Highlights from the INCB website

- Launch of the INCB 2015 Availability Report
- INCB article on availability published in the Lancet
- INCB President’s statement at UNGASS 2016 opening
- INCB holds side event at UNGASS
- INCB President addresses opening of CND special segment in preparation for UNGASS
- INCB calls on countries to ensure worldwide medical access to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances
- INCB reiterates importance of full and balanced implementation of the three international drug control conventions

Launch of INCB Reports 2015

Message from the President
Press release
Chapter I. The health and welfare of mankind
Regional Highlights

- INCB’s Annual Report 2015
- INCB 2015 Availability Report
- Precursors Annual Report 2015
- INCB Technical Publication on Narcotic Drugs 2015
- INCB Technical Publication on Psychotropic Substances 2015

Past events:

- INCB Regional Training Seminar, Nairobi, 25-29 April 2016
- UNGASS, New York, 19-21 April 2016
- Mission to Viet Nam, 4-7 April 2016
- Mission to Oman, 3-5 April 2016
- I2ES User Group meeting, Vienna, 18 March 2016
- 59th session of the CND, Vienna, 14-21 March 2016
- Launch of the INCB 2015 Availability Report, 3 February 2016
- 115th Session of INCB, Vienna, 1-5 February 2016

Upcoming events:

- INCB Workshop “Success and Challenges of public-private partnerships in preventing the diversion of chemicals”, Vienna, 10-12 May 2016
- 116th Session of INCB, Vienna, 17-27 May 2016
INCB’s Contribution to UNGASS, 19-21 April 2016

- Opening of the Special Session of the General Assembly on the World Drug Problem

- INCB holds side event at UNGASS on “The Drug Control Conventions: A Multi-Faceted Framework of the Promotion of the Health and Welfare of Humankind” (watch the INCB side event here)

- INCB President participates as panellist in UNGASS round table on drugs and health

- INCB participates in UNGASS round table on supply reduction and cross cutting issues

- INCB participates in UNGASS round table on cross-cutting issues and alternative development

- INCB participates in UNGASS side events

INCB Participation in the 59th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), 14-21 March 2016

- INCB President addresses opening of CND special segment on preparations for UNGASS 2016

- President Sipp presents INCB Annual Report and Precursors Report to 59th CND

- INCB President presents the special report on availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes

- INCB President meets with representatives from civil society at 59th session of the CND

- INCB holds I2ES User Group meeting during 59th session of the CND

- INCB conducts extensive consultations with national delegations to the 59th session of the CND
The global INCB Learning Project has implemented its first regional training workshop in Nairobi, Kenya, from 24 to 29 April 2016, for countries from the East Africa region. The training brought together participants from the competent national authorities of Burundi, Comoros, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Seychelles, Tanzania and Uganda at the United Nations Office at Nairobi. Additionally, observers from the Kenya Law Reform Commission (KLRC) and the African Union Commission joined the activity and contributed to the deliberations on issues related to international drug control, with a particular emphasis on the East Africa region.

The training covered topics related to the international drug control framework and INCB mandates, as well as the technical reporting requirements of the conventions relating to narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals, including on the issue of availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes. The World Health Organization (WHO) participated during a session on the topic. Participants also gained knowledge of the use of INCB tools such as the International Import Export System (I2ES), and the Pre-Export Notification (PEN) Online system, used by Member States to monitor international movements of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals.

A national awareness-raising workshop for Kenya on the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes was also organised on 29 April 2016, with the presence of different Kenyan authorities, health care professionals and civil society groups as well as representatives from the African Union, WHO, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the international community to discuss the importance of ensuring adequate access to medicines for pain management and the treatment of mental health conditions. The INCB 2015 Availability Report was presented at the event.

Thus far, the INCB Learning Project has been made possible through the financial contributions of the Governments of the United States of America and Australia. The next regional training workshop for national competent authorities is tentatively scheduled to take place in Bangkok, Thailand, from 11 to 15 July 2016.
National Control Measures on Ketamine

While ketamine is not under international control, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in its resolutions 49/6, 50/3 and 57/10, called upon Member States to consider controlling the use of ketamine by placing it on the list of substances controlled under their national legislation, where the domestic situation so required, and to consider adopting a system of precautionary measures for use by their government agencies to facilitate the timely detection of the diversion of ketamine.

As of 1 May 2016, information on control measures on ketamine is now available for a total of 110 countries and territories. Of these, 69 countries and territories have already introduced an import authorization requirement, and 63 countries and territories have introduced an export authorization requirement. 41 countries and territories do not require an import authorization and 47 do not require an export authorization.

The list of countries requiring an authorization for the import and export of ketamine is published in the Secure Area for Governments of the INCB website and is updated on an ongoing basis. The Board urges all competent authorities who have not submitted the latest information on the national control of ketamine to do so by writing to secretariat@incb.org or psychotropics@incb.org.

Mission to the Sultanate of Oman

The first mission of the INCB to the Sultanate of Oman was carried out from 3 to 5 April 2016. The mission was led by Major-General Ahmed Kamel Al-Din Samak, member of the Board accompanied by Ms. Hanifa Rebbani of the INCB secretariat. The objective of the mission was to discuss issues related to the Sultanate’s implementation of the three international drug control treaties to which the Sultanate of Oman is party. Read more.

Mission to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

From 4 to 7 April 2016, a mission of the Board visited the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. The mission was led by Ms. Jagjit Pavadia, Second Vice President of the Board, accompanied by Mr. Paul Rabbat, Chief of the Convention Evaluation Section of the INCB Secretariat. Read more.

Recent UNODC publications on drugs:

Afghanistan Opium Survey 2015 – Socio-economic analysis

The Afghan Opiate Trade and Africa – A Base line Assessment - 2016

Useful links:

United Nations
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
Commission on Narcotic Drugs
United Nations Economic and Social Council
World Health Organization
World Customs Organization
INTERPOL