

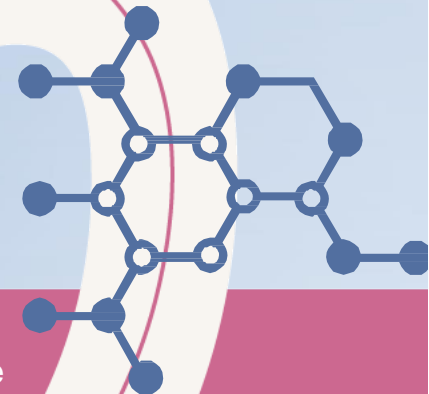


International Narcotics Control Board
Precursors Control Section

INCB REPORT 2022

CICAD's Group of Experts on Chemical Substances and
Pharmaceutical Products

Quito, Ecuador
May 23 – 25, 2023



Precursors

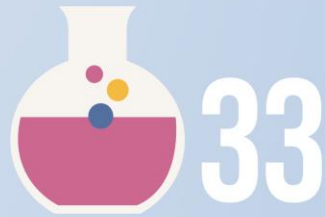
and chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances





2022 INCB PRECURSORS ANNUAL REPORT AT A GLANCE

3 PRECURSORS OF FENTANYL added to Table I of the 1988 Convention



TOTAL NUMBER OF PRECURSOR CHEMICALS scheduled internationally as of November 2022



Need to step up efforts to monitor and investigate **SUSPICIOUS POSTINGS OF PRECURSORS ON THE INTERNET**

168

GOVERNMENTS are registered to use the PEN Online system to inform each other of proposed shipments of controlled precursors

67 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

across **ALL 5 CONTINENTS** have now reported seizures of substances not included in the two tables of the 1988 Convention



600

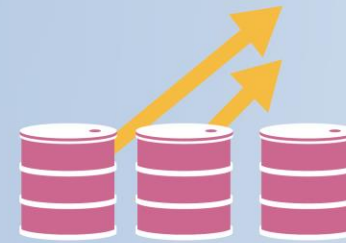
OFFICIALS from 127 countries and territories use the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS) for real-time information-sharing for joint investigations



Resurgence of seizures of pharmaceutical preparations containing pseudoephedrine: 2021 **SEIZURES ARE UP 3 TIMES** compared to 2018

X2

The global quantity reported seized in 2021 of the key cocaine precursor, potassium permanganate, **NEARLY DOUBLED** in comparison with the quantity reported seized in 2020

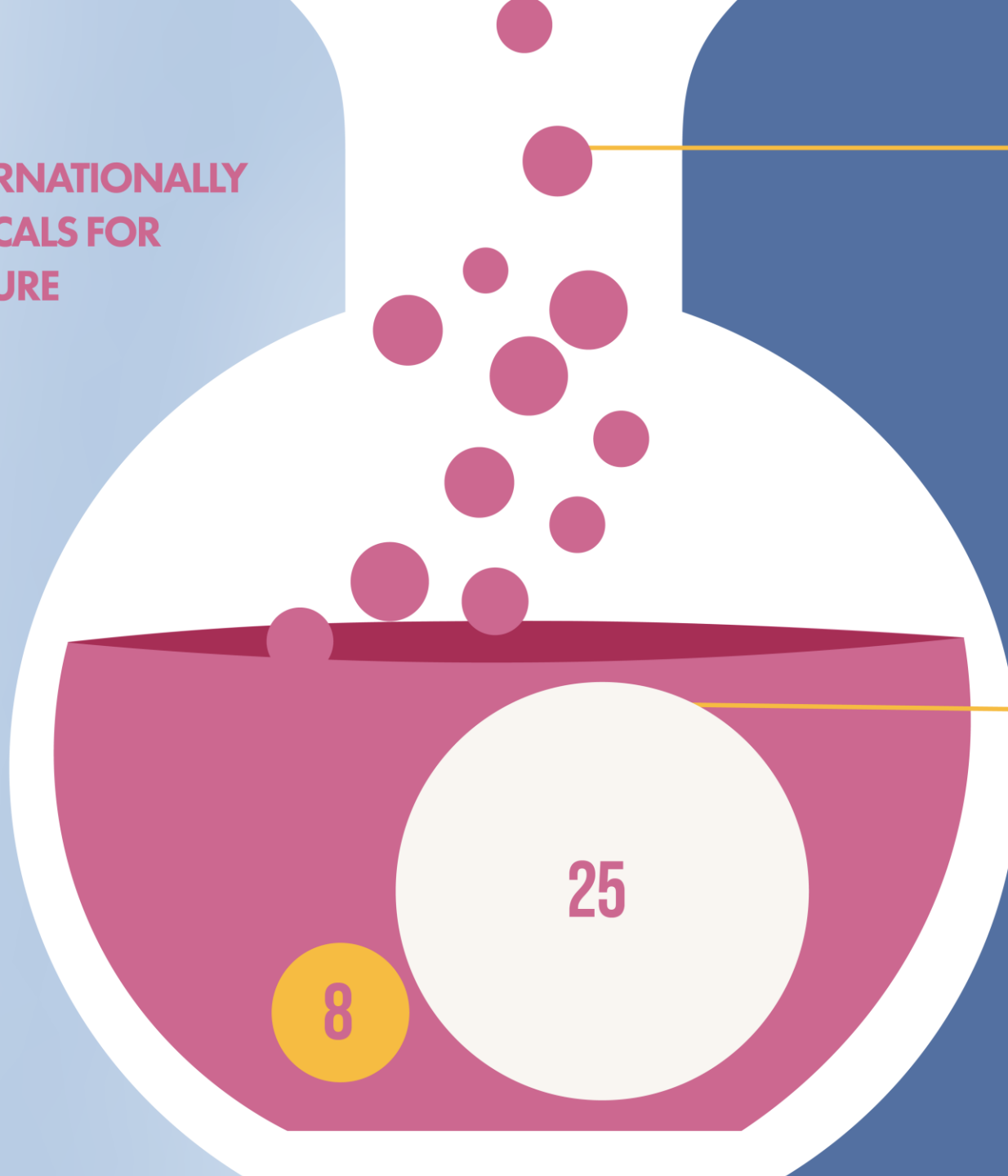




GLOBAL SPREAD OF INTERNATIONALLY NON-SCHEDULED CHEMICALS FOR ILLICIT DRUG MANUFACTURE

67

COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES across **ALL 5 CONTINENTS** have now reported seizures of substances not included in the two tables of the 1988 Convention.



Among the newly reported alternative precursors were **DEPAPD** for amphetamine and methamphetamine, and **3,4-MDP-2-P ETHYL GLYCIDATE** for MDMA and related substances. These substances are often close chemical relatives of controlled precursors.

In the last 8 years **10 NEW CHEMICALS**, some of them designer precursors with no known legitimate uses, were added to Table I of the 1988 Convention.

- Chemicals scheduled in Table I
- Chemicals scheduled in Table II
- Chemicals not under international control



THE RESURGENCE OF SEIZURES OF PSEUDOEPHEDRINE PREPARATIONS

More countries reported seizures and suspected movements of pharmaceutical preparations containing pseudoephedrine. The amount reported seized in 2021 was **MORE THAN TWICE THE AMOUNT** compared to 2020, and **MORE THAN TRIPLE** compared to 2018.



Pseudoephedrine preparations seized (in Kg)



The location of reported seizures indicates a likely **EXPANSION OF THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURE OF METHAMPHETAMINE** to hitherto unaffected territories.

Seizures of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, raw materials used in the illicit manufacture of methamphetamine, continued the **DOWNWARD TREND** already reported in previous years.



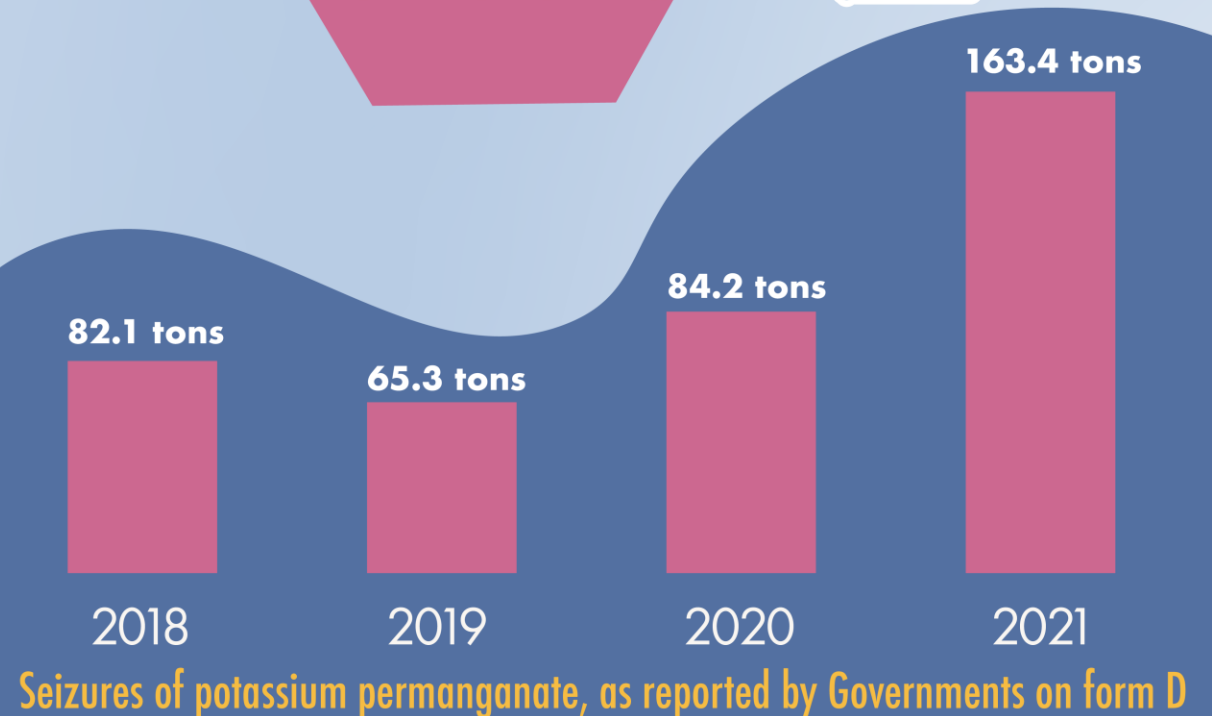
THE GROWING THREAT POSED BY A SURGE IN ILLICIT COCAINE PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING

X2 The global quantity reported seized in 2021 of the key cocaine precursor, potassium permanganate, **NEARLY DOUBLED** in comparison with the quantity reported seized in 2020.

6 OF THE 16 COUNTRIES reporting such seizures, were in Europe, indicating the existence in Europe of cocaine laboratories for recovery and conversion.



New chemical associated with efficiency gains in illicit cocaine manufacture:
ACETYL CHLORIDE.





CONTINUED EXPLOITATION OF INTERNET PLATFORMS BY THE ILLICIT DRUG INDUSTRY

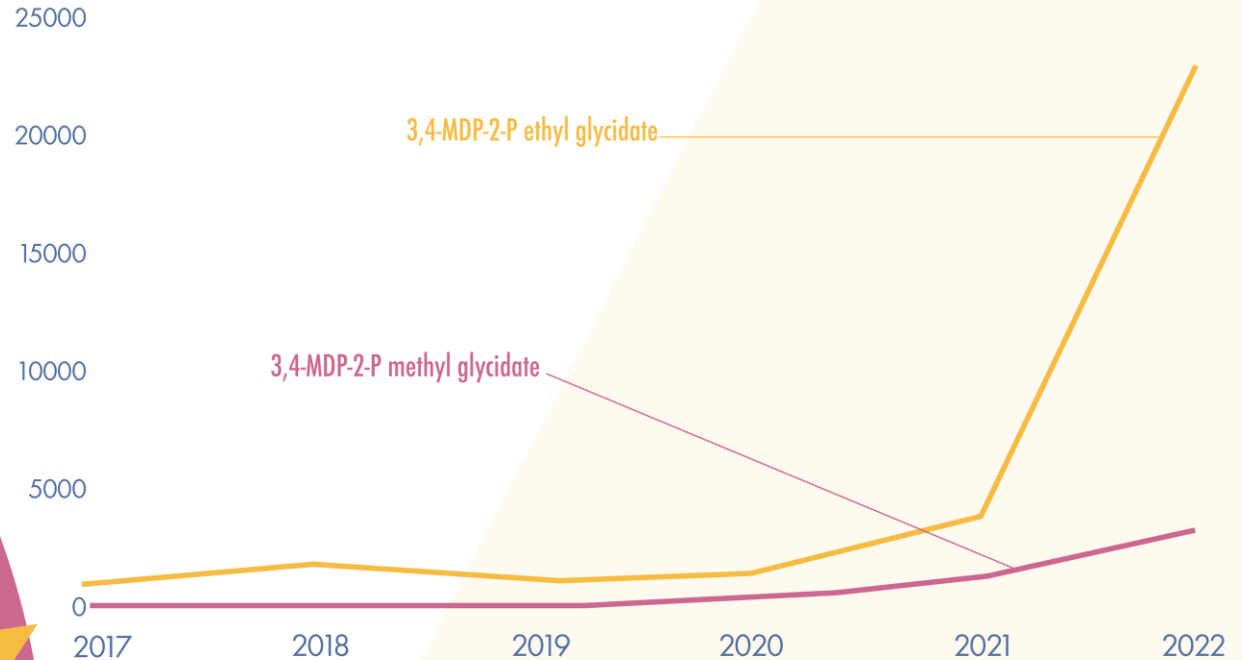
Investigations into Internet-facilitated precursor trafficking conducted since 2017 have produced significant results.

10 

TONS OF ACETIC ANHYDRIDE IN INDIA in 2018, the largest seizure of the substance in the country in the last two decades.

SEIZURES OF EPHEDRINE AND OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES IN INDIA took place in 2022, following investigations using the intelligence packages developed under INCB Operation Acronym, and identification of a drug trafficking network.

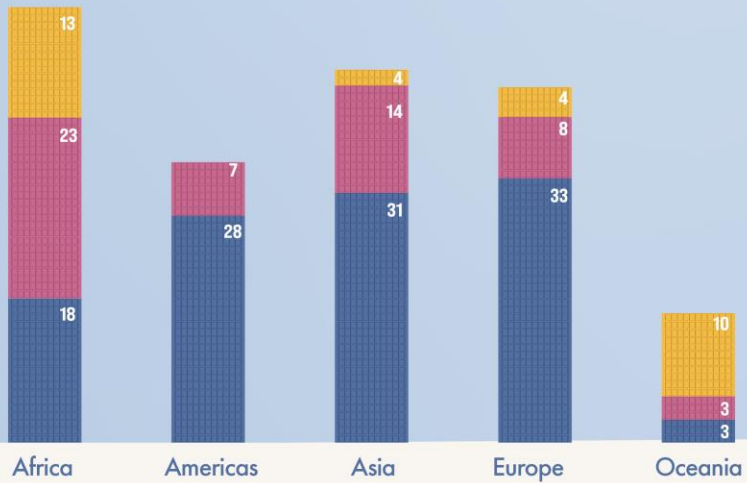
Number of Internet search records for 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidate and 3,4-MDP-2-P ethyl glycidate per year since 2017 





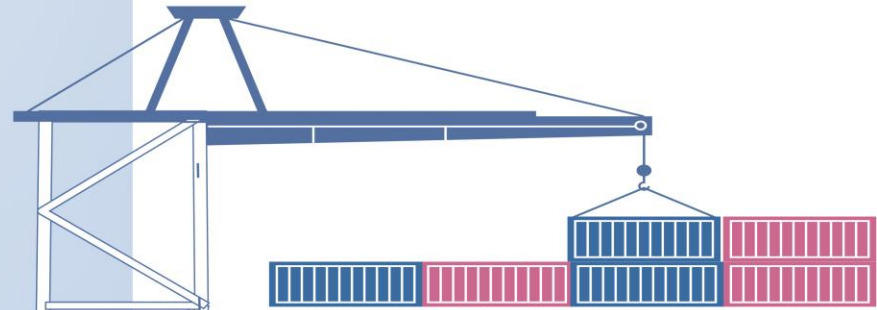
INCREASED USE OF PEN ONLINE AND PICS PREVENT DIVERSION AND BENEFIT INVESTIGATIONS

168 **GOVERNMENTS** are registered to use the **PEN ONLINE SYSTEM** to proactively inform each other of proposed shipments of controlled precursors.



NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS

- Not registered
- Registered and viewing less than 90 per cent of notifications
- Registered and viewing 90 per cent or more of notifications



Timely action on pre-export notifications prevented the possible diversion of nearly **2 TONS OF PSEUDOEPHEDRINE PREPARATIONS.**



To support Governments in addressing suspicious trade in precursor **CHEMICALS NOT UNDER INTERNATIONAL CONTROL** on a voluntary basis, INCB has launched a twin system **PEN ONLINE LIGHT** in 2022.

Investigations have also benefited from real-time information-sharing through the **PRECURSORS INCIDENT COMMUNICATION SYSTEM (PICS).**



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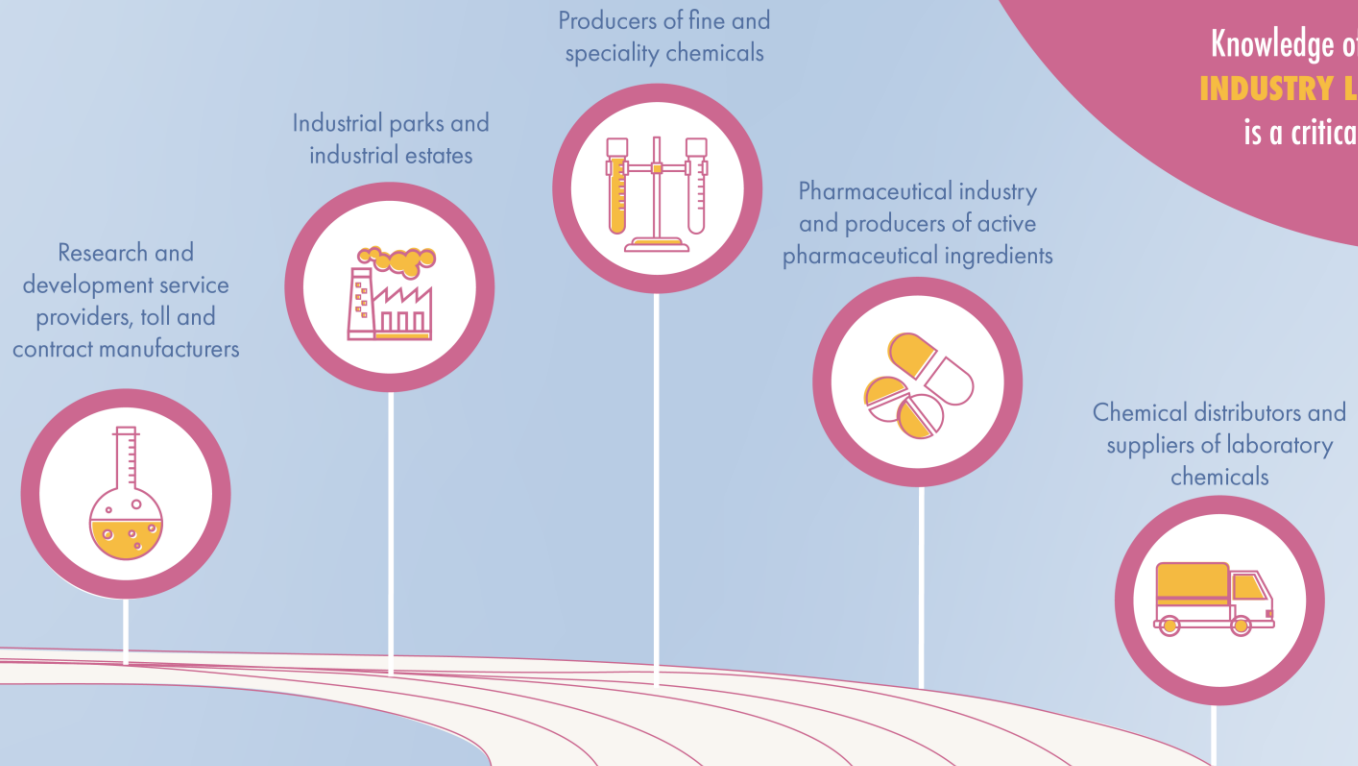
officials from **127 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES** use PICS.



IMPORTANCE OF INDUSTRY COOPERATION IN PROTECTING LICIT MARKETS FROM INFILTRATION BY CRIMINAL ENTREPRENEURS

Rapidly changing trends in trafficking, with the use of newly emerging designer precursors and new methods and routes of diversion, present a global challenge.

The flexibility of industry partners to adjust quickly to changing circumstances has proved to be an **INVALUABLE SUPPLEMENT TO REGULATORY FRAMEWORK.**



Knowledge of **NATIONAL INDUSTRY LANDSCAPES** is a critical first step.



MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 2022 INCB PRECURSORS ANNUAL REPORT



Increase **TECHNICAL COOPERATION** to build capacity & operational knowledge to prevent diversion



Enhance knowledge of **NATIONAL INDUSTRY LANDSCAPES** to protect licit markets and operators from traffickers



Improve **COOPERATION FOR BACKTRACKING INVESTIGATIONS** into stopped shipments and attempted diversions



Prevent more proactively the exploitation by traffickers of groups of **SUBSTANCES THAT ARE CHEMICALLY RELATED**



Enhance capacity to investigate **INTERNET-FACILITATED** precursor trafficking

1

2

3

4

5



Prevent more proactively the exploitation by traffickers of groups of SUBSTANCES THAT ARE CHEMICALLY RELATED

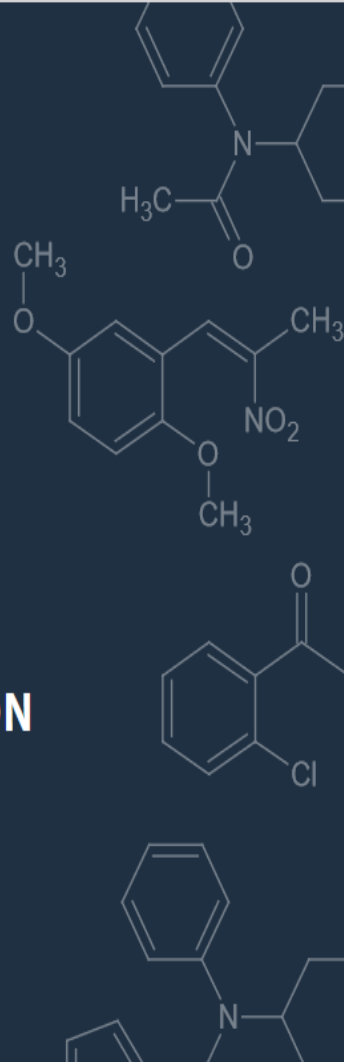


INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

Proliferation of non-scheduled chemicals and designer precursors:

OPTIONS FOR GLOBAL ACTION

INCB guidance document



INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

"Parties shall take such measures as they deem appropriate to prevent trade in and the diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and shall co-operate to this end."

- Article 13 of the 1988 Convention

INTERNATIONAL SCHEDULING

"Parties to the Convention should give utmost priority to effective and timely implementation of the scheduling decisions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs."

NATIONAL LEGISLATION, MEASURES AND APPROACHES

"Establish as criminal offences under domestic law the manufacture, transport, distribution or possession of a non-scheduled chemical, when the person knows or intends that the substance involved is to be used in or for the illicit manufacture of a narcotic drug or psychotropic substance pursuant to article 13 together with article 3 of the 1988 Convention."

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, CAPACITY-BUILDING AND AWARENESS-RAISING

"Encourage joint technical assistance interventions with relevant international partner organizations aimed at sensitizing and training criminal justice practitioners, including prosecutors and judges, on the specific considerations in the prosecution and adjudication of drug-related crime involving synthetic drugs and precursors, with an emphasis on the important role of non-scheduled chemicals and designer precursors."

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE

"Encourage the use of the INCB Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS), including for information exchange, on global suspicious orders as well as on new chemicals encountered."

COOPERATION WITH INDUSTRY

"Consider applying the principle of 'non-violation of the importing country's law' as an element of cooperation with industry."



Prevent more proactively the exploitation by traffickers of groups of SUBSTANCES THAT ARE CHEMICALLY RELATED

The screenshot shows the user interface of the 'PEN Pre-Export Notification Online LIGHT' system. The header includes the system logo, the date '07 October 2022', the title 'Pre-export notification online "LIGHT"', the user's role 'Antarctica', and a 'LOG OUT' button. A navigation sidebar on the left lists categories: 'PRE-EXPORT NOTIFICATION' (with sub-items: Inbox, Draft, Sent, New pre-export notification, Upload XML, Help), 'ADMINISTRATION' (with sub-items: Companies, Cities), and 'USER MANAGEMENT' (with sub-items: Account info, Swith to PEN (full) mode). The main content area displays a welcome message: 'Welcome Your account is setup to operate in responsibility for Antarctica.'

- Launched in October 2022.
- Free for competent authorities responsible for the submission and reception of PEN for uncontrolled substances.
- Voluntary: Some mandatory fields have been eliminated.



Prevent more proactively the exploitation by traffickers of groups of SUBSTANCES THAT ARE CHEMICALLY RELATED

INDUSTRIES COVERED IN THE GLOBAL REVIEW

 Petrochemical industry	 Large-scale producers of commodity chemicals	 Pharmaceutical industry	 Active pharmaceutical ingredients producers
 Producers of fine and specialty chemicals*	 Research and development service providers	 Toll manufacturers and contract manufacturers	 Laboratory chemicals suppliers
 Chemical distributors	 Exporters and importers	 Industrial parks and industrial estates	

* Fine and specialty chemical industry is a term that covers many sub-categories of industries, such as flavours/fragrances, mining, paper industries

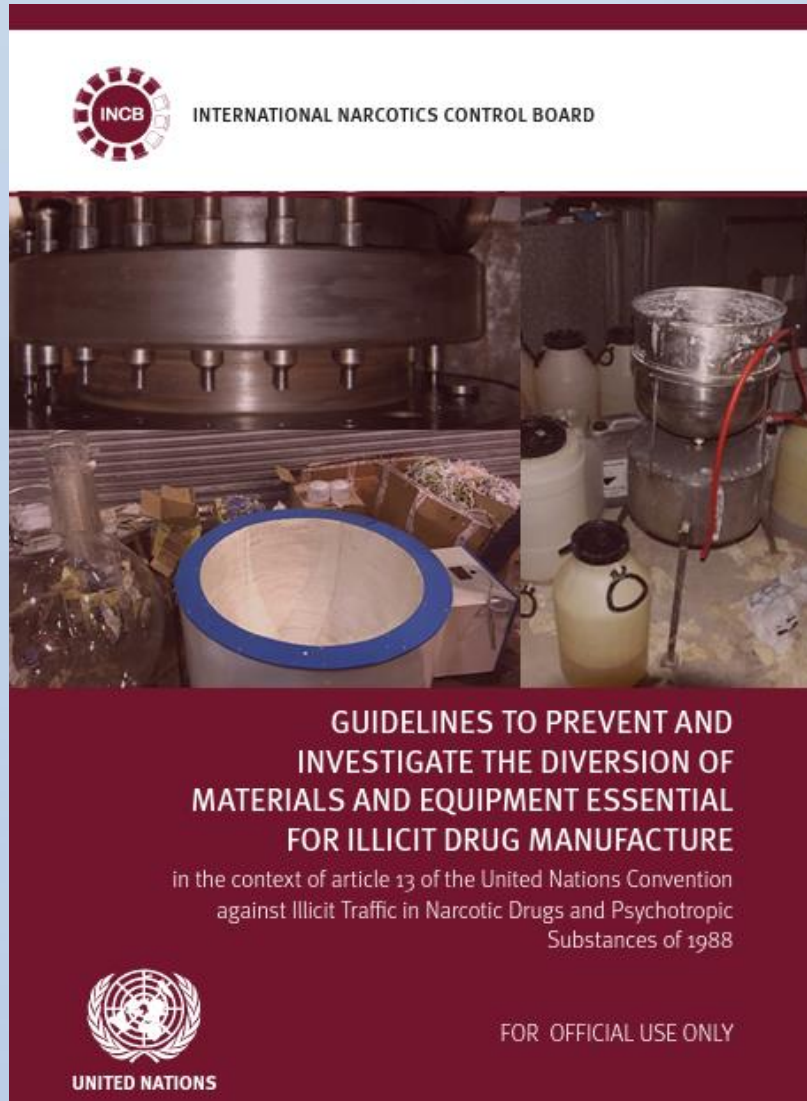
 INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

GLOBAL REVIEW OF CATEGORIES OF INDUSTRIES
involved in the manufacture, trade and distribution of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs


 UNITED NATIONS




Increase TECHNICAL COOPERATION to build capacity and operational knowledge to prevent diversion



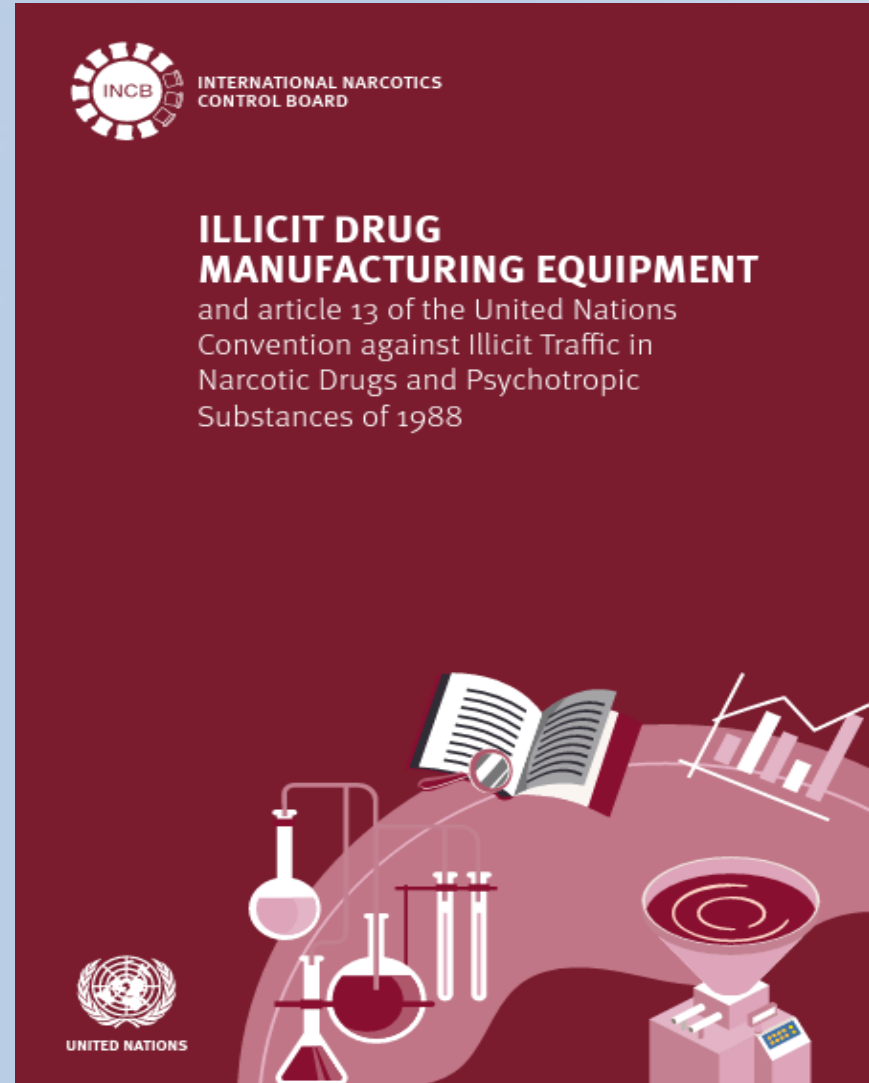
The cover of the INCB guidelines document features a photograph of industrial drug manufacturing equipment, including a large metal press and various containers. The text is in white on a dark red background.

 INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD


GUIDELINES TO PREVENT AND INVESTIGATE THE DIVERSION OF MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT ESSENTIAL FOR ILLICIT DRUG MANUFACTURE
in the context of article 13 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988

 UNITED NATIONS


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The cover of the UNCTAD report features a stylized illustration of laboratory glassware and a bar chart. The text is in white on a dark red background.

 INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

ILLICIT DRUG MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT
and article 13 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988

 UNITED NATIONS

A graphic representing the cover of the INCB Precursors Annual Report. It features a light blue background with large, stylized white numbers '2020' in the center. The numbers are filled with various scientific and industrial icons: a microscope, a globe with arrows, a chemical structure, test tubes, a truck, and documents. A red horizontal band runs across the middle of the graphic. In the top right corner, the text 'INCB PRECURSORS ANNUAL REPORT' is displayed, with a link to read the full report. The INCB logo is in the top left corner.

INCB PRECURSORS ANNUAL REPORT
Read the full report [here](#) >>>

Thank you!

antonio.mazzitelli@un.org; incb-precursors@un.org