



INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

Press release to launch annual report of INCB

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2009 Annual Report

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INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD



**What is the International
Narcotics Control Board?**



**Established by the
1961 Single Convention on
Narcotic Drugs to replace
predecessor bodies
under League of Nations**

**Additional mandates to control
psychotropic substances under
the 1971 Convention; and
chemicals used in illicit drug
manufacture under the 1988
Convention**



INCB History

➤ Geneva Convention, 1925

- **PCB** *Permanent Central Opium (or Narcotics) Board (1929-1967)*

➤ 1931 Convention

- **DSB** *Drug Supervisory Body (1933-1967)*

➤ Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961

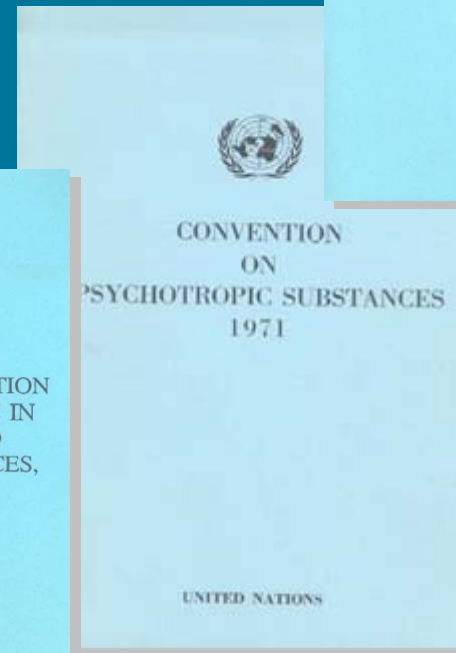
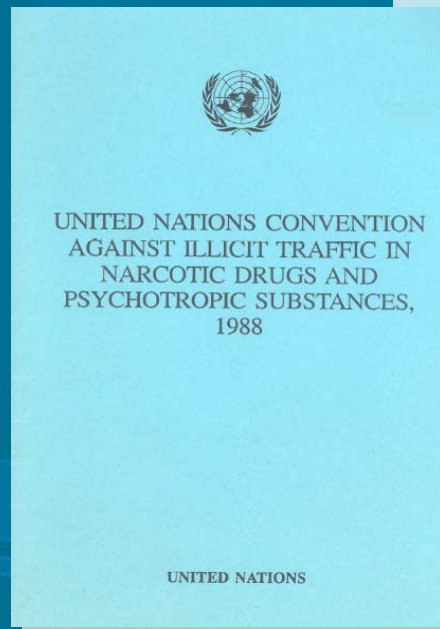
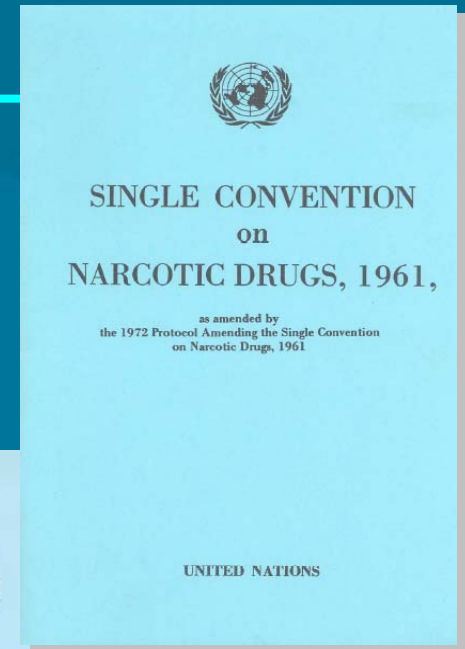
- **INCB** *International Narcotics Control Board*
(as of 1968)

Functions of INCB

➤ To monitor and promote treaty compliance

➤ To encourage dialogue with Governments

Quasi judicial function





INCB reports

- Annual Report of the Board
- Report on article 12 of the 1988 Convention
- Technical reports on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances
- Special reports (e.g. 2009 UNGASS)



INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD



Annual Report 2009

The highlights





Thematic review:

Primary prevention of drug abuse

(Press release no. 2, Chapter 1 of report)

Primary prevention of drug abuse

Focus of first Chapter is on drug abuse prevention

- An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure
- Prevent and reduce drug abuse in populations that are either not using or not seriously involved with drugs
- Can only achieve sustained progress if the demand for illicit drugs is reduced

Primary prevention of drug abuse

Factors influencing later drug use are complex, including

- Personal factors (personality, mental health, life skills)
- Family factors (quality of family life)
- Social factors (peer influence)
- Socio-economic factors (internal migration)

Primary prevention of drug abuse

Strategies for preventing drug abuse

- Early childhood (preschool up to 6 years of age)
 - Targeted at prospective parents (home visit initiatives)
 - Higher-quality early childhood education programmes
- Later childhood:
 - Family-based initiatives
 - Family-skills training programmes)

Primary prevention of drug abuse

Strategies for preventing drug abuse

- Early and middle adolescence
 - Education aimed at raising awareness of the risks of drug abuse
 - School policies on substance abuse
 - Universal prevention measures (e.g. Mass media campaigns)
- Late adolescence and early adulthood
 - Workplace, nightlife settings
 - Post-secondary institutions

Primary prevention of drug abuse

Challenges

- Prevention often in the shadows of treatment of drug abuse; low priority on prevention of drug abuse for youth and other vulnerable groups;
- Effective collaboration among governmental and non-governmental actors can be difficult.

Recommendations

Governments should

- Integrate primary prevention into the national drug control strategy and use a public health framework
- Build capacity for and ensure collaboration and linkage among all Government sectors pursuing similar prevention aims
- Encourage various groups with a stake in prevention (families, schools, NGOs etc.) to work together towards the achievement of prevention aims

Recommendations

Governments should

- Establish mechanisms to improve the understanding of drug abuse and factors influencing drug abuse
- Increase their commitment to the evaluation of primary prevention



Regional highlights

Press release No. 3, Chapter 3 of report



South-East Asia and Oceania

- Illicit manufacture and trafficking of amphetamine-type stimulants has increased in East and South –East Asia
- Smuggling of pharmaceutical preparations containing pseudoephedrine into New Zealand has risen significantly (seizures multiplied by 13 between 2002 and 2008)
- Demand for MDMA (“ecstasy”) in Australia has increased
- Low rate of accession to the international drug control treaties by States in Oceania of concern to the Board



Prescription drug abuse

Press release No. 4, Chapter 2



Abuse of prescription drugs (1)

- Increasing dimension of abuse of prescription drugs is a disturbing development
- Diversion of pharmaceutical preparations from domestic distribution channels is an underreported phenomenon (difficult to obtain comprehensive data on the actual level of abuse of such drugs)
- Problem not confined to developed countries; almost all countries are affected
- Substances abused include opioids and benzodiazepines e.g. buprenorphine, codeine, diazepam, pethidine
- Means of diversion include forged prescriptions, thefts from pharmacies, hospitals and doctors' offices
- Illegally operating Internet pharmacies play a major role in the increasing illicit market for prescription drugs

Abuse of prescription drugs (2)

- Governments should devote increased attention to the problem of prescription drug abuse when formulating public health policies:
 - Collect data on abuse of these substances in their national drug abuse surveys
 - Law enforcement authorities should regularly report seizures of pharmaceutical preparations
 - Introduce programmes for monitoring prescription to reduce improper prescribing practices
 - Promote rational use of prescription drugs



Drugs and sexual crimes

Press release No. 5, Chapter 2 of report

Drugs and sexual crimes (1)

- Use of such drugs for sexual assault well-documented in scientific and legal literature
- Several drugs are involved, e.g. cannabis, flunitrazepam or GHB
- Drugs are used with criminal intent to weaken the resistance of the individuals
- Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/8: Member States to adopt measures to address the use of substances to facilitate sexual assault (“date rape”)

Drugs and sexual crimes (2)

- Governments should:
 - enhance public awareness of that problem
 - consider imposing stricter controls
 - share information on the use of such drugs
 - cooperate with industry (e.g. develop formulations with safety features, such as dyes and flavorings, to alert possible victims to the contamination of their drinks without affecting the bioavailability of the active ingredients in legitimate drugs)
 - take other measures aimed at discouraging the use of such substances for the commission of drug-facilitated sexual assault



Illicit drug manufacture

Press release No. 6



Illicit drug manufacture

- New processes, routes and substances for criminal networks;
- Ephedrine and pseudoephedrine used to be the main chemicals in the illicit manufacture of methamphetamine;
- Government of Mexico implemented a ban on these substances; now phenylacetic acid is used;
- INCB supports Governments in their action against trafficking of chemicals.



100 years of drug control

Press release 7



100 years of drug control

- First multinational initiative in drug control: International Opium Commission, Shanghai 1909,
- 1909 Commission laid groundwork for the elaboration of first international drug control treaty
- Centennial commemoration of that landmark event was held in February 2009, more than 100 delegates participated
- Shanghai Declaration reaffirms political commitment to a comprehensive, balanced and mutually reinforcing approach to supply and demand reduction
- Declaration called on States to fully implement the international drug control treaties
- Board expresses its great appreciation to Government of China for organizing and hosting this important event



INCB recommendations

Chapter 4

Chapter IV

Main Recommendations

- Presentation of major recommendations made throughout the report
- Recommendations addressed to Governments, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), World Health Organization (WHO) and other relevant international and regional organizations
- Implementation of these recommendations will be reviewed by the Board



**Thank you
for your attention**

<http://www.incb.org>