

## **Strengthening international cooperation for the control of precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of synthetic drugs**

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Recalling* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,<sup>62</sup> in which Member States decided to establish the year 2008 as a target date for States to eliminate or significantly reduce, inter alia, the diversion of precursors,

*Noting with concern* that, despite the efforts made by States and relevant international organizations, trafficking in substances used as precursors in the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, continues to be a problem that States must deal with as a matter of priority,

*Noting* that the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular synthetic drugs, has increased substantially and that a decrease in the diversion of substances used as precursors in their manufacture would lead to a reduction in the illicit supply of such drugs,

*Concerned* about the new methods employed by organized criminal groups to divert such substances from licit trade channels,

*Emphasizing* the importance of further strengthening existing international cooperation mechanisms for the control of substances used in illicit drug manufacture and the need for States to participate in international operations, such as Project Prism, Project Cohesion and related operations such as Operation Crystal Flow, to counter the diversion of and trafficking in such substances,

*Recalling* national and international measures to counter the diversion of substances used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, that have been adopted pursuant to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,<sup>63</sup> that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>64</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971<sup>65</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,<sup>66</sup>

*Recalling also* that, in section I of General Assembly resolution 62/176 of 18 December 2007, on international cooperation against the world drug problem, the Assembly urged all States to strengthen their efforts to achieve the goals set for 2008 at its twentieth special session by, inter alia, promoting international initiatives in order to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit manufacture of, trafficking in and marketing of drugs and other psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, and the diversion of precursors, as well as other transnational criminal activities,

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<sup>62</sup> General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

<sup>63</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

<sup>64</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>65</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

*Recognizing* the legitimate need of industry to have access to precursors and the important role of industry in preventing the diversion of precursors,

1. *Recognizes* the important work of the International Narcotics Control Board as the principal body and global focal point for the international control of precursors;

2. *Invites* Governments to continue contributing to the efforts of the International Narcotics Control Board, particularly with regard to the Pre-Export Notification Online system, Project Prism, Project Cohesion and related operations such as Operation Crystal Flow, in order to ensure the successful outcome of those efforts;

3. *Calls upon* the International Narcotics Control Board to further reinforce communication with Member States and to work with them in identifying opportunities for more effective control of precursors;

4. *Urges* Member States to further strengthen, update or, if they have not yet done so, establish national legislation and mechanisms relating to the control of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, pursuant to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;<sup>67</sup>

5. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so to consider applying measures to control substances used as precursors for the illicit manufacture of drugs;

6. *Calls upon* Member States, in consonance with the provisions of the 1988 Convention and in conformity with their national legislation, to review their criminal and administrative measures against persons trafficking in diverted precursors for the illicit manufacture of drugs;

7. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen, in accordance with their national legislation, the overall control of preparations containing substances that can be easily used or recovered by readily applicable means for the illicit manufacture of drugs and to monitor, to the extent possible, the legitimate trade in such preparations;

8. *Also encourages* Member States to further strengthen controls on the importation of precursors to ensure their legal use;

9. *Encourages* States from which precursors are exported and those into which precursors are imported to maintain, to the extent possible, updated annual estimates of their legitimate requirements for 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone, pseudoephedrine, ephedrine and 1-phenyl-2-propanone;

10. *Emphasizes* the need for Member States to strengthen monitoring and control systems at the points of entry of precursors, such as airports, ports and customs posts, and to promote the secure transport of such substances;

11. *Urges* Member States to work closely, to the extent possible, with the relevant industries in the implementation of effective procedures for the control and

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<sup>67</sup> Ibid., vol. 520, No. 7515.

monitoring of preparations containing substances that can be easily used or recovered by readily applicable means for the illicit manufacture of drugs;

12. *Invites* Member States with experience in the investigation of offences relating to the diversion of precursors and the International Narcotics Control Board to work together to provide, where possible, the relevant training to States upon request, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

13. *Urges* States to provide the International Narcotics Control Board and the Member States concerned with timely information on the identification of any new substances replacing precursors commonly used in the manufacture of illicit drugs and on the manufacture of such new substances;

14. *Invites* Member States to continue notifying the International Narcotics Control Board and the Member States concerned of any new routes and methods identified as being used in the diversion of precursors, such as misuse of the Internet, as reflected in Commission resolutions 43/8 and 50/11, and other delivery systems;

15. *Encourages* Member States to consider the issue of precursor control as one of the central questions to be discussed during the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which will review the action plans and measures emanating from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly;

16. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Member States.