

THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

MANDATE AND ACTIVITIES

Mandate

The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) consists of 13 members who are elected for five-year terms by the United Nations Economic and Social Council and who serve in their personal capacity, not as government representatives. Three members with medical, pharmacological or pharmaceutical experience are elected from a list of persons nominated by the World Health Organization (WHO) and 10 members are elected from a list of persons nominated by Governments. INCB sessions are held three times a year in February, May and November.

The mandate of INCB is to monitor and promote Governments' compliance with the United Nations international drug control treaties.

The principal objective of the three conventions, which are among the most widely ratified international treaties, is to promote the health and welfare of humankind. INCB supports Governments towards ensuring availability of internationally controlled narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals for medical, scientific and industrial purposes while preventing diversion, illicit manufacture and misuse.

International drug control conventions





Annual reports

INCB is required by the 1961 Single Convention, as amended, to publish an Annual Report on its work. The Annual Report provides a comprehensive account of the global drug situation and the functioning of the international drug control system, analyzes trends in drug misuse and drug trafficking and contains a series of recommendations to Governments and regional and international organizations. The INCB Annual Report is submitted through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the Economic and Social Council.

The Annual Report is supplemented by technical reports on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. INCB publishes periodic supplementary reports on the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes.

INCB is also required to publish a report on the implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention on precursor chemicals used in illicit drug manufacture and which also reports on article 13 of the 1988 convention relating to specialized equipment.



Evaluation and support of national efforts

By examining and analysing the information it receives from more than 200 countries and territories, INCB monitors the implementation of the three drug control conventions. Through its continuous evaluation of national efforts, INCB is able to recommend corrective action and suggest adjustments to both national and international drug control systems. Where appropriate, the Board recommends to the relevant stakeholders that technical or financial assistance be provided in support of Governments' efforts to comply with their treaty obligations.



Analysis of reports provided by Governmments

The provision of estimates, assessments and statistics to INCB, and control over international trade, forms the foundation of the international drug control system. It facilitates the availability of internationally controlled substances for licit purposes while preventing diversion to illicit channels.

States parties to the three international drug control conventions provide the Board with estimates and assessments as well as statistics on the actual manufacture of, international trade in and consumption of internationally controlled substances. INCB analyses the data to see whether the substances are accounted for at the main stages of production, manufacture and trade. The Board follows up on any discrepancies directly with the relevant national authorities.



Dialogue with Governments

INCB communicates with Governments through regular consultations and periodic missions, the outcome of which are confidential recommendations on measures that need to be taken to strengthen implementation of the international drug control conventions.

INCB TOOLS AND INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT GOVERNMENTS

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<tr><th></th><th>International Drug Treaty or CND Resolution</th><th>International trade monitoring</th><th>Documentation for authorities</th><th>Intelligence sharing tool</th><th>E-learning and training</th></tr>
<tr><td>Narcotics drugs</td><td>1961 Convention</td><td rowspan="2">I2ES*</td><td rowspan="2">“Governments” secure portal on incb.org</td><td rowspan="2"></td><td rowspan="5">INCB Learning</td></tr>
<tr><td>Psychotropic substances</td><td>1971 Convention</td></tr>
<tr><td>Precursor chemicals under international control</td><td>1988 Convention (art.12)</td><td>PEN Online*</td><td rowspan="3">"Precursors – CNA Projects" secure portal on incb.org</td><td rowspan="3">PICS</td></tr>
<tr><td>Non-scheduled chemicals and designer precursors</td><td>1988 Convention (art.13) and various CND resolutions **</td><td>PEN Online Light*</td></tr>
<tr><td>Illicit drug manufacturing equipment</td><td>1988 Convention (art.13)</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>New-Psychoactive Substances (NPS) and other dangerous substances</td><td>CND resolution 59/8**</td><td></td><td colspan="3">IONICS suite (IONICS, GRIDS Intelligence HD, E-Learning Individualized Learning Environment (ELITE))</td></tr>
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* To be integrated into Next Generation IDS

** While CND resolutions are not legally-binding, they are strongly recommended

INCB Learning

To enhance the functioning of national drug control administrations to achieve the health and welfare objectives of the treaties, capacity-building activities are held for drug control officials through the INCB Learning programme. This training focuses on meeting treaty obligations, especially those that relate to assessing requirements for internationally controlled substances for medical, scientific and industrial purposes, the control of international trade in those substances and fulfilling treaty-based reporting obligations.

Next Generation IDS

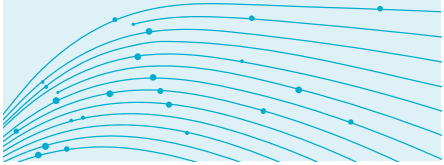
Next Generation IDS is a web-based platform developed by INCB to simplify the data reporting process for competent national authorities. Key features include a country portal for Governments, enhanced analysis tools, dashboards and visualizations. Data is provided by Governments on the manufacture of, use of and international trade in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors for medical, scientific and industrial purposes. This data on drugs and precursors dates back several decades and includes information that is unique to INCB.

INCB GRIDS Programme

The INCB Global Rapid Interdiction of Dangerous Substances (GRIDS) Programme was established in 2019 in response to United Nations General Assembly Resolution 73/192, which calls for international cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem. The programme integrates and expands upon ongoing INCB activities under Project Ion, which focuses on new psychoactive substances (NPS), the global OPIOIDS Project, focusing on non-medical synthetic opioids, and its Public-Private Partnerships initiatives. X: @INCB_GRIDS

BUDGET

INCB is funded through the regular budget of the United Nations. Voluntary extra-budgetary contributions from Member States are also received to support precursor control activities and the work of INCB Learning and the INCB GRIDS Programme.



INCB AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

INCB is supporting Governments in implementing various elements of the unified and universal 2030 agenda for sustainable development. Of particular relevance are Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 on good health and well-being and 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions.



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