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SITUATION ANALYSIS AND RESPONSES TO SYNTHETIC DRUGS AND NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES (NPS)
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INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD: PROJECT ION

INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS ON NPS

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GOVERNMENTS REPORTING NPS

Source: UNODC
NPS: Marketed as “products” and substances
NPS: A GROWING GLOBAL PROBLEM

- New psychoactive substances (NPS) broadly are substances of abuse, either in a pure form or a preparation, that are not controlled under the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs or the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, but which may pose a public health threat;

- Little or no known medical, scientific or industrial use;

- Since 2009 more than 350 NPS across various categories have been reported by Governments

Number of synthetic* NPS reported

- Synthetic cannabinoids
- Phentylamines
- Synthetic cathinones
- Tryptamines
- Others
- Piperazines
- Ketamine and Phencyclidine-type
- Aminooindanes

- Excludes plant-based substances

Source: UNODC

To date, none have been added to the international control system!
INTERNATIONAL CALL TO ACTION AND COOPERATION

- Resolution 48/11, States and relevant international organizations to cooperate closely with the International Narcotics Control Board’s task force initiatives … to develop of live intelligence-led investigations…

- Resolution 55/1, Member States to share information on NPS, through appropriate bilateral and multilateral channels…

- Resolution 56/4, … organizations to share and exchange ideas, efforts, good practices and experiences in adopting effective responses to address the unique challenges…

- Resolution 57/L11/Rev1, … support activities under INCB task force on NPS, nominate a focal point, exchange communications, participate in time-bound initiatives that target major organizations…
INCB Operational approach for Precursors

Developing and communicating actionable intelligence

Task Force directed mechanism; Multilateral operational activities (*Projects PRISM and Cohesion*)

Real-time communication (*PICS*) and sharing of operational information between national authorities (focal points)

Prevent the diversion of chemicals to illicit drug manufacture
INCB Operational Approach for NPS

Developing and Communicating Actionable Intelligence

NPS Task Force directed mechanism; Multilateral operational activities (*Project ION*)

Real-time communication (*IONICS*) and sharing of operational information between national authorities (ION focal points)

Prevent new psychoactive substances from reaching consumer markets
INCB ACTIONS TO COUNTER NPS

- Board decision to provide operational support to governments to counter NPS (May 2013)

- INCB Precursors Task Force convened (September 2013)

- Project ION (*International Operations on NPS*) formally launched at Bangkok Regional Conference (December 2013)

- Project ION Focal Points established (January 2014)

- First Operational Meeting under Project ION (February 2014)

- First NPS Task Force meeting convened (March 2014)

- IONICS secure communication platform developed (July 2014)
PRACTICAL STEPS GOVERNMENTS CAN DO NOW

- Governments encouraged to nominate a Project ION focal point(s) to send and receive INCB special alerts communications on NPS (see circular letter E/INCB/PRE/C.L. 33/2013);

- Project ION focal points encouraged to actively participate in time-bound multilateral intelligence sharing special operations (CND resolution 57/L11/Rev1);

- Government focal points encouraged to register to the Project ION Incident Communication System (IONICS) and actively use the secure communication platform (currently under development) to share intelligence related to NPS suspicious shipments and traffic.
Con referencia a la resolución 55/1 de la Comisión de Estupefacientes, titulada “Promoción de la cooperación internacional para enfrentar los problemas planteados por las nuevas sustancias psicoactivas”, de marzo de 2012, y la resolución 56/4 de la Comisión de Estupefacientes, titulada “Mejoramiento de la cooperación internacional en el reconocimiento y la notificación de nuevas sustancias psicoactivas”, de marzo de 2013, la Junta Internacional de Fiscalización de Estupefacientes ha instituido una iniciativa operacional internacional destinada a ayudar a los organismos de represión y reglamentación a evitar que las nuevas sustancias psicoactivas objeto de abuso que no figuren en los cuadros lleguen a los mercados de consumo. La iniciativa se denominará “Proyecto ION” (del inglés International Operations on NPS, operaciones internacionales sobre las nuevas sustancias psicoactivas objeto de abuso que no figuran en los cuadros). Será dirigida por el grupo de tareas sobre nuevas sustancias psicoactivas y su organización será similar a la de los mecanismos existentes del Proyecto Prisma y el Proyecto Cohesión.

A fin de que su país pueda participar plenamente en determinadas operaciones mundiales y regionales sujetas a plazos concretos del Proyecto ION y recibir la inteligencia estratégica y operacional que estas generen, la Junta desea invitar a su Gobierno a que designe un centro de coordinación nacional u organismo nacional central (ONC).
PRACTICAL STEPS GOVERNMENTS CAN DO NOW

Governments still needing Project ION Focal Points