

1996/30. Measures to combat diversion of psychotropic substances and to establish effective control over operations carried out by intermediaries in international trade in psychotropic substances

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the need to give full effect to the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,³² in order to effectively combat diversion and abuse of psychotropic substances,

Noting that difficulties encountered by certain countries in introducing control measures provided for in the 1971 Convention have been central to the problem of diversion of psychotropic substances involving intermediaries,

Recalling its resolutions 1991/44 of 21 June 1991 and 1993/38 of 27 July 1993 on measures to enhance controls of international trade in psychotropic substances,

Noting that intermediaries have been involved in major cases of diversion and attempted diversion of psychotropic substances,

Noting also that the situation is further exacerbated by the fact that some countries complying with the requirements of the 1971 Convention and of its resolutions are allowing the export of psychotropic substances to countries in which effective import or export controls have not yet been implemented,

Recalling that in its resolution 1993/38 on measures to prevent substances listed in Schedules III and IV of the 1971 Convention from being diverted from international trade into illicit channels, it invited Governments, *inter alia*, to exercise continuing vigilance to ensure that operations of brokers and

transit operators are not used for the diversion of psychotropic substances into illicit channels,

Noting with satisfaction the relevant activities carried out jointly by the International Narcotics Control Board and the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe and, in particular, the conclusions and recommendations of the International Narcotics Control Board/Pompidou Group Expert Consultation on Control of Brokers and Transit Operators Handling Psychotropic Substances and Precursors, held at Vienna from 3 to 5 May 1995, as well as those of their Conference on Control of International Trade in Psychotropic Substances in Europe, held at Strasbourg, France, from 18 to 20 October 1995,

Recognizing the increasingly important role of the International Narcotics Control Board in facilitating the detection and interdiction of the suspected diversion of psychotropic substances,

1. *Invites* Governments that have not already done so to establish, as a matter of priority, competent authorities for the control of psychotropic substances and to notify the Secretary-General of the identity of those authorities, including details of addresses;

2. *Also invites* Governments to take appropriate measures, with the assistance of the International Narcotics Control Board, to prevent shipments of psychotropic substances in excess of the annual domestic requirements for licit purposes to countries which have not yet implemented effective controls over international trade in those substances;

3. *Requests* the International Narcotics Control Board to establish assessments of annual licit domestic requirements of psychotropic substances for countries that have not yet submitted such assessments;

4. *Invites* Governments of exporting countries to exercise the utmost vigilance over import orders for psychotropic substances received from countries considered to have deficient control regimes, particularly in order to prevent uncontrolled re-exports, and to ensure that exports to free ports and free trade zones are avoided if controls over re-exports have not been established;

5. *Calls upon* all Governments which do not yet control international trade in all psychotropic substances listed in schedules III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 by using the system of import and export authorizations urgently to consider the establishment of such a system;

6. *Also calls upon* all Governments for which it is not immediately feasible to control the export of substances listed in schedules III and IV of the 1971 Convention by means of the system of export authorizations to make use of other mechanisms, such as the system of pre-export declarations;

7. *Calls upon* all Governments to consider the establishment of control measures for intermediaries, including

registration on licensing and record-keeping requirements, as well as the enactment of regulatory and criminal sanctions for intermediaries facilitating diversions;

8. *Requests* the International Narcotic Control Board to study, in consultation with Governments, the feasibility of formulating specific guidelines for use by Governments on the control of intermediaries involved in international trade in psychotropic substances, on the basis of the conclusions and recommendations of the International Narcotics Control Board/Pompidou Group Expert Consultation on Control of Brokers and Transit Operators Handling Psychotropic Substances and Precursors, held at Vienna from 3 to 5 May 1995;

9. *Invites* Governments of exporting countries, in seeking to verify the legitimacy of suspicious export transactions, to establish or reinforce bilateral contacts with Governments of importing countries and, if necessary, to request the assistance of the International Narcotics Control Board;

10. *Invites* all Governments and relevant international bodies to ensure the rapid flow of communications, including the use of electronic means of data exchange;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to propose to the General Assembly, in order to implement the present resolution, any modification in the programme of work of the Secretariat that may be necessary for the allocation of adequate resources to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to all Governments for consideration and implementation.

*48th plenary meeting
24 July 1996*