

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

h. 2 Assent
h. 4 Council
h. 12 O.C.

O.C.492(a).

Geneva, June 11th, 1929.

Adopted. febr. 1934.

RESOLUTIONS

of the Assembly, the Council and the
Advisory Committee on Traffic in
Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs from
October 1926. (For previous resolu-
tions see document O.C.492).

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS .

September 1927, September 1928.

Eighth Assembly.

Resolutions adopted by the Assembly at its Meeting held on
September 20th, 1927.
(Adopted on the proposal of the Fifth Committee).

The Assembly notes with approval the report of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs and the resolutions contained therein, and earnestly recommends them to the attention of the States Members of the League.

The Assembly takes note of the report of the Commission of Enquiry into the production of opium in Persia, of the observations of the Persian Government on that report, and of the letter from the Chairman of the Commission of Enquiry to the Secretary-General dated April 23rd, 1927.

It expresses its sincere thanks to the members of the Commission for their valuable work, and its high appreciation of the good-will shown by the Persian Government in co-operating with the League in its attempts to reach a solution of the difficult and complicated problem of narcotic control.

The Persian Government having declared that the success of its programme will, in large measure, depend on its obtaining liberty of action in tariff affairs and on the removal of the restrictive tariffs on Persian products which must be substituted for opium, the Assembly expresses the hope that the Governments concerned will give their earnest and favourable attention to those conditions and that the Persian Government will keep the League of Nations informed of the progress made in carrying out the scheme proposed for the gradual diminution of the cultivation of the opium poppy in Persia.

It earnestly recommends to all countries concerned with the production and manufacture of dangerous drugs and their raw material the enactment of legislation similar to that now proposed by the Government of Persia, or such equivalent action as will ensure the necessary reduction of raw material and the manufacture of drugs.

NINTH ASSEMBLY.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY AT ITS MEETING HELD ON
SEPTEMBER 24th, 1928.

(Adopted on the Proposal of the 5th Committee).

Advisory
Committee,
10th & 11th
Session
reports.

The Assembly notes with approval the reports of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs on the work of its tenth and eleventh sessions, together with the resolutions contained therein.

September 24th, 1928.

Commission
of Enquiry
into the
Control of
Opium-Smok-
ing in the
Far East.

The Assembly recommends the Council to appoint a Commission of three persons to enquire into and report upon the situation in the Far Eastern territories of the Governments which agree to such an enquiry as regards the use of opium prepared for smoking; the measures taken by the Governments concerned to give effect to the obligations undertaken in Chapter II of the Hague Opium Convention of 1912 and in the Geneva Opium Agreement of February 1925; the nature and extent of the illicit traffic in opium in the Far East and the difficulties which it causes to the fulfilment of those obligations; and to suggest what action should in the circumstances be taken by the Governments concerned and by the League of Nations.

The Assembly also expresses the hope that the Government of the United States will permit the Commission to visit the Philippines and inform itself of the experience of the system of prohibition in operation there.

Council

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COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS.

December 1926 - March 1929.

December 7th, 1926.

Representation
of Italy on the
Advisory Committee.

The Council instructs the Secretary-General to invite the Italian Government to nominate a representative to sit as a member on the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs.

March 9th, 1927.

Assessors.

The Council decides to re-appoint M. Henri Brender and Colonel Arthur Woods to serve as assessors on the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs for a further period of one year from April 1st, 1927. The Council wishes to express its appreciation of the services of these assessors during the past year.

The Council further decides to appoint Mr. L.A. Lyall to serve on the Advisory Committee as the assessor having knowledge of conditions in the Far East. This appointment is also made for one year, expiring on April 1st, 1928.

March 11th, 1927.

Advisory Committee
report, 9th Session.

1. The Council notes the report and resolutions of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs passed during its ninth session and adopts the present report.

2. The Council, being of opinion that the calling of an extraordinary session of the Advisory Committee at a later date to discuss the question of the illicit traffic may well be desirable, asks the Secretary-General to communicate this opinion to the Chairman of the Committee, and to empower him in the name of the Council, to call such a session at a date not later than immediately after the next session of the Assembly should the circumstances warrant such action.

Persian Commission
of Enquiry.

3. The proposal submitted by the rapporteur that the question of opium production in Persia should be put on the agenda of the eighth ordinary session of the Assembly and that meantime the report and observations should be circulated to the States Members of the League, to the Parties to the Opium Convention and to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs, was adopted.

June 13th, 1927.

Permanent
Central
Board.

The Council,

Having considered the request contained in Article 7 of the Final Act of the Second Opium Conference, dated February 19th, 1925, to the effect that the expenses of the Central Board and its administrative services should be included in the expenses of the Secretariat of the League of Nations,

Refers the request to the Assembly for decision.

The Council instructs the Secretary-General to communicate document C.240.1927.XI, the present report and the minutes of this meeting of the Council to the Government of all States Members of the League.

Swedish
reserva-
tions,
regarding
ratifica-
tion of
the Geneva
Opium Con-
vention of
1925.

Extracts from M. Zaleski's report, which was adopted:

"I should like to suggest to my colleagues that the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium should be requested to examine the question at its next session, and present a report to the Council embodying its views on the subject. The Swedish Government should, I think, be invited to send a representative to explain its point of view to the Advisory Committee, should it desire to do so."

The rapporteur added that, since his report had been distributed, four replies - coming from the Governments of Austria, the Free City of Danzig, Japan and Czechoslovakia - had been received by the Secretariat. He would propose that these replies should be sent to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs, in addition to those which had already been communicated to the Council by the Secretary-General.

The above proposal, together with the conclusions of M. Zaleski's report, was adopted.

December 6th, 1927.

Advisory
Committee
report,
10th
session.

The Council notes the report and resolutions of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs adopted at the tenth session of the Committee, and adopts the present report.

Extract from report by Canadian representative on
the work of the 10th session of the
Advisory Committee.

"That the Secretary-General be instructed to convene the next session of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs for April 10th, if the Council decides to meet four times a year, as in the past. Should the Council decide otherwise, the Secretary-General is instructed to convene the next meeting of the Committee for January 16th."

March 5th, 1928.

Assessors.

The Council decides to appoint M. Henri Brenier, Mr. L.A. Lyall and Colonel Arthur Woods as assessors on the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs for a further period of one year from April 1st, 1928. The Council desires to express its appreciation of the services which they have rendered during the course of the last year.

June 8th 1928.

Advisory
Committee
report,
11th session.

The Council takes note of the report and resolutions adopted by the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs at its eleventh session, and adopts the present report.

August 31st, 1928.

Commission
of Enquiry
to the Far
East.

The Council decides to refer to the Assembly for its consideration the proposal of the representative of His Majesty's Government in Great Britain respecting the control of opium-smoking in the Far East.

Central
Opium
Board.

The President proposed that the Council should adopt the conclusions of the report concerning the Central Board (Document C.412.1928) and that the question should be adjourned to a later meeting at which the Council would determine the procedure to be adopted. He also suggested the adoption of the rapporteurs proposal regarding the collaboration of the United States. (The Council is to ask the Secretary-General to convey, on its behalf, an invitation to the United States to nominate a person to participate in the appointment of the Central Board).

The proposals of the President were adopted.

September 26th, 1928.

Central
Opium
Board.

Proposals by the rapporteur.

That each State should submit the name of one person satisfying the condition (just quoted) with regard to the producing and manufacturing countries, and one person satisfying the same condition with regard to the consuming countries. In making the nominations, a State would not necessarily nominate its own nationals. It would, in fact, be a distinct advantage if, in making its nominations, each State should see fit to include the name of at least one person of a nationality different from that of the nominating State.

In making its nominations, a State should indicate the qualifications and past experience of the persons nominated. It should satisfy itself, moreover, that each

candidate is willing to serve, if nominated, and is fully aware of the conditions of appointment (which I have just quoted) and of the budgetary provision which the League has made for the members of the Permanent Central Board. The nominations should reach the Secretary-General not later than November 15th, and the Secretary-General should be asked to communicate the names immediately to all Members of the Council. In the case of non-European countries, they might be made, if desired, by telegraph.

From the list of names thus submitted, a Sub-Committee of the Council, composed of the rapporteur, together with the representatives of two other States Members of the Council, should select the names of 16 persons who completely satisfy the conditions of Article 19 of the Convention, and should communicate these names to the other Members of the Council at least 3 or 4 days before the matter is brought before the Council. I suggest also that the Council may well see fit to invite the representative of the United States, should such representative be appointed, to become a member of the Sub-Committee. In making this selection, the Sub-Committee should give full consideration to the importance of including within the number selected, in equitable proportions, persons possessing a knowledge of the drug situation, both in the producing and manufacturing countries on the one hand, and in the consuming countries on the other hand, and connected with such countries.

This selection of 16 names having been made, the Council, assisted by the person appointed by the United States of America to participate in the appointment of the Central Board, in the event of such a person being appointed, should then proceed to appoint the 8 members of the Permanent Central Board.

These proposals were adopted.

M. Dandurand reminded the Council that he had suggested as members of the Sub-Committee, the President of the Council, the Japanese representative and the Rapporteur.

This proposal was adopted.

December 11th, 1928.

Central
Opium
Board.

M. Danourant read the following report:

"The Members of the Council will recollect that, at a meeting on August 31st, 1928, it was decided to invite the Government of the United States of America, in accordance with the terms of Article 19 of the Geneva Opium Convention, to nominate a person to participate in the appointment of the Permanent Central Board. The reply, dated October 1st, of the Government to this invitation has already been circulated to the Council (document C.L.182.1928.XI).

I feel sure that the Council, whilst greatly welcoming the offer of the United States Government to furnish such information as the Central Board may request, will regret the refusal of that Government to participate in the selection of the Central Board.

During the past three years, the Council has taken the view that the coming into force of this Convention at the earliest possible moment was vital to the fulfilment of the responsibilities assumed by the League under the Covenant in connection with traffic in opium, and it has therefore frequently and insisently urged the ratification of the Convention.

In these circumstances, my colleagues may wish, in view of certain statements made by the Government of the United States of America in its reply, to consider the desirability of commenting on these statements in a memorandum which could be considered at a later date during the present session."

The conclusion of the report was adopted and the rapporteur was requested to submit a report later to the Council.

December 11th, 1928.

Request from the International Criminal Police Commission for representation on certain League Committees.

M. ZUMETA read the following report⁽¹⁾:

The Council has received a memorandum from the International Criminal Police Commission at Vienna, which was transmitted by the representative of the Austrian Government at Geneva (document C.572.1928). In this document the International Criminal Police Commission requests that it may be represented at the Conference for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency which has been convened for April 9th next, and further requests that the various Committees of the League

(1) Document C.633.1928.XII.

of Nations which deal with matters connected with crime (such as traffic in women, the drug traffic, obscene publications, juvenile crime, etc.) should call in representatives of the International Criminal Police Commission as criminal experts.

As to the first request, the Council will know that there are many precedents. At most of the international conferences of Government representatives organised by the League during the last few years, international organisations were invited to be present in an advisory capacity. I mention as an example the general meeting of Government experts on Double Taxation and Tax Evasion held last October, at which a delegation of the International Chamber of Commerce was present. Even more recently, at the International Statistical Conference which opened in Geneva on November 26th, 1928, there were delegations of the International Institute of Agriculture and the International Chamber of Commerce. From a technical point of view, the presence of a representative of the International Criminal Police Commission at the Conference for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency could only be appreciated. I suggest, therefore, that the Council authorise the Secretary-General to invite the International Criminal Police Commission to be represented in an advisory capacity at this Conference.

As to the second request, I propose to you to ask the Secretary-General to communicate the memorandum of the International Criminal Police Commission to such League Commissions as he may think desirable, so that these Commissions may, when necessary, call in representatives of the International Criminal Police Commission as criminal experts.

The conclusions of the report were adopted.

December 13th, 1928.

Commission
of Inquiry
into Opium-
Smoking in
the Far East.

The report by the British Government was transmitted by a letter dated December 1st (see Document C.598.1928) In view of all the circumstances it would seem desirable that the Commission - if satisfactory arrangements for it are made - should not leave on its mission until about September next year. It would then have six months of cooler weather for its investigations, and would thus be much freer to arrange its itinerary in accordance with its needs than it would have been if it had started, as originally contemplated, late this winter.

The conclusions of the report were adopted.

Central
Board.

The Council requested L. Dandurand, M. Adatci and M. Procopé to propose to it a list of eight persons, chosen from the list already submitted to it, to serve on the Permanent Central Board.

December 14th, 1928.

Central
Board.

In accordance with the Council's decision on December 13th with regard to the appointment of the Central Board, to entrust the Sub-Committee, composed of the representatives of Japan, Finland and the rapporteur, with the further task of selecting eight names from amongst the seventeen candidates nominated by the countries concerned, the following eight names are submitted:

Dr. O. Anselmino.
M. C.J.J. Bonin.
Professor Guiseppe Gallavresi.
Mr. D.A. Lyall.
Mr. H.L. May.
M. M. Miyajima.
Sir B.K. Mullick.
U. Henrik Ramsay.

The conclusions of the report were adopted.

March 7th, 1929.

Permanent
Central
Board.

M. Dandurand read the following report:

I presume that the Council will see no difficulty in acceding to the proposal made by the President of the Opium Central Board in his letter dated January 18th, 1929, which has been circulated to the Members of the Board, that the Board should meet again in April and present a report to the June session of the Council.

I suggest, therefore, that the Secretary-General should be asked to write to this effect to the President of the Board.

The conclusions of the report were adopted.

Advisory
Committee
Report.

The Council takes note of the report and resolutions passed by the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs at its twelfth session and adopts the present report.

Appointment of
Assessors.

The Council approved the appointment of M. Sirks as Assessor to the Advisory Committee for the period of one year ending March 31st, 1930.

The Council approved the suggestion that the Secretary-General should write to the Chamber of Commerce at Marseilles emphasising the importance of M. Brenier's presence during the whole period of the Advisory Committee's meetings.

March 9th, 1929.

Appointment of
Commissioners
to the Commission
of Enquiry to the
Far East.

The rapporteur's proposals with regard to M. Ekstrand, M. Léo Gérard and M. Havlasa were adopted.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC
IN OPIUM AND OTHER
DANGEROUS DRUGS.

9th Session, January - February 1927.

RESOLUTIONS.

I.

The Committee desires to call the special attention of the Council to the long delay in bringing the Geneva Convention of February 1925 into force. Notwithstanding the resolutions adopted by the Council and the Assembly during the years 1925 and 1926 on the subject, the number of ratifications deposited up to the present date, nearly two years after the close of the Conference, is very small. The Committee would, in particular, respectfully remind the Council that, under Article 36 of the Convention, the Convention will not in existing circumstances come into operation until at least seven of the States represented on the Council, of which two must be States having permanent seats, have ratified it, and that up to the present only one permanent Member and one non-permanent Member of the Council have done so.

The Committee would urge in the strongest way that great difficulties will continue to be encountered in dealing with the huge illicit traffic which still exists unless the further powers which the Convention confers are obtained and that serious harm is being caused by the long delay in bringing the Convention into general operation. The Committee therefore ventures to address an urgent request to the Council that it will give the question of early ratification its most serious consideration at its next meeting.

II.

The Advisory Committee, after a careful examination of a large mass of information in regard to the illicit traffic in the drugs which has again been placed before it, reports to the Council that, while information continues to accumulate as to the huge extent of the traffic and the methods by which and the channels through which the drugs are smuggled, information is still almost completely lacking as to the sources from which the drugs are obtained by the illicit traffickers. The Committee regards it as one of the most urgent needs of the present moment that those sources should be discovered - and in view of the universal character of the menace and of the interest which all countries have in averting that menace from their own peoples, the Committee desires to urge as strongly as possible

that a systematic and searching enquiry should be undertaken (if that has not already been done) without delay by the Governments of all the countries which manufacture the drugs or import them on a considerable scale with a view to discovering from whom and by what methods the illicit traffickers procure their supplies. The Committee recommends that, in addition to any methods of investigation which the Governments may think it desirable to employ for the purpose of this enquiry, a thorough examination should be made of the books, registers of purchasers and sales of the drugs, and other records of the manufacturers or importers of the drugs, and of all persons dealing in the drugs on a considerable scale, so as to track down the drugs to the point at which they reach the illicit traffickers; and all such manufacturers, importers and dealers should be required, for the purpose of the special enquiry proposed, to furnish full particulars in regard to any transactions which are not clearly proved to be destined for medical and scientific purposes.

Further, the Committee desires again to place on record its view that any such manufacturer, importer or dealer found to be knowingly supplying the drugs for other than medical or scientific purposes should, in addition to any penalty to which he may be liable under the laws in force, be prohibited from manufacturing, importing or dealing in any of the drugs for the future. The Committee would also urge that the greatest care should be taken to ensure that licences to manufacture, purchase, import, export or deal in the drugs should only be issued by the Government authorities to persons who can fully establish the bona-fide character of their business.

III.

The Committee requests the Council to invite the Secretary-General to call the attention of all Governments in Europe, and of such other Governments as appear likely to be interested in the matter, to the fact that enormous quantities of dangerous drugs are being exported to China by post. In this connection, the attention of these Governments should, it is suggested, be invited to Resolution IX appended to the report forwarded last year by the Committee to the Council. A copy of the list of seizures received by the Committee from the Chinese Maritime Customs - through the International Anti-Opium Association of Peking - should be forwarded, and the Governments should be requested to exercise special vigilance in the case of all postal matter destined for China in so far as this is possible.

IV.

The Committee:

(1) Takes note of the fact that the Turkish Government has not replied to the letter sent out on the instructions of the Council on October 20th, 1926;

(2) Requests the Secretary-General to arrange that, if no answer is received from the Turkish Government before the March meeting of the Council, the attention of the Council should be called to this omission.

V.

The Committee calls the attention of the Council to the difficulty experienced by the Committee in forming an opinion as to the exact situation of the traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs in Central and South America, due to the incomplete information at the Committee's disposal regarding these countries. The Committee therefore requests the Council to invite the Secretary General to approach the Governments of these countries in order to obtain:

(1) Regular annual reports to be despatched on October 1st of each year, and to be based on the model form now generally adopted;

(2) Copies of the laws and regulations in force concerning the traffic in narcotics;

(3) Information with regard to the administrative arrangements for enforcing the laws and regulations in vigour and, in particular, information as to the acceptance and application of the import and export certificate system;

(4) Information as to whether these Governments intend to ratify, or adhere to, the Geneva Convention of February 19th, 1925;

(5) Information as to the illicit traffic in narcotics in their respective countries;

(6) In cases where the Hague Convention of 1912 has not yet been ratified and enforced, information as to when such ratification and enforcement may be expected.

VI.

The Committee desires to draw the attention of the Council to the necessity for controlling adequately the opium and drug traffic in free ports and free zones. It requests the Council to invite the Secretary-General to approach the Governments of countries where free ports and free zones exist, in all cases where these Governments have not already furnished information, with a view to obtaining complete lists of such free ports and zones, and statements as to whether the national legislation regarding opium and narcotic drugs is applied in these free zones or ports. Governments which do not apply their national drug regulations in the free ports or zones within their territories should be asked to furnish precise information as to the system of control they apply in such areas, and to forward copies of the relevant regulations.

VII.

The Committee requests the Council to invite the Secretary-General to approach the various Governments which forward reports, with the object of explaining to them that the annual reports should give statistics of actual imports and exports and not of the quantities which may have been authorised for import or for export. The object is to obtain statistics which represent the actual facts as regards import

and export, as otherwise comparisons between the imports and exports of one country with the exports or imports of the corresponding country are rendered difficult or impossible.

The Committee also recommends that, in cases where an exporting country authorises an export of narcotics to another country which has not accepted or applied the import and export certificate system, the exporting country should, in all cases, inform the country of destination of the fact that such an export authorisation has been given.

VIII.

The Committee notes that certain Governments which do not send regular annual reports on the traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs apparently omit to do so since the narcotic question appears to them to be of little or no domestic importance in their territories. The Committee wishes to point out that a country in which drug addiction is not prevalent and in which there is little or no traffic in narcotics may still, on account of its geographical position or for other reasons, be of importance from the point of view of control over the international narcotic traffic. The Committee therefore requests the Council to invite the Secretary-General to communicate with the Governments of the following States: Albania, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Haiti and Luxemburg, with the object of obtaining regular annual reports from these countries. The Committee suggests that, if this recommendation be approved, a separate letter should be issued to each such Government; in this letter a brief statement could be given of the reasons leading the Committee to attach special importance to the regular receipt of the report in question.

IX.

In view of the importance which the Committee attaches to the examination of the annual reports from Governments, and in order that these reports may be received in time for adequate examination, the Committee requests the Council to invite the Secretary-General to send each year to all Governments, two months before the date fixed for the despatch of their report, a letter expressing the hope that they will be in a position to forward their report on or before the due date.

X.

In view of the geographical position of Estonia and Lithuania, which renders these two countries important from the point of view of the transit of drugs between certain manufacturing and consuming countries, the Committee requests the Council to invite the Governments of Estonia and Lithuania to furnish as detailed information as possible with regard to their laws and regulations relating to the import, export, and transit of narcotic drugs, and also to supply copies of any laws and regulations in force governing the internal trade in opium and drugs. It would be of great assistance to the Committee if the Government of Lithuania, which has already accepted the import and export certificate system, would be good enough to state whether that system is now effectively applied.

10th SESSION, SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 1927.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolution I.

The Committee desires to draw the special attention of the Council to Resolution I passed at the Committee's ninth session. Further experience has strengthened the conviction of the Committee of the absolute necessity, if the illicit traffic is to be adequately dealt with, of the powers which the Geneva Convention of 1925 confers. Until that Convention comes into operation, over as wide a field as possible, little progress can be hoped for in combating the illicit traffic. As twelve ratifications of, and six adhesions to, that Convention have now been recorded, the entry into vigour of the Convention depends solely on the action taken by the States Members of the Council. Four further ratifications by such States are necessary before the Convention comes into force. The Committee ventures to repeat its urgent request that the Council will give this question its most serious consideration at its next meeting.

Resolution II.

The Committee requests the Council to represent to the Government of China that it would prove of the greatest assistance to the Committee in its work if it were provided with a report as to all important seizures of narcotic substances effected by the Chinese Maritime Customs at the various ports and stations which are controlled by that service. Such reports would also help other Governments to prevent the illicit export of narcotics into China. The reports, to be of value, should be forwarded to the League as soon as possible after the end of each quarter; and they should contain all relevant details (such as quantities, description of packages, labels - of which samples should be sent whenever possible - route followed, origin of the goods if known, references to the bills of lading under which forwarded, name of consignor and consignee, and in general all details which will assist in tracing the origin of the goods and the precise manner in which they came to find their way into the illicit traffic).

Resolution III.

In view of the large seizures now being effected in several countries - seizures which in some cases exceed the volume of the licit traffic - and the fact that all Governments do not give precise information as to the manner in which narcotic substances so seized are dealt with, thereby rendering it difficult to form an accurate idea as to the position of the traffic, the Committee requests the Council to be good enough to ask all Governments to state, in their annual reports, the precise manner in which such confiscated substances have been dealt with, and to give such other information as may be useful in regard to such confiscation or disposal.

(It will be observed that this resolution reproduces the wording of Article 22 (I)(e) of the Geneva Convention, which imposes an obligation of this character in respect of the reports to be sent by the contracting parties to the Central Board when the latter is constituted.)

Resolution IV.

The illicit traffic undoubtedly continues "on an enormous scale"* , it is "backed by huge financial resources"**, and "drugs are still being smuggled in very large quantities"***, It appears impossible at present to restrict the export from producing countries of raw opium and coca leaves to the small quantity necessary to supply the medical needs of the world. Experience also shows that the smuggling of drugs can be restricted to a considerable extent, but cannot be wholly stopped by measures that fall short of complete control, in view of the great financial gains which ensue from the smuggling of even small quantities. If all drug factories were adequately controlled by their Governments the drug problem would in large measure be solved.

The Committee therefore requests the Council to urge as insistently as possible upon all Governments members of the League and parties to the Opium Conventions that all factories manufacturing dangerous drugs should be owned, or adequately controlled, by their Governments. Under either system the Governments would at least:

(1) Regulate, and require an accurate accounting of, all internal traffic, including the purchase of raw materials, manufacture, sales, distribution, storage;

(2) Strictly control the issue and possession of licences or authorisations for the manufacture, sale, distribution and storage of the drugs;

(3) Adopt, and rigidly enforce, the import and export certificate system;

(4) Strictly control the export of dangerous drugs to any country which does not enforce the import and export certificate system. Where this system is not in force in the importing country, the Government of the exporting country must satisfy itself, beyond reasonable doubt, that the demand is for legitimate purposes only. This precaution is particularly important, since the readiest route which the illicit traffic can follow is through those countries which do not enforce the import and export certificate system. It is recognised that this will present various difficulties until the Central Board has been constituted; but it is imperative that such control should be exercised, as far as that is practicable, by the exporting countries until the Central Board begins to function. Experience in certain countries has shown that, even in present circumstances, a large measure of effective control can in fact be exercised in such cases.

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- * See Report of the Committee to the Council on the Work of its Second Session (document A.15.1922).
** See Report of the Committee to the Council on the Work of its Seventh Session (document A.28.1926).
*** See Report of the Committee to the Council on the Work of its Ninth Session (document C.29.M.19.1927).

11th SESSION, APRIL 1929.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolution I.

The Committee requests that the Governments should be asked to classify their exports and imports of raw opium according to the country of production (Turkish, Persian, Indian, etc.), and that a form of table for the purpose should be prepared by the Secretariat and sent to the Governments.

Resolution II.

In view of the failure of certain Governments to furnish annual reports on the trade in opium and drugs in their territories, as recommended by the Assembly and Council of the League, the Committee asks the Council to instruct the Secretary-General to send a reminder to any Government which fails to send in its report (by July 1st in the case of European countries and November 1st in the case of countries outside Europe). If no reply is received to the reminder, a second reminder should be sent (by cable when necessary) not less than one month before the date of the annual meeting of the Committee.

Resolution III.

The careful examination which the Committee had made of the numerous reports in regard to the illicit traffic which have been received since the meeting in October last, and which show that this traffic continues on an enormous scale, emphasises in the strongest way the urgent necessity for: (a) the immediate ratification and enforcement by all States Members of the League of the Geneva Convention of 1925; (b) the adoption and strict application of the other measures which have been recommended by the Committee from time to time and in particular the following:

1. Withdrawal of the licence to manufacture or trade in the drugs from any firm if there is sufficient evidence to show that the firm is engaged in or is knowingly supplying drugs for the illicit traffic.

2. Strict control over exports to countries not exercising adequate supervision over trade in the drugs, and the rigid limitation of such exports to the quantities that may reasonably be required for medical purposes in the country itself.

3. Immediate communication of the fullest particulars relating to any important seizures of smuggled drugs to the Government of any countries in which the persons connected with the transaction may be or may have been residing at the time or in which any part of the transaction may have taken place.

4. Immediate and full investigation, on the receipt of particulars of such a transaction, whether directly or from the League, by the Government.

5. Exercise of an adequate control by every Government to ensure as far as possible that its territories shall not be used for the transit or transshipment of consignments of drugs (whether declared as such or not) for the illicit traffic.

6. Provision in each country's national law of severe penalties for persons convicted of organising the smuggling of drugs whether into that or into other countries.

Resolution IV.

The Committee has had its attention called to the difficulties experienced by the authorities in their investigations as to the persons responsible for the smuggling of a large quantity of drugs which were recently seized in New York through their inability to obtain from the Government of the exporting country photographic or other facsimiles of certain cables sent from that country to the United States and the names of the persons sending them. In view of the extreme importance of obtaining all possible information as to the persons who organise the illicit traffic, and who for this purpose abuse the facilities afforded by the telegraphic and other means of communication, the Committee would urge that every Government should in such cases, on the application of a responsible Government and on being satisfied that the information is necessary for the investigations by the responsible authorities in the country of seizure, furnish facsimiles of the telegrams sent in connection with a smuggling transaction and the names of and other particulars relating to the persons sending them and, if the power to do so does not exist at present, should, if possible, obtain such power.

Resolution V. (Swedish Reservation).

The Committee would point out that the Convention allows two alternatives: the registration by the pharmacist of the details of the supply of the drug or the retention by the pharmacist of the prescription; that the difficulties in the way of registration are not, in its opinion, such as to justify a reservation on the point; and that it deprecates, for the reasons which appear in the Minutes of the discussion of the Committee, the acceptance of the Swedish reservation.

Resolution VI.

The Committee desires to draw the attention of the Council to the attempt which has been successfully made to evade the existing system of control over the traffic in drugs by the manufacture of benzoyl-morphine and other esters of morphine which fall outside the provisions of most national laws but from which morphine can easily be recovered and which, so far as known, are liable to give rise to the same abuse; and it would urgently recommend that, pending the completion of the procedure under Article 10 of the Geneva Convention for bringing such substances within the scope of the Convention, the Governments should immediately apply to benzoyl-morphine, and possibly other similar substances if manufactured, the same control over manufacture, distribution, export and import as in the case of morphine.

Resolution VII.

At the request of the Council, the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs considered the proposal made by the representative of the Italian Government on the Council to constitute the Secretariat of the Permanent Central Board, which was provided for in the Opium Convention of February 19th 1925, as an integral part of the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

The Advisory Committee considers that this proposal is in complete agreement with the stipulations of Article 20, paragraph 1, of that Convention, whereby the Secretary-General of the League of Nations is requested to provide for the control of the staff in administrative matters.

This proposal, moreover, does not in any way affect the right, which is conferred on the Central Board by paragraph 2 of the said Article 20, to nominate the members of its staff, who will be appointed by the Secretary-General, subject to the approval of the Council.

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The Committee desires to emphasise in the strongest possible manner the grave hindrance which is being caused to the work of the League in the supervision of the traffic in opium and dangerous drugs (entrusted to the League by Article 23 of the Covenant) by the fact that more than one half of the States Members of the League, including six Members of the Council itself, have not yet ratified the Geneva Opium Convention of 1925. Although the Convention has now come into force in the States which have ratified or adhered to it, the provisions which it contains for the control of the international trade in opium and drugs and the suppression of the illicit traffic cannot operate effectively, nor can the Central Board which has now been appointed to watch the course of the international trade, carry out its duties successfully, if a large number of States are unwilling to undertake the obligations of the Convention.

The Committee would therefore suggest to the Council that it should cause a special letter of enquiry to be addressed to each Member of the League which, up to the present has failed to ratify or adhere to the Convention, explaining the importance to the work of the League of the ratification of the Convention by all its members, including the consuming countries equally with the producing or distributing countries, and requesting it to inform the Council whether it will ratify or adhere to the Convention, or if there are difficulties in the way of such ratification or adhesion, to state what the difficulties are, so that they can be considered by the Council.

In one or two cases in which the Government has already explained the position in its country, a letter in somewhat different terms would be required.
