
Economic and Social Council

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GENERAL

1193rd Meeting
15 March 2000

CND Res.43/8. Internet*

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recognizing the continued advertising and sale of controlled pharmaceuticals and precursor chemicals for illicit purposes in most countries via the World Wide Web,

Deeply concerned that the advertising and sale of controlled pharmaceuticals and precursor chemicals for illicit purposes is an international activity that must be eliminated in order to prevent its deleterious effects on the health of society and on economic, social and political institutions,

Noting the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors²⁴ and the other resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, including measures to counter the misuse of new technologies, in particular the World Wide Web, by criminal organizations in the diversion and misuse of controlled pharmaceuticals and precursor chemicals,

Aware that effective international and national regulatory control programmes are an essential part of overall counter-narcotics strategies,

Determined to deter the use of the World Wide Web for the proliferation of drug trafficking and abuse,

Resolved to curtail the availability of controlled pharmaceuticals and precursor chemicals for illicit purposes through the misuse of the World Wide Web,

Recalling article 10 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,²⁵ in which it is recommended to the States parties to prohibit advertising of psychotropic substances to the public at large, taking due consideration of their constitutional provisions,

Encourages Member States to consider taking the following measures to prevent the diversion of controlled pharmaceuticals and illicitly obtained precursor chemicals involving technologies based on the World Wide Web:

(a) Cooperating with each other and more rapidly exchanging data and experiences related to the sale, via the World Wide Web, of controlled pharmaceuticals and precursor chemicals that are diverted into illicit channels of distribution;

(b) Evaluating their own regulatory and legal controls over the advertising and sale of controlled pharmaceuticals and precursor chemicals involving the World Wide Web;

(c) Establishing or increasing, where necessary, the level of control and monitoring of web sites relating to controlled pharmaceuticals and precursor chemicals, including possible criminal, civil and administrative penalties consistent with national laws;

(d) Increasing cooperation among police, customs, other law enforcement agencies and regulatory agencies to enhance control and monitoring efforts designed to curb the trafficking of controlled pharmaceuticals and precursor chemicals via the World Wide Web;

(e) Working in close cooperation with World Wide Web service providers and pharmaceutical and chemical industries to thwart the misuse of this emerging communication technology for the proliferation of drug abuse;

(f) Promoting, in coordination with Internet service providers, the dissemination of information aimed at discouraging illicit drug use.

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*/ For the discussion, see chap. IV, para. 95.

24/ Resolution S-20/4 A.

25/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1019, No. 14956.
