

# Media Invitation

## Launch of the 2011 Annual Report of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)  
International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)

**Theme:**  
**Substance Abuse and Social Exclusion**

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<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, 29 February 2012
<b>VENUE:</b>	Auditorium of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, 7 <sup>th</sup> Floor, & Wale Street, Cape Town
<b>TIME:</b>	10h30 for 11h00, until 13h00
<b>THEME:</b>	Substance Abuse and Social Exclusion

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Illicit drugs present the world with an ongoing challenge, represent a danger to society, and are an area which requires constant attention and action to tackle and manage both supply and demand. The consequences of illicit drugs are widespread - they fuel organised crime, fund terrorism, and adversely affect public health.

Noting these factors, each year the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) releases its Annual Report to reflect on the previous successes, identify existing challenges and discuss recent development affecting global production of and demand for drugs.

As the independent and quasi-judicial monitoring body for the implementation of the United Nations international drug control conventions, the International Narcotic Control Board has been instrumental in tracking drug demand across the world and in assisting Governments in their efforts to control drugs by managing an ever expanding global control system.

2012 marks the centenary of the first international drug control treaty, the International Opium Convention of the Hague from 1912, which was a milestone that demonstrated the recognition that international cooperation and the principle of shared responsibility were essential to drug control.

This year's INCB Report puts a specific emphasis on drug abuse in marginalised communities, calling for more efforts to break the vicious cycle of social exclusion and drug problems.

Other topics addressed by the Report are:

- "Drug-facilitated crime is on the rise worldwide"
- "Ordering drugs online: illegal Internet pharmacies target young audiences via social media"
- "Criminals increasingly turning to "designer" chemicals for the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants; shared responsibility as important as ever, says INCB"

The launch will be opened by the Western Cape Provincial Government Minister for Social Development, Albert Fritz, and addressed by UNODC Regional Representative, Mr Mandiaye Niang, before Dr Lochan Naidoo, South African Member of the International Narcotics Control Board, will present the findings of the report.

An opportunity for members of the media to interview the speakers will be provided after the official proceedings.

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***Please be advised that the Provincial Parliament is a National Key Point and therefore subject to specific safety precautions. In order to facilitate a speedy entrance, please supply your name and ID number to the contact provided below. Cameras etc. will be scanned with x-rays. If you object to your equipment being scanned, please give due notice for alternative measures.***

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**Attendance confirmations, accreditation and media enquiries:**

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