

I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988¹ provides for measures to prevent the diversion of precursor chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs. The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) monitors the Governments' control over those precursor chemicals and assists Governments in preventing the diversion of such chemicals into the illicit traffic.

2. The present report on precursors has been prepared by the Board pursuant to article 23 of the 1988 Convention. Substantive reporting begins in chapter II, which provides statistical data and other information on action taken by Governments and the Board pursuant to article 12 of the 1988 Convention. Those data are drawn from a number of sources, including the following: form D; the Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) system; the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS); the results of task force operational support under Project Prism and Project Cohesion; and official national reports on the situation with regard to drug and precursor control.

3. Chapter III provides information on the extent of legitimate trade in precursor chemicals; on the latest major trends in trafficking in and the illicit use of those chemicals; on relevant cases involving suspicious and stopped shipments; on diversions or attempted diversions of those chemicals from international trade; and on seizures of those chemicals.

4. Chapter IV, entitled "Action to enhance international precursor control", builds on the thematic chapters in the Board's 2011 and 2012 reports on precursors.² The chapter outlines regional priorities to be addressed by Governments in response to the rapidly changing situation with regard to precursor trafficking at the national and international levels.

5. Chapter V provides conclusions and recommendations for Governments on effective precursor control at the national and international levels, including on ways to address the challenges posed by the use of non-scheduled substances in illicit drug manufacture.

6. Annexes I-XI³ provide updated, practical information to assist competent national authorities in carrying out their functions, including information on estimated annual legitimate requirements for the import of selected substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), a list of Governments that require pre-export notifications, information on the use of scheduled substances in illicit drug manufacture and a summary of applicable treaty provisions. Annexes can be found in the CD-ROM version of the present report and in the online version or the Board's website (www.incb.org). Governments may obtain a printed copy of the annexes by contacting the secretariat of the Board by e-mail (secretariat@incb.org).

7. The present report, together with the thematic chapters in the Board's 2011 and 2012 reports on precursors, provides an assessment of the effectiveness of precursor control, pursuant to the high-level segment on progress of precursor control as outlined in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem⁴ and is to be part of the input for the high-level review of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action to be conducted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, and by the General Assembly at its special session to be held in 2016.

II. Action taken by Governments and the International Narcotics Control Board

A. Scope of control

8. In response to significant detections and seizures of *alpha*-phenylacetone nitrile (APAAN), an immediate precursor of 1-phenyl-2-propanone (P-2-P) and hence a "pre-precursor" of both amphetamine and

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

² *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2011 on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.12.XI.4), chap. IV; and *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012 on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.4), chap. IV.

³ The annexes are not included in the printed copies of the present report but are available in the CD-ROM version of the report and in the version on the website of the International Narcotics Control Board (www.incb.org).

⁴ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.