

CND Res.43/9. Control of precursor chemicals*

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming that the control of precursor chemicals to prevent diversion of key chemicals from licit commerce to illicit drug manufacture is an essential component of a comprehensive counter-narcotics strategy,

Noting that the vast international commerce in precursor chemicals makes regional, international and multilateral cooperation essential to prevent chemical diversion,

Recognizing that article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988²⁶ provides the foundation for regional, international and multilateral cooperation in chemical control,

Recognizing also the many Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions providing guidance to Governments in the implementation of national regimes for the control of precursor chemicals in accordance with article 12 of the 1988 Convention,

Noting in particular the measures to control precursors adopted, in resolution S-20/4 B, by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together,

Calling attention to paragraph 7 (a) (i) of resolution S-20/4 B, which stresses the need to monitor trade in potassium permanganate and acetic anhydride by ensuring the provision of pre-export notification to the competent authorities in importing countries for transactions involving these substances, in addition to those listed in Table I of the 1988 Convention,

Reiterating the central role of the International Narcotics Control Board in international control of diversion of chemicals,

1. *Commends* the initiative of countries that play a major role in producing, trading and importing potassium permanganate, and of the International Narcotics Control Board, in developing and implementing a detailed action plan for potassium permanganate, in response to the measures to control precursors adopted, in resolution S-20/4 B, by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, including a special initiative, known as "Operation Purple", involving a cooperative programme to monitor and control commerce in potassium permanganate;
2. *Applauds* the success of the participating producing, trading and importing countries in carrying out all measures provided for in the action plan, and in particular applauds the preliminary results of Operation Purple, which has monitored 248 shipments of potassium permanganate since its inception on 1 April 1999, and stopped or seized 32 of those shipments as suspect and liable to diversion to illicit drug manufacture;
3. *Notes* the success of chemical control initiatives targeting key precursor chemicals as exemplified by the preliminary results of Operation Purple;
4. *Appreciates* that Operation Purple directly supports the objectives to be achieved through the

measures to control precursors adopted, in resolution S-20/4 B, by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session devoted to countering the world drug problem together;

5. *Stresses* that participation in Operation Purple is completely voluntary;

6. *Urges* Governments to take appropriate measures to control potassium permanganate, in accordance with the measures to control chemical precursors adopted by the General Assembly in resolution S-20/4 B, and calls on them to consider participating in regional and multilateral initiatives such as Operation Purple;

7. *Encourages* interested Governments, regional and international organizations and the International Narcotics Control Board to consider appropriate initiatives targeting acetic anhydride, also identified for particular attention in the measures to control precursors set forth in Assembly resolution S-20/4 B.

*1192nd meeting
15 March 2000*

*/ For the discussion, see chap. V, para. 122.

26/ Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November-20 December 1988, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).
