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INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

Vienna

**Report of the International Narcotics  
Control Board  
for 1985**



UNITED NATIONS

## ABBREVIATIONS

*The following abbreviations are used, except where the context otherwise requires:*

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Full title</i>
Board (or INCB)	International Narcotics Control Board
Commission on Narcotic Drugs (or Commission)	Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the Economic and Social Council
Council (or ECOSOC)	Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
1961 Convention	Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, signed at New York on 30 March 1961
1971 Convention	Convention on Psychotropic Substances, signed at Vienna on 21 February 1971
Division of Narcotic Drugs (or Division)	Division of Narcotic Drugs of the United Nations Secretariat
Fund (or UNFDAC)	United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control
General Assembly	General Assembly of the United Nations
ICPO/Interpol	International Criminal Police Organization
Narcotic drug	Any of the substances in Schedules I and II of the 1961 Convention, whether natural or synthetic
1972 Protocol	Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, signed at Geneva on 25 March 1972
Psychotropic substance	Any substance, natural or synthetic, or any natural material in Schedule I, II, III or IV of the 1971 Convention
Secretary-General	Secretary-General of the United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

For a full list of the international drug control treaties, see Annex III.

## REPORTS PUBLISHED BY THE INCB IN 1985

*This annual Report is supplemented by the following five detailed technical reports:*

Estimated World Requirements of Narcotic Drugs in 1986 (E/INCB/1985/2)

Statistics on Narcotic Drugs for 1984 (E/INCB/1985/3)

Statistics on Psychotropic Substances for 1984 (E/INCB/1985/4)

Comparative Statement of Estimates and Statistics on Narcotic Drugs for 1984 (E/INCB/1985/5)

Demand and Supply of Opiates for Medical and Scientific Needs — Special Report prepared pursuant to the Economic and Social Council's resolution 1984/21 (E/INCB/1985/1/Supp)

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NOMENCLATURE OF COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

In referring to political entities, the Board is guided by rules governing the practice of the United Nations. The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Board concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

## FOREWORD

1. The International Narcotics Control Board is the successor to drug control bodies, the first of which was established by international treaty more than half a century ago. A series of treaties confer on the Board specific responsibilities. The Board "shall endeavour to limit the cultivation, production, manufacture and use of drugs to an adequate amount required for medical and scientific purposes" and "to ensure their availability for such purposes". The Board shall also endeavour "to prevent illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of, and illicit trafficking in and use of, drugs." In carrying out its responsibilities, the Board is enjoined to act in co-operation with Governments and to maintain continuing dialogues with them in order to further the aims of the treaties. Such dialogues are pursued through periodic consultations and sometimes through special missions arranged in agreement with the Governments concerned.

2. The Board consists of thirteen members, elected by the Economic and Social Council,<sup>1/</sup> who serve in their personal capacities, not as government representatives. Three members with medical, pharmacological or pharmaceutical experience are elected upon the nomination of the World Health Organization and ten members upon the nomination of Members of the United Nations and Parties which are not Members. The Board's present composition and the curricula vitae of its members are to be found in Annex I, pages I/1-4. The Board held two regular sessions during 1985. Between sessions the policies decided upon by the Board are carried out by its secretariat, in consultation with the President and other members of the Board as appropriate.

3. The Board collaborates with other international bodies concerned with drug control. These include not only the Economic and Social Council and its Commission on Narcotic Drugs, but also the relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations, particularly the WHO. At the secretariat level, there is collaboration between the Board's staff on the one hand, and those of the Division of Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control on the other, in the pursuit of their distinct and complementary tasks. By decision of the Secretary-General, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs, Mr. William B. Buffum, serves as overall co-ordinator for United Nations drug-control-related activities.

4. The treaties require the Board to prepare annual reports on its work. These annual reports analyse the drug control situation world-wide, so that Governments are kept currently aware of existing and potential situations which may endanger the objectives of the Conventions. In the light of the developing situation, the Board draws Governments' attention to weaknesses in national control and in treaty compliance. It may also make suggestions and recommendations for improvements, at both the national and the international levels.

5. The Report is supplemented by four detailed technical reports containing data on the licit movement of the narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances required for medical and scientific purposes, and the Board's analyses of this information. The titles of these reports are to be found on the inside of the front cover.

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<sup>1/</sup> 1961 Convention, article 9 (2) and (3).

6. The Board conducts regional seminars and training programmes for drug control administrators from developing countries. The officials concerned receive training with regard to specific measures Governments should take to carry out those treaty provisions which relate to Parties' co-operation with the Board. These activities are supported by UNFDAC. Moreover, a number of national administrations send officials to the Board's headquarters for training. In the near future, the Board proposes to make available to national administrations a manual designed to facilitate their control tasks.

#### OVERVIEW

7. The abuse of a variety of drugs - cannabis, cocaine, opiates, psychotropic substances and other dependence-producing drugs - remains at a high level in most parts of the world. In some countries, abuse is even increasing. Very few countries are unaffected. Health hazards are being aggravated by the simultaneous consumption of two or more drugs, frequently in combination with alcohol, by the emergence of new and even more potent drugs of abuse, and by the use of ever more dangerous means of drug-taking. Wherever illicit cultivation, production and trafficking occur, abuse by the local population almost inevitably ensues. Abuse by young people gravely imperils countries' futures.

8. Illicit cultivation and production of drugs involve a growing number of countries, located in several regions of the world. These illicit activities are financed and operated by highly organized criminal syndicates, with international links. An ominous development in certain regions is the apparent close connection between drug trafficking and the vast sums of money it generates on the one hand, and the financing of other major criminal activities on the other. Such activities sometimes involve trafficking in a panoply of weapons, vehicles, ships and aircraft. In February 1985, the Commission noted "the existence of evidence in a number of countries... that increasingly clear links [exist] in many parts of the world between drug trafficking, the illegal traffic in firearms, subversion, international terrorism and other criminal activities".<sup>2/</sup> In addition, traffickers attempt to hide their ill-gotten profits by "laundering"<sup>3/</sup> them through legitimate enterprises. This whole process undermines the economic and social order, spreads violence and corruption, and jeopardizes the very political stability and security of some countries.

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<sup>2/</sup> Report of the Commission on its Thirty-First Session, document E/1985/23, E/CN.7/1985/22, decision 5 (XXXI), page 63.

<sup>3/</sup> The Second Expert Group Meeting on the Forfeiture of the Proceeds of Drugs Crimes has suggested the following definition: "launder : means to conceal or disguise the true nature, source, disposition, movement or ownership of proceeds connected with, arising from, related to, or resulting from any offences referred to in article 36 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, or article 22 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and shall be held to include the movement or conversion of assets or proceeds by any means, including electronic transmission." Document MNAR/1984/13, page 15.

9. The steady deterioration that has occurred over the last two decades has itself moved the international community to launch unprecedented and comprehensive counter-attacks against abuse, illicit cultivation, production, manufacture and trafficking. During 1985, stronger political commitments have been forged at the uppermost levels of Governments, and more countries have assigned a higher priority and allocated greater resources to counter-offensives. At the multilateral level, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has taken new initiatives to promote more effective and co-ordinated action. Moreover, intra- and inter-regional co-operation, particularly at the operational level, has evolved and is achieving successes. The joint counter-actions all proceed from the common conviction that effective and lasting progress can be made in any one affected country only if all countries co-operate.

10. Noteworthy progress can be noted:

- Several countries are destroying illicit cultivation of cannabis, opium poppy and coca bush. Some are employing methods which permit the advance detection of the precise location and extent of cultivation, and eradication on a larger scale. In one producing country, research and testing are being conducted with a view to identifying more effective and environmentally safer methods of eradicating the coca bush - methods which will make it possible for eradication to proceed at an accelerated pace and over larger areas. The collective impact of these eradication activities, if they are pursued on a sustained basis and by an ever larger number of countries, could be expected progressively to reduce the vast amounts of opiates, cannabis and cocaine on the illicit markets.

- A number of countries are imposing tighter controls on the chemicals and solvents used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs, particularly heroin and cocaine. The controls in some countries are disrupting trafficking activity and compelling traffickers to move some of their refining operations, within regions and sometimes even to other regions.

- A number of Governments are taking action to strengthen and expand their enforcement capabilities and to fight corruption. Major enforcement operations, sometimes involving several neighbouring countries, are resulting in the arrest of notorious traffickers, the breaking up of criminal organizations, the destruction of laboratories and airstrips, and the seizure of record quantities of drugs, together with vast sums of money, real and movable property, essential chemicals and solvents, and even weapons.

- Several traffickers have been extradited under existing bilateral agreements, and additional agreements providing for the extradition of traffickers for drug crimes are being negotiated. New mutual legal assistance arrangements are also being developed. Several Governments have enacted laws increasing penalties for drug trafficking.

- Under the aegis of the United Nations, a new international instrument is being developed to elaborate upon and expand existing treaty obligations relating to drug trafficking. Attention is being paid particularly to the financing of such trafficking and to the confiscation of traffickers' assets.

- Many countries are intensifying drug abuse prevention campaigns targeted at high-risk groups. Parents and community leaders play prominent roles in these campaigns, which are being promoted by highly-placed figures, including Heads of State and their families. The private sector also is waging campaigns aimed at reducing the misuse of drugs by employees and the resultant economic losses. Demand-reduction programmes are receiving more emphasis in a number of countries, and more epidemiological studies are being carried out.

- With the accession of China to the 1961 Convention, the international regime for the control of narcotic drugs, which began to be evolved early in this century, now encompasses virtually all countries. As it relates to the movement of narcotic drugs for medical and scientific purposes, this regime is functioning in a generally satisfactory manner. It is preventing the diversion of large quantities of such drugs from the licit trade into the illicit traffic.

- Adherence to the newer 1971 Convention on the more recently developed psychotropic substances has expanded but remains more limited. Nevertheless, most countries, Parties and non-Parties alike, are co-operating actively among themselves and with the Board, to achieve the aims of the Convention. Voluntary implementation by more and more countries of measures recommended by the Board has established for the most dependence-producing psychotropic substances a de facto estimates system similar to that in effect for narcotic drugs. The 1971 Convention has begun to show results, and progress is being made in detecting and preventing diversions of controlled substances to the illicit traffic.

11. In several regions, heads of State and foreign ministers are so deeply concerned about the threat which abuse and trafficking pose for the well-being of their peoples, and for the stability, development and security of their countries, that they are directing their personal attention to the fight to reduce abuse and illicit supplies. Measures to enhance the ability to secure this reduction are being given greater consideration, on a periodic basis, at meetings of heads of State and foreign ministers, such as the Economic Summit of seven industrialized countries held in May 1985, the ASEAN<sup>4/</sup> ministerial meeting held in July 1985, and the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in October

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<sup>4/</sup> Association of Southeast Asian Nations: Brunei-Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

1985. In last year's report, the Board also cited meetings of heads of State and foreign ministers of several Latin American countries. Moreover, parliaments in a number of countries are actively promoting national drug control efforts. This heightening of interest should accelerate progress.

12. The Secretary-General's proposal for the holding of an international conference at the ministerial level in 1987 is before the 40th Regular Session of the General Assembly. This initiative, which has already been strongly endorsed by many Governments and parliaments, would afford an opportunity for countries formally to reaffirm their political commitments to achieving the aims embodied in the main international drug control treaties. The proposed conference would also permit countries to elaborate general principles which might provide a framework within which national programmes of action could reinforce one another. In forging such a framework, the countries concerned would take into account the successes and failures of measures initiated early in this century, as well as new developments, in order to create a stronger and more effective international drug control system. The Board plans to review the areas of work falling within its mandate in order to identify measures which might be taken to improve international controls. It proposes to include its assessments in its Report for 1986 in the hope that they will provide useful background information for the Conference. The Board stands ready to provide all possible assistance to the Secretary-General and to co-operate fully in every way.

13. Drug abuse causes such great damage to individuals and their families on the one hand, and to the social fabric of countries on the other, that sustained and determined counter-action must be regarded as an absolute necessity. Illicit drug use and trafficking not only detract from economic development in many countries, but, as previously stressed, also contribute to the spread of crime, violence and corruption. Addiction strikes at random, but when it ensnares young people, it affects countries' futures.

14. The emergence and abuse of new and hazardous drugs and preparations are causing great anxiety in a number of countries. The developments in this area call for special vigilance. One phenomenon discussed elsewhere in this report<sup>5/</sup> is the clandestine manufacture by unscrupulous chemists of "designer drugs". This term refers to analogues of substances controlled by national law and/or by the treaties. More specifically, it is the term applied to the products that are obtained when the chemical structures of controlled "parent" substances are altered so as to produce compounds which have properties similar to those of the parent substances, but which themselves, by virtue of their slightly different chemical make-ups, do not fall within the legal controls. These analogues can be many times more potent than the parent substances, are highly toxic, contain by-products and impurities, and therefore entail a substantial threat to health and even a risk of death. Emergency scheduling action and the proposing of new control legislation have been required in one country, and the threat for other countries necessitates consideration of possible international action. A second problem which

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<sup>5/</sup> See paragraphs 56 to 61 below.

has arisen in recent years is the misuse of poppy straw in several countries by individuals who obtain opiates from the straw. This threatening new development is also discussed in another part of this report.<sup>6/</sup>

15. In its report for 1982,<sup>7/</sup> the Board discussed the hazardous effects of the non-medical use of cocaine. As the Board emphasized, cocaine is so compellingly addictive that it is one of the few drugs which, when offered to animals in self-administration studies, was chosen over food, leading the animals to starve themselves to death. The Board returns to this subject because even more baneful patterns of abuse have developed, and because the number of abusers is burgeoning in many countries and in several regions. The deteriorating situation urgently requires not only action to reduce the availability of cocaine but also the dissemination of information concerning the serious health consequences associated with the abuse of the drug. To be most effective, such information should be targeted at high-risk populations.

16. In many countries, too little is known about the extent of abuse, and about shifts in patterns of abuse. Therefore, special emphasis should be placed upon periodic epidemiological surveys. Only then can sufficiently comprehensive and effective demand-reduction programmes be devised and targeted at high-risk populations. Today, the dynamics of abuse and the speed with which ideas and fashions spread from one country to another are such that there should be an expansion of research aimed at providing a greater understanding of the root causes of such abuse. Unless illicit demand for drugs is diminished, the reduction of illicit supply in one area can have significant but only temporary impact, since the elimination of one source of supply will merely be offset by reliance on another.

17. Several programmes in countries in which narcotic crops are illicitly cultivated encompass the reduction of such cultivation in conjunction with the economic development of the growing areas, so that farmers are provided with alternative income possibilities. This concept, embodied in programmes initiated in the early 1970's, is proving even more valid today. Any approach which is to be viable in the long run must emphasize this concept, which is indispensable to progress.

18. Enforcement measures are resulting in more and ever larger seizures. The mounting stocks of seized drugs pose serious security problems for some countries. This is shown by the frequent re-diversion into the illicit market of materials seized by the law enforcement authorities. In some countries, the timely disposal of seized drugs is complicated by laws which require that seizures be maintained intact until the completion of often lengthy judicial proceedings. Security is best guaranteed by the prompt destruction of drugs following seizure. The Board hopes that more countries will be able to adopt such a policy. In the case of some countries, this may require the amendment of laws to permit appropriately certified sample amounts of particular seizures to be admitted as evidence of the entire seizures in judicial proceedings.

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<sup>6/</sup> See paragraph 35 below.

<sup>7/</sup> E/INCB/61, paragraphs 143 to 148.

19. In its Report for 1984<sup>8/</sup>, the Board emphasized the necessity of having strict penalties for drug traffickers, and of requiring convicted criminals to serve out their full sentences rather than freeing them prematurely to resume their nefarious activities. The Board endorses the recommendation formulated in September 1985 by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders<sup>9/</sup>. This recommendation might be embodied in the new international instrument on illicit trafficking.

20. In previous reports, the Board referred to traffickers' heavy reliance on the transporting of drug contraband by sea. Consideration should be given to incorporating in the proposed new instrument on illicit trafficking provisions aimed at facilitating the exercise of criminal jurisdiction on board foreign vessels passing through territorial seas or on the high seas. There might also be provisions enabling any State which has reasonable grounds for believing that a ship flying its flag is engaged in drug trafficking to request the co-operation of other States in suppressing this activity. Provisions to this effect are already included in the Convention on the Law of the Sea<sup>10/</sup>.

21. Intra- and interregional co-operation among law enforcement officials at the operational level is vital if traffickers are to be combatted and trafficking organizations destroyed. The speed with which drugs can circle the world requires a heavy emphasis upon the rapid exchange of information between law enforcement services. Accordingly, the Board welcomes the establishment of a multinational radio network for enforcement agencies in several South American countries. The Board also welcomes the increasingly frequent exchanges of enforcement liaison personnel between countries and between regions.

22. Very few Governments believe that the conditions prevailing in their countries make it acceptable to permit the use of heroin for purposes other than pure research. Heroin is controlled under Schedule IV of the 1961 Convention because it was deemed by the 1961 Conference, on the recommendation of the WHO, to have strong addiction-producing properties and a liability to abuse not offset by therapeutic advantages which cannot be afforded by some other drug, and for which deletion from general medical practice is desirable because of the risk to public health. The Board regards it as timely to remind all Governments of these considerations. They should be pondered with special care, since the use of heroin for medical purposes can create opportunities for diversion of the drug for illicit use unless very strict controls are imposed, systematically enforced and continuously monitored. The risk of diversion is particularly high in countries where heroin is abused by large numbers of persons.

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<sup>8/</sup> E/INCB/1984/1, paragraph 15.

<sup>9/</sup> Operative paragraph 5 of Resolution II (document A/Conf. 121/22 of 26 September 1985).

<sup>10/</sup> Articles 27(1) (d) and 108.

23. The Board once again draws the attention of Governments to the protection against unwanted imports afforded by article 13 of the 1971 Convention. If a country determines that one or more of the substances listed in Schedules II, III or IV are not required for medical and scientific purposes, it should avail itself of that protection and notify the Secretary-General that it bans the import of these substances. Any export of a banned substance to the prohibiting country would constitute a violation of the obligations imposed on exporting countries by article 13.

24. As noted by the Board last year, some countries have unfortunately not yet enacted the legislation and regulations and instituted the administrative mechanisms necessary to permit the implementation of the provisions of the 1961 and 1971 Conventions. Others have yet to become Parties. Without determined national action to give them effect, neither existing nor additional treaties can be fully effective against any aspect of the drug abuse problem. The Board appeals to all countries to take determined and sustained action.

25. The Board notes that the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control is further increasing its resources and therefore its support for drug control programmes, including measures to fight illicit production and trafficking, in many developing countries. The Fund continues to serve as a catalyst, stimulating the Governments concerned to strengthen their commitments to drug control. The Board is pleased that governments are providing greater support, not only bilaterally but also by making ever more generous and sustained financial contributions to UNFDAC. These contributions will enable the Fund to expand further its support for developing countries, in which there are pressing needs still far beyond the resources now available to UNFDAC. The Board therefore urges Governments to continue increasing their support to the Fund.

## OPERATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL SYSTEM

### Narcotic Drugs

#### Status of the treaties

26. Since the publication of the Board's report for 1984, two additional States, namely Botswana and the Peoples' Republic of China, have become Parties to the 1961 Convention as amended. The total number of Parties to the 1961 Convention now stands at 117. The very few States which do not yet participate in the international drug control system could bolster the common effort by instituting at least de facto co-operation pending their adherence to the treaties.

#### Co-operation with Governments

27. An analysis of the co-operation extended by Governments over the last few years showed that close to 130 of the world's 186 countries and territories co-operated with the Board in a satisfactory manner. However, co-operation on the part of several countries is at present not adequate. Some provide neither full nor timely information, and a few furnish no information at all. Since these inadequacies constitute loopholes in the international narcotics control system, the Board endeavours persistently to promote remedial action by the Governments concerned.

### The control system : Current assessment

28. The international control system, as it relates to the movement of narcotic drugs for medical and scientific purposes, continues to operate in a generally satisfactory manner. Diversions to illicit channels from wholesale trade continue to constitute relatively exceptional events. At the retail level, some diversion from licit sources occurs through theft, burglary of pharmacies, and forged prescriptions or issuance of prescriptions by unethical physicians. Such diversion takes place particularly when drug abusers are unable to obtain supplies from the illicit market. However, available information shows that diversion of narcotic drugs from licit channels, in respect of both wholesale and retail trade, remains minimal, particularly in comparison with the substantial amounts of such drugs used for medical and scientific purposes.

29. A major reason for the narcotics treaty system's general effectiveness in preventing diversion from the licit international trade is that the system includes the stipulation that such trade must be conducted within estimates of requirements for all narcotic drugs under international control and for all countries. Exporting countries are obliged not to authorize exports in excess of the estimates confirmed or established by the Board for all countries, as published annually and updated monthly by the Board. This limitation applies even when exports are based on valid import authorizations. If import orders prove to be greater than the estimates, the exporting countries should always consult with the Board. Most exporting countries act in this way.

### Bolstering controls

30. Recent cases involving diversion or attempted diversion have prompted countries to strengthen controls. In some instances, authorities have even banned from medical use certain narcotic preparations which have been abused. Other security measures to reduce such diversion could include the limitation of stocks and the installation of safer storage arrangements in pharmacies, as well as steps to tighten further the monitoring of prescriptions.

### Control of international trade

31. As noted in the Board's Report for 1984, the threat posed by forged and falsified import certificates can be countered only if import requests are systematically scrutinized by exporting countries. In order to permit the Board to assist them in verifying the authenticity of import requests, the Board, with the co-operation of Governments, has established a collection of copies of the official forms used for the export and import of drugs under international control. This collection now comprises copies of official certificates issued by 141 countries and territories, to which Governments may refer if dubious requests are received. The collection has already proven its worth in a number of cases.

32. Experience shows that control would be facilitated if each Government's certificates adhered closely to the models recommended by the Commission pursuant to the treaties. Furthermore, the possibility of forgery would be diminished if import certificates were printed on special paper, as are bank notes. Moreover, the only signatures appearing on the certificates should be those of officials designated to sign on behalf of

the competent national authority which has been communicated to the Secretary-General. As particular cases have arisen, the Board has drawn the attention of national authorities to the necessity of implementing such safeguards. Such action by all Governments concerned would assist not only in preventing diversion but also in expediting the licit international trade.

33. Developments during 1985 lead the Board again to remind Governments of the obligation imposed by paragraph 7 of article 31 of the treaty. According to this provision, importing countries are required to return to the competent authorities of the exporting countries copies of export authorizations, endorsed to indicate that the consignments have been received. This enables the authorities to keep track of shipments and facilitates their co-operation in the investigation of possible diversions of entire consignments or parts thereof.

34. Some countries continue to issue import certificates which give postal box numbers as the addresses of the importers. During 1985, the Board formally reminded Governments that the 1961 Convention specifically prohibits the export of consignments to post office boxes.<sup>11/</sup> The risk of diversion which such exportation poses is apparent.

#### Poppy straw

35. Over the last few years, the Board has become aware of the misuse of poppy straw by individual abusers, who were able to obtain opiates from the straw.<sup>12/</sup> While this form of abuse does not yet constitute a significant social problem, it has occurred in a number of cases and in several countries. It is facilitated by the dispersion of licit poppy crops, by their frequent proximity to metropolitan areas where abuse occurs, and by the cultivation of poppy varieties rich in alkaloids. Some of the countries affected have recently adopted legislation and regulations designed to stop misuse of poppy straw. Other concerned countries will wish similarly to reinforce their laws and control measures. Moreover, those provisions of the 1961 Convention which govern poppy straw should be reviewed with a view to the possibility of their being strengthened.<sup>13/</sup> It may be noted that the drafters of the 1961 Convention and of the 1972 Protocol did not anticipate the abuse of poppy straw, and therefore formulated controls for this raw material less stringent than those for other narcotic drugs.<sup>14/</sup>

### Psychotropics Substances

#### Status of 1971 Convention

36. Since the publication of the Board's Report for 1984, Afghanistan, Bolivia, Botswana and the People's Republic of China have acceded to the 1971 Convention, raising the total number of Parties to 81. Although most

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<sup>11/</sup> 1961 Convention, Article 31 (8).

<sup>12/</sup> See paragraphs 151 and 155.

<sup>13/</sup> 1961 Convention, Articles 25 and 47.

<sup>14/</sup> See also "Demand and Supply of Opiates for Medical and Scientific Needs", document E/INCB/52/Supp, paragraphs 246 and 343 to 348.

countries in the Americas and Europe are Parties, some manufacturing and exporting countries, notably in Western Europe, have not yet acceded to the Convention. In Asia, Africa and Oceania, non-Parties continue greatly to outnumber Parties. However, the Board is pleased to note that the number of developing countries which have acceded is increasing and that some non-Parties, including manufacturing and exporting countries, are taking steps to adhere. The Board attaches great importance to achieving world-wide adherence at the earliest possible time.

#### Co-operation with Governments

37. Most States and regions,<sup>15/</sup> whether Parties or non-Parties, furnish to the Board not only the information specified in the Convention but also the supplementary, voluntary data requested by the Board with the endorsement of the Commission and the Council in Resolution 1981/7. In 1985 almost 150 States and regions provided information. This represents an increase over the number that so co-operated in 1984.

38. Many non-Parties and even some Parties provide only partial data in response to the Board's requests with respect to substances included in Schedules III and IV of the Convention. This makes it difficult for Governments and the Board to have a sufficiently comprehensive understanding of the trade in these substances, and inhibits their ability to intervene in a timely manner to prevent or detect diversions. The Board hopes that the countries concerned will take the necessary steps to remedy this situation and to furnish full information.

#### Schedule II substances

39. Eight substances are included in Schedule II. Of these, only the amphetamines and methaqualone are licitly used in large quantities. The amphetamines are, for the most part, transformed into substances not under international control. Methaqualone is licitly consumed in the form of pharmaceutical preparations.

40. At the Board's request, some 140 countries and regions are now voluntarily submitting to the Board quarterly data on international trade. Moreover, 152 countries provide assessments of legitimate needs for psychotropic substances controlled under Schedule II. The quarterly statistics help the Board to detect diversions and enable it to alert national authorities accordingly. Since 1982, the Board has published annually the assessments of requirements provided by Governments or calculated by the Board. A steadily increasing number of exporting countries confine shipments within the limits of these assessments and regularly consult the Board when import orders exceed them. This has brought to light more and more diversion attempts, involving falsified import authorizations.

#### Methaqualone

41. Data available to the Board shows that the consumption of methaqualone amounts annually to approximately 20 tonnes and is distributed among 33 countries and regions. The large majority of States

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<sup>15/</sup> Article 1 (k) of the Convention defines "region" as "any part of a State which pursuant to article 28 is treated as a separate entity for the purposes of this Convention."

and regions - namely, 153 - do not use methaqualone for medical or scientific purposes. Three States alone account for 60 per cent - that is, approximately 12 tonnes - of the total consumption. One of these States, not a Party to the 1971 Convention, has not yet amended its legislation to permit full monitoring of the manufacture of methaqualone and of its wholesale and retail distribution. Therefore, it is not known whether all of the methaqualone is actually consumed within this country. The possibility of diversion for abuse cannot be excluded.

42. Other sections of this report show that methaqualone, diverted from licit manufacture, continues to be abused in a number of countries and is causing serious risks to health.

43. Because of excessive manufacture of methaqualone in the past, several manufacturing countries hold large stocks of the substance, which constitute targets for diversion attempts. Medical requirements for methaqualone have diminished as alternative and less addictive medicines have come to be used in the wake of methaqualone's widespread abuse; consequently, present stocks are sufficient to meet legitimate requirements for several years and possibly even longer.

44. The Governments concerned will wish to ponder the problem posed by the existence of large stocks of methaqualone and the decreasing of legitimate demand. At the very least, they may wish to prohibit further manufacture as soon as possible. Ultimately, the threat of diversion and abuse which these large stocks pose for the international community will have to be weighed and destruction may have to be considered. Countries may also wish to take prompt action to strengthen their national laws and to give the Secretary-General notice, pursuant to article 13 of the 1971 Convention, that they prohibit the importation of methaqualone. To date, 12 countries have given such notice. The country which did so most recently is the United States. Moreover, any Party to the Convention or the WHO is, of course, also free to notify the Secretary-General if in its opinion information justifies the transfer of methaqualone to a higher control schedule. The United States has recently placed methaqualone in the most restrictive of its national control schedules because substitute drugs with less abuse potential are available for medical purposes.

45. The value of the system of assessments and the complications which arise in controlling international trade are illustrated by a case concerning methaqualone which occurred in 1985.

46. Exporting country X received an order for 500 kg of methaqualone, to be imported by country Y. According to the assessments, country Y had no requirement for this substance; consequently, country X deferred the export and asked the Board to undertake an inquiry. This inquiry revealed that importing country Y had indeed issued the import authorization in question, but it also disclosed that country Y had subsequently cancelled this authorization and replaced it with another, authorizing the import of a lesser amount, from a different exporting country (Z). Country Z had made the export to country Y even though country Y had had no assessed requirement for methaqualone. The methaqualone imported into country Y was to be re-exported to still another country, in the form of preparations. Since the inquiry conducted by the Board revealed that the firm which finally was to import the preparations was fictitious, the

re-export was prevented at the request of the Board, and country Y seized the drug. Predictably, the circuitous route used in this case led ultimately to individuals who were attempting to divert the drug for illicit purposes.

47. This case demonstrates the need for Governments to exercise vigilance at all stages in the export-import chain, to ensure that all trade takes place with strict regard to the assessment limits published by the Board.<sup>16/</sup> Furthermore, to the maximum extent possible, re-exports should be avoided in order to prevent traffickers from achieving their nefarious aims.

#### Schedule III and IV substances

48. During 1984 the Board recommended,<sup>17/</sup> and the Commission and Council agreed,<sup>18/</sup> that additional voluntary action should be undertaken by Governments to supplement the impact of the controls which the 1971 Convention imposes upon substances listed in Schedules III and IV. One such measure consisted in Governments' voluntarily extending the system of import and export authorizations to Schedule III substances. The second entailed the implementation by Governments of arrangements enabling them to monitor exports of Schedule IV substances. Prior to the Board's recommending the institution of these measures, several Governments had already taken such action. Detailed information on their international trade in Schedule III and IV substances had proven to be of great assistance in the Board's efforts to detect diversions of these substances, particularly barbiturates. It was for this reason that the Board recommended the voluntary adoption of the supplementary measures by all Governments.

49. The dimensions of the threat in respect of barbiturates, which are controlled under Schedules III and IV, and the need for more stringent control are demonstrated by five separate diversions from one manufacturing and exporting country of Western Europe, which involved a total of more than 230 kg of these substances. These diversions, which occurred during the first quarter of 1985, were drawn to the Board's attention by the exporting country in question. This country initiated a dialogue with the Board because of suspicious circumstances and the magnitude of the import orders. The Board accordingly inquired of the importing country in West Africa, and ascertained that the imports had in fact been requested by fictitious companies and had been vastly in excess of the country's medical requirements. Subsequently, the exporting country tightened export controls to avoid further episodes of this sort. The country of destination in West Africa also strengthened import controls for many psycho-active substances, including barbiturates. The Board welcomes these strengthened controls.

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<sup>16/</sup> E/INCB/1985/4, Tables A, B and C.

<sup>17/</sup> E/INCB/1984/1, paragraphs 36 and 37.

<sup>18/</sup> ECOSOC Resolution 1985/15.

### Exempted preparations

50. Article 3 of the 1971 Convention permits Parties to exempt from certain control measures preparations containing substances listed in Schedules II, III and IV, provided specified criteria are met. Acting on the recommendation of the WHO, the Commission approved guidelines to be taken into account by Governments in proceeding under this article.<sup>19/</sup> These guidelines request Governments not to exempt any preparation from the treaty requirements concerning international trade. This is necessary in order to permit uniformity of controls among different countries. Furthermore, it will ensure the comparability of export and import statistics, and thus render possible the monitoring of international trade. The Board urges all Governments concerned to adhere to the guidelines in respect of exemptions.

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### Precursors, essential chemicals and solvents

51. In its Report for 1984, the Board reminded Parties to the 1961 and 1971 Conventions that they are obligated to use their best efforts to apply to substances which do not fall under the Conventions, but which may be used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, such measures of supervision as may be practicable.<sup>20/</sup> In the same Report, the Board noted that, in view of the increase in the number of clandestine laboratories detected in many parts of the world, action was necessary to elaborate and carry out, both nationally and internationally, measures to monitor the movement of precursors, essential chemicals and solvents, with a view to preventing them from becoming available for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

52. Subsequently, in 1985, and with reference to the Board's Report, the Council, acting on the Commission's recommendation, adopted a resolution concerning this question. This resolution calls upon the Governments concerned to take measures to monitor the trade in such precursors, chemicals and solvents.<sup>21/</sup> It notes that particular vigilance is desired in the case of ephedrine, ephedrol, phenyl-2-propanone, ergotamine, anthranilic acid, piperidine, ethyl ether and acetic anhydride, which are used for the illicit manufacture of amphetamine, methamphetamine, (+)-Lysergide (LSD), methaqualone and phencyclidine (PCP), as well as cocaine and heroin. The Governments concerned are further invited to co-operate closely and to exchange information promptly with regard to orders for abnormally large amounts. Furthermore, Governments are invited to provide the Board, on a voluntary basis, with all pertinent information.

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<sup>19/</sup> E/1984/13, E/CN.7/1984/13, Resolution I (S-VIII).

<sup>20/</sup> 1961 Convention, article 2(8); 1971 Convention, article 2(9). However, while there is provision for bringing precursors of narcotic drugs under international control (1961 Convention, article 3(3) (iii)), the 1971 Convention does not provide for similar action in respect of the precursors of psychotropic substances.

<sup>21/</sup> ECOSOC Resolution 1985/12.

53. The Board is aware that certain Governments, particularly in countries where illicit manufacture is known to take place, have adopted stringent measures to prevent the import of chemicals used for such manufacture. Furthermore, these measures have forced traffickers to move some of their operations to other countries. It is obvious that controlling essential chemicals can be a highly effective means of thwarting traffickers, but only if stringent measures are applied universally.

54. The Board believes that, if the international community is to identify the most effective action which it might take to reduce the availability of chemicals for illicit drug manufacture, the measures to this end that Governments are now taking or contemplating must first be ascertained. Therefore, as a first step to assist the international community, the Board is inviting Governments to provide such information so that it can be generally disseminated.

55. In this connection, the Board wishes to draw the attention of Governments to the statement by one manufacturing and exporting country<sup>22/</sup> that, by analogy to article 13 of the 1971 Convention, it would be prepared to impose a ban on the export of precursors to any country from which it received a notification that the country concerned bans the import of such precursors. The Board is of the opinion that such a voluntary step by manufacturing and exporting countries could provide an additional and effective means of preventing the export of precursors to countries where illicit drug manufacture is known to take place.

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#### "Designer Drugs"

56. In recent years, there has emerged in the United States a phenomenon which poses a serious challenge to drug control. This phenomenon, which is assuming increasing significance, consists in the clandestine manufacture by unscrupulous chemists of "designer drug". The term refers to analogues of substances controlled by national law and/or by the Conventions. More specifically, it is the term applied to the products that are obtained when the chemical structures of controlled, "parent" substances are altered so as to produce compounds which have properties similar to those of the parents, but which themselves, by virtue of their slightly different chemical make-ups, do not fall within the legal controls. Although the concept of producing analogues in order to circumvent drug laws is not new, it is currently undergoing a resurgence.

57. A novel feature of this resurgence is that heroin substitutes are spawning very potent analogues. Thus, at least eight analogues of fentanyl have been detected in the illicit drug trade, while meperidine has yielded the imitations MPPP and PEPAP. The fentanyl analogues produce effects similar to those of heroin, but are between 10 and 250 times as

<sup>22/</sup> See paragraph 149.

potent as heroin. As a consequence of this high potency, use of the fentanyl analogues entails a substantial risk of fatal overdose. Furthermore, the clandestine manufacture of these compounds results in several by-products and impurities. By-products present a particularly grave hazard where variants of meperidine are concerned. Unless carefully controlled, the synthesis of MPPP results in the formation of a neurotoxic substance which induces an irreversible syndrome resembling Parkinson's Disease. The syndrome has been identified in a number of persons who had used MPPP, and there is the possibility that some of the users who do not presently exhibit symptoms may develop them as they age. A similar compound is a derivative of PEPAP synthesis. Both MPPP and PEPAP simulate the effects of morphine. MPPP is up to 30 times as potent as the parent meperidine, and is lethal at doses substantially lower than is meperidine, while PEPAP is as much as 70 times as potent as meperidine. In addition to all of these narcotic analogues, there is another component to the designer-drug phenomenon : namely, the use of MDMA, a hallucinogenic amphetamine, which is increasing markedly within the United States.

58. The problem of narcotic designer drugs appears to be located mainly in the state of California. There, although it is still a relatively small problem, it is growing. Furthermore, evidence of the use or manufacture of designer narcotics has surfaced in other parts of the United States. The fentanyl analogues have been associated with more than 95 known overdose deaths that occurred subsequent to 1979. Thirty-one of these deaths were recorded in 1984. The situation in respect of MDMA is worse, inasmuch as the abuse of this drug has already spread across the United States.

59. Furthermore, the United States Congress has been presented with draft legislation which would make it a punishable crime to distribute a "designer drug", or to manufacture such a drug with intent to distribute it. This bill would make it possible for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to take immediate action whenever a new drug was detected.

60. In the meantime, DEA has used the emergency scheduling provisions of existing law to take action against the most dangerous and highly abused of the designer drugs. In conjunction with the emergency scheduling actions, enforcement efforts have been carried out.

61. In the light of these developments, Governments will wish to consider action at the international level.

DEMAND FOR AND SUPPLY OF OPIATES FOR MEDICAL  
AND SCIENTIFIC NEEDS

62. This subject is dealt with in a special report.<sup>23/</sup>

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23/ E/INCB/1985/1 Supp.1.

## ANALYSIS OF THE WORLD SITUATION

63. As mentioned in earlier reports, responsibility for implementing the international drug control system established by the treaties rests above all on national authorities, since they alone are able to control the movement of the substances concerned within their respective jurisdictions. The Board, for its part, is striving, in co-operation with Parties and non-Parties alike, to help countries achieve the aims of the treaties. In analysing the drug control situation world-wide, as well as in particular regions and countries, the Board benefits from information obtained from Governments, United Nations organs, specialized agencies and other competent international organizations, notably the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO/Interpol). While it reviews the situation in respect of all countries, the Board gives special attention to countries in which problems of drug abuse, illicit trafficking, and uncontrolled or illicit production of drugs are most acute, and to countries where developments are of particular interest to the international community.

### NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST

64. The large quantities of opium and heroin seized, both within the region and abroad, necessarily indicate the existence not only of extensive areas of illicit poppy cultivation, but also of a substantial heroin manufacturing capacity. Cannabis and its resin are also seized frequently and in large amounts.

65. Opium traditionally has been abused in the region, but the easy availability of locally manufactured heroin has spread quickly and abuse of this drug is escalating throughout the region.

66. If an effective attack is to be mounted against illicit opium production, there must first be a systematic survey of areas in which illicit poppy cultivation is believed to be taking place. In 1984, Iran proposed that such a survey be made throughout the region encompassed by the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East (the Sub-Commission),<sup>24/</sup> in order to identify the sources of opium accurately and to allow for a concentration on poppy-eradication efforts. At the Sub-Commission's meeting in Teheran in September 1985, Iran stated its willingness to have an aerial photographic survey carried out over its territory during the poppy flowering period in the spring of 1986, if the necessary financial resources could be found. The Sub-Commission welcomed this initiative, which it believed might serve as a pilot project. It was believed that in the longer term, regular annual surveys by satellite would be most effective. The Sub-Commission agreed that the feasibility and possible funding of such surveys would be investigated.<sup>25/</sup> The Board welcomes the results achieved by the Sub-Commission.

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<sup>24/</sup> 17th and 18th meetings of the Sub-Commission, February and October 1984.

<sup>25/</sup> MNAR/1985/1.

67. The Board reiterates the statement made in its Report for 1984 that countries in the region which are not already doing so should conduct periodic epidemiological surveys to determine the actual extent of abuse. Such surveys are essential prerequisites for the formulation of demand-reduction programmes which correspond to the needs of the countries concerned and therefore offer the maximum prospects of success.

68. It is crucial for Governments to place special emphasis on intra- and interregional efforts to identify major traffickers and seize their assets, and to curtail the availability of acetic anhydride for heroin manufacture.

#### Afghanistan

69. The Government reports only limited cultivation of the opium poppy, in remote areas. Opium has traditionally been produced in the south-central and eastern areas of the country. Large and frequent seizures of opium, heroin and cannabis resin continue to be made within Afghanistan itself, and it is possible that attempts are being made to manufacture heroin illicitly in the country. Neighbouring countries report seizures of opiates, mainly opium, in areas bordering Afghanistan. The Government notes that poppy and cannabis cultivation have been banned. It also states that rural development measures have been taken.

70. Afghanistan is a Party to both the 1961 and the 1971 Conventions. In 1984, in order to assist the country to comply with its obligations, the Board provided training to two officers responsible for preparing the reports required by these treaties.

#### Egypt

71. The Government remains strongly committed to effective drug control. Cannabis resin, originating mainly in Lebanon, and opium are still the main drugs of abuse. However, the escalating traffic in and abuse of heroin cause the greatest concern. Other substances, such as amphetamines and methaqualone, are also abused.

72. Illicit cultivation of cannabis and the opium poppy, which takes place in some parts of Upper and Lower Egypt, has precipitated vigorous counter-action by the authorities and this cultivation has decreased.

73. Enforcement operations conducted during the last three months of 1984 and the first half of 1985 have resulted in the seizure of four times as much heroin as was seized in the corresponding nine-month period a year previously. In one particular operation, 4 kg of heroin were intercepted and a major international drug trafficker was arrested. Another enforcement operation, carried out during the spring of 1985, resulted in a multi-tonne seizure of cannabis.

74. The Government's efforts are receiving support multilaterally and bilaterally. UNFDAC is assisting two multi-year projects, relating to the treatment of drug abusers, the prevention of abuse and law enforcement. Both projects are to be completed by the end of 1985. The Government has requested further assistance from UNFDAC.

75. In pursuing its campaign against drug-related activities, the Government will undoubtedly bear in mind that attempts may be made to manufacture heroin illicitly on Egyptian territory, not only to supply the expanding domestic heroin market but also for trafficking abroad. It is essential that intensive public awareness campaigns be conducted, in order to reduce drug abuse.

#### Islamic Republic of Iran

76. Drug abuse is a matter of great concern. The Government has attached high priority to this problem and is mounting campaigns to combat it. A ban on poppy cultivation has been in effect since 1979, and penalties for violations are severe. Enormous amounts of both opium and heroin are trafficked into Iran across its eastern border, by heavily armed bands. Heroin laboratories operate in the area of that frontier.

77. Enforcement authorities continue to make large seizures and to arrest many traffickers. Of those arrested, 40 per cent are nationals of Afghanistan, but their number also includes Pakistanis, Indians and Sri Lankans. Border patrols and road checks along the eastern frontier have been intensified, and penalties for illegal border crossings have been increased. The Government has decided to allocate one-half of the revenue obtained from fines for drug-related offences to law enforcement activities. The Government believes that it is most important for surveys to be conducted throughout the region covered by the Sub-Commission,<sup>26/</sup> to identify the extent and location of poppy cultivation and thereby allow for the undertaking of appropriate eradication measures. This proposal was discussed further at the most recent session of the Sub-Commission and is dealt with earlier in this Report.<sup>27/</sup>

#### Lebanon

78. Lebanon remains an important centre for production and trafficking, particularly of cannabis resin in large quantities, as shown by the seizures made abroad. The illicit cultivation of the opium poppy is also a matter of concern. Moreover, seizure data show that cocaine is being trafficked to Lebanon for consumption within the country and possibly beyond. The authorities will wish to keep in mind the necessity of coming to grips with the deteriorating drug control and abuse situation as soon as local conditions permit.

#### Pakistan

79. By comparing the peak opium production of 800 tonnes for the crop year 1978-79 with the estimated production of 45 tonnes for the year 1984-85, one may see that significant progress has been made in Pakistan. Progress has also been made in providing alternative economic opportunities for poppy farmers.

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26/ MNAR/1985/1.

27/ See paragraph 66.

80. The Government is progressively enforcing its ban on opium poppy cultivation, most recently extending it to additional areas of the Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP). Poppy cultivation has been eliminated in the Buner area, which once accounted for one-third of the opium illicitly produced in Pakistan. Following this achievement, the Government, with the assistance of UNFDAC and of a number of other Governments, has begun to implement its Special Development and Enforcement Plan, which focuses on areas where the poppy is or might be grown. This plan aims at the complete eradication of domestic poppy cultivation and calls for the provision of development aid in tandem with poppy eradication. The Government has conducted an aerial survey of the poppy-growing regions of the NWFP and is analysing the results. At the 1984 meeting of the World Bank Pakistan Consortium, Governments pledged \$US 11.5 million to UNFDAC for the implementation of projects encompassed by the Plan. As of mid-October, further pledges of nearly \$US 4 million had been announced in 1985. This is welcome support from the international community.

81. Drug abuse continues to spread throughout the country, reflecting local illicit production and trafficking. Until 1981, opium was the main drug of abuse. The present number of heroin abusers is estimated to be double the number that existed in 1984; according to estimates for 1985, there are between 250 000 and 300 000 abusers. Psychotropic substances which originate abroad, are also abused by increasing numbers of people. The Government is deeply concerned about the escalating public health threat posed by drug abuse. It has established 26 treatment centres and also supports non-governmental initiatives. Moreover, two major demand-reduction projects, assisted by UNFDAC, were initiated in 1985.

82. Seizures made outside Pakistan indicate that significant amounts of opiates bound for Western Europe and North America are either originating in or passing through that country. Pakistani nationals have been involved in the organized trafficking networks which have contributed to the upsurge in heroin availability that has recently beset the United Kingdom. As couriers of heroin, Pakistanis have been operating in Western Europe, North America, and some States in the eastern part of the Arabian Peninsula. Within Pakistan, enforcement officials have made substantial seizures of cannabis, heroin and opium during 1985. In addition, heroin manufacturing facilities have been destroyed in the NWFP. Enforcement has become a more complex matter with the recent arrival in the country's tribal regions of a large number of people from Afghanistan. Furthermore, traffickers operating along the southwestern frontier frequently change their methods of operation, and employ heroin laboratories that are mobile.

83. Laws have been amended to strengthen and facilitate enforcement. High-level committees have been formed to promote better co-ordination among the country's many law enforcement agencies. The same objective has inspired the creation of several joint task forces, and additional units of this kind are foreseen. Also, the Government is taking steps against corruption.

84. The amounts of opiates which, according to estimates, are produced illicitly within Pakistan can account for only a small fraction of what is consumed domestically and smuggled abroad. To make up the shortfall, traffickers must be utilizing stocks, and/or smuggling supplies into the

country from abroad, and/or obtaining additional supplies locally. It is therefore an urgent necessity to enlarge upon those intra- and interregional activities which will yield a more precise picture of the extent and location of poppy cultivation.

85. If action aimed at reducing transit trafficking is to be effective, co-operation at the operational level, between Pakistan and other countries of the region, must be enhanced. In this connection, the Board has learned with special interest that at the Pakistani/Indian Joint Commission, held between 2 and 4 July 1985, consideration was given to measures to curb narcotics smuggling along their common border. It was agreed to exchange, through designated authorities, operational information, including dossiers on traffickers and on financiers and trafficking routes.

86. The Government of Pakistan is demonstrating its firm commitment to the eradication of the opium poppy throughout the country, to the suppression of illicit traffic, and to the reduction of abuse. Pakistan merits the sustained and increased support of the international community.

#### Turkey

87. Because of its geographical location, the country is being exploited for transit trafficking. The authorities continue to employ tough measures against trafficking, including trafficking in essential chemicals and precursors; and they have made numerous seizures of opiates, cannabis and, more recently, cocaine. The Government's firm commitment to drug control is manifested by its continuing success in preventing the production of opium and permitting poppy cultivation exclusively for the production of unincised poppy straw and seeds. Any attempt to cultivate poppy illicitly is thwarted. Checks are made, utilizing aerial surveys and special investigative teams.

88. For nearly a decade, UNFDAC has supported the Turkish Government's drug control activities. These include an anti-narcotics telecommunications project in 21 of Turkey's provinces. This project, which is nearing completion, is designed to halt narcotics trafficking within Turkey, and to facilitate surveillance with a view to ensuring that any illicit poppy cultivation will be eradicated.

89. Generally speaking, drug abuse is not a significant social problem in Turkey. Some abuse of cannabis, opiates, barbiturates and benzodiazepines has occurred.

90. Turkey remains an active participant in regional and other international drug control activities. It is deserving of continued support from the international community.

#### States in the eastern part of the Arabian Peninsula

91. Trafficking in a variety of drugs is escalating. Indeed the influx of drugs has been termed "a deluge" by an official of one country in the subregion.

92. Cannabis remains one of the main drugs of abuse. Opium is also abused, but to a lesser degree. The abuse of heroin has increased markedly, and the drug is of such high purity that its use has been accompanied by deaths from overdose. The growing problem of abuse of narcotic drugs involves, among others, very young persons. These drugs are smuggled mainly from or through countries of the Middle East and South Asia.

93. Another cause of concern is the abuse and smuggling of psychotropic substances, manufactured mainly in Europe, and sometimes diverted through Africa. Large amounts of amphetamines, amphetamine-like substances, and of methaqualone have been seized in most countries of the subregion.

94. The abuse problem in one country is so severe that an entire hospital has been set aside exclusively for the treatment of drug abusers. More than 4 000 patients sought services there last year. The authorities in the affected countries are deeply concerned, and recognize the need for the acceleration of preventive action.

95. Vigorous enforcement and continuing co-operative efforts are indispensable to counter illicit trafficking. Many seizures are being made. Furthermore, in some States laws have already been strengthened. A meeting of the Ministers of the Interior of States of the region was held in Saudi Arabia during the first half of 1985. Proposals considered dealt with such essential matters as the sharing of information, the harmonizing of laws and of penalties, the training of enforcement personnel, and co-operation among border control officials.

96. Four countries in the region - Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates - have not yet acceded to either of the main drug control treaties, although in practice they co-operate with the Board. The Board continues to hope that they will soon formalize their de facto co-operation by acceding to the 1961 Convention, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and to the 1971 Convention.

#### SOUTH ASIA

##### India

97. Situated as it is between major sources of illicit drugs, India has in recent years become a transit country for the illicit traffic. Traffic in heroin and cannabis, originating mainly in parts of the Near and Middle East, has increased over the last three years. Seizures also show that opium is illicitly trafficked, mainly internally. Cannabis, reported to originate in Pakistan, Nepal and Afghanistan, is also trafficked through India. In 1984, nearly 4.5 tonnes of opium, diverted from the licensed growing areas, were seized within India. This amount represents less than one per cent of the annual licit production of opium.

98. India's reservations under the 1961 Convention permit cannabis to be used for non-medical purposes on a temporary basis only, requiring such use to be discontinued as soon as possible but not later than 1989. Although licit production and use of cannabis have been decreasing since 1980, each amounted to well over 100 tonnes in 1983. The Government is undoubtedly aware of the need to take action to phase out such non-medical use and supporting production.

99. The import, manufacture and sale of methaqualone have been prohibited since January 1984. Nevertheless, the accumulated stocks pose a risk of diversion. A target for methaqualone of Indian origin is countries in Southern Africa. This traffic is reported to be carried out by well-organized syndicates based in Southern Africa. Couriers include nationals of Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Nigeria. The Government of India has instructed its enforcement agencies to step up their efforts against this traffic. These agencies are concentrating on exit points, particularly Bombay, whence methaqualone is moved to the southern and eastern parts of Africa.

100. Illicit transit trafficking brings with it the almost inevitable spillover of abuse by the local population. Heroin abuse has been reported in some cities, and Bombay and New Delhi are particularly at risk since they are the major exit points for heroin smuggled out of India. The imminent danger is that heroin abuse will escalate, as is occurring in neighbouring countries. The Government is undertaking a survey of the extent of drug abuse and is planning programmes of preventive education. The deep concern of the Government is reflected by the fact that the drug situation and enforcement efforts are continuously monitored by the Prime Minister's Office.

101. Large-scale trafficking is facilitated by the presence of smuggling networks in the country. More than a hundred drug traffickers were detained in 1984 under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act. Comprehensive narcotics legislation was enacted by the Parliament during 1985 and is now in effect. The new law substantially enhances penalties for drug offences and provides for improved controls and intensified investigations. The Government is taking measures to improve co-ordination and strengthen its enforcement agencies. The Government recognizes that enhanced co-operation with other countries in the region at the operational level is necessary in order to allow for effective action to reduce transit trafficking. In this connection, the Board has learned with special interest that at the meeting of the Indian-Pakistani Joint Commission held between 2 and 4 July 1985, consideration was given to measures to curb narcotics smuggling along their common border. It was agreed to exchange, through designated authorities, operational information, including dossiers on traffickers and on financiers and trafficking routes.

#### Sri Lanka

102. Sri Lanka is a transit point for opiates and cannabis resin. This has led to growing abuse within the country. An increasing number of Sri Lankans are acting as heroin couriers. Spillover from the transit trafficking has led to serious heroin abuse by young people. Cannabis is also abused.

103. In response to this situation, the Government has taken measures to curb trafficking. Legislation enacted in 1984 sets forth penalties for trafficking that are among the most severe in the region. Comprehensive legislation directed against financiers of the illicit traffic is before the Parliament, and preventive education is being accorded high priority by the Government. UNFDAC has begun to provide assistance in the field of law enforcement.

## EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

104. Some countries in the region remain major producers and suppliers of opiates, which are widely abused locally, and are channelled by traffickers to other regions. Cannabis, also cultivated in the region, is misused locally and trafficked to other areas.

105. The year 1985 has been marked by significant expansions of eradication activities. This result attests not only to the political will of the Governments concerned, but also to the utilization of methods, which, in the first place, permit a more precise determination of the location and extent of illicit poppy and cannabis cultivation, and secondly, make it possible for eradication of these crops to be conducted over larger areas. Plans of Governments looking toward the next crop year make it possible to forecast further progress in eradication. The programmes of producing countries are comprehensive, including not only eradication and enforcement but also the promotion of alternative means for poppy farmers to earn their living.

106. In certain transit countries, progress has also been marked. During 1985, bilateral, regional and interregional activities have been developed and expanded. Action against illicit drug-related activities is receiving attention at the highest levels of Governments, as evidenced by the emphasis placed on this question at the ASEAN ministerial meeting held in July 1985. Action has been taken or is in progress in some countries to strengthen legislation to permit identification of major traffickers through financial investigations, seizure of these traffickers' assets and the dismantling of criminal organizations. A co-ordinated regional effort to harmonize laws to permit effective enforcement throughout the region could prevent traffickers from exploiting weaknesses in the legislation of individual countries.

107. The large amount of heroin being manufactured illicitly in the region shows that chemicals essential for this manufacture continue to be available. While some countries are enforcing measures to prevent the diversion of these chemicals for this purpose, traffickers are taking full advantage of the absence of effective control in other countries. Therefore, close co-operation and harmonization of such measures among all countries of the region and countries in other regions where these chemicals are manufactured remains of prime importance.

108. The peoples of the region are the first to suffer from the illicit production and trafficking. Abuse of heroin is widespread, particularly among the youth. The abuse of other drugs is also increasing. The affected countries have instituted and are developing treatment, rehabilitation and prevention programmes. In a number of countries, greater emphasis is being placed on activities on the part of parents and at the community level. In view of the extent of the abuse, and despite the immense complexity of the problem, Governments will undoubtedly wish to monitor closely the results of the various initiatives undertaken, with a view to devising measures most likely to improve the situation.

### Burma

109. On 16 May 1985, the Deputy Minister for Home and Religious Affairs made a statement before the Board. He outlined the comprehensive policy of the Government, which encompasses the large-scale eradication of

the poppy, the development of alternative income possibilities for farmers, the suppression of trafficking, and the provision of prevention and treatment programmes for abusers. The Board welcomes the marked successes which have been achieved despite great difficulties.

110. In the 1984-85 growing season, cultivation was eradicated over nearly 8 500 ha, mainly in the Shan State but also in the Kachin State. This is nearly twice the area eradicated in the preceding crop year, and the largest area since the inception of the eradication campaigns a decade ago. In addition to more conventional methods of poppy destruction, aerial spraying is being utilized. The Government is taking further steps to enhance its eradication capabilities, and even greater success may be anticipated.

111. To provide alternative sources of livelihood for farmers, the multi-sectoral programme, which has been supported by UNFDAC for nearly a decade, agricultural research and demonstration stations have been established and farmers have been supplied with training and material. Complementary programmes supported under bilateral arrangements are also being carried out. UNFDAC is also providing assistance in the fields of health, social rehabilitation and law enforcement.

112. Expanded law enforcement operations during 1985 have augmented the encouraging results obtained in previous years. These operations have resulted in significant seizures of opium, morphine, heroin and acetic anhydride, and in the dismantling of laboratories. The interception of the acetic anhydride should help to reduce the amount of heroin being manufactured.

113. The main drugs of abuse are opium and heroin, and registered addicts number around 40 000. There are signs that the abuse of psychotropic substances may be growing. The Government has instituted a range of treatment and prevention activities. The latter utilize radio, television and the local press. Publications targeted at high-risk groups, particularly the youth, are made available. The national schools are heavily involved in the prevention campaigns, and special training seminars are held to prepare teachers to assist in the anti-drug effort.

114. The noteworthy and sustained progress achieved by the programme being carried out by the Government of Burma warrants continuing and generous support from UNFDAC and the international community.

#### Thailand

115. In the 1984-85 crop season, opium production was estimated at 35 tonnes, the level of the preceding year. While the cultivated area was greater in 1984-85, because of weather conditions opium production did not increase. Moreover, during the 1984-85 crop season, poppy was eradicated over a greater area, at least tripling the area of the previous year. Eradication is expected to be extended progressively, and areas have already been targeted for eradication during the 1985-86 crop season. Plans call for the renewal of a programme under which farmers are warned, by means such as radio announcements, of the risks involved in producing opium and of the possibility of eradication. To date, eradication has been undertaken mainly in areas in which development programmes have been operating. These programmes encompass both agricultural and community

development, reinforced by training activities. This approach is consistent with the policy under which development assistance is provided to villages which agree not to produce opium. UNFDAC is actively involved in the implementation of a master plan for the remaining growing areas, building on the solid base established by the Fund's programme in Thailand over the last thirteen years.

116. Eradication of cannabis in northeast Thailand, carried out at the end of 1984 and in early 1985, resulted in the large-scale destruction of plants. A more extensive eradication campaign is envisaged to begin in November 1985.

117. Thailand continues to be the main conduit for opiates produced in the region. They are smuggled out of the country via Bangkok and the southern provinces, and also from the eastern coast. The eastern coast serves as the departure point for a growing number of large heroin shipments destined for Hong Kong. The authorities have dismantled a number of heroin laboratories within the country. To avoid detection, traffickers tend to use small, mobile laboratories. The Government has conducted a series of operations to intercept narcotics shipments along the border with Burma. Moreover, two major traffickers have been put out of action. Seizures of heroin have increased greatly, more than 800 kg having been seized during the first three months of 1985, as compared with around 1 100 kg in all of 1984. Seizures of cannabis remain at the record level of over 100 tonnes confiscated in 1984.

118. Proposed legislation which would facilitate action against criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking and provide for the seizure of assets in trafficking cases is before the Parliament.

119. The abuse of heroin has spread to the southern provinces. It also affects the hill tribes, which previously used only opium. Psychotropic substances, including some benzodiazepines, are also abused.

120. Medical facilities in Bangkok have reported that more than 20 000 drug abusers were admitted during the first half of 1985. The fact that only some 1 600 were new admissions indicates the high rate of recidivism. Accordingly, detoxification has been extended over a longer period. The Government is placing special emphasis on drug abuse prevention. During the first half of 1985, education was provided to around 250 000 persons, including 150 000 students. Efforts are also being made to involve parent groups in prevention campaigns.

121. The comprehensive programmes pursued by the Government of Thailand are achieving results and deserve the continuing and substantial support of UNFDAC and the international community.

### Malaysia

122. The country remains a transit point for trafficking in opiates produced elsewhere in the region. Attendant domestic opiate abuse has spread rapidly since its inception in the 1970s, when clandestine heroin laboratories were first established inside the country. Both nationally and regionally, the Government actively presses its campaign to suppress the illicit traffic and prevent drug abuse.

123. The Government considers drug trafficking to be a threat to Malaysia's security. In 1985, a five-year action programme was inaugurated. A highly significant development is the entry into force, during the first half of 1985, of new legislation allowing the authorities to detain suspected traffickers for an indefinite number of two-year periods. The Government is also considering legislation designed to facilitate the seizure of traffickers' assets. These measures reflect the high priority the Government attaches to the destruction of major narcotics syndicates. Indeed, striking successes have already been achieved. In order to block the operations of the heroin laboratories, strict controls have been placed upon the importation of acetic anhydride.

124. The interruption in the supply of opiates has led abusers to turn to substitutes, often in the form of psychotropic substances. The Government is creating more treatment and rehabilitation facilities, and intensifying its programme of preventive education. Under the leadership of the wife of the Prime Minister, parent groups are being organized to promote prevention.

125. Throughout the region, Malaysia is actively promoting consciousness of the threat posed by drug trafficking and abuse. It is also promoting intra- and interregional co-operation. The Government is emphasizing in particular co-operation with Thailand and Singapore against narcotics smuggling, and is encouraging the negotiation of bilateral treaties within the region to facilitate the seizure of drug traffickers' assets.

#### Territory of Hong Kong

126. The abuse of heroin continues at a high level. Hong Kong serves as a trans-shipment point for heroin destined for Australia and the United States. Most of the supplies enter Hong Kong in the form of heroin base, smuggled aboard trawling vessels and by air. There have been attempts to smuggle the drug via an indirect route, using as a first step flights from Thailand to China.

127. The authorities are vigorously pursuing enforcement efforts as well as treatment and prevention activities. Campaigns continue to be targeted against the abuse of heroin. Large and frequent seizures of heroin have resulted in price fluctuations and in a decline in the drug's purity at the street level. These developments may explain why the number of heroin abusers commencing treatment has increased slightly in the first half of 1985. It is believed that the co-ordinated programmes of the Action Committee Against Narcotics are having an impact on the heroin problem.

128. Ninety-eight per cent of all individuals reported to the authorities in 1984 abused heroin. Other substances abused in the Territory include cocaine, cannabis and, to a more limited extent, psychotropic substances such as secobarbital.

129. New legislation has amended the Evidence Ordinance, mainly with regard to the admissibility in criminal proceedings of evidence contained in records. One provision allows overseas courts to obtain particular evidence or documents specified in a Letter of Request, when criminal proceedings are likely to be instituted if the relevant evidence is obtained.

## The Philippines

130. Cannabis is cultivated in various parts of the country. It is the drug most abused locally, and it is also smuggled abroad. No poppy cultivation is known to take place. In 1985, one small coca plantation and a cocaine laboratory were discovered and destroyed. It is not known whether the operation was intended for local abuse or illicit export.

131. The Government continues to eradicate cannabis as a central aim of its drug control programme. Its active enforcement activities have resulted in numerous seizures. Four centres for the treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers have been established.

## FAR EAST

### The People's Republic of China

132. The accession of the People's Republic of China, on 23 August 1985, to the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol and to the 1971 Convention is a most welcome development, representing as it does the attainment of virtual universality in the international control system for narcotic drugs.

133. In September 1984, new legislation on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances was promulgated. At the end of the same year, the Government began to furnish to the Board statistical data concerning production, manufacture and consumption of narcotic drugs for medical and scientific purposes, as well as the manufacture, import and export of psychotropic substances for the same purposes. This is now enabling the Board to have a more complete understanding of the movement of licit drugs in the world.

134. A strict and comprehensive system of controls on narcotic drugs has been in effect for many years, and cases of abuse are exceedingly rare. Some transit trafficking in narcotic drugs takes place. There is limited abuse of certain psychotropic substances, which usually occurs as an aftermath of medical treatment.

135. In February 1985, the Ministry of Health joined with the WHO in establishing, with the financial assistance of UNFDAC, a three-year project for the prevention of drug dependence in China. The assistance will be employed to support the Drug Dependence Research Centre created by the State Council in September 1984.

136. China's accession to the treaties is a milestone in international drug control and marks the beginning of the country's full collaboration with the Board. The Board looks forward to this collaboration.

## OCEANIA

### Australia

137. Australia is a Party to both of the main drug control treaties and has a comprehensive system of controls to monitor the movement of drugs for medical and scientific purposes.

138. Traffickers are increasingly attempting to use Australia both as an illicit market and as a trans-shipment point for heroin destined for Europe and the United States. Organized crime is becoming more and more involved in the growing international traffic and in its financing.

139. The drugs most widely abused are heroin, cannabis and cocaine. Polydrug abuse, involving in particular barbiturates and sedatives together with opiates, remains a major health hazard. Drug abuse, particularly in major cities, is linked to a sharp increase in crime. The psychotropic substances abused are obtained mainly by thefts from pharmacies and clinics and by means of forged prescriptions.

140. The bulk of the heroin seized in the country originates in Southeast Asia, although some of it is smuggled from Southwest Asia. Most of the cannabis resin abused in the country is reported to originate in India, Lebanon and Pakistan. In addition, cannabis is grown locally. Eradication efforts by the authorities have forced traffickers to locate smaller plantations in remote areas and to intersperse cannabis with licit crops, thereby making detection more difficult. Cocaine available in major cities is of high purity. Illicit manufacture of amphetamine and of precursors have been detected within the country.

141. A national conference of heads of the Australian states, held in April 1985, agreed to mount a National Campaign Against Drug Abuse and advocated that a number of steps should be taken to strengthen drug control, including:

- the enactment of legislation to permit more effective search of persons for concealed drugs;
- the extension of provisions of laws to permit the confiscation of assets of convicted traffickers;
- a review of controls governing barbiturates; and
- the elaboration of further measures to reduce drug abuse.

142. The Federal Government pledged to provide an additional \$A 60 million over three years for the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse.

#### New Zealand

143. Heroin is smuggled into the country from Southeast Asia. Since effective enforcement severely restricts the availability of supplies for abusers, a number of attempts have been made to manufacture heroin and morphine clandestinely, using codeine-based tablets obtainable without prescription. During 1984, several such attempts were uncovered, and burglaries of pharmaceutical warehouses, aimed at securing chemicals essential for drug manufacture, also occurred. The Government responded with measures designed to control over-the-counter purchasing, and is monitoring the situation with a view to supplementing these measures if necessary.

144. Cannabis and its derivatives continue to be seized. Most of the cannabis oil and resin originate in the Indian subcontinent, while the herbal cannabis is of Southeast Asian origin. In addition, local

cultivation of cannabis is increasing. The authorities are making use of sophisticated equipment to detect cannabis plantations from the air and to enable eradication to take place.

## EUROPE

### Eastern Europe

145. Most countries of the region are Parties to both main drug control conventions. As stated in previous Reports, in general drug abuse does not constitute a serious public health problem. This may be attributable in part to the enforcement of control measures stricter than those required by the current international treaties. However, the fact that medications are available to citizens free of charge sometimes results in the consumption of excessive quantities of drugs, including some psychotropic substances, often taken in combination with alcohol.

146. Because of the region's geographic position between major producers and consumers of illicit narcotic drugs, the territory of some countries of Eastern Europe continues to be used for transit trafficking of these drugs, usually from east to west. Therefore, special attention is directed to the taking of action to suppress such smuggling. The authorities have strengthened control measures and have reinforced their co-operation with the source countries as well as the countries of destination.

147. In 1985, in pursuance of its continuing dialogues with countries of Eastern Europe, the Board sent a mission to Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary and Poland. The paragraphs that follow contain specific comments on each of the countries visited.

148. In Czechoslovakia, drug abuse is confined to a few addicts who use alcohol in combination with psychotropic substances. Abuse of methamphetamine, which is manufactured illicitly from ephedrine, exists to a limited extent. A few cases of codeine abuse, in which the drug was ingested or even injected, have been reported. Transit trafficking of heroin, originating in the Indian subcontinent and destined for Western Europe, has grown. The customs services have been provided with modern equipment and scenting dogs to enhance their enforcement capabilities. Czechoslovakia is co-operating with all other countries concerned with a view to suppressing illicit traffic to the maximum extent. It attaches great importance to co-operation with other countries in the field of drug control.

149. Both narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are strictly controlled in the German Democratic Republic. Instances of abuse of certain psychotropic substances, in combination with alcohol, have occurred from time to time. Accordingly, strengthened controls require that such psychotropic substances be dispensed exclusively by medical prescription. Moreover, the consumption of medications is closely monitored by means of computer, and the Government conducts an educational programme for the country's doctors to prevent mis-prescription. The Government also frequently consults and exchanges experiences with other countries. The German Democratic Republic would be prepared to impose a

ban on the exportation of precursors to any country which submitted to it a notification of import prohibition analogous to that provided for in article 13 of the 1971 Convention. However, it would not favour a formal international instrument concerning these chemicals, referring in this connection to their wide industrial use and to the consequent desirability of selective controls.

150. Three years ago, heroin in transit was seized for the first time in Hungary, and reports appear to indicate that traffickers may be attempting to establish a "second Balkan route", passing through Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary and Austria, to move heroin from the Middle East and South Asia to Western Europe. Measures designed to bolster effective counter-action include the training of customs officers in co-operation with the United States of America, the frequent exchange of information, and periodic consultations with authorities from Bulgaria, Romania and Austria.

151. In Poland, the transit traffic in drugs originating outside the region is estimated not to have had an impact within the country. However, over the last few years a number of young persons have been able illicitly to use a preparation containing alkaloids obtained from capsules collected from poppies cultivated within Poland for licit purposes. These young persons use this preparation by itself or in combination with cyclobarbitol and benzodiazepines. This illicit activity has been carried out only by the young persons concerned and no organized trafficking has been involved. The Polish Parliament has adopted new legislation which, inter alia, is designed to cope with this problem. This law, enacted on 31 January 1985, prescribes comprehensive measures dealing with: education and prophylaxis; the treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration of addicts; the control, via licensing, of poppy cultivation, and the progressive concentration of cultivation on tightly supervised plantations far from towns; and lastly, severe penal sanctions for offenders. A special commission on prevention has been created and attached to the office of the Prime Minister in order to advise him on measures necessitated by changes in the situation. Finally, the Government has established a special fund to be used for preventive efforts, and has endowed this with substantial means.

#### Western Europe

152. With the exception of Malta and San Marino, all countries in Western Europe are Parties to the 1961 Convention in its original or amended form. Of the 26 countries in the region, 11, including four major manufacturing countries, have not yet adhered to the 1971 Convention. The Board urges all countries which have not yet become parties to the 1971 Convention to do so at the earliest possible time. The United Kingdom is likely to become a Party in the near future. Ratification by the manufacturing-exporting countries and their full implementation of the Convention are essential if the international control system is to function with maximum effectiveness and prevent diversion from licit manufacture to the illicit traffic. Nevertheless, all countries in the region collaborate with the Board by providing accurate and timely information.

153. A variety of drugs continue to be readily available and abused in the region, and trafficking operates throughout. During 1985, more and more countries have experienced growing consumption of cocaine. While heroin abuse appears to have declined in a few countries, a new phenomenon is the rapid escalation of abuse in the United Kingdom of heroin originating in the Middle East. Throughout the region, cannabis continues to be the drug most widely abused. Certain psychotropic substances continue to be the drug of choice of some abusers, and in some countries there has been a resurgence of amphetamine abuse. Moreover, there is a growing tendency to use several drugs together, frequently in combination with alcohol.

154. The authorities in some countries believe that the percentage of young people who experiment with drugs may be decreasing. The average age of hard-core addicts, particularly heroin addicts, appears to have increased. Moreover, the rate of growth of cannabis abuse has stabilized in certain countries, and may even have decreased in others.

155. With regard to opiates, in certain parts of the region, in particular Denmark, young persons have begun to abuse a preparation containing alkaloids obtained from capsules stolen from poppy fields cultivated licitly for confectionery and ornamental purposes.

156. Most of the narcotic drugs abused in Western Europe are trafficked to the region from abroad. While some domestic cannabis cultivation occurs, the substantial illicit supplies originate mainly in Lebanon and Morocco, with Africa south of the Sahara emerging as a significant source. Cocaine supplies are trafficked from South America, although some refining operations have been detected in Western Europe. It is estimated that approximately 80 per cent of the opiates available in the region originate in the Near and Middle East and South Asia, while 20 per cent originate in Southeast Asia. A year ago, apparently for the first time, significant illicit cultivation of the opium poppy took place in Italy and was destroyed. Spontaneous poppy growth was also reported to have occurred recently in Spain, where the authorities destroyed 40 ha of such growth. Moreover, during 1985 clandestine heroin laboratories were uncovered in the Netherlands and in Spain.

157. Psychotropic substances abused in Western Europe originate mainly within the region. For example, methaqualone, barbiturates and benzodiazepines are diverted from licit sources, as are amphetamines. Clandestine manufacture of amphetamines also occurs; it is believed to take place in the Netherlands and, more recently, in the Federal Republic of Germany. A clandestine facility for the illicit manufacture of large quantities of LSD was recently discovered in Amsterdam and destroyed by the authorities.

158. Data for 1985 reveals substantial availability of heroin. However, the total amounts of the drug seized during the first half of 1985 appear to represent a decrease over 1984. The countries which have reported to Interpol the largest quantities seized are, in descending order: the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany, and Italy. In mid-October, the largest single seizure of heroin ever made in Europe took place in Austria. The seizure comprised 60.5 kg of the drug, which were destined for the United States. Most of the persons arrested in connection with the seizure were Iranians.

159. Availability of and trafficking in cocaine have increased sharply in recent years, indicating the determined efforts of traffickers to expand the illicit market in Western Europe. In 1984, for the second consecutive year, more than one tonne of cocaine was seized. Seizures reported to Interpol during the first six months of 1985 amounted to almost half a tonne. The countries reporting the largest seizure totals are: Spain, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland and the Netherlands. Western Europe appears likely to attract larger quantities of cocaine. Moreover, traffickers may well attempt to establish more cocaine refining facilities in Western Europe.

160. Large seizures of cannabis are still being made within the region and smuggling on a large scale is likely to continue.

161. The seizures to which reference has already been made attest to the high level of enforcement activity throughout the region. The health-threatening situation arising from abuse and trafficking is considered to be so serious that it is receiving attention at the highest levels of many Governments, including the attention of a number of heads of State as well as parliaments. Western European co-operation to combat drug abuse and trafficking is not confined to law enforcement. The Council of Europe examines the problem in its Public Health Committee, and the Pompidou Group<sup>28/</sup> works within the framework of the Council. In several countries, laws have been strengthened and comprehensive drug control plans have been devised and are being carried out. Prominently featured are drug abuse treatment and prevention programmes, targeted at high-risk populations. Prevention activity is being promoted at the community level in a number of countries, and involves parents and educators.

162. During 1985, the Board pursued its dialogue with Spain. At the invitation of the Spanish Government, a mission visited the country in early 1985. In the light of the information provided, the Board concluded that the relevant laws, carried out together, did not give rise to any question as to Spain's being in contravention of its international obligations under the 1961 Convention.

163. The Board welcomes the comprehensive action taken under and envisaged by Spain's new National Drug Control Plan, which comprises the strengthening of laws, the increasing of penalties for drug offences, the establishment of treatment and rehabilitation facilities, the allocation of increased resources to enforcement, and the provision of assistance for other countries' drug control programmes. The Board values highly the dialogue it has held with the Spanish authorities and will follow with special interest developments in Spain's fight against drug abuse.

164. Several countries of Western Europe are providing assistance, bilaterally and multilaterally, to support the drug control programmes of a number of developing countries, in particular countries of South America

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<sup>28/</sup> Composed of Belgium, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

and of Southeast and Southwest Asia, in which illicit cultivation of narcotic raw materials and production of narcotic drugs take place. Multilaterally, countries of the region have made substantial contributions to UNFDAC. Over the last three years such contributions have more than quadrupled.<sup>29/</sup>

## NORTH AMERICA

### Canada

165. The abuse, and illicit trafficking of drugs remain serious problems and are causing growing concern. Cannabis and its derivatives continue to be widely available and to constitute the drugs most commonly abused. The bulk of supplies originates abroad, although small amounts are grown clandestinely within the country. Cocaine is plentiful and increasingly abused, particularly in metropolitan centres. New users come from all socio-economic classes and include many young people. There are also ample quantities of heroin of high purity on the illicit market. Southeast Asia is the principal source of this heroin. Diversion of licit supplies of various opiates, as well as some benzodiazepines, occurs mainly in metropolitan areas. Clandestine manufacture of some psychotropic substances, in particular LSD and methamphetamine, continues to concern the authorities.

166. The Canadian Government is taking strong measures to contain drug abuse and to counter trafficking. Federal drug units are concentrating on dismantling major trafficking operations.

167. A national programme which focuses on the identification and tracing of assets relating to drug trafficking, has been established. Since the inception of the programme in December 1981, more than \$C29 million in assets directly related to proceeds of illicit drug trafficking have been seized by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Proposals for legislative modifications to increase the effectiveness of this programme are being considered.

168. A special narcotics interdiction task force has been created, and teams of customs officials have been located at key ports of entry. In 1985, a notable achievement by enforcement authorities, acting in concert with the authorities of the United Kingdom and Thailand, was the record seizure in Canada and the United Kingdom of more than 58 kg of heroin.

169. Canada is not yet a Party to the 1971 Convention. Ratification is still under consideration.

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<sup>29/</sup> In 1981, total contributions from Western European countries amounted to \$US 1 858 120, and in 1984, to \$US 7 764 168.

## Mexico

170. Pursuing the country's campaign against illicit cultivation and drug trafficking, the Mexican Government, which in 1984 faced an increase in illicit local cannabis and opium production, has restated its firm commitment to the eradication of all illicit cultivation on Mexican territory. Moreover, the Government has declared that the campaign would be reinforced not only in the realm of law enforcement but also in the areas of health and education.

171. To increase the effectiveness of its eradication and enforcement operations, the Government has made major changes in its enforcement and security apparatus.

172. In addition to reducing substantially the illicit traffic in locally produced cannabis and heroin, the authorities are making a determined effort to stem the transit traffic, mostly of cocaine, which originates in South America. Substantial seizures of psychotropic substances were made in 1984.

173. During the first half of 1985, the authorities destroyed poppy crops over an area of approximately 4 500 ha. This area is more than double that eradicated during the same period in 1984. In the case of cannabis, the area eradicated during the first half of the year decreased, from 1 456 ha in 1984 to 896 in 1985.

174. Cannabis continues to be the most widely abused drug. As in the past, heroin consumption appears to be limited to some northern border towns and the consumption of cocaine is confined mainly to certain affluent groups. In spite of measures taken to restrict the sale of organic solvents, the abuse of these substances by minors remains a serious problem.

175. There appears to be increasing awareness of the whole range of deleterious implications of drug-related problems. A comprehensive demand-reduction programme is being implemented at the national level. Preventive education and family and community participation are strongly emphasized.

## United States of America

176. The illicit consumption of a variety of drugs, often in combination, remains a serious public health problem. Cannabis continues to be the most widely abused drug, although consumption is estimated to have decreased by about 3 per cent in 1984, primarily because of a decline in drug use by young people. The authorities do not expect this downward trend to change in the near future. Cocaine abuse is estimated to have increased by about 11 per cent in 1984. Related hospital emergencies and deaths rose significantly, reflecting greater frequency and more hazardous methods of cocaine use. The authorities predict that although cocaine availability is likely to remain high, the number of abusers will stabilize. During 1984, the illicit consumption of other dangerous drugs, such as methamphetamine and PCP, increased, and fentanyl analogues continued to be abused. The abuse of methaqualone and the heroin

substitute pentazocine decreased in 1984. The authorities expect that these patterns will in general remain unchanged in the short term. Heroin consumption is estimated to have decreased slightly in 1984, and the abuser population continued to be composed primarily of long-time users or recidivists. The most recent data available (for 1981) estimates heroin addicts at close to one-half million. In 1984, heroin- and morphine-related hospital emergencies decreased slightly, but deaths increased 31 percent. The authorities anticipate no major change in the extent of heroin abuse in the future.

177. The major part of the cannabis and all of the heroin abused in the country originate abroad. The cocaine originates in Latin America, being processed mainly in Colombia. However, during the last two years, some clandestine cocaine-conversion laboratories have been discovered in the United States. Illicit cultivation of cannabis, which takes place in the United States itself was estimated in 1984 to represent 12 per cent of the total illicit supplies. A part of the domestically grown cannabis plants is of the more potent sinsemilla variety. Of the total heroin supply, one-half is estimated by the authorities to originate in Southwest Asia, and the remainder in Southeast Asia and Mexico. Synthetic narcotics, such as fentanyl and meperidine analogues, are manufactured in clandestine laboratories in the United States. These drugs, popularly known as "designer drugs", are discussed more fully elsewhere in this Report.<sup>30/</sup>

178. The abuse of drugs remains a matter of deep concern at the highest level of the Government. In order to reduce the illicit demand for drugs and the adverse effects of drug consumption on health, the United States is placing great emphasis on education and prevention. Campaigns led by the wife of the President are being carried out not only to reach youth but also to involve parents in efforts to prevent and reduce drug abuse. In April 1985, Mrs. Reagan sponsored a First Ladies' Conference on Drug Abuse, at which the wives of 18 heads of State discussed the prevention of drug abuse by youth. A second such conference, which met in New York in October, involved wives of heads of State attending the fortieth-anniversary celebration of the United Nations. In the private sector, campaigns are also under way to reduce drug abuse in the workplace.

179. The many non-governmental organizations involved in prevention efforts endeavour to enhance the role played by individuals, particularly parents, in combatting drug abuse on their own and in conjunction with the authorities and the media. Personalities from radio, television, film, sport, and other fields play prominent roles in the prevention campaigns.

180. The National Strategy for the Prevention of Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking is the framework within which resources from federal, state and local authorities as well as from the private sector, are brought to bear upon the full range of problems. Enforcement efforts, carried out by Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces, continue to focus on both traditional and financial investigations and aim at immobilizing drug trafficking syndicates. Significant achievements include the indictment

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30/ See paragraphs 56 to 61.

of members of rings engaged in large-scale trafficking of cocaine and heroin. The Task Forces monitor financial and currency transactions as well as tax declarations. These activities have resulted in the confiscation of vast amounts of traffickers' assets in cash and movable and real property. In May and June of this year, two operations alone resulted in the seizure of almost two tonnes of cocaine. During 1985, several cocaine-refining laboratories, discovered in South Florida, Virginia and New York, have been destroyed. Drug and organized crime investigations are facilitated by the exchange of financial records and data pursuant to mutual legal assistance treaties and informal agreements between the United States and several other countries.

181. The Attorney General has stressed the great importance which the United States Government attaches to eradicating illicit domestic cannabis cultivation. Beginning in early August 1985, raids were undertaken in a co-ordinated operation involving all 50 states. More than 2 000 federal, state and local law enforcement officers were involved, and eradication was carried out manually. In an announcement made in early September, the Administrator of DEA stated that he had decided to adopt a full and flexible range of cannabis eradication methods on federal lands in the continental United States. Manual, mechanical and herbicidal methods would be used, the selection of the appropriate method for a particular site depending upon operational and environmental considerations. The DEA Administrator referred to the mandate of the United States under the 1961 Convention to eradicate domestically-grown cannabis as effectively as possible. The authorities have now begun to eradicate cannabis on federal lands by using herbicides.

182. The United States continues actively to participate in the international campaign against illicit production, trafficking and abuse. It provides substantial support, both through UNFDAC and under bilateral and regional arrangements. Bilaterally, the United States supports programmes in nearly 30 other countries.

#### THE CARIBBEAN AND CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

183. The destabilizing and otherwise negative effects of illicit drug production and of drug trafficking are becoming ever more evident. The huge profits generated by these illicit activities tend to undermine legitimate economies and political institutions. Trafficking syndicates are highly organized, and their operations are often linked to the smuggling of weapons and the spreading of violence and terrorism. The pernicious activities of traffickers are facilitated by the extensive coastlines and innumerable islands of the region, and traffickers take full advantage of the free ports and insufficiently strict banking controls in certain countries. The drug abuse almost inevitably associated with production and trafficking is growing rapidly throughout the region.

184. Encouraging signs in the fight against drug abuse are the degree of commitment evident at the highest levels of government in several countries in the region, and the intensified counter-offensives being pursued nationally, regionally and interregionally. Worthy of note is the increasing emphasis which the Organization of American States is placing

on drug control. Of special interest also are the annual conferences of States Parties to the South American Agreement on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, which also promote regional co-operation. Multilaterally, an initiative by Venezuela and other countries has been directed toward the negotiation of a new international agreement which would reinforce and expand the existing treaty provisions against illicit trafficking. Moreover, in a statement before the 40th Regular Session of the General Assembly, the Foreign Minister of Colombia indicated that the foreign ministers of all the Andean countries had agreed to develop a multilateral agreement against drug trafficking. This agreement would be in addition to existing bilateral agreements, and would be named after Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, the Colombian Minister of Justice who was assassinated in 1984.

185. Developments in some countries give rise to hope that progress is being made in regard to the drug control situation in the region as a whole. Effective action has sometimes disrupted traffickers' activities and has forced some of them to move their operations elsewhere. This development does represent a measure of success, even though traffickers are shifting to new areas to obtain their supplies.

186. Although the vast area cultivated with coca bush appear to be expanding, not only within the Andean countries but also into other parts of the region, manual destruction is taking place, and action is being pursued to identify safer and more effective methods, which will allow for eradication on a wider scale. Moreover, countries are undertaking joint intelligence and enforcement operations, concluding extradition agreements, and adopting other measures. In some countries of the region, substantial eradication of cannabis has occurred. However, the increase in cultivation which has taken place in other countries confirms that the traffickers are actively seeking new sources of supply.

187. The emergence of new areas of illicit cultivation, as stronger control measures take effect in States where such cultivation has long occurred, underscores the need for Governments to proceed in a concerted fashion. This has been recognized by a number of countries; for example, several are conducting joint eradication operations and have established a multinational radio network for enforcement agencies. The timely exchange of meaningful information is essential if traffickers' activities are to be disrupted. Collaboration among law enforcement and customs officials of neighbouring countries is also essential.

188. Rapidly escalating domestic abuse, particularly of cocaine and coca paste, sometimes mixed with cannabis, continues seriously to threaten the well-being of the populations of many countries. Treatment and rehabilitation programmes are being carried out in several countries. Special emphasis is being placed upon campaigns directed at high-risk groups, and particularly at deterring young people from abusing drugs. A prerequisite for progress in the region is the existence of the political will to accord adequate priority to demand-reduction campaigns. It is axiomatic that for overall progress to be made, demand-reduction efforts must be vigorously pursued in countries in other parts of the world where abuse of drugs originating in this region is widespread and increasing.

189. The difficult issue of the essential chemicals and solvents used in the illicit manufacture of cocaine is still to be unresolved. Although several countries have promulgated legislation placing these

substances under control, their availability close to the coca-leaf-growing areas poses a threat which can be neutralized only with stricter and more uniform controls in both exporting and importing countries. Nevertheless, strict controls already in place in some countries have compelled traffickers to shift some of their refining operations to other countries, not only within the region but also to North America and Western Europe.

190. Further progress will depend not only on overall economic and social development but also on timely and co-ordinated actions on the part of the national authorities to identify needs, set priorities and allocate resources. The sustained support of the international community is essential. The Board hopes that the substantial resources required will be forthcoming.

191. Bolivia continues to constitute one of the two major sources of coca leaf for the illicit manufacture of cocaine. In 1985, the ever-increasing cultivation of coca leaf has led to the military occupation of the Chapare, one of the two main coca-producing regions. In recent years this area had become a sanctuary for traffickers, because of the lack of control. Another significant development has been the enforcement operation conducted in the Beni area, to which most of the coca leaf from the Chapare is thought to be transported for processing. These enforcement actions hopefully will permit the implementation of a five-year programme aimed at reducing the illicit production of coca leaf in the region through crop substitution.

192. In addition to bilateral assistance, Bolivia receives substantial support from UNFDAC. A major rural development and crop-substitution programme, and a parallel health and community development project, are being financed by UNFDAC in the Yungas. It is anticipated that the first project will entail an overall investment of \$US 20.5 million over a five-year period. The second, in the primary health field, is expected to cost \$US 3.4 million.

193. It appears that despite the Government's attempts to deal with the illicit cultivation of the coca bush and the production and trafficking of cocaine, progress has not yet been achieved. A combination of a number of factors has impeded the law enforcement efforts of the Bolivian authorities aimed at reducing coca cultivation and trafficking. A new Government, installed in August 1985, has stated its intention to accord high priority to the taking of energetic action against drug trafficking. In a statement before the 40th Regular Session of the General Assembly, the Vice-President of Bolivia indicated his Government's intention to engage with all resources in a frontal attack against narcotics trafficking and to prevent institutional corruption, which, he said, threatens the security of the State.

194. The Board wishes to reiterate that, if the situation is to be dealt with effectively, it is essential that the political will which the Government has expressed in its policy statements be translated into concrete actions, beginning with the prompt implementation of legislation to control the cultivation and marketing of coca leaf. Effective control of essential chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of cocaine is also imperative. It will also be necessary to increase enforcement

activity, to implement fully programmes for the economic development of the coca-producing regions, and to execute a plan that would lead to an immediate and substantial reduction of the vast surplus production of coca leaf. At the same time, programmes should be developed to reduce progressively coca-chewing.

195. The Board notes with interest that in May 1985 the previous Government of Bolivia promulgated the Supreme Decree on Narcotics Control, whereby coca cultivation was limited by law for the first time in Bolivian history.

196. In March 1985, at the invitation of the Government of Bolivia, the Board sent a mission to discuss the general drug control situation in the country. Circumstances necessitated the interruption of this visit. The Board hopes to be able to continue the dialogue in the near future.

197. In Colombia, the momentum generated by the comprehensive fight against illicit drug-related activities undertaken during 1984 has increased during 1985, and outstanding results continue to be achieved.

- Illicit cannabis cultivation has been eradicated over a large area. Aerial spraying, reinforced by periodic aerial patrols, is causing large numbers of growers to abandon cultivation. Extensive reconnaissance of the principal cannabis growing areas has revealed marked reductions in cultivation.

- Illicit cultivation of the coca bush is being destroyed manually. Priority is being accorded to research designed to identify effective and safe herbicides, which will allow for widespread eradication.

- Raids are being conducted to dismantle cocaine laboratories, to destroy illicit air landing-strips and other installations used by traffickers, and to curb the movement of chemicals essential for cocaine manufacture. Colombia's efforts to control the availability of essential chemicals have been so successful that traffickers have been compelled to shift some of their refining operations, even to other regions. Enforcement activity has also resulted in the confiscation of weapons, communications equipment, aircraft, boats and land vehicles.

- Efforts to expedite identification and capture of major traffickers have resulted in several arrests. Some of those apprehended were being sought by other countries for drug crimes and have been extradited. An extradition agreement has been negotiated with Venezuela.

- Enforcement capabilities are being enhanced - for example, by expanding the aerial fleet of the National Police and by training pilots and support personnel.

- Several enforcement operations have been successfully carried out in border areas, in co-operation with Brazil, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

- Two draft laws are being considered. The first integrates in a single law all measures concerning drug control, establishes new criminal offences and more exact enforcement procedures, increases penalties and brings them into line with those of other countries, and expands the functions of the National Drug Council. The second draft law would extinguish the ownership rights in all property used by traffickers in their drug-related activities.

- Initiatives aimed at enhancing regional co-operation have been taken. A communications network for South American enforcement agencies has been established. Enforcement operations carried out in co-operation with other countries have produced major results. Colombia has negotiated or reactivated bilateral drug agreements with Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, the Dominican Republic and Honduras. These agreements establish joint commissions, which meet periodically to consider measures with regard to drug abuse prevention, border controls, national regulation of essential chemicals, strengthening of surveillance of air, sea and land transport, obtainment of information on money-laundering, and implementation of extradition procedures.

198. Of special concern to the Colombian authorities is the soaring increase in the abuse of coca paste, which is smoked with tobacco and/or cannabis. This highly hazardous form of abuse, already a serious problem among urban youth, is now spreading to the rural areas. Priority is being given to the treatment and rehabilitation of abusers and the prevention of drug abuse. Current drug abuse data will be available when an epidemiological survey begun in April 1985 is completed. There is widespread and active participation in prevention activities at the community level and by non-governmental groups. These activities involve the wife of the President of Colombia, parents, religious leaders, the Colombian Red Cross and many other organizations.

199. Illicit cultivation of the opium poppy on a limited scale was detected in remote areas of the country. The authorities took prompt action to eradicate the crop.

200. Colombia's outstanding drug control efforts are being supported bilaterally and multilaterally. In February 1985, the Government of Colombia and UNFDAC signed an agreement under which the Fund is supporting projects in the areas of preventive education, treatment of drug-dependent persons, crop substitution and law enforcement, with a total of \$US 3.7 million over five years. Colombia's programme of drug control continues to merit maximum assistance from the international community.

201. In Peru, the new Government has pledged that it will accord high priority to fighting corruption and narcotics trafficking. This policy was put into practice with a successful operation which the Peruvian Government undertook jointly with Colombia. During the first phase of this operation in August 1985, 2 400 kg of cocaine paste and base were seized, as were cocaine laboratories. One laboratory was a large complex which included a major aircraft runway. Eight other airfields were also discovered. Phase Two of the joint operation with Colombia began in September 1985. Another action contemplated by the Government is participation of the Peruvian police in a radio communications network,

together with the national police of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela. This network is designed to permit the rapid exchange of information, improve coordination, and facilitate regional interdiction operations. In pressing its campaign against corruption, the new Government has dismissed more than thirty high-ranking police officials.

202. Up till now, reduction efforts have been centred in the Upper Huallaga region. Since 1983, coca bush cultivation has been eradicated over approximately 4 000 ha, under a voluntary eradication programme. The target for 1985 has been set at 6 000 ha. It is expected that a nation-wide aerial survey, intended to permit an accurate assessment of the location and extent of illicit coca cultivation, will be completed this year, and that it will then be possible for eradication to begin in other coca-producing regions.

203. In spite of violent attacks and terrorist actions which involved the murder of 19 policemen and workers participating in the eradication programme in the Upper Huallaga area, the Peruvian Government has been the first in the region to conduct coca eradication in concert with a development assistance programme. The Rural Mobile Patrol Unit, responsible for suppressing the illicit traffic in the region, was increased in size, from 160 to 300 men. In the Quillabamba region, UNFDAC is financing a programme of crop substitution involving social and rural development activities. This is in addition to the assistance already provided to complete a processing plant in Tingo Maria which will be an alternative source of income and to support law enforcement activities.

204. The smoking of coca paste, which remains a matter of deep concern to the Peruvian authorities, is rapidly spreading to the rural areas. However, there has been an increase in public awareness of the negative health consequences of drug abuse and the corrupting influence of drug traffic. It may be hoped that this change in public attitude will soon have the beneficial effect of reducing drug abuse.

205. The Board hopes that the international community will continue to support Peru's efforts to carry out its obligations under the treaties.

206. A mission of the Board visited Ecuador in March 1985 and had the opportunity to obtain firsthand information with regard to the drug control situation in the country.

207. International drug traffickers use Ecuador as a transit country for coca paste, coca base and cocaine. Although Ecuador is an Andean country, the cultivation and chewing of coca leaf by the Indian population, which occur in Peru and Bolivia, practically disappeared many years ago. Nevertheless, in recent years, illicit coca cultivation intended for the international illicit traffic has been detected in several parts of Ecuador, particularly in the areas which border Peru and Colombia. Some cultivation has also been found near the Pacific coast.

208. Ecuador's active anti-narcotics campaign has made progress in 1985. Coca eradication operations have been extended, and vigorous enforcement action has resulted in larger and more numerous seizures of cocaine. During the first half of 1985, several eradication operations resulted in the destruction of over 200 ha of the coca bush. In July

1985, a joint Colombian-Ecuadorian coca-eradication operation resulted in the destruction of plantations and laboratories in the border area. Within one month, this operation alone had led to the uprooting of 66 ha of coca and the dismantling of 13 laboratories.

209. The Ecuadorian authorities are greatly concerned about the ready availability of essential chemicals, especially ethyl ether, used in the illicit manufacture of cocaine. Traffickers from Bolivia, Colombia and Peru seek to obtain their supplies of these substances in Ecuador. Furthermore, the authorities are concerned that, partly as a result of the availability of these chemicals, an increasing number of illicit laboratories for the manufacture of cocaine are being established on Ecuadorian territory. The Government is studying measures designed to control the chemicals, with a view to proposing legislation to the country's Congress.

210. The authorities believe that abuse of coca paste and cocaine has increased within the country. Cannabis, originating both within the country and abroad, is also abused. The level of abuse of psychotropic substances, particularly barbiturates and amphetamines, is becoming a matter of serious concern. The Government recognizes the gravity of the abuse problem and the urgent need for treatment and prevention measures.

211. The Government is preparing new legislation and has approved a comprehensive national drug control programme. In support of this programme, UNFDAC is helping the Government to elaborate a master plan which will specify the kinds of assistance required for various drug control activities, including coca eradication. Bilateral assistance is also being provided.

212. The Board appeals to the international community to support the efforts of the Government of Ecuador to carry out its obligations under the international drug control treaties. It is essential that such assistance be made available quickly, in order to permit the prompt eradication of the newly-developed illicit coca cultivation, and preclude its entrenchment and expansion.

213. The Government of Brazil is deeply concerned about the expanding illicit drug cultivation and trafficking in the country. Colombia's strong action against drug traffickers has led these criminals to attempt to shift their operations to Brazil and to other countries of the region. In response, the new Government has assigned a high priority to devising a comprehensive attack against illicit drug production, trafficking and abuse. Emphasis is placed on eradication of illicit coca and cannabis cultivation. A Federal Drug Council, established in July 1985, is to make recommendations on policy and suggest specific initiatives. The Federal Police are vigorously carrying out enforcement and eradication operations.

214. In February 1985, the biggest operation ever conducted against the major cocaine producers and smugglers operating in the country was carried out. The operation was launched in six states of Brazil and covered mainly the areas bordering Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Paraguay. In the course of this operation, many thousands of coca plants were destroyed and large amounts of chemicals were seized. In addition, several cocaine laboratories were dismantled, and air and ground transport used by traffickers was confiscated. In two subsequent successful operations conducted in June 1985, the Federal Police seized 164 kg of pure cocaine and arrested several traffickers, including one who was "most wanted" internationally.

215. The authorities have also seized large amounts of N-Hexane, a chemical which traffickers are using as a substitute for ether in extracting cocaine. The Federal Police are actively monitoring the sale and distribution of ether and acetone, and have seized nearly 10 000 litres of acetone and 17 000 litres of ether during the first five months of 1985.

216. Illicit cannabis cultivation is widespread, although fields are more heavily concentrated in the northeast of the country. Most of the cannabis is consumed locally. Early in 1985, Brazilian police initiated an extensive cannabis eradication campaign, which resulted in the seizure of numerous plantations and very large amounts of cannabis.

217. The Government is deeply concerned about the expanding problem posed by the abuse of drugs, particularly cocaine. The authorities have stated their intention to accord high priority to the abuse problem and to prevention. There is growing interest in attacking this problem at the community level, with the participation of parents and educators. The Brazilian army has developed "Project Hope", an experiment in instructing recruits about the consequences of drug abuse. The project is expected to involve 120 000 recruits annually.

218. The Board welcomes the vigilance being exercised by the Brazilian authorities, who merit strong and continuing support from the international community.

219. Venezuela has initiated action, nationally and internationally, against drug trafficking and abuse, and has stepped up enforcement efforts within the country. A 100-man narcotics unit has been created within the National Guard, and the judicial police have been reorganized with a view to fighting corruption and increasing efficiency. An extensive strip of coca cultivation was discovered in the middle, and in the Venezuelan portion of a mountain range on the border with Colombia. The National Guard, in the first operation ever mounted in the country, eradicated coca bushes cultivated on six hectares. The National Guard has also eradicated cannabis cultivation. The Guard's enforcement efforts along the Colombian-Venezuelan border have yielded seizures of cocaine, coca paste and cannabis.

220. In addition, the Venezuelan authorities have seized large shipments of ether and acetone and dismantled several clandestine cocaine-processing laboratories.

221. The Government is taking action against organized crime related to drug trafficking, and is considering new legislation that would strengthen this effort by permitting the seizure of assets and averting the laundering of money. Venezuela has negotiated an extradition agreement with Colombia.

222. Intensified drug control activities in several countries of South America have led drug traffickers to expand their operations in Central America. Illicit cultivation of cannabis, and transit traffic in cannabis and cocaine, are reported in most countries of the region.

223. In Panama, traffickers take advantage of banking secrecy laws to launder money obtained from illicit drug-related activities. Moreover, the authorities fear that commercial vessels of Panamanian registry are

being widely used for the smuggling of large drug shipments. The Government is attempting to eradicate illicit cannabis cultivation by aerial spraying. It is also engaged in negotiations with the United States on a mutual legal assistance treaty designed, inter alia, to curb money-laundering. In early 1985 the authorities seized a bank, following the arrest abroad of its president for drug trafficking. Enforcement operations have also resulted in sizeable seizures of narcotics and essential chemicals.

224. In Belize, cannabis cultivation has recently increased significantly. The estimated spring crop in 1985 was equal to the total of the spring and fall crops of 1984. Earlier, aerial eradication operations had had a major impact in reducing cannabis cultivation. In a statement before the 40th Regular Session of the General Assembly, the Foreign Minister of Belize announced that the Government preferred to eradicate by manual means because of health and environmental considerations.

225. In a public statement, the Prime Minister has referred to narcotics as constituting a serious threat to the country's political and social institutions. The Government is taking steps to raise public understanding of the perils of narcotics trafficking and abuse. The Government plans to establish an agency which will have responsibilities for drug abuse education, prevention and treatment.

226. In the Caribbean, hundreds of islands, vast areas of surrounding water, and many illicit landing strips provide ready facilities for international drug smuggling. The strategic location of this area between centres of illicit production and consumption, and the existence of banking arrangements which facilitate the laundering of money from drug transactions, make some Caribbean countries the favoured choices of traffickers. The staggering profits obtained from criminal trafficking foster corruption and even destabilize political organization.

227. In the Bahamas, cannabis is still the drug most widely abused; however, the demand for cocaine continues to escalate. In February 1985, a National Drug Council was created to co-ordinate the national efforts to prevent drug abuse, and to recommend appropriate action to the Government.

228. The largest enforcement effort ever mounted against drug smuggling in the area was conducted by the Bahamian authorities, in co-operation with United States law enforcement agencies, in April 1985. As a result of this operation, which lasted 16 days, approximately 2.5 tonnes of cocaine and 15.4 tonnes of cannabis were seized.

229. The smuggling of large amounts of drugs through the Bahamas has damaged "almost all strata of Bahamian society", according to a report issued in December 1984 by a Royal Commission of Inquiry. The Royal Commission was appointed by the Bahamian Government in 1983, to investigate allegations of widespread corruption and of the use of the Bahamas for the trans-shipment of drugs, mostly to the United States. It was also alleged that Bahamian laws on bank secrecy were being abused increasingly by drug financiers. During eight months of hearings, ample evidence was placed before the Royal Commission revealing the extent to which money derived from the drug trade had permeated Bahamian social and economic affairs.

230. The recommendations of the Royal Commission included proposals for several major changes in Bahamian law, with respect to restrictions on the granting of bail, penalties in serious drug cases, and the confiscation and disposal of property used by traffickers. The Board awaits with interest information concerning the action taken to carry out the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

231. Jamaica remains an important centre for the illicit cultivation of a highly potent variety of cannabis, known as "sinsemilla", and for the production of liquid cannabis. The Government has expressed its determination to eliminate the illicit cultivation and trafficking taking place in the country.

232. The Government has made progress during 1985 in combatting cannabis cultivation and drug trafficking. Available data indicate that more cannabis was eradicated in the first six months of 1985 than in all of the previous year. An aerial survey made in the spring of 1985 revealed that the eradication programme had begun to take effect. The campaign will be resumed this fall, in order to eradicate the autumn crop, and an additional aerial survey will be conducted.

233. The authorities have recently acted to prevent the illicit movement of cannabis by air, as well as the use of Jamaica as a trans-shipment point for cocaine, by passing an amendment to the Civil Aviation Act. Persons involved in illegal air traffic in Jamaica are now subject to severe penalties, including heavy fines and up to five years of hard labour. The law also gives law enforcement authorities the power to seize equipment and other assets connected with or derived from trafficking. Jamaican enforcement authorities, recently co-ordinated under a unified command structure, have arrested two major groups of traffickers, destroyed airstrips and seized large amounts of drugs.

234. Cannabis continues to be widely abused. However, the increasing availability and abuse of cocaine, as well as of psychotropic substances diverted from licit channels, are causing the greatest concern.

235. In March 1985, the Government of Jamaica signed an agreement with UNFDAC setting forth a national drug abuse prevention plan, to be carried out over a period of two years. One of the main objectives of the plan will be to educate youth about the dangers and problems associated with drug abuse. In addition to this project, there is a national epidemiological study, funded by UNFDAC through the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), which is being carried out by the Ministry of Health.

236. The Board expresses its hope that the necessary assistance will be provided to support the efforts of the Carribbean countries to carry out their obligations under the drug control treaties.

#### AFRICA

237. Evidence of spreading drug abuse in the region is mounting. Africa is attracting ever larger numbers of drug traffickers, who take advantage of inadequate control arrangements in many countries. The region is a source of cannabis, abused locally and trafficked abroad. In recent years certain countries of the region, particularly Nigeria, have

been used as transit points for heroin, trafficked mainly from the Middle East and South Asia and destined for Western Europe and North America. Citizens of the countries concerned are actively involved in the traffic, serving as couriers. The almost inevitable spillover of heroin abuse has already begun to appear in some countries. Traffickers are trying to establish Africa as a major illicit market for psychotropic substances, and as a transit point for traffic in such substances. Trafficking has now begun in relation to cocaine as well. These trends signal a deteriorating situation, which requires urgent attention.

238. To date, only 30 of the 51 countries in Africa have become Parties to the 1961 Convention, in either its original or its amended form. Only 21 have adhered to the 1971 Convention. Not only adherence to but also effective implementation of treaty provisions is of prime importance. In this connection, the Board receives satisfactory information as envisaged by the treaties on a regular basis from 34 countries.

239. The trafficking in psychotropic substances towards Africa involves methaqualone, amphetamines and barbiturates (in particular secobarbital). The quantities of these substances exported to Africa - often in consignments addressed to fictitious companies, in many African countries, continue to be far in excess of the African states' legitimate requirements. In a number of cases, attempts to re-export these substances have been thwarted thanks to the co-operation that has been established between the Board and the authorities of the countries directly concerned, both in the manufacturing-exporting countries and in the recipient countries. It is in the interest of the countries affected or threatened by this traffic to inform the Board of their requirements in a timely manner and to reply promptly to the Board's queries in regard to specific cases, particularly those cases in which import authorizations have given rise to suspicion.

240. Most African countries have no medical requirements for any of the substances included in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention.<sup>31/</sup> Therefore, there can be no justification for exports of such substances to these countries. Governments, and especially those in countries having no licit requirements, are again urged in their own interest to utilize the procedure elaborated in article 13 of the 1971 Convention, whereby the import of unwanted psychotropic substances may be prohibited. Such action would make it more difficult for diversions to be accomplished.

241. In North Africa, the bulk of the traffic still consists of cannabis and its derivatives from Morocco, where large-scale illicit cultivation takes place. The Moroccan authorities focus their efforts on enforcement during transport. The size of the seizures effected both within the country itself and abroad indicates the dimensions of illicit cultivation. Some cannabis is being eradicated.

242. A number of West African countries are being faced with an intensification of the traffic in cannabis. At present, local cannabis cultivation is expanding, sometimes in competition with the most lucrative of the local food crops. In consequence, steadily rising quantities are available for local addicts and for trafficking abroad, in particular to

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<sup>31/</sup> See E/INCB/1985/4, Tables A, B and C.

Western Europe. Some evidence suggests that trafficking, which until recently had been dominated by individual traffickers, may have been taken over by organized criminal groups. Of grave concern is the escalating transit trafficking in heroin and, more recently, cocaine in the subregion, especially in Nigeria.

243. For many years, several West African countries have been afflicted with a persistent influx of psychotropic substances. Amphetamines have been available for several years, and barbiturates are now also being channelled into this region<sup>32/</sup>.

244. Cannabis is the main drug of abuse in the subregion. To a limited extent, heroin and cocaine also are abused. In addition, amphetamines and barbiturates, particularly secobarbital, are abused. Multiple abuse of drugs, often in combination with alcohol, has been noted, particularly in Nigeria and the Ivory Coast. Prevention programmes are being undertaken.

245. One country of the subregion, namely Nigeria, has strengthened its drug control legislation, imposing the most severe punishment for possession of and trafficking in heroin and cocaine, and fixing 21 years' imprisonment as the minimum sentence for possession of and trafficking in cannabis. The new legislation also strengthens controls upon the import of psychotropic substances coming under the 1971 Convention, as well as controls upon other drugs with psycho-active properties. None of the drug covered by this law may now be imported into Nigeria in the absence of an import permit. Furthermore, the authorities will henceforth send copies of permits concerning narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances included in Schedules I and II directly to the competent authorities of the exporting countries, to facilitate verification of import requests. In the Ivory Coast, projected legislation would establish more severe penalties for drug offences.

246. Central Africa has also witnessed some expansion of cannabis cultivation. In Rwanda, the vigilance of the authorities recently led to the destruction of rather extensive fields. There have been a number of pharmacy robberies, which involved several drugs, but particularly cocaine.

247. In Eastern and Southern Africa, a major problem is the trafficking of vast amounts of methaqualone. Seizure data show that the substance is smuggled into the region from India and certain Western European countries and is destined mainly for South Africa. The Indian Government has instituted counter-measures;<sup>33/</sup> nevertheless, the influx of the drug has not yet abated. This may indicate that traffickers are using accumulated stocks or that manufacture is taking place illegally. It has recently been discovered that some of the tablets transiting East Africa from India

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<sup>32/</sup> See paragraph 49.

<sup>33/</sup> See paragraph 99.

contain not only methaqualone but also amphetamine. Trafficking in methaqualone manufactured in certain Western European countries has also not abated. More than eight million methaqualone tablets have transited Zambia from Europe. It is possible that methaqualone is being diverted from licit trade (both wholesale and retail) in a Western European country which is not a Party to the 1971 Convention and does not yet apply to this substance the controls specified in that Convention.

248. Governments in the subregion have adopted legislative and administrative measures to curb the influx of methaqualone. Such measures have caused traffickers to change routes frequently. In Botswana, which borders parts of South Africa in which methaqualone abuse is most acute, penalties for trafficking have been increased and now include a minimum prison term of 10 years. Available information suggests that these measures may have had a deterrent effect. Both Botswana and Zambia have also imposed tight restrictions on access to the VIP lounges at their airports, and have thereby prevented the misuse of these facilities by traffickers. No similar limitations have been applied in Swaziland or Malawi. Tighter controls at airports throughout Southern and Eastern Africa seem to have forced traffickers to reduce their use of public air transport. Methaqualone also has been trafficked by mail, to post office boxes.

249. In Malawi and Swaziland illicit cultivation of cannabis is spreading and substantial seizures are being made. In Swaziland, the authorities have seized diazepam and morphine stolen in Mozambique from the legitimate stocks of hospitals and health centres. In Botswana, a considerable quantity of diazepam has been seized. Cocaine is also found on the illicit market of the subregion.

250. In some countries, cannabis abuse is combined with the consumption of khat. Khat, which is not under international control, is cultivated mainly in Ethiopia and Kenya, whence it is forwarded to other countries of the subregion and to parts of the Arabian Peninsula. It is incumbent upon the countries concerned to co-operate among themselves to confront the health hazards and adverse economic implications of the local use of khat.

251. Many countries of the continent are in urgent need of assistance which would enable them effectively to control the licit movement of drugs and to fight the illicit traffic. Of great concern is the absence in most countries of facilities which would permit the authorities quickly to identify substances seized. Furthermore, epidemiological studies are required in many countries to determine the extent and patterns of abuse.

252. The Board, with the financial assistance of UNFDAC, is organizing a seminar for 25 African countries. This seminar, the second of its kind to be held in the last five years, will meet in Madagascar in December 1985, to train drug control administrators. The training will enable them to provide the Board with complete, accurate and timely information, and will make them more effective at preventing diversions from licit sources to illicit channels.

253. In 1985, the Board sent missions to Botswana, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria and Swaziland. These missions were provided with extensive information and were afforded opportunities to witness firsthand the drug abuse situations and some of the counter-measures being taken. The Board hopes to send missions to pursue dialogues with other African countries in 1986.

254. In several African countries, UNFDAC is supporting activities dealing with drug dependence, prevention of abuse, training, and law enforcement. The Board welcomes the expanded programme envisaged by UNFDAC for 1986.

255. Intra-African co-operation permits optimal utilization of the limited resources available to Governments. Therefore, such co-operation should be progressively expanded. Activities to this effect already initiated or carried out during 1985 are mentioned earlier in this report. In implementation of a decision of the Commission, regional co-operation is to be further enhanced by a meeting of heads of law enforcement agencies. This meeting will be held in 1987, under the aegis of the Division of Narcotic Drugs.

256. The international community should give prompt and favourable consideration to requests from African countries for assistance in improving their drug control administrations and to fight against trafficking and abuse. The Board wishes to reiterate that, for their part, the African countries can assist the international community by becoming Parties to the drug control treaties to which they have not already acceded, and by providing in a timely manner information requested pursuant to the treaties by the Secretary-General and the Board. Political will on the part of all countries remains an essential prerequisite for progress.

#### CONCLUSIONS

257. Comprehensive and accelerated action was pursued in 1985. Hopefully, sustained collective efforts by many countries will in the near future significantly reduce illicit supplies of drugs and drug abuse. The Board will follow developments over the next year with the hope that it will be able to report in 1986 that achievements have been made.

258. Of special importance is the linking of action from country to neighbouring countries, onwards to the region as a whole and thence to other regions. Co-ordinated action is imperative if progress is to be made.

259. It is also essential that the necessary resources be provided to national drug control programmes, as well as to bilateral and multilateral programmes. The Board welcomes the trend towards providing greater resources to support the drug control programmes of developing countries, and it hopes that this trend, which became more pronounced in 1985, will continue in future years, advancing the common interest.

(Signed) Betty C. Gough  
President

(Signed) Sir Edward Williams  
Rapporteur

(Signed) Abdelaziz Bahi  
Secretary

Vienna, 25 October 1985

Annex I

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PRESENT MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

Mr. Adolf-Heinrich von ARNIM

Lawyer, specialized in legislation on health affairs. Delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Inland Transport Committee of ECOSOC's Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) (1957-1961). Counsellor in the Ministry for Youth, Family Affairs and Health in Bonn (1962-1975). Head of the Pharmaceutical Directorate of this Ministry (1976-1981). Advisor on the new legislation of the Federal Republic of Germany of 1981 on chemical and narcotic substances. Member of the Board since 1982, Chairman of its Budget Committee in 1982 and 1983 and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee on Estimates in 1985.

Dr. CAI Zhiji

Pharmacologist; Associate professor; Chairman of the Department of Pharmacology. Vice-Director of the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology in charge of Drug Dependence Research Centre, Beijing Medical University. Member of the Executive Committee and Deputy Secretary-General of the Chinese Pharmacological Society. Member of the Editorial Board of Acta Pharmacologica Sinica, Chinese Journal of Clinical Pharmacology, Advances in Physiological Sciences. Member of the Expert Committee on New Drug Evaluation, Ministry of Health, People's Republic of China. Member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Drug Dependence and Alcohol Problems since 1984. Member of the Board since 1985.

Professor John EBIE

Chief Medical Director, University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Benin City, Nigeria. Professor and Head, Department of Mental Health, University of Benin, Benin-City (1976-81). Provost and Chief Consultant, WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health, Psychiatric Hospital, Abeokuta (1981-83). Consultant Psychiatrist (University College Hospital, Ibadan, 1970-71, and University of Benin Teaching Hospital since 1972). Director, Nigerian Training Project on Drug Dependence since 1981. Dean, School of Medicine, University of Benin (1979-81). Chairman, Psychiatric Hospitals Management Board of Nigeria (1977-81). Commissioner for Health, Bendel State of Nigeria (1972-74). Member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Mental Health since 1979. Member of the Board since 1982, Rapporteur in 1983 and Vice-President in 1985.

Professor Ramon de la FUENTE MUNIZ

Professor in and Head of the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, Faculty of Medicine, National University of Mexico, and Director of the Mexican Institute of Psychiatry. Former President of the Mexican Association of Psychiatry. Former President of the National Academy of Medicine. Former Vice-President of the World Psychiatric Association. Former member of the General Health Council of the Mexican Republic. Former General Director of Mental Health. Member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Mental Health. Member of the Board from 1974 to 1980 and since 1982; its Vice-President in 1979 and 1980.

Dr. Diego GARCES-GIRALDO

Physician and surgeon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.A. (Cantab.). Alternate delegate of Colombia to the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations (London, 1945). Minister Plenipotentiary of Colombia in Cuba (1948-1949). Ambassador of Colombia to Venezuela (1950-1951). Governor of the Department of the Valle del Cauca, Colombia (1953-1956). Senator of the Republic of Colombia (1958-1962). Permanent Representative of Colombia to the Office of the United Nations and other International Organizations at Geneva (1971-1976). Member of the Board since 1977.

Ms. Betty C. GOUGH

Former diplomat and specialist in international organizations. Former Counsellor for Narcotics Affairs, United States Mission to the Office of the United Nations and other International Organizations at Geneva. Former Adviser, United States Mission to the International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna. Former Deputy, United States Permanent Delegation to UNESCO. Member of United States delegation to the United Nations Conference to Consider Amendments to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (Geneva, 1972) and to sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (1971-1976). Member of the Board since 1977, Rapporteur in 1979, Vice-President in 1980, 1981 and 1984, and President in 1985.

Mr. Ben HUYGHE BRAECKMANS

Pharmacist (1947) with supplementary training in industrial pharmacy (1961-63) and in hospital pharmacy (1971). Inspector (1948-64), Counsellor (1964-65), Chief Inspector/Director (1965-68) and Inspector-General (1968-85) at the General Pharmaceutical Inspectorate of the Ministry of Public Health, Belgium. Representative of Belgium to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (1966-85) and Rapporteur at its eighth special session (1984). Head of the Belgian delegation to the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Protocol on Psychotropic Substances (Vienna, 1971) and to the United Nations Conference to Consider Amendments to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (Geneva, 1972). Member of and

permanent correspondent of Belgium of the Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group) under the Council of Europe (until 1985). Member (1973-79) and Chairman (1973-74, 1978-79) of the Benelux Committee on the Registration of Medicines. Member of the Commission on the European Pharmacopoeia (1965-85). Member of the Committee on Pharmaceutical Specialities (1975-85) and the Pharmaceutical Committee (1975-85) of the European Community. Head of the Belgian delegation to UNIDO's Second Consultation on the Pharmaceutical Industry (Budapest, 1983). Member and chairman of working groups and commissions in the field of medicines in Belgium and under the Benelux, the Council of Europe, the European Community and the World Health Organization. Member of the Board since 1985.

Professor S. Oguz KAYAALP

Professor and Chairman, Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey. Member of the Executive Committee of the Medical Research Group of the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey. Member of the Standing Committee of the European Medical Research Councils (European Science Foundation). Assistant Research Professor, Department of Pharmacology, State University of New York at Buffalo Medical School (1967-1970). Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey (1971-1978). Visiting Scientist, National Institute of Mental Health, USA (1978-1980). President of the Turkish Pharmacological Society (several terms and presently). Member of the Board since 1985.

Dr. Mohsen KCHOUK

Pharmacist biologist; former student at the Pasteur Institute, Paris. Former Deputy Director of the Pasteur Institute, Tunis. Director of the Laboratories of Medical Biology of the Ministry of Public Health, Tunis. Fellow (foreign) of the French Society of Legal Medicine and Criminology. Member of the Board since 1977, its Rapporteur in 1981 and 1982; Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee on Estimates in 1984; Vice-President of the Board and Chairman of the Standing Committee on Estimates in 1985.

Sahibzada RAOOF ALI KHAN

Former Inspector General of Police of the Punjab (Pakistan). Former Chairman of Pakistan Narcotics Control Board at the level of Secretary to the Government. Former Director General of the National Police Academy. Head of Pakistan's delegation to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East (1975-1979). Vice-Chairman of the Commission in 1979. Alternate leader of Pakistan's Delegation to the first regular session of the Economic and Social Council, 1984. Visiting lecturer in Criminology, University of the Punjab, 1960-1961, and in History of Administration at the Sharia Faculty of the Qaide Azam University, Islamabad, 1979-1983. Awarded Sitara-e-Khidmat (a civil decoration) for distinguished public service, 1971. Member of the Board since 1985.

Professor Paul REUTER

Professor emeritus in the Faculty of Law and Economics, Paris; member of the United Nations International Law Commission since 1964; recipient of the 1981 Balzan Prize for public international law; member of the Permanent Central Narcotics Board from 1948 to 1968; member of the Board since 1968.

Professor Bror A. REXED

Doctor of Medicine, Karol. Inst., Stockholm. Honorary Doctor of Medicine at the universities of Helsinki, Oslo and Poznan. Member of the Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences. Fellow, New York Academy of Science. Fellow, Royal College of Physicians, London. Laureate of Prix Léon Bernard, WHO, Geneva 1979. Assoc. Prof. of Histology at Karol. Inst., Stockholm 1945-1954. Prof. of Anatomy, University of Uppsala 1954-1967. Secretary of the Swedish Medical Research Council, 1951-1962. Adviser on Science to the Prime Minister, and Secretary and Member of the Swedish Advisory Council on Science, 1962-1967. Director-General of the Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare (1967-1978). Chief Swedish delegate, World Health Assembly, 1968-1978. Swedish representative, Commission on Narcotic Drugs, 1968-1978, and its Chairman in 1977. Chairman to the Ad Hoc Committee on Education and Health Planning, OECD, 1972-1974. Executive Director, United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, Vienna, 1979-1982. Member of the Board since 1982.

Sir Edward WILLIAMS, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.

Justice of the Supreme Court of Queensland, Australia, 1971-1984. Chairman of the Parole Board of Queensland 1976-1983. Queensland representative on former National Drug Advisory Council (Australia). Chairman in 1975 of Inquiry for Minister of Health for State of Queensland Concerning the Abuse of Drugs. October 1977 appointed by Australian Government as Royal Commissioner for the Australian Royal Commission of Inquiry into Drugs; subsequently commissioned on similar terms by the Governments of the states of Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania; Reports delivered January 1980. Member of the Board since 1982, Chairman of its Budget Committee in 1984 and 1985 and Rapporteur in 1985.

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At its spring session in May 1985, the Board elected Ms. Betty C. Gough as President. The Board also elected Professor John Ebie as First Vice-President, and elected Dr. Mohsen Kchouk as Second Vice-President and Chairman of its Standing Committee on Estimates. Mr. A.H. von Arnim was elected Vice-Chairman of this same Committee. Sir Edward Williams was elected Rapporteur and nominated, as Chairman of the Budget Committee.



BOARD SESSIONS IN 1985

The Board held its thirty-seventh session from 13 to 24 May, and its thirty-eighth session from 8 to 25 October. The Secretary-General was represented by Mr. M. Allaf, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, at both sessions. The Division of Narcotic Drugs was represented by its Director, Mrs. T. Oppenheimer, at the thirty-seventh session, and by its Deputy Director, Mr. F. Ramos-Galino, at the thirty-eighth session. At both sessions, the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control was represented by its Executive Director, Mr. G. di Gennaro, and the World Health Organisation by Dr. I. Khan of the Division of Mental Health. At the thirty-eighth session, Mr. R. Kendall, Secretary-General, and Mr. W. Leamy, Head, Drugs Subdivision, ICPO/Interpol, addressed the Board on the illicit traffic in drugs.

REPRESENTATION AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES IN 1985

UNITED NATIONS

Commission on Narcotic Drugs  
31st Session (Vienna, February)

Economic and Social Council  
First regular session, 1985 (New York, May)

Inter-agency Meeting on Co-ordination in Matters of International  
Drug Abuse Control (Rome, September)

Expert Group Meeting on the Reduction of Excessive Stocks of Opiate  
Raw Materials (Vienna, September)

General Assembly, 40th regular session of the Third Committee  
(New York, November)

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Second Programme-Planning Working Group for WHO Review of  
Psycho-active Dependence Producing Drugs (Geneva, March)

22nd Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (Geneva, April)

Seminar on the Rational Use of Psychotropic Substances (Beijing,  
August)

Evaluation of Methods and Data Related to Public Health and Social  
Problems Associated with the Use of Psycho-active Drugs (Bangkok,  
September)

Review of the Process for Exempting Preparations Under the  
Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971 (Geneva,  
October/November)

Impact of Scheduling Psycho-active Substances on the Practice of Medicine and Pharmacy (Geneva, November)

ICPO/INTERPOL

54th General Assembly (Washington, October)

CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL

15th Conference of Representatives of Customs Investigation Services (Varna, May)

65th/66th Sessions of the Customs Co-operation Council (Brussels, June)

4th Session of the Enforcement Committee (Brussels, September)

REPRESENTATION AT REGIONAL CONFERENCES

NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST

Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East. (Vienna, February and September)

ASIA

12th Meeting of Operational Heads of National Narcotics Law Enforcement Agencies, Far East Region (Colombo, November)

United Nations Regional Drug Law Enforcement Seminar (New Delhi, December)

EUROPE

ICPO/Interpol, Diversion Investigation Training Course for Regulatory and Enforcement Officials in Europe (Saint-Cloud, March)

ICPO/Interpol, 11th European Meeting for Heads of National Drugs Services (Saint-Cloud, April)

OTHER MEETINGS

International Council on Alcohol and Addictions, 34th International Congress on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (Calgary, August)

INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL AGREEMENTS

- 1912 Convention International Opium Convention signed at the Hague on 23 January 1912, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946.
- 1925 Agreement Agreement concerning the Manufacture of, Internal Trade in and Use of Prepared Opium, signed at Geneva on 11 February 1925, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946.
- 1925 Convention International Opium Convention signed at Geneva on 19 February 1925, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946.
- 1931 Convention Convention for limiting the manufacture and regulating the distribution of narcotic drugs, signed at Geneva on 13 July 1931, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946.
- 1931 Agreement Agreement for the Control of Opium Smoking in the Far East, signed at Bangkok on 27 November 1931, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946.
- 1936 Convention Convention for the suppression of the illicit traffic in dangerous drugs, signed at Geneva on 26 June 1936, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946.
- 1946 Protocol Protocol amending the Agreements, Conventions and Protocols on Narcotic Drugs concluded at The Hague on 23 January 1912, at Geneva on 11 February 1925 and 19 February 1925 and 13 July 1931, at Bangkok on 27 November 1931 and at Geneva on 26 June 1936, signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946.
- 1948 Protocol Protocol signed at Paris on 19 November 1948 bringing under international control drugs outside the scope of the Convention of 13 July 1931 for limiting the manufacture and regulating the distribution of narcotic drugs, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946.
- 1953 Protocol Protocol for limiting and regulating the cultivation of the poppy plant, the production of, international and wholesale trade in, and use of opium, signed at New York on 23 June 1953.

- 1961 Convention Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, signed at New York on 30 March 1961.
- 1971 Convention Convention on Psychotropic Substances, signed at Vienna on 21 February 1971.
- 1972 Protocol Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, signed at Geneva on 25 March 1972.
- 1961 Convention as amended Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol of 25 March 1972 amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961.



## THE ROLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

The responsibilities of the Board under the drug control treaties are to endeavour, in co-operation with Governments, to limit the cultivation, production, manufacture and utilization of narcotic drugs to the amounts necessary for medical and scientific purposes, to ensure that the quantities of these substances necessary for legitimate purposes are available, and to prevent the illicit cultivation, production, manufacture of, trafficking in and use of these substances. Since the entry into force of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, the functions of the Board include also the international control of these drugs.

The Board is required, in the exercise of these responsibilities, to investigate all stages in the licit trade in narcotic drugs; to ensure that Governments take all the requisite measures to limit the manufacture and import of drugs to the quantities necessary for medical and scientific purposes; to see that precautions are taken to prevent the diversion of these substances into the illicit traffic; to determine whether there is a risk that a country may become a major centre of the illicit traffic; to ask for explanations in the event of apparent violations of the treaties; to propose appropriate remedial measures to Governments which are not fully applying the provisions of the treaties or are encountering difficulties in applying them and, where necessary, to assist Governments in overcoming such difficulties. The Board has therefore frequently recommended, and will recommend even more often under the 1972 Protocol, that multilateral or bilateral assistance, either technical or financial or both, should be accorded to a country experiencing such difficulties. However, if the Board notes that the measures necessary to remedy a serious situation have not been taken, it may call the attention of the Parties, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Economic and Social Council to the matter, in cases where it believes that this would be the most effective way to facilitate co-operation and improve the situation. Finally, as a last resort, the treaties empower the Board to recommend to Parties that they stop the import of drugs, the export of drugs, or both, from or to the defaulting country. Naturally, the Board does not confine itself to taking action only when serious problems have been discovered; it seeks, on the contrary, to prevent major difficulties before they arise. In all cases the Board acts in close co-operation with Governments.

If the Board is to be able to perform its task, it must have the relevant information on the world drug situation, as regards both the licit trade and the illicit traffic. Consequently, the treaties stipulate that Governments shall regularly provide the Board with such information; almost all Governments, Parties and non-Parties alike, are conforming to this practice. Accordingly, in co-operation with Governments, the Board administers the systems of estimated world requirements of narcotic drugs and of statistics on narcotic drugs. The first of these systems enables it, by analyzing future licit requirements, to verify in advance whether these requirements are reasonable; and the second enables it to exercise an *ex post facto* control. Finally, the information on illicit traffic which is communicated to it either directly by Governments or through the competent organs of the United Nations enables it to determine whether the aims of the 1961 Convention are being seriously endangered by any country and, if necessary, to apply the measures described in the preceding paragraph.

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