

Resolution 5 (XXXIV)

Diversion of chemicals used in the illicit production  
of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances\*

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recognizing the critical importance of chemicals in the illicit production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the dependence of drug traffickers on the ready availability of licit commercial suppliers to meet their needs,

Mindful of article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988, 1/ and of the Political Declaration and the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-17/2 of 23 February 1990, which established the necessity for and the principles of control of chemicals critical to the production of illicit drugs,

Convinced that the diversion of chemicals used in the illicit production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is an international problem and that purely unilateral or regional chemical controls cannot alone succeed,

Aware that States in which narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are illicitly produced need the cooperation and assistance of chemical-producing and transit States in preventing the diversion of chemicals,

1. Urges States that have not already done so to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988;
2. Urges all States to fully commit themselves to the firm, effective control of chemicals used in the illicit production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances pursuant to the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 12;
3. Welcomes the initiative taken by the heads of state or government of the Group of Seven major industrial nations and the Commission of the European Communities at the sixteenth annual economic summit, held at Houston, Texas, in July 1990, to establish a Chemical Action Task Force to develop methods to prevent the diversion of chemicals;
4. Further welcomes the fact that, in addition to the members of the Group of Seven, 17 other countries, as well as the International Narcotics Control Board and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States, participated in the work of the Task Force, the results of which it looks forward to receiving;

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\* See paragraph 247 above.

5. Urges source, transit and receiving States to act together but also independently, particularly with regard to specific activities originating in their territories, by establishing measures whereby the legitimacy of chemical shipments may be determined and those found to be suspicious may be investigated, communicating with each other concerning such shipments and taking the action necessary to prohibit such shipments where there is sufficient evidence that they may be diverted into the illicit traffic;
6. Urges all States involved in the international commerce of chemicals commonly used in the illicit production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, particularly those listed in Tables I and II of the Convention, to support the development of secure and effective means of communication whereby States may promptly transmit and receive relevant information on the legitimacy of specific transactions;
7. Invites States to assist developing countries in the establishment of controls on the production, transit and import of chemicals used in the illicit production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances listed in Tables I and II of the Convention;
8. Invites all States that are not yet parties to the Convention to furnish annually to the International Narcotics Control Board, in a timely manner, the information listed in article 12, paragraph 12, of the Convention;
9. Requests all States that have not yet done so to identify, as a matter of urgency, and to notify the International Narcotics Control Board of, the competent authorities responsible for reporting to the Board under the provisions of article 12 of the Convention;
10. Emphasizes the urgency of providing the necessary technical and budgetary support to enable the International Narcotics Control Board to discharge expeditiously its functions in accordance with article 12 of the Convention;
11. Invites the International Narcotics Control Board, in its next report on the implementation of article 12 of the Convention, to advise the Commission on the present adequacy and propriety of Tables I and II of the Convention, including the possibility of scheduling new substances, and to communicate to the Commission its assessment of proposals received from parties for the addition of new chemicals, in accordance with article 12, paragraph 4 (b), of the Convention, with specific reference to chemicals essential to the illicit production of heroin and cocaine.

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1/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.XI.6.