisfactory. It remains ready to extend assistance, within the limits of its resources, to improve co-operation and compliance with both the 1961 and 1971 Conventions.

23. In this context, when reviewing the data on the movement of narcotic drugs world-wide, the Board has often noted that not all Governments submit information on seizures and their subsequent disposal as required by article 20 of the 1961 Convention. This suggests that the special administrations required under article 17 for the purpose of applying the provisions of the 1961 Convention have not been established or do not exercise effective co-ordination. As stressed in the Board's Report for 1988, while establishment of a single authority itself is not required, Governments must institute machinery to permit effective co-ordination and to enable them to provide full and timely information to the Board.

Operation of the control system and diversion into the illicit traffic

24. In recent years, an increasing number of diversion attempts have been made by use of falsified import certificates. Diversion did not occur whenever the national authorities concerned co-operated closely with each other and the Board. To thwart diversion, it is essential that the authorities of the exporting countries should systematically scrutinize the import requests submitted to them. In case of doubt as to the authenticity of the import certificates submitted to them, the authorities should consult the Board or the importing countries from which such requests have purportedly originated. Importing countries should respond promptly to inquiries from the Board or the exporting countries. The Board has now at its disposal a collection of authentic import certificates from 173 countries and territories which has proven its worth in permitting detection of forgeries and preventing diversion. The Board stands ready to continue to provide any assistance required to verify the authenticity of import certificates. Importing countries are reminded that the Convention requires them to endorse export authorizations, stating the actual quantities received, and to return them to the exporting countries.

25. The Board has observed that controls applied in certain countries over firms engaged in international trade in narcotic drugs require further improvement. The control measures applicable to international trade in narcotic drugs are intended specifically to limit such trade to the level duly authorized by Governments within the framework of the 1961 Convention. Failure to observe these provisions could seriously endanger the basic mechanisms by which international drug control is exercised. The Board will invite the Governments concerned to review the procedures currently employed in controlling those firms.

B. Psychotropic Substances

Co-operation with Governments

26. More than 140 Governments annually submit to the Board data on psychotropic substances required by article 16 of the 1971 Convention. This includes many countries not yet Parties to the Convention which have, nevertheless, already implemented most of the control provisions. Conversely, some Parties have repeatedly failed to comply with their reporting obligations or have provided only incomplete or incorrect data to the Board, particularly as regards substances controlled under Schedules III or IV. In 1984, 33 benzodiazepines were included in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention. The Board is concerned that, to date, some Parties have not yet amended their legislation to control benzodiazepines. Furthermore, Council resolutions recommending the use of import and export authorizations for substances in Schedules III and IV are not being widely implemented. The Board's technical report "Statistics on psychotropic substances for 1988" (E/INCB/1989/3) gives a detailed account of the compliance of Governments with the requirements of the Conventions and the recommendations of the Board.

27. While in a number of countries the provisions of the 1971 Convention are taken into full account and are adequately reflected in the national drug control legislation, lack of resources often leads to major shortcomings in the day-to-day application of the control measures by drug control administrations. Failure to comply with treaty obligations, including those which relate to reporting to the Board, has been due mainly to these difficulties. Governments should endeavour to ensure appropriate allocation of staff and financial resources for the effective functioning of their drug control systems.

28. More than 70 Governments provide the Board not only with the trade data on Schedule III and IV substances, required under article 16 of the 1971 Convention, but also with information regarding the origin of their imports and the destination their exports. This additional information was requested by the Board and endorsed by Council resolutions 1985/15 and 1987/30. Broader implementation of this recommendation will ensure more effective monitoring of these substances.

29. Analysis of these data enables the Board to assist many Governments in their endeavour to ensure that the provisions of their national drug legislation and of the 1971 Convention are respected. Companies and persons not properly licensed or not authorised for specific transactions in psychotropic substances can be detected and corrective or punitive measures taken. In other cases, such enquiries lead to the discovery of diversion of psychotropic substances into illicit channels. This is then further investigated by the competent enforcement authorities.

30. Close monitoring by the Board of international trade in Schedule III and IV substances has revealed that some of these substances are imported and exported in very large quantities into free ports or free zones from which they are rechannelled, primarily by broker companies, to a variety of destinations. Such movements are difficult to control. In the light of such practices, the Plenipotentiary Conference for the adoption of the 1988 Convention re-affirmed in article 18 the necessity to establish and maintain a system to detect suspicious consignments in free ports and free zones.

Operation of the control system and diversion into the illicit traffic

31. Cases of diversion of substances in Schedule II have been largely prevented because effective controls are in force in virtually all countries and Governments co-operate with the Board to prevent diversion. With regard to Schedule III and IV substances, evidence suggests that barbiturates and pemoline continue to be diverted from Europe to illicit channels in other continents. Several tonnes of pemoline were exported during 1987 and 1988 to countries in West Africa where no or very limited requirements for that substance exist. Enquiries of the Board determined that almost 3 tonnes of pemoline shipped to South-East Asia were directed to a fictitious company and the destinations of the shipments could not be traced. Heroin, particularly in illicit traffic originating from South-West Asia, increasingly contains phenobarbital. Analysis of samples of heroin seized in various countries in recent years has revealed this trend. Exporting countries have been advised by the Board closely to monitor exports of phenobarbital especially when destined for regions where it may be combined with heroin.

32. Inadequate infrastructures in some African countries do not permit effective control of imports and distribution of psychotropic substances. Therefore, the Board has invited exporting countries to be particularly vigilant in respect of large import orders for barbiturates, benzodiazepines and anorectics placed by companies in certain African countries. The medical needs of these countries for such substances can only be very limited.

33. During the last decade the number of actual cases of diversion detected annually by the Board and the quantities of psychotropic substances involved have remained almost constant. However, the substances diverted in recent years differ from those diverted ten years ago. At the end of the 1970's and beginning of the 1980's, considerable quantities of amphetamines were diverted from licit manufacture and international trade; such diversion has not occurred since 1982. The comprehensive measures of the 1971 Convention controlling Schedule II substances, together with the voluntary measures proposed by the Board, have been applied world-wide; they have proven their efficacy by reducing substantially the diversion of these substances into illicit channels. A similar development is also noted with respect to methaqualone which was transferred in 1980 from Schedule IV to Schedule II. The Board anticipates a considerable decline of diversion of fenetylline, due to the wide introduction of control measures required by the 1971 Convention. Both substances continue to be sought after by traffickers. However, many attempts in recent years to divert them have been thwarted by action taken by Governments in co-operation with the Board.

34. Compliance with the import/export authorization system and the limitation of exports to Governments' assessments of their legitimate needs as published by the Board are the primary measures responsible for this favourable development. In addition, national authorities frequently consulted the Board in cases where there was doubt about the authenticity of orders.

35. While effective control has prevented diversion of Schedule II substances, such success has been partly offset by other, less desirable, developments. The tightening of control measures for amphetamines in the 1970's and for methaqualone in the beginning of the 1980's has prompted traffickers to divert similar, but less strictly controlled substances. In certain countries, amphetamines have been replaced in part by fenetylline, which is being replaced by anorectics and pemoline. Similarly, methaqualone has been substituted by barbiturates and benzodiazepines.

36. In addition, psychotropic substances are being increasingly manufactured in clandestine laboratories. Most of the amphetamines seized from illicit traffic in recent years no longer originate from licit sources, but rather from clandestine laboratories. Recent detection of clandestine laboratories manufacturing methaqualone and fenetylline suggest that a parallel trend can be anticipated with these substances.

37. The Board wishes to draw special attention to the extensive abuse of benzodiazepines in many countries. Such abuse can be attributed mainly to excessive prescription. Authorities of countries where such abuse takes place may wish to raise this problem with their medical associations with a view to increasing medical practitioners' awareness and to developing remedial measures.

C. Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs

38. On the question of demand for and supply of opiates for licit needs and, in particular, of excessive stocks of opiate raw materials, the Council requested the Board, in resolution 1988/10 of 25 May 1988, to "review available information on the problem and to enter into a dialogue with interested Governments and parties in order to develop a practical and effective solution, which may include the involvement of international development assistance organizations". In response, the Board deemed it essential in the first instance to gather further detailed information on licit medical needs in order to identify both actual and potential opiate demand. It requested the assistance of WHO in determining such demand in various regions of the world. The Board is grateful for the co-operation extended by WHO. In resolution 1989/15 of 22 May 1989, the Council requested the Board "to pursue the early finalization and implementation of the project". On the basis of the information collected, the Board is publishing a special study on the subject together with its recommendations in a supplement to the present report (E/INCB/1989/1/Supp.).

D. Expiration of transitional reservations under article 49 of the Single Convention

39. At the time the 1961 Convention was adopted, the non-medical use of opium, coca leaf, cannabis and cannabis resin was still practiced in a few countries where such use was traditional in a part of the population. The drafters of the Convention provided for the gradual suppression of such non-medical use within a fixed time period.

40. In article 49, the Convention provided that, where such use was traditional and was already permitted on 1 January 1961 in a part of their territory, Parties could continue to permit such non-medical use, under specified conditions and for a transitional period. A Party which availed itself of a transitional reservation in that sense at the time of signature, ratification or accession, disposed of a maximum period of 15 years after the entry into force of the Convention to suppress the non-medical use of opium, and a maximum period of 25 years to suppress the non-medical use of coca leaf, cannabis and cannabis resin. Activities to sustain such non-medical use (cultivation, production, manufacture, distribution, etc.) were also permitted during the same time frame, subject to all control measures provided for in the treaty. The 1961 Convention entered into force on 13 December 1964. Therefore, non-medical use of opium had to be suppressed by 12 December 1979 and non-medical use of coca leaf, cannabis and cannabis resin by 12 December 1989.

41. The following Parties, listed in the order of their date of ratification or accession to the 1961 Convention, made transitional reservations under article 49: Myanmar (opium), Argentina (coca leaf), India (opium and cannabis), Pakistan (opium and cannabis), Bangladesh (opium and cannabis) and Nepal (opium and cannabis). No reservation was made by Bolivia or by Peru for coca leaf chewing.

42. As regards Myanmar, while, under article 49, only such persons could be permitted to smoke opium as were registered to this effect by the competent authorities on 1 January 1964, such registration did not actually take place. Subsequently, the Board was informed that the Government could not operate under the reservation clause and that it stopped the licensing of legal sale of opium as from 1 October 1965.

43. Having advised the Board in 1978 that coca leaf chewing would no longer be permitted, Argentina notified the Secretary-General on 24 October 1979 that, pursuant to paragraph 5 of article 49, it withdrew its reservation relating to coca leaf chewing.

44. In India, the quasi-medical consumption of opium has been prohibited and registered opium users have been placed under medical supervision. Concerning the non-medical use of cannabis, the Government progressively reduced the number of states where such use was permitted, as well as the area under cannabis cultivation after the harvest of 1989. Non-medical use of cannabis is prohibited as of 12 December 1989.

45. On 10 February 1979, the Government of Pakistan promulgated the "Enforcement of Haad Order" with immediate effect and entirely prohibited the use of narcotic drugs for other than medical and scientific purposes.

46. Opium smoking or any other non-medical use of opium is prohibited in Bangladesh. With a view to assisting the Government effectively to discontinue the non-medical use of cannabis, the Board proposed a mission in 1989, which, however, could not take place because of the natural disasters which struck the country. Establishment of adequate legislation and administrative machinery appeared necessary as a matter of high priority for taking concrete steps to prohibit such non-medical use. Noting the statement made by the delegation of Bangladesh to the 1987 International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking to the effect that the country was "committed to do away with the cultivation and use of cannabis except for medical and other scientific uses by the end of 1989", the Board stands ready to assist the Government, where necessary, to resolve the question.

47. While Nepal also made a transitional reservation for, inter alia, the non-medical use of cannabis when the country acceded to the 1961 Convention in 1987, the Board's mission to that country noted that the law merely provides for a very limited exception for religious use. The 1961 Convention does not provide for a permanent exception for this kind of use. However, the distribution of a maximum quantity of 40 kg of cannabis under Government control once a year during the festivities of Maha Shiva Ratri to priests does not and should not raise practical problems.

48. On 12 December 1989, the maximum 25-year time limit fixed by the 1961 Convention to suppress the officially sanctioned non-medical use of drugs elapsed. The objective of the Convention has been achieved with regard to non-medical use of opium, cannabis and cannabis resin, with a possible exception for Bangladesh. However, coca leaf chewing continues to take place

in Bolivia and Peru. The Board recognizes the extreme difficulties of the task confronting these countries, particularly in view of the wide extension of coca leaf cultivation for illicit manufacture of, and trafficking in, cocaine witnessed since the early 1970's. It is, therefore, essential that the necessary substantial assistance should be provided to these countries to enable them to comply with their treaty obligations within a reasonable time.

E. Implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention

49. Article 12 of the 1988 Convention assigns to the Board monitoring and control functions relating to substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. In preparation for assuming these new functions, the Board, as early as January 1989, undertook to analyse its role under the new Convention and to estimate the required resources for its implementation. Although only a limited part of these resources is to be made available, the Board will endeavour to discharge its functions under article 12 to the maximum extent possible. Thanks to extrabudgetary funds provided by the United States, a databank is being established to enable the Board to make full use of the information provided by Governments on the illicit movement of these substances, trace their origin and recommend concrete measures to prevent diversion.

50. In December 1989, the Board sent a questionnaire requesting Governments to furnish data on seizures of substances listed in Tables I and II of the 1988 Convention, on the origin of those substances and on methods of diversion and illicit manufacture. The Board is confident that, in accordance with the spirit that prevailed during the Plenipotentiary Conference, it will receive full support and assistance in its tasks from all Governments and competent international administrations to enable it to present to the Commission in 1991 its first report on the implementation of article 12.

III. ANALYSIS OF THE WORLD SITUATION

51. In analysing the drug control situation world-wide, with particular reference to developments in certain countries, the Board benefits from information obtained from Governments, United Nations organs, specialized agencies and other competent international organizations, including the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO/Interpol).

A. East and South-East Asia

52. In China the trend towards increased drug trafficking across the border of Yunnan Province continued during 1989. More foreign traffickers and members of clandestine organizations were reported to be involved. Moreover, many of the traffickers apprehended in Yunnan Province were from Hong Kong, Macao, Myanmar or Thailand, thus confirming the international nature of the transit traffic. Joint enforcement action in Canada, China, Hong Kong and the United States led to the identification and dismantling of an international trafficking ring. An important heroin syndicate involving over 150 people was identified in the northwestern provinces of Gansu and Shaanxi. Following the adoption of various measures last year to update enforcement technology and train special patrol teams (largely along the southwest border) greater efficiency in solving drug-related cases has been achieved during 1989.

53. China has become the second state to ratify the 1988 Convention. Effective 1 January 1989, an export authorization system has been applied to substances such as acetic anhydride which are now controlled under the 1988 Convention. Under the new regime, export of such substances is subject to the approval of the Ministry of Public Health.

54. China acted as host to an INCB training seminar for national drug control administrators held in Beijing from 24 to 29 April 1989. The seminar was attended by participants from 18 countries and territories in Asia, and aimed both at improving their abilities to carry out their reporting functions under the treaties as well as to promote better co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level. In this context, the Board particularly welcomes the statement made by the Chinese authorities on the occasion of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (26 June 1989) that the Government will further strengthen co-operation with the international drug control bodies.

55. During the INCB seminar held in Beijing, representatives of the Ministry of Health of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea emphasized their Government's desire to develop international co-operation to a greater degree. They also expressed their country's interest in becoming a Party to the international drug control treaties.

56. Hong Kong is directly affected by the increase in opiates of South-East Asian origin which has taken place in the region during 1989. The greater availability of such opiates seems to account for the slight decline in wholesale prices during the first half of the year. A part of the illicit traffic in Hong Kong is directed at satisfying the local demand. Opiates also transit Hong Kong for onward trans-shipment to overseas markets where Hong Kong traffickers operate in association with local criminal syndicates. To combat this transit trafficking, Hong Kong co-operates with the enforcement authorities of many countries. A joint enforcement operation involving authorities in Hong Kong, Canada, China and the United States, which

culminated in May 1989, resulted in numerous arrests and related seizures, including one seizure in New York of 360 kg of heroin which had transited Hong Kong. This compares with a reported total of 365 kg of opiates seized locally in Hong Kong during the entire first half of 1989. During the same period total cannabis seizures of 340 kg were the highest recorded since 1971. Local drug abuse seems to have stabilized or even somewhat declined.

57. The Drug Trafficking (Recovery of Proceeds) Ordinance 1989, enacted in July, gives the authorities new investigative powers to identify the proceeds of illicit drug trafficking and enables the courts to freeze and confiscate such proceeds. The new law also permits the authorities to take action directed against illicit money laundering in Hong Kong.

58. The control situation with respect to psychotropic substances would undoubtedly be improved if the application of the 1971 Convention were to be extended to the territory of Hong Kong by the tutelary authority. Extension of the 1971 Convention to the territory of Macao would also be most desirable.

59. Favourable weather conditions prevailing throughout the region have led to increased opium production in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. There is growing concern by the authorities about actual and potential local abuse of drugs. The Government has sought to increase co-operation with other countries in an effort to attack the problem of drug abuse and illicit trafficking. In February 1989, the Government signed an agreement with UNFDAC for a four-year integrated rural development project.

60. Malaysia continues to be affected by growing transit traffic involving primarily opium and heroin smuggled across the country's northern border or through its western coastline. Government authorities plan soon to introduce mandatory drug testing for all civil servants. Such testing is already carried out in the schools where the number of students at the secondary level increasingly abusing cannabis, heroin, hallucinogens and volatile solvents gives cause for concern. Illicit distribution networks in prisons have also been detected and dismantled.

61. Having acceded to the 1971 Convention in 1986, Malaysia has now aligned its domestic legislation with the requirements of that Convention and introduced new regulations on psychotropic substances in 1989. Legislation enacted in 1988 concerning drug-related asset confiscation is being vigorously enforced. In trying to come to grips with the drug abuse and trafficking situation, the Government has made it clear that it will not compromise in dealing with drug offenders, including foreigners.

62. Illicit drug trafficking in Myanmar (formerly Burma) remains in the hands of various insurgent groups in the northern and eastern parts of the country. These groups have taken advantage of the prevailing internal situation in the country to increase opium production. The 1989 crop is estimated to be substantially higher than that harvested in the previous growing season. During 1988/1989 a greatly reduced eradication campaign took place. This contrasts with the destruction of a substantial part of the poppy crop which took place in recent years. A shift in insurgent alliances has led to even greater permeability of the Myanmar/Thai border through which most of the traffic continues to pass. Traffic, however, also moves through the Chinese border and into Bangladesh and India, as well as via sea links to the south and west. UNFDAC-financed programmes continue in the country wherever prevailing conditions permit. In view of the Board's concern with the critical situation in Myanmar, the Board has decided to contact the Government with a view to sending a mission to that country as soon as possible.

63. Thailand remains the major outlet for opiates being trafficked from Myanmar. In the northern part of the country, 1,800 hectares of the approximately 5,000 hectares of illicit poppy cultivation detected were destroyed. The 1989 opium crop is estimated at some 30 tonnes, an increase of 10 per cent over 1988. Because of the substantially increased opium being trafficked from Myanmar, the authorities estimate that many attempts will be made to establish clandestine laboratories in Thai territory during 1989. By mid-1989, nine such laboratories had already been destroyed, compared with ten in all of 1988. Chemicals needed for the conversion process continue to enter the southern part of the country from Europe, although some enter the north of Thailand from Myanmar, allegedly in transit from China and India. Traffickers have also begun converting certain chemical substances readily available at local markets into acetic anhydride. Because of the number of cannabis eradication campaigns conducted in the east, more illicit cultivation now occurs in the south. The Thai authorities are concerned at the increase in violence caused by traffickers, who resort more and more to the use of firearms.

64. The major drugs abused remain heroin, cannabis and amphetamines. However, solvents are increasingly used by the youth. The growing AIDS epidemic in Thailand has also produced a notable increase in the number of HIV-positive heroin addicts. Such cases were almost non-existent at treatment clinics in 1986, whereas in 1988 over 40 per cent of heroin addicts were estimated to be HIV-carriers, and the figure has continued to rise in 1989, although not as quickly.

65. The new law to permit seizure of drug assets, which has been under consideration by the authorities for a number of years, has still not been submitted for consideration by the Council of Ministers and the Parliament. It is hoped that this law will be enacted in the near future and will prove useful in attacking the illicit traffic, as similar laws have in other countries.

B. South Asia

66. The impact of the large illicit opium crop in South-East Asia has also been felt in Bangladesh where an increase in both abuse and illicit traffic has occurred. While some of the traffic from Myanmar is in transit for India, there is substantial illicit traffic entering Bangladesh across the Indian border to the west which is destined for local abusers. Opiates also transit the major port of Chittagong en route to illicit markets in Western Europe and North America. In view of the deteriorating situation, the former Department of Narcotics and Liquor, previously under the Ministry of Finance, has been reorganized as the Department of Narcotics and Drug Control and placed directly under the President's Secretariat.

67. India remains the only exporter of licit opium for medical and scientific requirements. In order to reduce stocks, the area under poppy cultivation was limited to approximately 15,000 hectares for the 1988/1989 crop year. The UNFDAC five-year law enforcement programme foresees a US\$3.5 million component designed to strengthen control over licit cultivation and prevent diversion to illicit channels.

68. Illicit transit traffic in opium and heroin enters India from both west and east, coming from the Afghanistan/Pakistan region on the one hand and from Myanmar on the other. Traffic through the eastern border increased considerably during 1989 and the Government has enlarged its law enforcement staff in that region. An undetermined number of clandestine laboratories in

India convert opium into heroin for local consumption or trans-shipment. A number of essential chemicals, including acetic anhydride, are controlled with a view to limiting illicit movement within the country and smuggling abroad, particularly across the Indo-Myanmar border. International traffic in opiates, as well as in methaqualone, is largely carried by air. Seizure figures for 1988 of 3 tonnes of heroin, 2.8 tonnes of opium, 17.4 tonnes of cannabis resin and 1.6 tonnes of methaqualone were all somewhat higher than in the previous year. The first half of 1989, however, has seen a sharp decrease with respect to the corresponding figures for the same period in 1988, especially with respect to opium and cannabis resin.

69. An amendment to the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, now provides for tracing, freezing and confiscation of property derived from or used in illicit trafficking. The amendment also makes offences non-bailable if punishable by five years imprisonment or more. It also institutes the death penalty following a second conviction for certain specified offences, including those related to financing of illicit traffic.

70. The Indo-Pakistan Committee to combat drug trafficking met in New Delhi in May 1989. The Committee reached agreement on a number of measures to facilitate timely and effective communication between the enforcement agencies of the two countries, to provide for the exchange of information in traffickers' modus operandi and to update the list of traffickers known to be operating across their borders. The Board welcomes such bilateral co-operation, the need for which it has stressed for several years.

C. Near and Middle East

71. Extensive illicit production of opium occurs in Afghanistan. Information on the extent of opium production in Afghanistan as well as the amount of drug abuse is unclear, however, due to the continued unstable situation in many parts of the country. Opiates are trafficked both westward into Iran and eastward into Pakistan; they are abused locally in those countries or trans-shipped to illicit markets in Western Europe and North America. The Government of Afghanistan has agreed to a proposal by the Board to send a mission to that country during the first quarter of 1990. United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) activities are projected for implementation in opium growing areas in association with the United Nations Humanitarian and Economic Assistance Programmes (Operation Salam).

72. The Islamic Republic of Iran continues to be faced with a high incidence of opiate abuse despite ongoing Government efforts to reduce demand and rehabilitate addicts. Opiates entering the country in large volume from the east are consumed within Iran or trafficked to Western Europe and North America. Aerial surveillance of particularly desert areas in the northeastern part of the country has led to the interception of a number of opium convoys. Firearms and ammunition are usually seized together with the opium.

73. A new law enacted in January 1989 which entered into force in July is directed at both abuse and trafficking. Possession of 30 g of heroin or 5 kg of opium or cannabis resin is punishable by death. During the six-month grace period between enactment and entry into force, addicts had the option of ceasing drug abuse. Thereafter they are to be prosecuted in the light of the offence with which they are charged. If no more serious penalty is levied, addicts convicted are to be sent to labour and rehabilitation centres. The Government estimates that there are as many as one million drug addicts in the country who will be affected by the new legislation. The Board hopes to send a mission in the first quarter of 1990 to continue its dialogue with the Government.

74. The opium poppy continues to be cultivated illicitly in Pakistan. During the 1988/1989 crop season, approximately 150 tonnes of opium were estimated to have been produced. This production figure parallels that of 1988 and therefore shows no improvement in the situation. The bulk of the locally produced opium, together with that smuggled from Afghanistan, is converted into heroin in the tribal areas. The drug is abused by a large and growing part of the population in Pakistan and is also trafficked abroad in considerable quantities. Eradication of poppy cultivation by aerial means has continued to take place on a limited basis but no significant results have been achieved.

75. The Government is concerned at the magnitude of the problem and has initiated various programmes aimed at eradicating opium production; eliminating heroin processing and trafficking; treating and rehabilitating addicts and promoting community activities to prevent drug abuse. Fifteen Joint Narcotics Control Task Forces are already operating, while five Elite Units of Narcotics Law Enforcement are being established to strengthen enforcement capability. Twenty-six treatment and rehabilitation centres are operating under Government control while 1,500 private medical practitioners have been trained to treat abusers. An important administrative action in 1989, taken to reinforce control measures, is the creation of a separate Division of Narcotics Control in the Ministry of the Interior and the appointment of a Minister of State to that Division. Measures examined by the Indo-Pakistan Committee are referred to in paragraph 70 above.

76. The Board is nevertheless concerned at developments, including spreading heroin abuse and the lack of progress in reducing illicit poppy cultivation. The Board therefore proposes to send a mission in the near future to apprise itself in detail of the drug control situation in Pakistan.

77. In Turkey the control of licit production of poppy straw for the extraction of alkaloids, which was developed in the mid-1970's, has continued to function effectively and no opium is produced in the country. The use of Turkish territory for transit traffic in cannabis resin, heroin and morphine coming through the eastern frontier continues. Increased seizures of acetic anhydride may indicate that more heroin processing is taking place in the country and that opium and morphine smuggled in from the east are being converted before trans-shipment. Traffickers continue to conceal the bulk of their illicit consignments in bonded TIR trucks. They also sometimes resort to air and sea routes. Seizures reported during the first six months of 1989 show a substantial increase over those of the corresponding period of 1988: heroin seizures of 741 kg and cannabis resin seizures of 2.6 tonnes have more than doubled, while the 188 kg of morphine base seized is five-fold the 1988 quantity. In order to co-ordinate its efforts at interdicting illicit trafficking with those of neighbouring countries, Turkey entered into formal agreements with Greece and the Islamic Republic of Iran during 1989. The agreement with Greece establishes procedures relating to exchange and use of information and the protocol signed with Iran calls for co-operation in the prevention, investigation and prosecution of illicit trafficking. Both instruments establish joint commissions between Turkey and the two countries in question.

D. Oceania

78. In Australia, the three-year national campaign against drug abuse initiated in 1985 has been extended for a further three-year period, a reflection of the Government's concern with the continuing abuse of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine, heroin and various hallucinogens. Apart from some local illicit cultivation of cannabis, amphetamine manufacture in

clandestine laboratories and limited artisanal manufacture of heroin, the Australian abusers of illicit drugs are supplied by opiates and amphetamines smuggled in primarily from South-East Asia. More heroin was seized in 1989 than in the previous year. Much of the heroin destined for Australia transits through Hong Kong and Vanuatu as exemplified by two large seizures, the first amounting to 50 kg discovered in Australia and the second of 80 kg made in Vanuatu. A large seizure of doses of MDMA confirms the growing abuse of that substance, particularly in urban areas.

79. Although drug trafficking in the territory of New Caledonia is not extensive, it should be noted that it continues to grow and that the Melanesian population is reported to be more involved than before. Illicit cannabis cultivation, both on New Caledonia island and on outlying islands, is becoming a principal source of income for some families.

E. Europe

Eastern Europe

80. All countries in the region are Parties to the 1961 Convention, except Albania. Albania and Romania are the only countries which have not yet become Parties to the 1971 Convention. Most Eastern European countries have signed the 1988 Convention.

81. Abuse of certain narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, mainly diverted from local sources, continues to be a problem of varying degrees of seriousness in Eastern European countries. The expanding abuse of volatile solvents in some countries, primarily by young people, is also of concern to the authorities.

82. Countries in the region are, to a differing extent, confronted with the problem of transit traffic. Those most affected are countries located along the so-called Balkan route and the Soviet Union. In June 1989 the Balkan States convened an expert group meeting in Belgrade to discuss ways to combat drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime. Participants were representatives from Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Turkey and Yugoslavia. Bilateral co-operation was further intensified between the law enforcement authorities in Eastern Europe and their counterparts in countries in which illicit drugs originate and those of final destination. The Board welcomes the progress achieved and encourages further development of institutionalized co-operation in law enforcement, encompassing countries of both Eastern and Western Europe.

83. Located between the Near and Middle East and Europe, Bulgaria serves as a transit country for a major proportion of overland commercial trade transport. This renders Bulgaria particularly susceptible to being used for illicit trafficking. The authorities are committed to interdicting such illicit activity. Their task is complicated by the large number of trucks using the TIR carnet. To date, there has been no reported local abuse resulting from this transit trafficking. Drug abuse is confined to a small number of addicts dependent mainly on opiates and certain psychotropic substances prescribed for medical purposes. Instances of abuse by minors of volatile solvents have also occurred. The authorities of Bulgaria place major emphasis on the training of customs officers. In recent years, the country hosted a number of international meetings on smuggling.

84. In Czechoslovakia, approximately 7,000 persons have been registered as substance abusers. The majority are between the ages of 17 and 25. The main

drugs of abuse are codeine and methamphetamine manufactured clandestinely by addicts from illicitly obtained pharmaceutical preparations. Volatile solvents are abused by young persons, mainly in urban areas. Major prevention programmes are being carried out at all school levels and the mass media support the Government's policy aimed at promoting the social unacceptability of all forms of addiction. Prescriptions have become obligatory for all pharmaceutical preparations containing codeine and ephedrine. The legal basis for action against drug abuse was strengthened by the promulgation in July 1989 of a new Act on the Protection Against Alcoholism and Other Forms of Addiction. The Government has introduced measures to prevent traffickers from taking advantage of the rapid development of international tourism. Co-operation with neighbouring countries in law enforcement training and exchange of information has been intensified.

85. The level of drug abuse in Poland has stabilized following a period of rapid growth in the years 1984 through 1986 and the trend appears to be downward. The authorities estimate that approximately 16,000 persons are abusing drugs, primarily decoctions containing alkaloids prepared locally from poppy straw. In this connection the Government continues to restrict the area of licit poppy cultivation in order to limit the access of addicts to poppy straw. An increase in the number of young persons experimenting with volatile solvents gives rise to great concern. Official as well as church and private organizations have stepped up their campaign to educate the public on the risks of drug abuse. Law enforcement agencies co-operate closely with their counterparts in neighbouring countries to prevent the illicit local manufacture of amphetamines destined for Western Europe.

86. In the Soviet Union health, education and law enforcement authorities continue their efforts to curtail abuse of drugs and toxic substances. The Ministry of Interior reports that to date some 130,000 persons have been registered as "drug abusers" of which some 60,000 are considered as having become "drug addicts". The highest proportion of addicts has been registered in some of the Soviet Central Asian Republics.

87. Comprehensive action being taken by the authorities encompasses measures of an educational, medical and juridical nature. Some 70 per cent of all registered addicts have undergone voluntary treatment. Some addicts have, however, been compelled to undergo treatment, while others have been brought to court on charges of violating drug control regulations.

88. Most abuse concerns cannabis (from wild growth) or decoctions containing alkaloids extracted from poppy straw (cultivated for the production of oil). Morphine, codeine and ephedrine, obtained mainly through theft or forged prescriptions, are also abused.

89. Law enforcement officials have taken measures to curtail sources of supply. In May 1989 more than a thousand small-scale illicit plantations of Papaver somniferum were destroyed. Controls over the use and storage of drugs in medical institutions were strengthened throughout the country. As a result, in 1989 thefts from pharmacies, warehouses and clinics decreased. Drug abuse among teenagers is also estimated to have decreased.

90. There are indications that some drugs are being smuggled into the USSR for local use, particularly into Central Asia, the Soviet Far East and the Ukraine.

91. Traffickers continue to use Soviet territory for the illicit transit of drugs to Western Europe. During the last two years, Soviet customs officials

have seized more than ten tonnes of drugs, such as heroin and cannabis, which were illicitly transiting the country. In some instances, controlled delivery was successfully used.

92. In 1989 the Soviet Government continued to expand multilateral and bilateral co-operation in fighting illicit traffic. On 19 January 1989 the Minister for Foreign Affairs signed the 1988 Convention, stressing the view that illicit drug traffic is a global problem which can be solved only through joint international efforts. In addition to the agreement on co-operation in fighting illicit drug traffic previously signed by the USSR with the United Kingdom, similar agreements were signed during 1989 with the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany and France. These new agreements were concluded in conjunction with visits of the Soviet Head of State to those countries.

93. To date, the Soviet customs service has developed co-operative arrangements with more than 25 Western countries. Successful joint operations against traffickers have been conducted by the Soviet authorities in co-operation with their counterparts in Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands and several other countries. Closer contacts have also been established with the Customs Cooperation Council and some regional organizations fighting trafficking. The Board welcomes this expanding co-operation.

Western Europe

94. All Western European countries are Parties to the 1961 Convention with the exception of Malta. Of the countries in the region, eight, namely, Austria, Belgium, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, and Switzerland have not yet become Parties to the 1971 Convention. The Board emphasizes once again that adherence to and full implementation of the Convention, particularly by all manufacturing and exporting countries, are essential if the international control system is to function effectively. The Board therefore urges all countries which have not yet done so to become Parties to the 1971 Convention at the earliest possible date, and in the meantime to continue to co-operate with the Board to prevent diversion of psychotropic substances into illicit channels. Despite such co-operation, diversion to developing countries of several psychotropic substances has occurred because certain non-Parties continue to neglect establishing effective controls over international trade.

95. As of 1 November 1989, the following states of Western Europe were signatories to the 1988 Convention: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Holy See, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, as well as the European Economic Community.

96. Information from enforcement services suggests a number of general trends in most countries of Western Europe. The increase in drug-related deaths, which has been escalating sharply in recent years, is continuing. Drug abuse and illicit trafficking remain widespread throughout the region; drug-related crime is rising quicker than any other type of criminal offences. Seizures of heroin, cocaine, cannabis and amphetamines are reaching record levels in most countries. There has been a six-fold increase in the volume of cocaine seized in the region over the last four years and cocaine in the form of "crack" as well as "designer drugs" 1/ continue to be seized occasionally in small quantities. Clandestine manufacture of a variety of psychotropic substances is detected more frequently. These include amphetamines, methaqualone, fenetylline and MDMA. These substances are destined not only for local abuse but also for trafficking abroad.

97. The broadest forum for European co-operation on drug issues is the Pompidou Group, composed of 19 countries, in the framework of the Council of Europe. The group is seeking to expand and strengthen mutual co-operation among its members. A number of political declarations were made at the Extraordinary Ministerial Conference held in London in May 1989 concerning the cocaine threat, the confiscation of proceeds of drug trafficking and the relationship between AIDS and drug addiction.

98. In addition, authorities of States members of the European Economic Community co-operate with each other directly or through the institutions of the European Communities. They are aware of the impact that the full implementation of the Single European Act (aimed at the abolition of frontiers for the free movement of persons and goods within the European Economic Community at the end of 1992) will have on maintaining control of the licit trade in drugs for medical use and preventing drug abuse and trafficking. The countries concerned are discussing the strengthening and harmonization of their laws and other measures to be introduced in order to allow the free movement of persons and goods. Such measures refer to the strengthening of control at outside borders of the European Economic Community, harmonization of drug policies and further enhancement of co-operation between various national authorities. To enhance co-operation on seizing and freezing drug traffickers' assets and combatting money laundering, several countries have signed bilateral treaties and others are negotiating such agreements.

99. Pursuant to the Single European Act and its implementation, less strict controls have been imposed at borders between certain countries of the European Economic Community. The authorities found that although fewer persons were checked, drug seizures increased substantially. This evidence will undoubtedly be taken into account as implementation of the Single European Act advances. The Board has been conducting a dialogue with officials of European Economic Community countries concerning the impact on drug control and trafficking of such implementation and plans to monitor developments.

100. The law enforcement agencies of Belgium, confronted like their European partners with substantial drug trafficking, have instituted special means of surveillance, particularly at the seaport of Antwerp and the Brussels airport, two points of entry of which traffickers tend to make preferential use. The new controls include the establishment of a computerized data-processing system known as MARINFO, which makes it possible to follow the movements of containers through their various trans-shipments and accordingly to examine those whose movements appear suspicious. Moreover, as heroin is being increasingly carried by couriers who conceal it in or on their bodies, special detection equipment has been installed at Brussels airport.

101. The Belgian authorities have also maintained vigilance over the traffic in psychotropic substances. A laboratory clandestinely manufacturing methaqualone was discovered. In December 1988, new regulations strengthened the system for controlling the import, export and manufacture of substances in Schedule III of the 1971 Convention, of flunitrazepam in Schedule IV, and of certain anorectics.

102. Abuse of cannabis continues unabated in France. Heroin, however, remains the drug of greatest concern to the authorities. The number of heroin addicts is still at a high level and most of the treatment and information facilities are organized to respond to abuse of that drug. The increase of traffic in cocaine, and the possibility that abuse of the drug in the form of "crack" might begin, is being monitored closely. Although the number of persons

requesting treatment for the abuse of cocaine alone is currently small, constant vigilance is maintained on the situation by the Interministerial Mission for Drug Abuse Control. The fear of contracting AIDS by way of intravenous injection has given rise to increased use of psychotropic substances which are taken orally. Prevention programmes are proving encouraging since a recent study carried out among young people between the ages of 11 and 20 shows that the illicit consumption of drugs has stabilized in that age group.

103. The national law enforcement services have been provided with increased resources and co-ordination between them has been strengthened, as has co-operation with countries where there is illicit production or transit traffic. An Office for Suppression of Large-scale Financial Crime has been established in the Ministry of Interior with the responsibility of tracing cases of money laundering.

104. The Board notes that the French Government has issued a decree which will permit full implementation by France of all provisions of the 1971 Convention. The Government will undoubtedly take the necessary steps to implement effectively this legislation and provide the Board in a timely manner with all the information required by the treaty to enable it to monitor the international trade of psychotropic substances listed in Schedules III and IV as well as other substances recently included in Schedule II.

105. In the Federal Republic of Germany, indicators of drug abuse, which reached a peak in 1979, remained stable until 1986 when they again started rising, particularly those for cocaine and amphetamines. Confronted with a sharp increase in drug-related deaths, offenses, and seizures and the menace of a rising influx of cocaine, the authorities are taking a number of measures which include strengthening the intelligence network and preparing a legal basis to permit the confiscation of proceeds of trafficking and the use of under-cover investigators, as well as to combat money laundering. In general, only drug-free therapies continue to be applied in treatment/rehabilitation programmes. However, rising rates of AIDS contracted by intravenous drug abusers have led the authorities in individual cases to allow limited distribution of methadone under strict medical surveillance and to introduce on a trial basis in one state carefully monitored methadone maintenance projects. The Government is reducing the level of consumption of analgesics, which is considered to be too high, by the introduction of administrative measures and the launching of educational campaigns. All analgesics in combination with barbiturates have been withdrawn from the market and the availability of analgesics combined with caffeine has been reduced.

106. Drug abuse and trafficking continue to increase in Italy. Deaths from overdose more than doubled between 1986 and 1988 and the trend in 1989 shows a further increase. Cocaine seizures through the third quarter of 1989 were slightly less than in the same period of 1988, while heroin seizures were up 25 per cent and cannabis seizures increased almost three-fold. Involvement of the Mafia and similar criminal organizations in international trafficking and money laundering has become more evident. There are indications that more complicated and often indirect routes and channels are used in these activities. The law enforcement agencies, in close co-operation with their counterparts in other countries, have launched several operations which have led to the arrest in several countries of members of the criminal organizations involved.

107. A new "Anti-Addiction Bill" is under consideration which would reverse various provisions of a 1975 law concerning possession for personal use. Under the proposed new law, possession of drugs would be punished, but jail

sentences would usually be suspended if addicts elect to undergo therapy and other rehabilitation services. The law also introduces harsher sentences for drug traffickers and allows for more effective measures to prevent abuse.

108. The Netherlands has traditionally been vulnerable to drug trafficking because of its geographic location and highly developed transportation and communications networks. Traffickers have for many years attempted to take advantage of the sheer volume of goods that pass daily through ports such as Rotterdam and are using cargo containers to a greater extent to conceal illicit drugs. As a countermeasure, the authorities have improved the efficacy of control and surveillance systems. They co-operate closely with maritime, customs and police authorities of other countries, and are increasingly using high-technology equipment to monitor the movement of goods and containers through ports. In addition to transit traffic through ports, considerable clandestine manufacture of such substances as amphetamine and MDMA takes place in the country, as shown by the number and size of illicit laboratories seized during the year.

109. The drug policy of the Netherlands emphasizes the prevention of abuse and the rehabilitation of drug addicts. In evaluating their efforts, authorities point to the unique situation in Amsterdam, which plays unwilling host to large numbers of drug addicts from other countries. For the country as a whole, overall abuse of cannabis and heroin have remained stable and even decreased in some parts of the country. While the abuse of cocaine has increased among multi-drug abusers in particular, authorities indicate that widespread abuse of "crack" has not developed to date. They attribute this to an information campaign which targets addicts, most of whom are known to the authorities.

110. In accordance with a special action plan established in 1985, close co-operation on drug related issues continues among the Nordic countries. Drug liaison officers, posted in major drug producing and transit countries, provide intelligence for all five countries. Common regulations to organize controlled deliveries have been devised. Methods have been developed to determine the origin of seized amphetamine tablets and powder and thus permit more efficient police strategies. The re-emergence of abuse of amphetamines causes major concern. Prices of the drug have steadily declined and its abuse is believed to be one reason why cocaine has not yet become a problem in the Nordic countries. Many heroin abusers have now turned to combining a variety of drugs. They frequently abuse amphetamines together with alcohol. Studies on drug abuse in Sweden indicate that the percentage of young people under 20 years of age who abuse drugs is declining. However, a sharp increase in seizures shows wider availability of illicit drugs.

111. Spain has been a principal European entry point for cocaine over a number of years. However, recent indications show that cocaine is now entering through other points in Europe in increasing quantities. Spain continues to co-operate closely with other Western European countries in its fight against drug trafficking. A successfully organized controlled delivery in co-operation with the Portuguese authorities resulted in the arrest in September 1989 of a large number of traffickers and in the seizure of substantial amounts of cocaine.

112. The Spanish Government, reacting to the serious drug abuse and trafficking situation, particularly with respect to cocaine, has substantially increased its budget for drug control, education and rehabilitation. More than 320 treatment and rehabilitation centres have been established throughout the country and the Government provided a manual on drug abuse to 50,000

medical doctors. An increasing number of non-governmental institutions are being formed to aid in the struggle against drug abuse. Legislation was tightened during 1988 by providing harsher penalties for drug offences, permitting the seizure of assets obtained from trafficking and creating the office of a special prosecutor.

113. In 1988, the Federal Commission on Narcotic Drugs of Switzerland entrusted an expert group to work out solutions for the country's deteriorating drug abuse problem. The report submitted in June 1989 is to serve as a basis for the introduction of new legislative measures. The Swiss Government, aware of the role of the country in international finance, is advancing its preparation of a law to combat money laundering. Switzerland and the United Kingdom have signed an Anti-Drug Banking Pact whereby the proceeds of drug traffickers may be frozen and eventually confiscated.

114. The authorities of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland state that some progress has been made in the fight against heroin; however, they indicate that diversion and abuse of dihydrocodeine, buprenorphine and benzodiazepines has increased. In addition, a ten-fold increase in the quantity of amphetamine seized in the last five years points to a more widespread abuse of this substance.

115. The United Kingdom is increasing its efforts to promote international co-operation in drug control. It signed bilateral treaties with Spain and Switzerland. Similar agreements are already in force with several countries, and the authorities plan to extend such arrangements to include other countries. The United Kingdom also intends to convene in London in April 1990 a World Ministerial Summit to Reduce Demand for Drugs and to Combat the Cocaine Threat.

F. North America

116. In Canada, cannabis continues to be the drug most frequently abused. Most of the drug is trafficked into the country. However, supplies of a highly potent variety of cannabis are domestically produced by the use of sophisticated indoor cultivation; such clandestine cultivation has been discovered with increasing frequency. Domestic production now accounts for about 20 per cent of the total supply of cannabis available in the country.

117. Cocaine abuse rose during 1988 at a faster rate than previously. This includes cocaine in the form of "crack" which is abused particularly in the large cities. These trends are reflected in the higher number of hospital admissions for cocaine use. Cocaine is increasingly trafficked directly into Canada from source countries, rather than in transit through the United States.

118. Heroin continues to be trans-shipped from South-East Asia through Canada to the United States. Heroin abuse among Canadians has continued at previous levels and supplies of the drug are ample. To combat the spread of AIDS, the Federal Government is considering establishing a syringe exchange programme for addicts.

119. Diversion of drugs from licit supplies, by obtaining prescriptions from more than one doctor or by prescription forgery, remains a problem. LSD continues to be smuggled into the country from the United States while the illicit supplies of most other psychotropic substances originate in Canada.

120. Criminal organizations, largely composed of foreign nationals with links abroad, are believed to control drug trafficking in Canada. In January 1989 changes in Canadian law came into effect which give the courts increased power

to seize the assets of drug criminals. The strengthened law also allows increased use of tax and bank records by enforcement authorities.

121. Canada co-operates with a number of countries with a view to combatting illicit drug traffic, particularly the United States and the source and transit countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Canada has already enacted most of the laws required to implement the 1988 Convention, which it has signed and intends to ratify within a year.

122. In line with Canada's five-year national drug strategy "Action on Drug Abuse", the federal Government has increased financial resources to fight drug abuse. The strategy is designed to be a mechanism to promote national collaboration and to complement the numerous provincial and local initiatives already underway. The strategy, which devotes 80 per cent of available resources to demand reduction activities, will soon be subject to a mid-point evaluation of its effectiveness.

123. In the United States of America, the authorities remain greatly concerned that abuse of and illicit trafficking in a variety of drugs continues to be widespread. A "National Household Survey on Drug Abuse", the first such comprehensive study undertaken since 1985, shows that the estimated number of persons abusing any drug on a "current" basis 2/ has dropped 37 per cent. This favorable development is attributed to a change in the general national attitude toward drug abuse. Nevertheless, the "frequent" abuse 3/ of cocaine is estimated to have doubled since 1985. In that year, abuse of cocaine in the highly addictive form of smokable "crack" began to spread, particularly in the inner-cities, and generated greater crime and violence. This has led to a 28-fold increase since 1984 in hospital admissions involving the smoking of cocaine which is now regarded by the authorities as the most pressing national drug abuse problem. Nevertheless, the authorities also remain highly concerned about the continuing abuse of heroin and other drugs, and the growing abuse in some parts of the country of methamphetamine, known on the streets as "crank". There is also grave concern about the health hazards attendant on addicts frequently taking drugs in combination with alcohol. The authorities, mindful of the spread of "crack", are aware that an epidemic in stimulants nearly always provokes an epidemic in sedatives, as abusers try to modulate the peaks and valleys of drug effects, and that, in the case of cocaine, the traditional sedative chosen has been heroin.

124. All of the cocaine and heroin abused in the United States is derived from foreign sources. The cocaine originates in South America and the heroin originates in South-West and South-East Asia and Mexico, with heroin of South-East Asian origin currently the most prevalent. Some local conversion of cocaine from coca paste smuggled into the country has occurred. A substantial portion of the cannabis, which remains widely abused, is clandestinely cultivated domestically with the rest smuggled into the country from abroad. Other drugs, such as methamphetamine, are illicitly manufactured locally or trafficked from abroad.

125. Pursuant to legislation enacted in 1988, a Director of National Drug Control Policy, who has the overall responsibility for co-ordinating drug policy, took office early in 1989. Subsequently, and in implementation of the same legislation, the President transmitted to the Congress his 1989 National Drug Control Strategy. The Strategy is designed to intensify a comprehensive and integrated national attack by both the public and private sectors to reduce abuse and trafficking. It envisages initiatives to expand and energize the drug treatment and criminal justice systems; to promote public awareness and prevention campaigns in the schools, the workplace and all segments of

society; to pursue, in co-operation with other countries, programmes designed to deter and disrupt international illicit drug production and trafficking; to expand at the federal, state and local levels, domestic eradication efforts targeted against cannabis and other illicit drugs and controlled substances; and to improve the quality of information, research, technologies and intelligence to permit the most effective possible implementation of these policies. Major emphasis is placed on galvanizing public opinion to convince all sectors of society that drug abuse is wrong and harmful. The Strategy also makes it clear that every abuser bears responsibility for the toll of illicit drug use both in respect of the United States and other countries. Accordingly, penalties would be imposed not only for trafficking but also for abuse. To meet these objectives, in addition to better co-ordination and use of resources, the Strategy recommends increased spending by the Federal Government.

126. Pending the implementation of the new policy, the Federal Government intensified its war on drugs by making significant increases in the budgets of most federal drug-control agencies. Drug interdiction efforts were stepped up significantly with high-technology methods being employed to fight increasingly sophisticated drug smuggling. The United States military was also given a role in the anti-smuggling campaign.

127. A new federal law entered into force in 1989 which permits the Federal Government to track and to claim ownership of laundered drug money. Banks holding laundered money may also be held accountable. The United States Supreme Court upheld a federal law which provides for pre-trial freezing of the assets of suspected drug dealers pending judicial forfeiture proceedings. The United States Government seized a record amount of cash and property from drug traffickers in 1989. States are also toughening their laws to increase financial penalties for drug dealers.

128. In addition to the health risks commonly associated with drug abuse, intravenous drug abuse now accounts for 31 per cent of all adult AIDS cases and is the largest source of new AIDS cases in the United States.

129. On the international level, the United States began or continued and broadened co-operation with a number of countries, including the Andean countries, Mexico and the Bahamas plus a number of the major industrialized nations. A strong new law entered into force designed to prevent diversion of licit chemicals which could be used to manufacture illicit drugs. The law gives the Drug Enforcement Administration the authority to regulate 20 chemicals and to stop suspect shipments. The President has submitted the 1988 Convention to the Senate, in connection with the ratification process. International co-operation played an increasingly important role in the overall Government approach to combatting drug abuse; it was placed high on the United States foreign policy agenda.

130. Through a series of important actions, Mexico's new administration is demonstrating the Government's firm determination to continue its struggle against drug trafficking. Material and human resources have been significantly increased and the governmental structures reinforced through the establishment of a Deputy Attorney General's office with the specific authority to investigate and pursue crimes involving drugs. In addition, 25 per cent of the Armed Forces has been assigned to fight trafficking. Despite the country's severe economic problems, the budget for drug control activities was increased 174 per cent.

131. The Government attaches high priority to the prevention of drug abuse and to mobilizing all sectors of society in this effort. It is determined effectively to stop drug abuse. The national household survey on the extent of drug abuse initiated in 1988 has been completed and published. The authorities are gratified that, according to that survey, heroin and cocaine do not constitute major health problems in the country. This survey also showed that only a small percentage of the population is affected by drug abuse. The main substances of abuse are volatile solvents and cannabis, predominantly used in urban areas along the northern border. To promote effective prevention an organ was created (ADEFAR) which already has 1,200 committees and 22,000 sub-committees working in small communities. In addition, the Ministry of Health has expanded treatment and rehabilitation facilities.

132. The Mexican authorities conducted an operation aimed at closing illicit traffic ground and air routes at the border between Mexico and the United States. This successful operation started in April 1989 and consisted in a 24-hour surveillance system with approximately 85 checkpoints along the border. The operation also led to the discovery of secret landing strips and trafficking routes and resulted in the eradication of 150 hectares of illicit cultivation. Moreover, 51 tonnes of a variety of drugs and 100,000 tablets of psychotropic substances as well as a large number of aircraft, ships, vehicles and weapons were also seized.

133. In view of the expanding opium poppy cultivation in Guatemala, enforcement officials began interdiction operations in June 1989 along Mexico's southern border with that country. Mexican authorities scored another victory with the arrest of several international drug traffickers, among them one of the most sought-after traffickers in Latin America for the past 15 years.

134. Between December 1988 and August 1989, the authorities destroyed 2,900 hectares of opium poppy and 2,400 hectares of cannabis. During the same period, 318 tonnes of cannabis, 21 tonnes of cocaine and 504 kg of heroin were seized. The task of combatting the illicit traffic is a formidable one since the abundant resources available to traffickers enable them to engage in activities in the most rugged parts of the mountains, in canyons and in other virtually inaccessible sites. Large expanses of illicit cultivation are no longer encountered.

135. In December 1988, the President of the Republic submitted to Congress, and obtained approval for, a series of amendments to the Mexican Penal Code which are designed to increase the severity of penalties for drug trafficking crimes. The Federal Code of Criminal Procedure was also amended to reduce the time needed to process cases involving those crimes.

G. South and Central America and the Caribbean

136. Drug trafficking has become a dominant public issue throughout Latin America and is viewed as a problem for the whole continent. Of great concern is that, in pursue of their drug trafficking activities, heavily armed cartels with enormous financial resources continue their ruthless efforts to undermine political institutions, to disrupt national economies, to murder officials and private citizens. Also of great concern is that drug abuse is spreading throughout the continent and the countries of the region are at risk of becoming major consumers. In addition, the link between the illicit traffic and insurgent groups poses a serious threat to the security of some

countries. Illicit drug production and trafficking have traditionally centered on cocaine and cannabis. However, an additional threat which has recently emerged involves cultivation of the opium poppy in two countries and the seizure of heroin processing facilities.

137. Many countries in the region are facing severe economic difficulties. However, due to their concern with the magnitude of the negative effects brought about by illicit drug-related activities, they are forced to devote scarce resources to fight vigorously against drug abuse, trafficking and the insidious criminal networks which promote them. The countries of the region have reacted energetically to strengthen national programmes and to take joint and co-ordinated action bilaterally and regionally. The drug problem is regarded as so important that the Heads of State of a number of countries meet periodically to review developments and devise effective countermeasure.

138. In response to an invitation from the authorities of Bolivia, a mission of the Board visited that country with a view to assessing the drug control situation there. The mission was undertaken in November 1988, at a time when the Board's Report for that year had been already adopted. The mission visited the coca bush growing areas of Las Yungas and Chapare; held discussions with the highest officials of the Government, including the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Interior, Agriculture, Health and Social Welfare; visited the UNFDAC projects; and were informed of the enforcement measure being taken to give effect to the Government's plans for a phased reduction in the areas where the coca bush is cultivated. The mission also examined the new drug control law passed by the Bolivian Congress in July 1988, empowering the Government to pursue its strategy for the control of coca bush, and suppression of illicit traffic. The Board urges that the new law be resolutely applied and that the eradication programme be pursued rigorously. It is of utmost importance that illicit coca bush cultivation should not be initiated in new areas. Enforcement operations to disrupt and decrease cocaine production should be expanded and farmers actively encouraged to engage in legitimate agricultural activities. The mission recognized that the authorities of Bolivia were beset with a task of overwhelming proportions and, although they are endeavouring to achieve their objectives, they have urgent need for large-scale financial, material, and technical support and assistance from the international community. Such support must necessarily be oriented towards the ultimate achievement of the objectives of the Single Convention. The Board hopes that circumstances will permit the UNFDAC programme in Bolivia to continue.

139. In Brazil, most of the coca bush cultivation takes place in the northwestern Amazonas state along the border with Colombia. The Brazilian variety of coca, known as epadu, is being increasingly cultivated by Brazilian Indian tribes at the instigation of Colombian traffickers. In 1988, Brazilian authorities conducted two major coca bush eradication campaigns which resulted in the destruction of approximately 800 tonnes of coca leaf. Enforcement efforts culminated in the detection of eight clandestine cocaine processing laboratories and seizures of over a tonne of cocaine. Eradication efforts are greatly hindered by the remoteness of the coca bush cultivation areas.

140. The cultivation of cannabis is found in at least 12 of Brazil's 23 states and mainly in the northeastern states of Bahia and Pernambuco. In 1988, authorities eradicated approximately 5,500 tonnes of the drug. Most of the cannabis is consumed domestically. A study of the drug abuse situation in Brazil, conducted in 1987/1988 and published by the Ministry of Health in 1989, indicates that volatile solvents are the most widely abused substances, especially among the youth. In spite of severe budgetary constraints, Brazilian authorities have maintained a high level of enforcement activity.

141. Brazil has taken important measures to monitor the export of licit locally produced essential chemicals, such as ether and acetone, used in the manufacturing of cocaine. The increasing number of cocaine laboratories found within Brazil itself indicate that measures also need to be taken to prevent such chemicals from falling into the hands of traffickers within the country.

142. In Colombia, escalating violence directed against Government institutions and individuals engaged in the fight against drug trafficking have led the authorities not only to redouble the counteraction which they have pursued for many years but also to declare an all-out war on the traffickers.

143. Stating that the survival of Colombian society was at stake, the President reactivated a policy of extradition which had been suspended since 1987. In a statement before the United Nations General Assembly on 29 September 1989, the President declared that if Colombia's effort is not accompanied by a global commitment, no victory can be achieved.

144. Immediate measures decreed by the President include the seizure of traffickers' assets and increased protection for judges. Although drug-related violence has plagued Colombia for many years, the brazen attacks against vital centres of the Colombian Government, the political system, the judiciary and the security forces demonstrate the nefarious threat posed by the international drug trafficking networks.

145. During 1988, 230 hectares of coca bush were eradicated. However, since most of the coca bush cultivation takes place in a very hostile environment, any large-scale eradication would require extensive military support. This task would be greatly facilitated if aerial spraying of coca bush is conducted in Colombia as has already proven so successful in the case of cannabis during 1988.

146. Most of the cannabis cultivated now in the country takes place in minor growing areas where spraying has not yet been conducted. Colombian traffickers are increasingly dealing with hashish and hashish oil because of higher profits and easier concealment. In 1988, almost 1,000 tonnes of cannabis were also seized.

147. Cocaine seizures in 1988 reached the highest level since 1984. Approximately 23 tonnes of cocaine were seized and over 800 laboratories were destroyed. Among them, 29 were major laboratories. Very large quantities of essential chemicals were also destroyed as a result of enforcement operations.

148. During the first half of 1989, Colombian authorities conducted successful operations in the middle Magdalena region, an area where drug traffickers and guerilla groups operate. These operations led to the destruction of several sophisticated cocaine processing laboratories, seizures of large amounts of ether and the dismantling of several clandestine airstrips.

149. Opium poppy cultivation has been identified in four areas of Colombia. In 1988, two small heroin laboratories were seized and over 2 million opium poppy plants destroyed. The authorities are concerned that the country could become a future source for heroin manufacture and trafficking and are taking measures to prevent such a development.

150. The authorities have long been concerned about the spread of drug abuse within the country, and particularly the serious health consequences attendant on the smoking of coca paste. The abuse of cocaine is reported also to take

place in some cities among the middle and upper sectors of society. Demand reduction programmes, in place in the country for some time, continue to expand.

151. Eradication operations conducted by the authorities of Ecuador between 1984 and 1989 appear to have destroyed most of the coca bush cultivation in that country. During the first half of 1989, Ecuadorian authorities conducted several coca bush eradication operations and destroyed 56 hectares of sparsely planted coca bush. Reconnaissance operations carried out along the borders with Colombia and Peru revealed no signs of coca cultivation. However, large amounts of cocaine and specific chemicals continue to transit Ecuador. A new law providing for stricter controls on the import and sale of chemicals is being prepared. The authorities continue to carry out programmes aimed at containing the abuse of stimulants, depressants and cocaine base.

152. The coca bush is cultivated over vast areas in Peru, more than half in the Upper Huallaga Valley. Most of the cultivation is illicit and is destined for clandestine processing into cocaine which is trafficked mainly to the United States and Europe. Traffickers encounter little difficulty in obtaining the chemicals needed to process the coca leaf into cocaine since such chemicals are produced in Peru and are difficult to control because of their many commercial uses. Peru's long borders and coastlines afford the traffickers numerous smuggling possibilities.

153. Efforts to eradicate illicit coca bush cultivation continue to be conducted despite terrorist acts and armed violence from insurgent groups. During the last four months of 1988, approximately 5,130 hectares of coca bush were destroyed through manual eradication, compared to approximately 350 hectares destroyed in 1987. Enforcement operations in 1988 resulted in the destruction of a large number of cocaine laboratories, and numerous airstrips as well as the seizure of several metric tonnes of coca paste and base and large amounts of essential chemicals.

154. A major epidemiological study, conducted by a private organization, will now serve as the basis for future drug awareness programmes. The Ministry of Education started a pilot programme to develop and test a drug prevention curriculum for the public schools. Abuse within the country relates mainly to the smoking of coca paste, although cocaine abuse occurs within the middle and upper sectors of the population.

155. The Board hopes that the international community will respond quickly and affirmatively to requests by the Government of Peru for assistance. For its part, the Government, to the greatest feasible extent, should give special emphasis to preventing any further spread of the already vast illicit cultivation.

156. Traffickers continue to expand their operations in Central America as a result of stricter controls and intensified enforcement actions in several South American countries. Illicit cultivation of cannabis and transit traffic in cannabis and cocaine take place in most countries of the region. In addition, a sharp increase in illicit cultivation of the opium poppy has been reported in Guatemala, despite eradication efforts which included the manual destruction of 1,300 hectares. It is expected that sustained aerial and manual eradication will decrease cannabis cultivation which exists along the borders of Guatemala with Mexico and Belize. A programme to track essential chemicals and precursors used in the manufacture of cocaine and heroin was established. This programme, the first of its type in Central America, may serve as a model for other countries. The emergence of illicit opium poppy

cultivation in Guatemala and elsewhere in Latin America is a matter of serious concern. The Government's efforts effectively to eradicate such cultivation, and to deal with other aspects of the drug problem, merit the full support of the international community.

157. In Belize, cannabis cultivation has been significantly reduced, mostly as a result of successful and sustained eradication operations. However, the country is increasingly being used as a transit point for cocaine produced in South America and cannabis of Guatemalan origin.

158. Hundreds of islands, vast areas of surrounding water and many illicit landing strips make the Caribbean vulnerable to being used for traffic. In addition, banking arrangements in some countries facilitate the laundering of money from drug transactions.

159. At the invitation of the Government of the Bahamas, a mission from the Board visited that country in November 1988. The Bahamas lie directly on the maritime and air routes leading from South America to Florida. Trafficking organizations continue to take advantage of the configuration of the archipelago with its hundreds of unpopulated islands and cays, maze of channels, sounds, bays and inlets and extensive expanses of ocean, to smuggle cocaine and cannabis to the United States. In 1987 comprehensive measures were initiated to increase and intensify the national interdiction capability and to expand joint operations with United States enforcement agencies. Various legislative and administrative measures were enacted to facilitate the tracing and forfeiture of proceeds of trafficking; to prevent the misuse of bank secrecy; and to provide the judiciary with the means to deal effectively with drug offences without undue delay. Foreigners suspected of drug trafficking are remanded pending trial to ensure their presence for trials and sentencing. Lengths of penalties were increased substantially as of March 1988. The expanded drug enforcement branch within the Royal Bahamian Police Force has continued to upgrade its operational and intelligence capabilities.

160. These measures have had a major impact on the pattern of illicit traffic. Successful operations of the Royal Bahamian Defence Force, acting independently or jointly with the United States Coast Guard, resulted in the seizure of many vessels transporting cargoes of cannabis. The subsequent dramatic decrease of cannabis seizures in 1988 was further confirmed in 1989. Cannabis traffic from Colombia using motherships crossing the sea routes through the Bahamas has been considerably reduced. However, cannabis from Jamaica and cocaine from Colombia continue to be airdropped and subsequently picked up by small boats for smuggling into Florida. The energetic action initiated by Colombia in mid-August 1989 was directly felt in the Bahamas where airborne trafficking of cocaine was considerably disrupted. Since the mid-1970's the substantial increase in illicit traffic in the Bahamas brought in its wake violence and local abuse of cannabis and cocaine. Abuse of tranquilizers is also prevalent. Educational and preventive programmes have been expanded but greater efforts are needed. The services of a technical adviser were provided to the Bahamas by the United Kingdom in order to review and update the Pharmacy Act and to assist in ensuring compliance with the Conventions. The firm commitment of the Bahamas and its exemplary co-operation with other countries is beginning to show results. The Bahamas was the first country to ratify the 1988 Convention.

161. Although Cuba is situated amidst some of the main trafficking routes, available information indicates that cases of domestic drug abuse are rare. In July 1989, four high-level officials were executed and several others

sentenced to prison as a result of their involvement with Colombian drug trafficking cartels. In this connection, the authorities announced that if traffickers infringe Cuban airspace and territorial waters drastic measures will be enforced such as the downing of aircraft that refuse to land. In March 1989, a mission of the Board visited the country.

162. In Jamaica, the authorities have maintained the momentum of the cannabis eradication campaign which has produced significant results. The new administration has stated its commitment to step up enforcement action and to prevent the increasing use of Jamaica as a trans-shipment point for cocaine coming from South America.

163. The traffickers' technique of concealing drugs in container shipments of legitimate exports has been particularly damaging to the Jamaican economy. The introduction of comprehensive security regulations governing exporters, truckers and shippers at Jamaican ports is expected to hamper significantly the activities of drug traffickers. The operation of the Jamaican Export Security System has already achieved important reductions on the amounts of drugs concealed in legitimate exports. The creation of a port police force was an important step to improve security at the country's seaports and airports. In October 1989, Jamaica became a Party to the 1971 Convention and to the 1972 Protocol amending the 1961 Convention.

H. Africa

164. Governments of African countries are fully aware of the rapid expansion of illicit drug trafficking within the region and the serious health hazards attendant on drug abuse.

165. Adherence to the 1961 and the 1971 Conventions constitutes the corner-stone of effective counteraction in the region. Therefore, the Board regrets that only one State in the region - Mauritania - has become a Party to the Conventions since the publication of its 1988 Report. The number of Parties to the 1961 Convention now stands at 34, and 25 States are Parties to the 1971 Convention. Seventeen States are not Parties to either Convention; their adherence would represent a first step towards the enactment of appropriate legislation and the establishment of the necessary drug control mechanisms.

166. Most countries of the region co-operate fully with the Board as regards the timely submission of information in respect of the licit movement of drugs required under the 1961 Convention. However, the level of such co-operation on the part of six countries has not been wholly satisfactory in recent years. Parties to the 1971 Convention have had major difficulties in carrying out the provisions of that Convention. During 1988, nine of the Parties have not provided the Board with the information required by the Convention concerning the movement of psychotropic substances and several other Parties provided only incomplete data. This reflects lack of control over such substances, an unsatisfactory situation due in part to countries' lack of resources and expertise to monitor distribution of pharmaceutical preparations containing psychotropic substances.

167. Of primary importance is the demonstration of firm political will by Governments to take the necessary action to permit effective control. To this end, the enactment of comprehensive laws and administrative regulations and the establishment of implementing agencies are essential first steps. Also essential are trained administrators and other personnel as well as the establishment of inspection systems covering health facilities and all elements of the licit drug distribution chain. The need for measures to

permit effective co-ordination of all elements of the national control machinery is recognized by various countries. To effect such co-ordination, some countries have adopted a ministerial structure while others have established multi-disciplinary national commissions. Traffickers will undoubtedly take full advantage of any shortcomings in control arrangements. In previous reports, the Board has stressed that technical assistance should urgently be provided to enact or strengthen national laws and establish control mechanisms in African countries. The Board is gratified that such measures are now being emphasized by UNFDAC.

168. In order to limit the use of drugs to medical and scientific needs, priority attention should necessarily be directed to more accurate estimation of such needs and to the identification of drugs which are to be authorized for commercial sale. To this end, national commissions under ministries responsible for public health have been established in some countries. Once the drugs to be used for medical purposes have been identified, countries can more effectively protect themselves against unwanted imports of psychotropic substances by availing themselves of the protection afforded by article 13 of the 1971 Convention. This article provides for notification to the Secretary-General of substances the importation of which is prohibited by the Government. Countries can also protect themselves by applying an import certificate system to all psychotropic substances.

169. A number of countries have adopted stronger measures to suppress illicit traffic. These measures include the imposition of more severe penalties for trafficking and the establishment of closer co-operation with enforcement agencies both in transit countries and those of final destination.

170. Abuse of cannabis remains widespread and affects both rural and urban populations. Cannabis is widely available in Africa, where it is grown clandestinely in many countries. Efforts are made to destroy this illicit cultivation. However, the sheer size of the areas to be monitored and the fact that such cultivation is often interspersed with other crops makes detection difficult.

171. Seizures of cannabis have been reported by many countries throughout the region and large amounts have been seized in Morocco, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal. Available data show that traffickers are resorting more often to concealing drugs in licit commercial shipments. Information also shows that European traffickers are establishing operations within the African continent itself, with the danger that this could lead to an increase in illicit cultivation. In addition, cannabis resin and oil are appearing in the illicit traffic originating in the Sub-Saharan region.

172. Heroin, manufactured principally in South-West Asia and destined for Europe or North America, is trafficked in increasing quantities through Africa from the source countries to the countries of destination. In recent years, this has been shown by seizures made in Africa, India, Europe and North America. This traffic is carried out by networks manned primarily by African nationals. The drug is frequently carried by couriers who conceal it on or in their bodies and who make use of the airlines which link the Indian sub-continent to African capitals. Accordingly, there is a particularly urgent need to tighten controls at the airports. Until recently, the West African capitals of Benin, Nigeria and Togo were used by traffickers as transit points whereas current indications are that traffickers now also operate in the Central African capitals of Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Gabon and Zaire, and that there is a risk that Kenya may also become a new redistribution centre. The Kenyan Government is strengthening its law enforcement machinery to counter the methods used by the traffickers.

173. To date, cocaine abuse has not attained alarming proportions. However, the list of countries reporting cases of such abuse is steadily increasing. This development can be regarded as a consequence of traffickers using African countries as transit points for cocaine destined mainly for Europe. As the Board has frequently pointed out, transit countries nearly always suffer from the spread of abuse of the drugs in transit. Cocaine seizures in 1989 of under 1 kg have been reported in Benin, Botswana, Guinea, Mali, and Zimbabwe, while seizures totalling between 1 and 4 kg have been made in Tunisia, Morocco, Sudan, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo. Particular vigilance is required by the authorities since the illegal networks which are already in place for trafficking heroin can readily be used to include cocaine trafficking.

174. During 1989, psychotropic substances continued to be diverted in millions of tablets to Africa. The substances most frequently seized continue to include methaqualone, secobarbital and other barbiturates, and amphetamines. The extent of abuse of such substances is difficult to gauge. Some countries do not have regulations requiring medical prescriptions for the dispensing of these substances. Many consumers obtain them from street markets about which little is known either with respect to the source of supply or the precise content of the products offered for sale. Surveys carried out to date indicate that a large number of counterfeit substances, the exact composition of which is not known, are available. A project to be carried out by the Board is directed at obtaining more extensive and precise information about such street markets. It remains essential that the manufacturing and exporting countries, mainly in Europe, intensify their surveillance of international trade in these substances, adopt measures to ensure compliance with the 1971 Convention and not exceed requirements for substances indicated by the importing countries and published by the Board.

175. Numerous cases of abuse of amphetamines, frequently in rural communities, have been reported by countries of West and Central Africa including Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Togo, Senegal, Gambia, Niger, Kenya and Cameroon, and the number of seizures of these substances by enforcement agencies has increased in Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Senegal, Gabon and Liberia. Considerable clandestine manufacture of stimulants has been reported by Egypt and large quantities continue to be seized.

176. Among the barbiturates, secobarbital remains a major target of the traffickers. Action taken by African and European countries, in co-operation with the Board, has prevented the diversion of several tonnes of secobarbital to Africa. Secobarbital tablets have nevertheless been reported seized in Guinea, Niger, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Cameroon. Other African States have also not been spared, and several thousand units have been confiscated in Sudan, Swaziland, Malawi, Kenya, Zambia, Uganda and Botswana. Substantial transit traffic in methaqualone towards southern parts of Africa continues to be reported by Botswana, Kenya, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Seizures of the drug in powder form originating in the Indian sub-continent point to local clandestine tablet processing facilities in Africa. Furthermore, clandestine manufacture of methaqualone is now taking place in southern parts of Africa and abuse of that substance continues unabated.

177. Benzodiazepine trafficking involves mostly diazepam and flunitrazepam. Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana and Mauritius have reported abuse of those drugs.

178. During 1989, efforts to combat drug trafficking have been accompanied by increased bilateral or multilateral co-operation. Bilateral co-operation often takes the form of agreements not only between neighbouring countries but also between countries in which illicit drugs are produced, through which they transit, or for which they are ultimately destined. This co-operation has

achieved major successes and has enhanced the work of law enforcement agencies. In addition, strengthened national legislation relating to enforcement, inspired by the 1988 Convention, offers promise of greater efforts to combat organized trafficking networks.

179. International co-operation is also promoted within the framework of programmes financed by UNFDAC and by activities carried out under the auspices of the Board, of the Division of Narcotic Drugs or of certain specialized agencies.

180. The Board continues to emphasize its policy aimed at helping African States to carry out the provisions of the 1961 and 1971 Conventions. A voluntary extrabudgetary contribution by Italy and the United States has permitted the Board to develop a special assistance programme for West Africa that might be extended at a later date to other regions of the continent. The programme aims to strengthen the regulatory and administrative structures which support the national control machinery in the countries concerned. Such a regional approach not only offers immediate benefits to a given State, but also has the advantage of providing a basis for harmonizing a number of legislative systems to eliminate legal loopholes and thus minimize opportunities for exploitation by traffickers. It may also facilitate implementation of the 1988 Convention within the region. To date, this assistance programme has been favourably received by fourteen countries of the region.

(Signed) Ben Huyghe-Braeckmans
President

(Signed) Mohsen Kchouck
Rapporteur

(Signed) Abdelaziz Bahi
Secretary

Vienna, 20 October 1989

Notes

- 1/ "Designer drugs" refer to analogues of substances controlled by national law or by the treaties. The term applies to the products that are obtained when the chemical structures of controlled "parent" substances are altered so as to produce compounds which have properties similar to those of the parent substances, but which themselves, by virtue of their slightly different chemical make-ups, do not fall within the legal controls.
- 2/ Defined as at least once in the 30-day period preceding the survey.
- 3/ Measured by the number of respondents who reported using cocaine one or more times each week.

Annex

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

Sirad ATMODJO

Pharmacist. Secretary, Directorate-General of Food and Drug Control, Ministry of Health. Assistant, Drug Dispensing Laboratory, Gajah Mada University (1955-1959). High School Teacher of Chemistry (1957-1958). Member of staff, Directorate of Pharmaceutical Affairs, Ministry of Health (1959-1965). Director of Pharmaceutical Affairs, Ministry of Health (1965-1967). Director of Distribution, Ministry of Health (1967-1975). Director of Narcotic and Dangerous Drugs, Ministry of Health (1975-1981). Member of the Board since 1987.

Nikolai Kostantinovich BARKOV

Doctor of Medical Science in Pharmacology. Chief, Laboratory for Pharmacology of Narcotics of the All Union Narcology Centre (Moscow). Treasurer of the USSR Pharmacological Society. Member of the Presidium of the USSR Narcotics Control Committee. Member of the Nominating Committee of the International Pharmacology Union. Member of the Board from 1971 to 1982 and Chairman of the Standing Committee on Estimates in 1982. Member of the Board again since 1987. Member of the Standing Committee on Estimates in 1987.

CAI Zhi-Ji

Pharmacologist. Professor and Director, National Institute on Drug Dependence, Beijing Medical University. Member of the Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation, Chairman of the Expert Group on Neuro-Psychotropic Drugs, Sub-Committee on Modern Drugs, Ministry of Public Health, China. Member of the Executive Committee and Deputy Secretary-General of the Chinese Pharmacological Society. Member of the Editorial Board of Acta Pharmacologica Sinica, the Chinese Journal of Clinical Pharmacology, and Advances in Physiological Sciences. Member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Drug Dependence and Alcohol Problems since 1984. Member of the International Narcotics Control Board and Member of the Standing Committee on Estimates since 1985, Second Vice-President of the Board and Chairman of the Standing Committee on Estimates in 1989.

Abdullahi S. ELMU

Pharmacologist. Professor of Pharmacology and Head of Department. Vice-Chairman of the National Technical Committee on Khat and Other Drugs and Adviser to the National High Commission on the Eradication of Khat and Other Drugs. Co-ordinator, Somali National University Programme for Traditional Medicine. Member, WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Drug Dependence. Member, OAU Inter-African Committee on Traditional Medicine. Member of the Board since 1987.

Diego GARCÉS-GIRALDO

Physician and surgeon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.A. (Cantab.). Alternate delegate of Colombia to the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations (London, 1945). Minister Plenipotentiary of Colombia in Cuba (1948-1949). Ambassador of Colombia to Venezuela (1950-1951). Governor of the Department of the Valle del Cauca, Colombia (1953-1956). Senator of the Republic of

Colombia (1958-1962). Permanent Representative of Colombia to the Office of the United Nations and other International Organizations at Geneva (1971-1976). Member of the Board since 1977, First Vice-President in 1987.

Betty C. GOUGH

Former diplomat and specialist in international organizations. Former Counsellor for Narcotics Affairs, United States Mission to the Office of the United Nations and other International Organizations at Geneva. Former Adviser, United States Mission to the International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna. Former Deputy, United States Permanent Delegation to UNESCO. Member of United States delegation to the United Nations Conference to Consider Amendments to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (Geneva, 1972) and to sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (1971-1976). Member of the Board since 1977, Rapporteur in 1979, Vice-President in 1980, 1981 and 1984, and President in 1985 and 1986.

Ben HUYGHE-BRAECKMANS

Pharmacist (1947) with supplementary training in industrial pharmacy (1961-1963) and in hospital pharmacy (1971). Inspector (1948-1964), Counsellor (1964-1965), Chief Inspector/Director (1965-1968) and Inspector-General (1968-1985) at the General Pharmaceutical Inspectorate of the Ministry of Public Health, Belgium. Representative of Belgium to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (1966-1985) and Rapporteur at its eighth special session (1984). Head of the Belgian delegation to the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of the Protocol on Psychotropic Substances (Vienna, 1971) and to the United Nations Conference to Consider Amendments to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (Geneva, 1972). Member and permanent correspondent of Belgium of the Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group) under the Council of Europe (until 1985). Member (1973-1979) and Chairman (1973-1974, 1978-1979) of the Benelux Committee on the Registration of Medicines. Member of the Commission on the European Pharmacopoeia (1965-1985). Member of the Committee on Pharmaceutical Specialities (1975-1985) and the Pharmaceutical Committee (1975-1985) of the European Community. Head of the Belgian delegation to the Second UNIDO Consultation on the Pharmaceutical Industry (Budapest, 1983). Member and chairman of working groups and commissions in the field of medicines in Belgium and under Benelux, the Council of Europe, the European Community and the World Health Organization. Member of the Board since 1985. Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee on Estimates in 1987-1988; President in 1989.

S. Oguz KAYAALP

Pharmacologist. Professor and Chairman, Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey. Member of the Standing Committee of the European Medical Research Councils (European Science Foundation). Assistant Research Professor, Department of Pharmacology, State University of New York at Buffalo Medical School (1967-1970). Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey (1971-1978). Visiting Scientist, National Institute of Mental Health, United States (1978-1980). Member of the Executive Committee of the Medical Research Group of the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (1982-1988). President of the Turkish Pharmacological Society (several terms and at present). Member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of International Medical Research (London) and Pharmacological Research Communications (Milan). Member of the Board since 1985. Second Vice-President and Chairman of the Standing Committee on Estimates in 1987-1988.

Mohsen KCHOUK

Pharmacist-biologist, former student at the Pasteur Institute, Paris. Former Deputy Director of the Pasteur Institute, Tunis. Director of the Laboratories of Medical Biology of the Ministry of Public Health, Tunis. Fellow (foreign) of the French Society of Legal Medicine and Criminology. Member of the Board since 1977, Rapporteur in 1981 and 1982. Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee on Estimates in 1984; Vice-President of the Board and Chairman of the Standing Committee on Estimates in 1985, Rapporteur in 1987, First Vice-President of the Board in 1988.

Manuel QUIJANO NAREZO

Physician and surgeon. Professor, Graduate Course in General Surgery, University of Mexico (1966-1978); Head, Post-Graduate Division, School of Medicine, University of Mexico (1978-1979); Scientific Attaché, Mexican Mission to UNESCO, Paris (1980-1983); General Director of International Affairs at the Ministry of Health (1983-1988). Member of the Governing Board, University of Mexico (1968-1976); President of the Mexican National Academy of Medicine (1978); Member of the Executive Committee of the Pan-American Health Organization (1986-1988); Member of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (1987-1989); Chairman of this body in 1988. Member of the National Academy of Medicine since 1957; Member of the Mexican Academy of Surgery, Mexico City; Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (1958); Member of the Academy of Surgery, Paris; Officer of the National Order of Merit, French Republic. Member of the Board since 1989.

Sahibzada RAOOF ALI KHAN

Former Inspector General of Police of the Punjab (Pakistan). Former Chairman of Pakistan Narcotics Control Board at the level of Secretary to the Government. Former Director General of the National Police Academy. Head of Pakistan delegation to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East (1975-1979). Vice-Chairman of the Commission in 1979. Alternate leader of Pakistan delegation to the first regular session of the Economic and Social Council, 1984. Visiting lecturer in Criminology, University of the Punjab, 1960-1961, and in History of Administration at the Sharia Faculty of the Qaide Azam University, Islamabad, 1979-1983. Awarded Sitara-e-Khidmat (a civil decoration) for distinguished public service, 1971. Member of the Board since 1985 and President from 1987 to 1989.

Paul REUTER

Professor emeritus in the Faculty of Law and Economics, Paris. Member of the United Nations International Law Commission since 1964. Recipient of the 1981 Balzan Prize for public international law. Member of the Permanent Central Narcotics Board from 1948 to 1968. Member of the Board since 1968. President from 1974 to 1982.

Tulio VELASQUEZ-QUEVEDO

Doctor of Medicine. Chairman, Monitoring Committee of the Peruvian Social Security System. Director, Institute of Andean Biology, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos. Executive President, First National Medical Congress, 1976. President, International Society of Andean Biology. President, Advisory Committee on Andean Biology of the Hipólito Unanue Agreement of the Andean Pact. Dean, Medical College of Peru. Member of the Board since 1987.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with deep regret that the members of the Board and its secretariat learned of the death of Dr. John Ebie in April 1989 in Nigeria. Dr. Ebie held a number of important posts with the Government of Nigeria and served, inter alia, as Chief Medical Director, University of Benin Teaching Hospital; Professor and Head, Department of Mental Health, University of Benin; Provost and Chief Consultant, WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health, Abeokuta; Consultant Psychiatrist, University College Hospital, Ibadan, and University of Benin Teaching Hospital; Director, Nigerian Training Project on Drug Dependence; Dean, School of Medicine, University of Benin; Chairman, Psychiatric Hospitals Management Board of Nigeria; and Commissioner for Health, Bendel State of Nigeria. Dr. Ebie served on the Board with great distinction from 1982 until his death; he was Rapporteur in 1983 and Vice-President in 1985.

THE ROLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

The responsibilities of the Board under the drug control treaties are to endeavour, in co-operation with Governments, to limit the cultivation, production, manufacture and utilization of narcotic drugs to the amounts necessary for medical and scientific purposes, to ensure that the quantities of these substances necessary for legitimate purposes are available, and to prevent the illicit cultivation, production, manufacture of, trafficking in and use of these substances. Since the entry into force of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, the functions of the Board include also the international control of these drugs.

The Board is required, in the exercise of these responsibilities, to investigate all stages in the licit trade in narcotic drugs; to ensure that Governments take all the requisite measures to limit the manufacture and import of drugs to the quantities necessary for medical and scientific purposes; to see that precautions are taken to prevent the diversion of these substances into the illicit traffic; to determine whether there is a risk that a country may become a major centre of the illicit traffic; to ask for explanations in the event of apparent violations of the treaties; to propose appropriate remedial measures to Governments which are not fully applying the provisions of the treaties or are encountering difficulties in applying them and, where necessary, to assist Governments in overcoming such difficulties. The Board has therefore frequently recommended, and will recommend even more often under the 1972 Protocol, that multilateral or bilateral assistance, either technical or financial or both, should be accorded to a country experiencing such difficulties. However, if the Board notes that the measures necessary to remedy a serious situation have not been taken, it may call the attention of the Parties, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Economic and Social Council to the matter, in cases where it believes that this would be the most effective way to facilitate co-operation and improve the situation. Finally, as a last resort, the treaties empower the Board to recommend to Parties that they stop the import of drugs, the export of drugs, or both, from or to the defaulting country. Naturally, the Board does not confine itself to taking action only when serious problems have been discovered; it seeks, on the contrary, to prevent major difficulties before they arise. In all cases the Board acts in close co-operation with Governments.

If the Board is to be able to perform its task, it must have the relevant information on the world drug situation, as regards both the licit trade and the illicit traffic. Consequently, the treaties stipulate that Governments shall regularly provide the Board with such information; almost all Governments, Parties and non-Parties alike, are conforming to this practice. Accordingly, in co-operation with Governments, the Board administers the systems of estimated world requirements of narcotic drugs and of statistics on narcotic drugs. The first of these systems enables it, by analyzing future licit requirements, to verify in advance whether these requirements are reasonable; and the second enables it to exercise an *ex post facto* control. Finally, the information on illicit traffic which is communicated to it either directly by Governments or through the competent organs of the United Nations enables it to determine whether the aims of the 1961 Convention are being seriously endangered by any country and, if necessary, to apply the measures described in the preceding paragraph.

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