

Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961

Region	
Subject	
Sub Subject	
Type	Treaties
Reference Number	
Place of Adoption	Geneva
Date of Adoption	March 24th 1972
Date of Ratification/Adoption	February 9th 1973
Date of Entry into Force	August 8th 1975
Treaty Status	
Signature Date	
Date Deposited	
Place of Deposit	
Declarations and Reservations	
Domestic Legislation	0
Relevant Ministry	

The Parties to the Present Protocol,

Considering the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, done at New York on 30 March 1961 (hereinafter called the Single Convention),

Desiring to amend the Single Convention,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1 Amendments to article 2, paragraphs 4, 6 and 7 of the Single Convention

Article 2, paragraphs 4, 6 and 7, of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"4. Preparations in Schedule III are subject to the same measures of control as preparations containing drugs in Schedule II except that article 31, paragraphs 1(b) and 3 to 15, and, as regards their acquisition

and retail distribution, article 34, paragraph (b), need not apply, and that for the purpose of estimates (article 19) and statistics (article 20) the information required shall be restricted to the quantities of drugs used in the manufacture of such preparations.

6. In addition to the measures of control applicable to all drugs in Schedule I, opium is subject to the provisions of article 19, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (f), and of articles 21bis, 23 and 24, the coca leaf to those of articles 26 and 27 and cannabis to those of article 28.

7. The opium poppy, the coca bush, the cannabis plant, poppy straw and cannabis leaves are subject to the control measures prescribed in article 19, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (e), article 20, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (g), article 21bis and in articles 22 to 24; 22, 26 and 27; 22 and 28; 25; and 28, respectively."

Article 2 Amendments to the title of article 9 of the Single Convention and its paragraph 1 and insertion of new paragraphs 4 and 5

The title of article 9 of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"Composition and functions of the Board"

Article 9, paragraph 1, of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"1. The Board shall consist of thirteen members to be elected by the Council as follows:

(a) Three members with medical, pharmacological or pharmaceutical experience from a list of at least five persons nominated by the World Health Organization; and

(b) Ten members from a list of persons nominated by the Members of the United Nations and by Parties which are not Members of the United Nations.

" The following new paragraphs shall be inserted after paragraph 3 of article 9 of the Single Convention:

"4. The Board, in co-operation with Governments, and subject to the terms of this Convention, shall endeavour to limit the cultivation, production, manufacture and use of drugs to an adequate amount required for medical and scientific purposes, to ensure their availability for such purposes and to prevent illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of, and illicit trafficking in and use of, drugs.

5. All measures taken by the Board under this Convention shall be those most consistent with the intent to further the co-operation of Governments with the Board and to provide the mechanism for a continuing dialogue between Governments and the Board which will lend assistance to and facilitate effective national action to attain the aims of this Convention."

Article 3 Amendments to article 10, paragraphs 1 and 4, of the Single

Convention

Article 10, paragraphs 1 and 4, of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follow:

"1. The members of the Board shall serve for a period of five years, and may be re-elected.

4. The Council, on the recommendation of the Board, may dismiss a member of the Board who has ceased to fulfil the conditions required for membership by paragraph 2 of article 9. Such recommendation shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members of the Board."

Article 4 Amendment to article 11, paragraph 3, of the Single Convention

Article 11, paragraph 3, of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"3. The quorum necessary at meetings of the Board shall consist of eight members."

Article 5 Amendment to article 12, paragraph 5, of the Single Convention

Article 12, paragraph 5, of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"5. The Board, with a view to limiting the use and distribution of drugs to an adequate amount required for medical and scientific purposes and to ensuring their availability for such purposes, shall as expeditiously as possible confirm the estimates, including supplementary estimates, or, with the consent of the Government concerned, may amend such estimates. In case of a disagreement between the Government and the Board, the latter shall have the right to establish, communicate and publish its own estimates, including supplementary estimates."

Article 6 Amendments to article 14, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Single Convention

Article 14, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"1. (a) If on the basis of its examination of information submitted by Governments to the Board under the provisions of this Convention, or of information communicated by United Nations organs or by specialized agencies or, provided that they are approved by the Commission on the Board s recommendation, by either other intergovernmental organizations or international non-governmental organizations which have direct competence in the subject matter and which are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council under Article 71 of the Charter of the United Nations or which

enjoy a similar status by special agreement with the Council, the Board has objective reasons to believe that the aims of this Convention are being seriously endangered by reason of the failure of any Party, country or territory to carry out the provisions of this Convention, the Board shall have the right to propose to the Government concerned the opening of consultations or to request it to furnish explanations. If, without any failure in implementing the provisions of the Convention, a Party or a country or territory has become, or if there exists evidence of a serious risk that it may become, an important centre of illicit cultivation, production or manufacture of, or traffic in or consumption of drugs, the Board has the right to propose to the Government concerned the opening of consultations. Subject to the right of the Board to call the attention of the Parties, the Council and the Commission to the matter referred to in sub-paragraph (d) below, the Board shall treat as confidential a request for information and an explanation by a Government or a proposal for consultations and the consultations held with a Government under this sub-paragraph.

(b) After taking action under sub-paragraph (a) above, the Board, if satisfied that it is necessary to do so, may call upon the Government concerned to adopt such remedial measures as shall seem under the circumstances to be necessary for the execution of the provisions of this Convention.

(c) The Board may, if it thinks such action necessary for the purpose of assessing a matter referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph, propose to the Government concerned that a study of the matter be carried out in its territory by such means as the Government deems appropriate. If the Government concerned decides to undertake this study, it may request the Board to make available the expertise and the services of one or more persons with the requisite competence to assist the officials of the Government in the proposed study. The person or persons whom the Board intends to make available shall be subject to the approval of the Government. The modalities of this study and the time-limit within which the study has to be completed shall be determined by consultation between the Government and the Board. The Government shall communicate to the Board the results of the study and shall indicate the remedial measures that it considers necessary to take.

(d) If the Board finds that the Government concerned has failed to give satisfactory explanations when called upon to do so under sub-paragraph (a) above, or has failed to adopt any remedial measures which it has been called upon to take under sub-paragraph (b) above, or that there is a serious situation that needs co-operative action at the international level with a view to remedying it, it may call the attention of the Parties, the Council and the Commission to the matter. The Board shall so act if the aims of this Convention are being seriously endangered and it has not been possible to resolve the matter satisfactorily in any other way. It shall also so act if it finds that there is a serious situation that needs cooperative action at the international level with a view to remedying it and that bringing such a situation to the notice of the Parties, the Council and the Commission is the most appropriate method of

facilitating such cooperative action; after considering the reports of the Board, and of the Commission if available on the matter, the Council may draw the attention of the General Assembly to the matter.

2. The Board, when calling the attention of the Parties, the Council and the Commission to a matter in accordance with paragraph 1(d) above, may, if it is satisfied that such a course is necessary, recommend to Parties that they stop the import of drugs, the export of drugs, or both, from or to the country or territory concerned, either for a designated period or until the Board shall be satisfied as to the situation in that country or territory. The State concerned may bring the matter before the Council."

Article 7 New article 14bis

The following new article shall be inserted after article 14 of the Single Convention:

"Article 14bis

Technical and financial assistance

In cases which it considers appropriate and either in addition or as an alternative to measures set forth in article 14, paragraphs 1 and 2, the Board, with the agreement of the Government concerned, may recommend to the competent United Nations organs and to the specialized agencies that technical or financial assistance, or both, be provided to the Government in support of its efforts to carry out its obligations under this Convention, including those set out or referred to in articles 2, 35, 38 and 38bis."

Article 8 Amendment to article 16 of the Single Convention

Article 16 of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"The secretariat services of the Commission and the Board shall be furnished by the Secretary-General. In particular, the Secretary of the Board shall be appointed by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Board."

Article 9 Amendments to article 19, paragraphs 1, 2 and 5, of the Single Convention

Article 19, paragraphs 1, 2 and 5, of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"1. The Parties shall furnish to the Board each year for each of their territories, in the manner and form prescribed by the Board, estimates on forms supplied by it in respect of the following matters:

(a) Quantities of drugs to be consumed for medical and scientific purposes;

- (b) Quantities of drugs to be utilized for the manufacture of other drugs, of preparations in Schedule III, and of substances not covered by this Convention;
 - (c) Stocks of drugs to be held as at 31 December of the year to which the estimates relate;
 - (d) Quantities of drugs necessary for addition to special stocks;
 - (e) The area (in hectares) and the geographical location of land to be used for the cultivation of the opium poppy;
 - (f) Approximate quantity of opium to be produced;
 - (g) The number of industrial establishments which will manufacture synthetic drugs; and
 - (h) The quantities of synthetic drugs to be manufactured by each of the establishments referred to in the preceding sub-paragraph.
2. (a) Subject to the deductions referred to in paragraph 3 of article 21, the total of the estimates for each territory and each drug except opium and synthetic drugs shall consist of the sum of the amounts specified under sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (d) of paragraph 1 of this article, with the addition of any amount required to bring the actual stocks on hand at 31 December of the preceding year to the level estimated as provided in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1.
- (b) Subject to the deductions referred to in paragraph 3 of article 21 regarding imports and in paragraph 2 of article 21bis, the total of the estimates for opium for each territory shall consist either of the sum of the amounts specified under sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (d) of paragraph 1 of this article, with the addition of any amount required to bring the actual stocks on hand at 31 December of the preceding year to the level estimated as provided in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1, or of the amount specified under sub-paragraph (f) of paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is higher.
- (c) Subject to the deductions referred to in paragraph 3 of article 21, the total of the estimates for each territory for each synthetic drug shall consist either of the sum of the amounts specified under sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (d) of paragraph 1 of this article, with the addition of any amount required to bring the actual stocks on hand at 31 December of the preceding year to the level estimated as provided in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1, or of the sum of the amounts specified under sub-paragraph (h) of paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is higher.
- (d) The estimates furnished under the preceding sub-paragraphs of this paragraph shall be appropriately modified to take into account any quantity seized and thereafter released for licit use as well as any quantity taken from special stocks for the requirements of the civilian population.
5. Subject to the deductions referred to in paragraph 3 of article 21, and account being taken where appropriate of the provisions of article 21bis, the estimates shall not be exceeded."

Article 10 Amendments to article 20 of the Single Convention

Article 20 of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"1. The Parties shall furnish to the Board for each of their territories, in the manner and form prescribed by the Board, statistical returns on forms supplied by it in respect of the following matters:

- (a) Production or manufacture of drugs;
- (b) Utilization of drugs for the manufacture of other drugs, of preparations in Schedule III and of substances not covered by this Convention, and utilization of poppy straw for the manufacture of drugs;
- (c) Consumption of drugs;
- (d) Imports and exports of drugs and poppy straw;
- (e) Seizures of drugs and disposal thereof;
- (f) Stocks of drugs as at 31 December of the year to which the returns relate; and
- (g) Ascertainable area of cultivation of the opium poppy.

2. (a) The statistical returns in respect of the matters referred to in paragraph 1, except sub-paragraph (d), shall be prepared annually and shall be furnished to the Board not later than 30 June following the year to which they relate.

(b) The statistical returns in respect to the matters referred to in sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph 1 shall be prepared quarterly and shall be furnished to the Board within one month after the end of the quarter to which they relate.

3. The Parties are not required to furnish statistical returns respecting special stocks, but shall furnish separately returns respecting drugs imported into or procured within the country or territory for special purposes, as well as quantities of drugs withdrawn from special stocks to meet the requirements of the civilian population."

Article 11 New article 21bis

The following new article shall be inserted after article 21 of the Single Convention:

"Article 21bis

Limitation of production of opium

1. The production of opium by any country or territory shall be organized and controlled in such manner as to ensure that, as far as possible, the quantity produced in any one year shall not exceed the estimate of opium to be produced as established under paragraph 1(f) of article 19.

2. If the Board finds on the basis of information at its disposal in accordance with the provisions of this Convention that a Party which has submitted an estimate under paragraph 1(f) of article 19 has not limited opium produced within its borders to licit purposes in accordance with relevant estimates and

that a significant amount of opium produced, whether licitly or illicitly, within the borders of such a Party, has been introduced into the illicit traffic, it may, after studying the explanations of the Party concerned, which shall be submitted to it within one month after notification of the finding in question, decide to deduct all, or a portion, of such an amount from the quantity to be produced and from the total of the estimates as defined in paragraph 2(b) of article 19 for the next year in which such a deduction can be technically accomplished, taking into account the season of the year and contractual commitments to export opium. This decision shall take effect ninety days after the Party concerned is notified thereof

3. After notifying the Party concerned of the decision it has taken under paragraph 2 above with regard to a deduction, the Board shall consult with that Party in order to resolve the situation satisfactorily.
4. If the situation is not satisfactorily resolved, the Board may utilize the provisions of article 14 where appropriate.
5. In taking its decision with regard to a deduction under paragraph 2 above, the Board shall take into account not only all relevant circumstances including those giving rise to the illicit traffic problem referred to in paragraph 2 above, but also any relevant new control measures which may have been adopted by the Party."

Article 12 Amendment to article 22 of the Single Convention

Article 22 of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"1. Whenever the prevailing conditions in the country or a territory of a Party render the prohibition of the cultivation of the opium poppy, the coca bush or the cannabis plant the most suitable measure, in its opinion, for protecting the public health and welfare and preventing the diversion of drugs into the illicit traffic, the Party concerned shall prohibit cultivation.

2. A Party prohibiting cultivation of the opium poppy or the cannabis plant shall take appropriate measures to seize any plants illicitly cultivated and to destroy them, except for small quantities required by the Party for scientific or research purposes."

Article 13 Amendment to article 35 of the Single Convention

Article 35 of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"Having due regard to their constitutional, legal and administrative systems, the Parties shall:

(a) Make arrangements at the national level for co-ordination of preventive and repressive action against the illicit traffic; to this end they may usefully designate an appropriate agency responsible for such co-ordination;

- (b) Assist each other in the campaign against the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs;
- (c) Co-operate closely with each other and with the competent international organizations of which they are members with a view to maintaining a coordinated campaign against the illicit traffic;
- (d) Ensure that international co-operation between the appropriate agencies be conducted in an expeditious manner;
- (e) Ensure that where legal papers are transmitted internationally for the purposes of a prosecution, the transmittal be effected in an expeditious manner to the bodies designated by the Parties; this requirement shall be without prejudice to the right of a Party to require that legal papers be sent to it through the diplomatic channel;
- (f) Furnish, if they deem it appropriate, to the Board and the Commission through the Secretary-General, in addition to information required by article 18, information relating to illicit drug activity within their borders, including information on illicit cultivation, production, manufacture and use of, and on illicit trafficking in, drugs; and
- (g) Furnish the information referred to in the preceding paragraph as far as possible in such manner and by such dates as the Board may request; if requested by a Party, the Board may offer its advice to it in furnishing the information and in endeavouring to reduce the illicit drug activity within the borders of that Party."

Article 14 Amendments to article 36, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Single Convention

Article 36, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Single Convention shall be amended to read as follows:

"1. (a) Subject to its constitutional limitations, each Party shall adopt such measures as will ensure that cultivation, production, manufacture, extraction, preparation, possession, offering, offering for sale, distribution, purchase, sale, delivery on any terms whatsoever, brokerage, dispatch, dispatch in transit, transport, importation and exportation of drugs contrary to the provisions of this Convention, and any other action which in the opinion of such Party may be contrary to the provisions of this Convention, shall be punishable offences when committed intentionally, and that serious offences shall be liable to adequate punishment particularly by imprisonment or other penalties of deprivation of liberty.

(b) Notwithstanding the preceding sub-paragraph, when abusers of drugs have committed such offences, the Parties may provide, either as an alternative to conviction or punishment or in addition to conviction or punishment, that such abusers shall undergo measures of treatment, education, after-care, rehabilitation and social reintegration in conformity with paragraph 1 of article 38.

2. Subject to the constitutional limitations of a Party, its legal system and domestic law:

(a) (i) Each of the offences enumerated in paragraph 1, if committed in different countries, shall be considered as a distinct offence;

(ii) Intentional participation in, conspiracy to commit and attempts to commit, any of such offences, and preparatory acts and financial operations in connexion with the offences referred to in this article, shall be punishable offences as provided in paragraph 1;

(iii) Foreign convictions for such offences shall be taken into account for the purpose of establishing recidivism; and

(iv) Serious offences heretofore referred to committed either by nationals or by foreigners shall be prosecuted by the Party in whose territory the offence was committed, or by the Party in whose territory the offender is found if extradition is not acceptable in conformity with the law of the Party to which application is made, and if such offender has not already been prosecuted and judgement given.

(b) (i) Each of the offences enumerated in paragraphs 1 and 2(a)(ii) of this article shall be deemed to be included as an extraditable offence in any extradition treaty existing between Parties. Parties undertake to include such offences as extraditable offences in every extradition treaty to be concluded between them.

(ii) If a Party which makes extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty receives a request for extradition from another Party with which it has no extradition treaty, it may at its option consider this Convention as the legal basis for extradition in respect of the offences enumerated in paragraphs 1 and 2(a)(ii) of this article. Extradition shall be subject to the other conditions provided by the law of the requested Party.

(iii) Parties which do not make extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty shall recognize the offences enumerated in paragraphs 1 and 2(a)(ii) of this article as extraditable offences between themselves, subject to the conditions provided by the law of the requested Party.

(iv) Extradition shall be granted in conformity with the law of the Party to which application is made, and, notwithstanding sub-paragraphs (b)(i), (ii) and (iii) of this paragraph, the Party shall have the right to refuse to grant the extradition in cases where the competent authorities consider that the offence is not sufficiently serious."

Article 15 Amendments to article 38 of the Single Convention and its title

Article 38 of the Single Convention and its title shall be amended to read as follows:

"Measures against the abuse of drugs

1. The Parties shall give special attention to and take all practicable measures for the prevention of abuse

of drugs and for the early identification, treatment, education, after-care, rehabilitation and social reintegration of the persons involved and shall coordinate their efforts to these ends.

2. The Parties shall as far as possible promote the training of personnel in the treatment, after-care, rehabilitation and social reintegration of abusers of drugs.

3. The Parties shall take all practicable measures to assist persons whose work so requires to gain an understanding of the problems of abuse of drugs and of its prevention, and shall also promote such understanding among the general public if there is a risk that abuse of drugs will become widespread."

Article 16 New article 38bis

The following new article shall be inserted after article 38 of the Single Convention:

"Article 38bis

Agreement on regional centres

If a Party considers it desirable as part of its action against the illicit traffic in drugs, having due regard to its constitutional, legal and administrative systems, and, if it so desires, with the technical advice of the Board or the specialized agencies, it shall promote the establishment, in consultation with other interested Parties in the region, of agreements which contemplate the development of regional centres for scientific research and education to combat the problems resulting from the illicit use of and traffic in drugs."

Article 17 Languages of the Protocol and procedure for signature, ratification and accession

1. This Protocol, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be open for signature until 31 December 1972 on behalf of any Party or signatory to the Single Convention.

2. This Protocol is subject to ratification by States which have signed it and have ratified or accede to the Single Convention. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General.

3. This Protocol shall be open after 31 December 1972 for accession by any Party to the Single Convention which has not signed this Protocol. The instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General.

Article 18 Entry into force

1. This Protocol, together with the amendments which it contains, shall come into force on the thirtieth day following the date on which the fortieth instrument of ratification or accession is deposited in accordance with article 17.
2. In respect of any other State depositing an instrument of ratification or accession after the date of deposit of the said fortieth instrument, this Protocol shall come into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit by that State of its instrument of ratification or accession.

Article 19 Effect of entry into force

Any State which becomes a Party to the Single Convention after the entry into force of this Protocol pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 18 above shall, failing an expression of a different intention by that State:

- (a) be considered as a Party to the Single Convention as amended; and
- (b) be considered as a Party to the unamended Single Convention in relation to any Party to that Convention not bound by this Protocol

Article 20 Transitional provisions

1. The functions of the International Narcotics Control Board provided for in the amendments contained in this Protocol shall, as from the date of the coming into force of this Protocol pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 18 above, be performed by the Board as constituted by the unamended Single Convention.
2. The Economic and Social Council shall fix the date on which the Board as constituted under the amendments contained in this Protocol shall enter upon its duties. As from that date the Board as so constituted shall, with respect to those Parties to the unamended Single Convention and to those Parties to the treaties enumerated in article 44 thereof which are not Parties to this Protocol, undertake the functions of the Board as constituted under the unamended Single Convention.
3. Of the members elected at the first election after the increase in the membership of the Board from eleven to thirteen members the terms of six members shall expire at the end of three years and the terms of the other seven members shall expire at the end of five years.
4. The members of the Board whose terms are to expire at the end of the abovementioned initial period of three years shall be chosen by lot to be drawn by the Secretary-General immediately after the first election has been completed.

Article 21 Reservations

1. Any State may, at the time of signature or ratification of or accession to this Protocol, make a reservation in respect of any amendment contained herein other than the amendments to article 2, paragraphs 6 and 7 (article 1 of this Protocol), article 9, paragraphs 1, 4 and 5 (article 2 of this Protocol), article 10, paragraphs 1 and 4 (article 3 of this Protocol), article 11 (article 4 of this Protocol), article 14bis (article 7 of this Protocol), article 16 (article 8 of this Protocol), article 22 (article 12 of this Protocol), article 35 (article 13 of this Protocol), article 36, paragraph 1(b) (article 14 of this Protocol), article 38 (article 15 of this Protocol) and article 38bis (article 16 of this Protocol).
2. A State which has made reservations may at any time by notification in writing withdraw all or part of its reservations.

Article 22

The Secretary-General shall transmit certified true copies of this Protocol to all the Parties and signatories to the Single Convention. When this Protocol has entered into force pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 18 above, the Secretary-General shall prepare a text of the Single Convention as amended by this Protocol, and shall transmit certified true copies of it to all States Parties or entitled to become Parties to the Convention as amended.

DONE at Geneva, this twenty-fifth day of March one thousand nine hundred and seventy-two, in a single copy, which shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized, have signed this Protocol on behalf of their respective Governments:

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