Dr. Lochan NAIDOO elected new President of the INCB

Dr. Lochan Naidoo, was elected President of INCB.

On 19 May 2014, the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) elected Dr. Lochan Naidoo, a national of South Africa, its new President at INCB’s 110th session which took place in Vienna from 19 to 30 May.

Dr. Naidoo has been a member of INCB since 2010, served as First Vice-President of the Board in 2012, and has also served as a Member of the Board’s Standing Committee on Estimates (2011) and Committee on Finance and Administration (2011).

The Board thanked its previous President, Raymond Yans of Belgium, for his work during the last two years. Read more.
INCB President’s mission to New York, 10-15 July 2014

- Presenting INCB Reports to ECOSOC, recalling the humanitarian goals of the international drug control conventions
  - Speech of INCB President
  - WebTV recording of the ECOSOC High-Level panel discussion

- Urging concrete action to ensure prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases at High-Level meeting of the General Assembly
  - Speech of INCB President
  - WebTV recording of the High-Level meeting of the General Assembly
  - Video – Challenges and Vision: President of INCB on the world drug situation

- Participation in ECOSOC High-Level panel discussion on the world drug problem and sustainable development
  - Speech of INCB President

- Meeting with the United Nations Secretary-General

- Meeting with the President of General Assembly

- Meeting with the Director-General of the World Health Organization

The INCB President, Dr. Lochan Naidoo, meets with United Nations Secretary-General. Read more.
Key Issues and Special Topics

“...for every $1 spent, good prevention programmes can save Governments up to $10 in subsequent costs...”

Chapter I of the INCB Annual Report 2013 entitled “economic consequences of drug abuse” highlights the key role prevention programmes play when developing drug policies. Investing in prevention and treatment is a sound policy decision that can lead to significant savings in five primary areas: health, public safety, crime, productivity and governance. Read more.

Proportionality and drug-related offences

In the use of criminal law to address drug-related crime, States must find the right balance between the measures imposed and the severity of the offence. Reflecting the principle of proportionality, the international drug control conventions establish minimum standards to allow States to develop their policies within the legal framework of the conventions and in a proportionate way. The Board expands on this subject in Chapter I of the INCB Annual Report 2007. Read more.

UK Report on Ketamine

A recent report reviewing the evidence of the misuse and harms of ketamine and its analogues has been published by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs in the United Kingdom.

Providing detailed assessment on the harm associated with the misuse of ketamine, the report recommends that ketamine be put under tighter control under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971) as a Class B drug, in light of the new evidence of its chronic toxicity to the bladder. Since the report was released, ketamine was reclassified pursuant to the recommendation contained within the report on 10 June 2014.

In addition, the report recommends ketamine be placed as a higher schedule drug in the Misuse of Drugs Regulations (2001) because of the high potential risk of harm in case of diversion. This measure is currently subject to public consultations expected to be concluded by the end of 2014. Read the report.


Useful links:

United Nations
United Nations Economic and Social Council
World Health Organization
World Customs Organization
INTERPOL

Past events:

July
GA High-level Meeting on the Review of the Progress Achieved in the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, NY, 10-11 July 2014

ECOSOC Coordination and Management Meeting, NY, 15 July 2014

June
Timor-Leste ratifies 1988 Convention

May
110th Session of INCB, Vienna, 19-30 May 2014

Election of new President and Bureau

Upcoming events:

111th Session of INCB, Vienna, 28 October-14 November 2014