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COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

Ad hoc Committee of the Principal Opium-producing Countries

Item 4 (a) of the Agenda

PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF INDIA

"Article on Estimates"

The Agreement shall specify that:

1. Governments shall submit to the co-ordinating Authority not later than 15 March in the year preceding that to which they relate estimates of requirements of raw opium specifying whether the opium is required for:
 - (a) Government stocks;
 - (b) Manufacture of drugs;
 - (c) Preparation of medicinal opium; or
 - (d) Other medical and scientific purposes,with such supporting evidence as may be necessary.
2. The co-ordinating Authority shall satisfy itself that the estimates are fully justified by the needs of the Government concerned for the purposes specified in paragraph 1 of this Article.
3. Any Government may in any year furnish supplementary estimates with an explanation of the circumstances which necessitate them.
4. Should any Government, whether a Party to the Agreement or not, fail to furnish an estimate in the form prescribed in paragraph 1 of this Article within the time limit specified therein, the co-ordinating Authority shall itself make a provisional estimate to the best of its ability. The co-ordinating Authority shall forward to all Governments as soon as possible after 15 March each year, through the intermediary of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, an annual statement of the consolidated estimates of world requirements of raw opium for medical and scientific needs for the year in question.
5. With a view to preventing the over-production of raw opium and the accumulation of unnecessarily large stocks, the Parties to the Agreement shall regard their estimates as "advance orders" to be honoured to the best of their ability."

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