1994/5. Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs

The Economic and Social Council,


Emphasizing that the need to balance the global licit supply of opiates against the legitimate demand for opiates for medical and scientific purposes is central to the international strategy and policy of drug abuse control,

Noting the fundamental need for international cooperation and solidarity with the traditional supplier countries in drug abuse control in general and in the universal application of the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 19616 in particular,

Having considered the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1993,7 in particular paragraphs 60 to 66 concerning the demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs,

Having also considered the valuable recommendations made by the International Narcotics Control Board in its special report for 1989 on the demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs,8

Nothing with appreciation the reduction in production in 1993,

1. Urges all Governments to contribute to the establishment and maintenance of a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiates for medical and scientific needs and to the solution of the problems involved, in particular the problem of excess stocks of opiate raw materials held by the traditional supplier States;

2.Commends the International Narcotics Control Board for its efforts in monitoring the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions and, in particular:

(a) In urging the Governments concerned to restrict global production of opiate raw materials to a level corresponding to the actual licit needs and to avoid any proliferation of production;

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7 E/INCB/1993/1 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.2).

8 E/INCB/1989/1/Supp. (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.89.XI.5).