## Operational recommendations on ensuring the availability of and access to controlled substances exclusively for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion U.S. Contribution

The international community should work to improve the availability of narcotic drugs and other controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion and trafficking through countries. This can be achieved through the development and application of appropriate regulatory systems and control measures. Member states should also utilize the expertise of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the International Narcotics Control Board in this area to utilize or undertake critical research and data collection on the accessibility and availability of substances for legitimate purposes. The international community should consider also providing funding for these technical assistance activities through UNODC's Joint Global Programme on "Access to Controlled Drugs for Medical Purposes While Preventing Diversion and Abuse."

• The United States has previously provided funding to UNDOC to support indepth assessments, such as an analysis for several countries in the Western Hemisphere on access to controlled drugs for medical purposes, while controlling for diversion and non-medical use.