



**THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
“PRECURSOR CHEMICALS AND NEW PSYCHOACTIVE
SUBSTANCES”**

Bangkok, 21–24 February 2017

We, the participants of the third international conference on Precursor Chemicals and New Psychoactive Substances, Bangkok, Thailand, 21 – 24 February 2017,

Welcome the adoption by the General Assembly of the outcome document of the United Nations General Assembly special session on the world drug problem, (UNGASS), held from 19 to 21 April 2016, which reaffirms the commitment of Member States to the international drug control treaties and presents a practical plan of action for member states to deal with the world drug problem;

Recall CND resolution 59/8 (2016), entitled “Promotion of measures to target new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants” and other relevant United Nations resolutions;

Reaffirm our commitment to effectively addressing the world drug problem which continues to present challenges to the health, safety and welfare of humankind, by finding new ways of preventing illicit manufacture of drugs, while also reinforcing existing mechanisms in this regard;

Take note of the most recent trends and challenges in precursors control; the diversion from domestic distribution channels as the prevailing method used by traffickers to obtain the chemicals they need; the continuing use of non-scheduled substances, including “designer” chemicals, to substitute for precursors for amphetamine-type stimulants and other drugs;

Reiterate our commitment to prevent the misuse of substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs through the monitoring of their movement and international and national control measures in accordance with article 12 of the 1988 Convention, and existing voluntary cooperation mechanisms such as operational cooperation in the framework of Project Prism and Project Cohesion;

Invite Governments to continue to monitor international trade in precursors by efficiently using the Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN-Online) system and requesting the assistance of INCB, as needed, in ascertaining the legitimacy of individual transactions;

Encourage Governments and relevant organizations to introduce measures deemed appropriate, and mechanisms for the exchange of information, including through the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS) and Form D, on substances not included in Table I or Table II of the 1988 Convention, which have however been frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. This includes, where appropriate, non-scheduled precursors of amphetamine-type stimulants, precursors of new psychoactive substances and fentanyl, and non-scheduled “designer” precursors of all types of synthetic drugs;

Encourage Governments to establish and implement comprehensive precursor monitoring systems at the national level, focusing on domestic trade and taking into consideration provisions

contained in article 12, paragraph 8, of the 1988 Convention. Several initiatives of INCB, including Project Prism and Project Cohesion, also offer platforms for the exchange of operational information and best practices in tackling such new challenges in precursor control;

Invite Governments to enhance cooperation between regulatory and law enforcement authorities with regard to real-time information sharing on precursor incidents and, in particular, to provide actionable operational details that would enable follow-up investigations with a view to detect and identify trends and criminal networks involved, and also to prevent the use of the same *modus operandi* by traffickers in the future;

Invite Governments to promote capacity building for regulatory bodies and law enforcement authorities on the identification and control of precursors and new psychoactive substances with the support of UNODC, INCB and other relevant international organizations;

Invite all Governments to make full use of the existing global communication tools provided by INCB, including the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS), the Project Ion Incident Communications System (IONICS) as well as the existing global cooperation mechanisms under Projects Prism, Cohesion and Ion and the related Task Forces, for the exchange of information, and joint investigations;

Further invite Governments to share through bilateral and multilateral channels, as appropriate, while avoiding duplication of efforts, information on adverse health effects related to the use of new psychoactive substances (NPS), through existing mechanisms such as the Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) Programme;

Encourages UNODC, with the support of Member States and relevant international and regional organizations, to incorporate toxicology data on the health harms of NPS into the Early Warning Advisory and invites Member States to make full use of this system to receive up-to-date information on NPS trends and risks;

Encourage Governments to enhance the capacity and effectiveness of national laboratories and promote national, regional and international cooperation among them, as appropriate, for the detection and identification of NPS and precursors, including through the use of existing UNODC reference standards and assistance activities;

Encourage Governments to develop and further strengthen voluntary partnerships with the chemical industry in their respective country or region, including relevant private sector entities, and national, regional and international associations where they exist; to be aware of the different roles of the relevant operators on the national level; to establish the relevant communication channels to report any suspicious orders and transactions; *encourage* the use of INCB's Guidelines for a voluntary code of practice for the chemical industry; and *encourage* partnering activities between countries with established voluntary industry cooperation mechanisms with those countries wanting to develop similar mechanisms;

Invite INCB, in consultation with Governments, UNODC and relevant international organizations, to maintain and disseminate the limited international special surveillance lists of precursors and NPS and also to disseminate, upon request, the set of voluntary actions that Governments may choose to take to control substances on the respective lists, in accordance with their respective legal systems, to prevent precursor chemicals from reaching illicit laboratories and NPS from reaching the consumer market;

Take note of the fact that with an increase in the prevalence of abuse and an increase in the health consequences and fatalities reported, NPS continue to pose a serious problem to public health;

Encourage all Governments to take practical measures to prevent the use and related consequences for individuals and society at large of NPS, to share existing knowledge, including about the health consequences of use, experiences and good practices, and to pursue and enhance utilisation of and collaboration among various initiatives on the issue;

Invite Governments to consider, where appropriate, a variety of regulatory, legislative and administrative initiatives with regard to NPS according to the domestic law; for example, legislation on controlled substance analogues, laws allowing generic control based on chemical structures of substances, temporary, provisional or emergency control measures, rapid scheduling procedures and other national legislative or regulatory approaches, including those relating to therapeutic drug products, consumer protection and hazardous substances;

Invite Governments that have reviewed individual non-scheduled substances (both precursors and NPS) for possible national controls to share with INCB through Project ION, Project Prism and Project Cohesion information on those substances for which the review confirmed the absence of any currently known recognized legitimate uses beyond limited research and laboratory analytical purposes;

Invite Governments to consider administrative procedures and, where necessary, legislative procedures providing for the suspension of suspicious shipments, and *further encourage* Governments whose laws do not yet permit them to stop shipments of non-scheduled precursor chemicals and NPS to voluntarily inform, where appropriate, the authorities of transit and destination countries of known shipments through established communication channels;

Invite Governments to explore new monitoring and/or control mechanisms that do not solely rely on scheduling of individual precursor chemicals, such as the concept of immediate precursors and the reversal of burden of proof for substances with no known legitimate uses;

Encourage Governments, INCB, UNODC and relevant regional and international organizations to continue research, data collection, analysis of evidence and sharing of information and strengthen law enforcement, criminal justice and legal responses, as well as international cooperation, to prevent drug-related criminal activities using the Internet, including sales through the Internet, of NPS and precursor chemicals;

Invite UNODC and INCB, and where appropriate, in collaboration with WHO, to explore options for expediting the required processes for reviewing and evaluating precursor chemicals and NPS that are not controlled under the international regime, with a view to enabling Governments to better respond to the challenges posed by these substances. *Recognize* the recent thorough and expeditious review of two fentanyl precursor chemicals by INCB and its recommendation for their control to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs Chair.