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INCB PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The International Import and Export Authorization System (I2ES)

I2ES is an effective and efficient import and export authorization system: INCB developed I2ES to enable Governments to expedite licit trade in controlled substances and to ensure adequate availability of and access to controlled substances for medical use.

I2ES is available to all Governments free of charge, and serves as a secure and safe platform for countries to exchange import and export authorizations of controlled substances and assist competent national authorities in managing their increasing workload. I2ES enables efficient compliance with the provisions of the 1961 and 1971 Conventions and with relevant decisions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in relation to the international trade in these substances.

INCB calls on all Governments to register with I2ES and start utilizing the system.

Training for competent national authorities and INCB learning

INCB Learning is an initiative of the Board to strengthen the capacity of Governments to regulate and monitor the licit trade in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals through the provision of training to competent national authorities.

INCB Learning contributes to Governments' efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 3 on good health and well-being.

Since its inception in 2016, INCB Learning has provided training to Governments in Africa, South-East Asia, Oceania, Europe and Central America and the Caribbean regions. Further support is required to sustain and expand the activity.

Upgrading the international drug control system platform

The INCB International Drug Control System (IDS) is an information management system that provides automated analysis tools and reporting facilities to INCB while implementing its mandate of monitoring compliance with the international drug control treaties. IDS became operational in 2004 and was formally launched at the margins of the forty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotics Drugs in March 2005. IDS is a vital tool for processing data submitted to INCB by countries and territories throughout the year. Among other things, IDS enables the Board to monitor the utilization of controlled substances for medical purposes, determine ranges of potential under- or over-utilization and advise or alert Governments as necessary.



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IDS has been in operation for 14 years and is in need of a major overhaul. INCB looks forward to States providing the necessary support in this regard so that the Board can continue assisting States in their drug control endeavours through modern e-tools.

New psychoactive substances

New psychoactive substances availability remains high: in 2017, some 76 substances were reported through the INCB Project Ion Incident Communication System (IONICS).

The Board continues to provide Governments with a tool to share information in real time on incidents involving new psychoactive substances through Project International Operations on New Psychoactive Substances, a global network of focal points from 125 countries and territories.

Internet pharmacies

Medicines and internationally controlled drugs sold online: Sometimes the online sale of medicines is conducted illegally because some Internet pharmacies operate without licences or registration and dispense pharmaceutical preparations containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances without requiring a prescription.

Illegal Internet pharmacies consist mostly of portal sites that advertise drugs and act as conduits to other websites where customers place their actual orders and pay. The drugs most frequently sold online include narcotic drugs, mostly oxycodone, hydrocodone, dextropropoxyphene and other opioids, and psychotropic substances, in particular, benzodiazepines, stimulants and barbiturates. Chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are also traded online.

INCB has published the *Guidelines for Governments on Preventing the Illegal Sale of Internationally Controlled Substances through the Internet* to assist Governments in addressing the challenge posed by illegal Internet pharmacies.