INCB’s overall responsibility to promote Governments’ compliance with international drug control treaties

Treaties cover all pharmaceutical products that contain narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and most of their precursors

- Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol
- Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971
- United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988
Status of adherence to the International Drug Control Treaties

186 Parties, 8 non-Parties

183 Parties, 11 non-Parties

184 Parties, 11 non-Parties
Substances under international control

119 substances under the 1961 Convention
Schedules I, II, III, IV
- Natural drugs: opium, morphine, codeine, cannabis, cocaine etc.
- Synthetic drugs: methadone, pethidine, etc.

116 substances under the 1971 Convention
Schedules I, II, III, IV
- Stimulants: amphetamines, methylphenidate, phentermine, etc.
- Sedative hypnotics/anxiolytics: barbiturates, benzodiazepines etc.

The provisions of the 1961 and the 1971 Convention apply to base substances as well as pharmaceutical preparations.

The provisions of the 1988 Convention do not apply to pharmaceutical preparations.
Monitors and promotes treaty implementation

Provides for direct working level contacts between concerned authorities

Assists, through its secretariat, with real-time exchange of information to prevent diversions of controlled substances

Administers the international control system

This system has resulted in a near cease of diversion of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances from int. trade
Composition of the Board

- 13 members
  - 3 nominated by WHO
  - 10 nominated by Governments
- elected by ECOSOC for a period of 5 years
- serve in their personal capacity not as government representatives

Board members are persons who, “by their competence, impartiality and disinterestedness, will command general confidence” (Article 9 (2), 1961 Convention)
Role of INCB

- Monitor the implementation of the Conventions
- Support Parties in implementing the Conventions
Objectives of the international control system

I. Limit the use of controlled substances to legitimate purposes

II. Ensure that controlled substances are available for legitimate purposes
1. Limit the use of controlled substances to legitimate purposes

- Prevention of diversion from domestic distribution channels
- Prevention of diversion from international trade
Prevention of diversion

International control measures (e.g. provisions of the Conventions, relevant ECOSOC resolutions)

National control measures

The international control system: Close cooperation of national competent authorities and the Board
### Provisions of Conventions

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National Control Mechanism

- Law/regulations
- Competent authority
- Licensing and permits
- Record keeping
- Reporting
- Others (prescription system)
- Inspection system
- Sanctions
International Control System

THREE PILLARS

A. Estimates/Assessments

B. Statistical returns

C. Control measures for international trade
A. Estimates/assessments of legitimate requirements

Forms B, BP: Data to be furnished to INCB (different requirements for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances)

Narcotic Drugs:
• Quantities to be consumed for medical and scientific purposes;
• Quantities to be utilized for the manufacture of other drugs or exempted preparations;
• Stocks of drugs to be held as at 31 December;
• Quantities of drugs necessary for addition to special stocks;
• etc.

Psychotropic Substances: Total quantities required annually for medical and scientific purposes
B. Statistical returns

• Form A, AP: Quarterly Statistics of Imports and Exports of Narcotic Drugs (all Schedules) and Psychotropic Substances (Schedule II)

• Form C, P: Annual Statistical Reports (Production, Manufacture, Consumption, Stocks and Seizures, Licit Trade, Use etc.)
INCB controls through:

Estimates/Assessment system

Statistical returns

Ex-ante

Estimates / Assessments

During the year

Quarterly reports on imports/exports

Changes in estimates/assessments

Ex-post

Annual statistical reports

- Should correspond to actual requirements
- Should be respected by exporting countries
Data received and results of analysis of international movements of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are reflected in INCB Technical Reports.
C. Control measures for international trade

- Each country must have a **competent authority** empowered to issue import/export authorizations for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

- Each transaction is to be specifically **authorized** by the competent authorities of the importing and the exporting country.

- Import/export authorizations in **standard format**, protected against falsification.

- **Model** of import/export authorizations should be furnished to INCB.
Additional control measures

The Board identifies emerging problems relating to control of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and brings them to the attention of Governments (e.g. trends in abuse and diversion of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances)

The Board provides guidance for international cooperation in prevention of abuse and diversion (e.g. illegal sales of controlled substances through the Internet)