

## Explanatory notes

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in the present publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Countries and areas are referred to by the names that were in official use at the time the relevant data were collected.

Multiple government sources of data were used to generate the present report, including the information provided each year on form D (information on substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances), notifications made through the Pre-Export Notification Online system (PEN Online), the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS) and other official communications with competent national authorities. Unless otherwise specified, data provided on form D are referred to by the calendar year to which they apply; the cut-off date for reporting the data is 30 June of the following year. The reporting period for data from the PEN Online system and PICS is from 1 November 2016 to 1 November 2017, unless otherwise specified. In cases in which PEN Online system data are used for multiple years, calendar years are used. Additional information was also provided through regional and international partner organizations, as indicated in the report.

With regard to data on seizures, readers should bear in mind that reported seizures generally reflect the corresponding level of regulatory and law enforcement activity at that specific time. In addition, as seizures are often the result of law enforcement cooperation among several countries (e.g., through controlled deliveries), the occurrence of seizures and the volumes seized in a given country should not be misinterpreted or overestimated when assessing that country's role in the overall situation of trafficking in precursors.

Reference to "tons" is to metric tons, unless otherwise stated.

The following abbreviations have been used in the present report:

ANPP	4-anilino- <i>N</i> -phenethylpiperidine
APAA	<i>alpha</i> -phenylacetoacetamide (2-phenylacetoacetamide)
APAAN	<i>alpha</i> -phenylacetoacetonitrile
GBL	<i>gamma</i> -butyrolactone
GHB	<i>gamma</i> -hydroxybutyric acid
MDMA	3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine
3,4-MDP-2-P	3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone
NPP	<i>N</i> -phenethyl-4-piperidone
P-2-P	1-phenyl-2-propanone
PEN Online	Pre-Export Notification Online system
PICS	Precursors Incident Communication System