

Check against delivery

**Statement by Prof. Jallal Toufiq, President,
International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)
Sixty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs**

Item 5(a): Changes in the scope of control of substances

INCB Statement 2:

P-2-P methyl glycidic acid and eight of its esters

Vienna, 19 March 2024

Mr. Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1) The second set of recommendations that INCB submitted to the Chair of the Commission, again in the discharge of its functions under article 12 of the 1988 Convention, relates to the placement of nine pre-precursors of amphetamine and methamphetamine in Table I of the 1988 Convention. I would like to share a few considerations in connection with the Board's recommendations:

2) What all nine substances have in common is that:

- a) They are chemically very closely related substances and can all be used interchangeably in the illicit manufacture of P-2-P, a chemical already listed in Table I of the 1988 Convention; and

b) They are all designer precursors, purpose-made chemicals with no known legitimate uses and no regular trade.

3) Because of the similarities, I will cover the nine substances together, in one statement. In chemical terms, they include one acid and eight of its esters.

4) In making its assessments pursuant to article 12, paragraph 4, of the 1988 Convention, the Board finds that:

5) All nine substances are **highly suitable for the illicit manufacture of P-2-P**, a precursor already listed in Table I of the 1988 Convention, which is in turn used in the illicit manufacture of amphetamine and methamphetamine.

6) **Incidents of illicit manufacture and trafficking** involving **P-2-P methyl glycidic acid** have been known since 2012, its **methyl ester** since 2016 and its **ethyl ester** since 2023, with increasing frequency and amounts reported since late 2022.

7) **Seizures of the other six esters** (the propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl and *tert*-butyl ester) have not yet been brought to the Board's attention. However, the six esters are direct substitutes for the methyl and ethyl esters and can be converted to P-2-P using the same technology and processes.

8) There is **no known legitimate manufacture of and trade** in the nine substances other than in very small amounts for research and development purposes.

9) In light of its findings, **the Board recommends adding all nine substances (all stereoisomers of each substance) to Table I of the 1988 Convention.** International control of the nine substances will limit their availability for illicit drug manufacture and subsequently reduce the quantity of amphetamine and methamphetamine manufactured illicitly from them.

10) For the six esters (the propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl and *tert*-butyl ester) for which no seizures have yet been brought to the Board's attention, scheduling is recommended to prevent an instant shift to those esters, effectively putting Commission resolution 65/3 of March 2022 into practice.

11) The proposed controls will have **no adverse effect** on the availability of the nine substances for any of the known research and development purposes, given the very limited to non-existent legitimate market for, and trade in, the substances.

12) **Placement in Table I** will provide Governments with the possibility to request pre-export notifications as a means of monitoring any trade in the substances.

13) Given the close chemical relationship between the substances, the Board proposes that the eight named esters be included in Table I as a **footnote** to P-2-P methyl glycidic acid.

Thank you for your attention.

* * * * *