

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERALE/RES/1995/19
49th Plenary Meeting
24 July 1995**1995/19. Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs**

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1979/8 of 9 May 1979, 1980/20 of 30 April 1980, 1981/8 of 6 May 1981, 1982/12 of 30 April 1982, 1983/3 of 24 May 1983, 1984/21 of 24 May 1984, 1985/16 of 28 May 1985, 1986/9 of 21 May 1986, 1987/31 of 26 May 1987, 1988/10 of 25 May 1988, 1989/15 of 22 May 1989, 1990/31 of 24 May 1990, 1991/43 of 21 June 1991, 1992/30 of 30 July 1992, 1993/37 of 27 July 1993 and 1994/5 of 20 July 1994,

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 1961⁵⁴ in particular,

Having considered the *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1994*,⁵⁵ in which it is stated that in 1993 the consumption of opiates was higher than the production of opiate raw materials, and that in 1994 there was a shortage of supply,

Noting that the traditional supplier countries held very limited stocks of opiate raw materials at the end of 1994,

Also noting the importance of opiates in pain relief therapy as advocated by the World Health Organization,

1. *Urges* all Governments to continue contributing to the establishment and maintenance of a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiates for medical and scientific needs, the achievement of which would be facilitated by maintaining, in so far as their constitutional and legal systems permit, support to the traditional supplier countries, and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production and manufacture for export;
2. *Urges* Governments of all producing countries to adhere strictly to the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and to take effective measures to prevent diversion to illicit channels or otherwise not engage in licit production of opiate raw materials;
3. *Also urges* all Governments to comply fully with the relevant recommendations contained in the *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1994* in this respect;
4. *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;
 - (b) In convening meetings for establishing a balance between licit demand for and supply of opiates, during sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, with the main States importing and producing opiate raw materials;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to all Governments for consideration and implementation.

54 United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

55 United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XI.4.