



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
JAURÈSGASSE 3, 1030 VIENNA



Statement

by

H.E. Ambassador Kazem Gharib Abadi

Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran

To the United Nations Office and other International Organizations

On the 50th Anniversary of the INCB

6 November 2018

In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful

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Mr. President,
Distinguished members of the INCB,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

The I.R. of Iran wishes to express congratulations on the 50th anniversary of establishment of the International Narcotics Control Board to its distinguished Members, President as well as the Secretariat.

My delegation would like to seize this opportunity also to congratulate thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. As it has been unanimously underscored in many occasions by Member States, the 1988 convention, along with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system.

Mr. President,

My delegation would like to recall that, through the ratification of the three international drug control conventions, the State Parties have undertaken to limit the production, manufacture, export, import, distribution of, trade in, use and possession of drugs exclusively to medical and scientific purposes. By the same token, the INCB is tasked with monitoring States' implementation of the international drug control treaties and supporting Governments in ensuring the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion and abuse.

It is our firm conviction that any legislative measure aimed at legalizing or regulating the use of internationally controlled substances for non-medical and non-scientific purposes are incompatible with the international legal obligations of the State Parties to the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs as well as the 1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

It should be noted that making such decisions, has serious ramification for the integrity of the international legal drug control framework and respect for the rules-based international order, as well as serious repercussions on other Member States, and thus should be strictly avoided.

The I.R. of Iran, have done so and will continue to support the critical monitoring and supporting role of the INCB, as the treaty-mandated body.

Mr. President,

We encourage the INCB to enhance its effort to address the major challenge of the availability of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering. We also encourage INCB to continue and promote its program to strengthen the capacity of Governments in the regulatory control and monitoring of the licit trade in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals with the ultimate objective of ensuring the adequate availability of controlled substances while preventing their diversion, trafficking and abuse.

I thank you Mr. President.