



International Narcotics Control Board
Monitoring and Supporting Governments' compliance
with the international drug control treaties

*Operational Recommendations on
cross-cutting issues in addressing and
countering the world drug problem:
**INCB follow-up activities on Chapter 5:
NPS, precursors and pre-precursors***

CND Intersessional Meeting
17 October 2017

Precursors Control Section
Secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)



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Chapter 5: Operational recommendations ***Addressing NPS, ATS, ..., the diversion of precursors and pre-precursors ...***

- b) Promoting cross-border cooperation and information-sharing ...
- c) Establishing and strengthening partnerships and information exchange with industries, ... and other relevant private sector entities... ..

New Psychoactive Substances

- g) Enhancing bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international cooperation in the identification and reporting of ... incidents involving [NPS]...

Precursors and pre-precursors

- l) Strengthening national, regional and international monitoring of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs *and NPS* ...
- m) ... enhancing voluntary efforts, including ... in cooperation with relevant industries ...

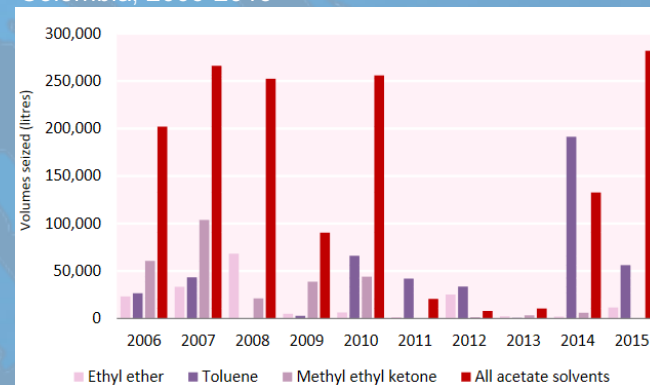


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Current situation & challenges

- Diversion now most commonly from domestic distribution channels & subsequent smuggling across borders; diversion from international trade rare.
- Emergence of non-scheduled “designer” precursors made specifically to circumvent controls.
- Major increases in sophistication, diversification and scale of illicit manufacturing operations and the sourcing of chemicals

Figure XIII. Seizures of solvents in Table II and non-scheduled acetate solvents, as reported on form D by Colombia, 2006-2015



Source: INCB report on precursors, 2016

NPS

NPS



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Unprecedented sophistication & scale

- Technical know-how and equipment previously considered too complex / sophisticated and costly to employ in illicit settings now commonly seen



Photos: Procuraduría General de la República de México, 2011, Narcotics Control Bureau, India, 2009

NPS



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INCB follow-up activities on UNGASS' Chapter 5:

CND Intersessional, January 2017: required action by Governments

ADDRESSING NON-SCHEDULED SUBSTANCES

- **Share, and follow up on, actionable information** (Project Prism/ Cohesion/ ION):
 - Invest in the **timely** and **systematic** collection and sharing of information → build up cases
 - Inform the authorities of transit and destination countries of known outbound shipments, so that those authorities may take action on incoming shipments.
 - Notify substances which have no currently recognized legitimate use beyond limited R&D.
- Explore the full potential of **voluntary cooperation between national authorities and all relevant industries and trades** of all sizes and at all levels:
 - Establish arrangements whereby domestic operators will systematically report cases of suspicion; and whereby denied requests/orders will be followed up & shared.
 - Explore twinning activities between countries with established voluntary industry cooperation mechanisms and those wanting to develop them.
- Give higher priority to law enforcement cooperation / joint investigations, as an effective form of prevention of serious illicit activity.
- Stop relying solely on scheduling individual substances → **Explore innovative approaches**, e.g.: reversal of burden of proof (NPS, precursors), "immediate precursors"



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INCB follow-up activities on UNGASS' Chapter 5:

- Platforms for real-time information exchange at the intersection of licit trade & trafficking of *chemicals*:
 - PEN Online (licit, intl trade) and PICS / IONICS (illicit, trafficking)
 - Global projects & initiatives (Project Prism / Cohesion / ION)
 - Facilitation of operational case cooperation
- PEN Online: 156 Governments, approx. 2,700 PENs/month
 - PICS: 104 Governments (nearly 480 users / 240 agencies), almost 2,000 incidents involving > 60 countries & territories
 - IONICS: 75 Governments (> 210 users), > 1,000 incidents
 - Global focal point network: Prism (134 participants), Cohesion (92), Ion (125)



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INCB follow-up activities on UNGASS' Chapter 5:

■ Promoting voluntary cooperation with industry & domestic controls



- Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry (2009)
- Practical notes for implementing the International Narcotics Control Board guidelines for a voluntary code of practice for the chemical industry (2015)
- Quick guide & model memorandum of understanding (2015)
- Limited international special surveillance list of non-scheduled substances (1998, regularly updated)

■ Workshops, expert meetings

- “Enhancing chemical industry-government cooperation through partnership” (April 2014, Manama, Bahrain)
- “Successes and challenges of public–private partnerships in preventing the diversion of chemicals” (May 2016, Vienna, Austria)
- International Conferences “Precursor chemicals and NPS” in Bangkok, Thailand (December 2013, April 2015, January 2017)

■ Study visits (“twinning” activities)



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INCB follow-up activities on UNGASS' Chapter 5:

- Training for regulatory authorities (INCB Learning Project) - regional
 - East Africa (Apr-16)
 - Asia (Jul-16)
 - Europe (Jul-17)
 - Oceania (Nov-17)
 - Central America (Dec-17)
- Joint trainings with UNODC on operational aspects of precursors
- Identifying and supporting innovative approaches: Awareness-raising / advocacy / recommended actions



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Awareness-raising / recommended actions

Thematic chapters

2011: 20 Years of international precursor control:
achievements and progress

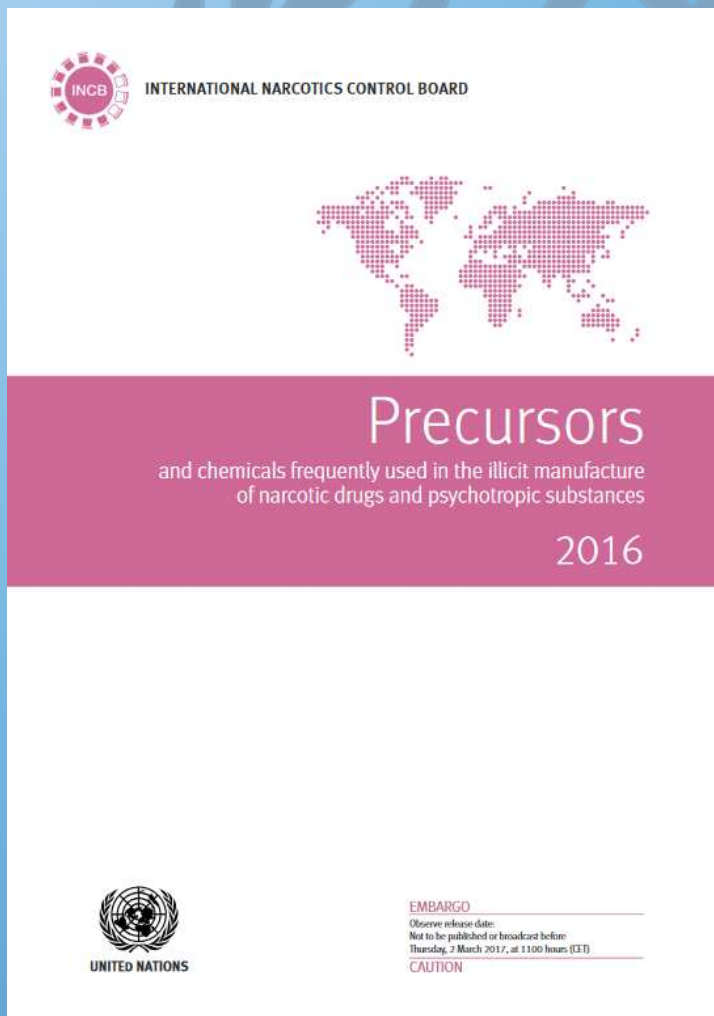
2012: Challenges in international precursor
control

2013: Action to enhance international precursor
control

2014: Making precursor control fit for 2019 and
beyond (a contribution to UNGASS 2016)

2015: Public-private partnerships: their merits
and potential in preventing the diversion of
chemicals

2016: Prevention of chemical diversion beyond
regulatory controls: the role of law
enforcement



https://www.incb.org/incb/en/precursors/technical_reports/precursors-technical-reports.html



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***THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION***

Barbara Remberg

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