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A PROGRAMME OF STUDIES ON THE CANNABIS
PLANT AND ITS PRODUCTS

Survey of the Situation in Angola

Introductory Note

This survey of the cannabis situation in Angola is one of the series of country surveys which are being compiled by the Secretariat, with the co-operation of the Governments concerned, in pursuance of the programme of studies on the cannabis plant and its products adopted by the Commission at its eighth session.

This decision was embodied in paragraph 183 of the Commission's report (E/2423 - E/CN.7/262) of which the Economic and Social Council took note in resolution 505 A (XVI) of 28 July 1953.

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A PROGRAMME OF STUDIES ON THE CANNABIS
PLANT⁽¹⁾ AND ITS PRODUCTS

Survey of the Situation in Angola

(For a list of the sources consulted by the Secretariat and referred to throughout the text, in the form 1, paragraph ... , see page 9)

- (1) The terminology used for this survey differs from that previously employed in international treaties and by the Secretariat. The old and new terminologies are given below:

<u>Substance</u>	<u>Former Terminology</u>	<u>Present Terminology</u>
(a) the plant <u>Cannabis sativa</u> , L.	Indian hemp plant	<u>Cannabis sativa</u> , L., or Cannabis plant.
(b) the dried flowering or fruiting tops of the plant <u>Cannabis sativa</u> , L. from which the resin has not been extracted (in certain instances, especially as regards the illicit traffic, this term has been extended to include other parts of the plant <u>Cannabis sativa</u> , L., e.g. the tender leaves and upper stems, which may have been mixed with the tops);	Indian hemp	Cannabis
(c) the resin of the plant <u>Cannabis sativa</u> , L.	Resin of the Indian hemp plant; Indian hemp resin	Cannabis resin
(d) extract and tincture made from the dried flowering or fruiting tops of the plant <u>Cannabis sativa</u> , L.	Galenical preparations (extract and tincture) of Indian hemp	Cannabis extract Cannabis tincture

This terminology was approved by the Commission on 22 April 1954, although it reserved the right to make further changes during its consideration of the draft Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.

A. THE CANNABIS PLANT: ITS CULTIVATION AND WILD GROWTH⁽²⁾

I. Agricultural Considerations: The cannabis plant grows in Angola during the rainy season, i.e. between November and May. (11, p.1).

II. Licit Cultivation: There is no legitimate cultivation in Angola. (2, 2(a), 2(b), Chapter V). In 1952, a European firm requested authorizations to cultivate the cannabis plant, but this request was rejected. (12).

III. Illicit Cultivation:

(a) Location and Extent of Areas Illicitly Cultivated: Illicit cultivation in Angola is limited to occasional plants carefully hidden from the local authorities. (2, p.2; 12)

(b) Purpose or Purposes of Illicit Cultivation: No information.

(c) Methods Used to Conceal Cultivation: No information.

(d) Administrative Methods Employed to Suppress and Detect

Severe fines are levied on all persons found in possession of cannabis plants. (12).

(e) Information about Known Cultivators: Number, Age-Level Distribution, Sex, Economic and Social Level: No information.

IV. Wild Growth: The cannabis plant grows wild in certain parts of the Province, (2, 2(a), 2(b), Chapter IX), and the authorities - particularly the administrative authorities - exercise strict control over the use of the plant by the natives. (11, p.1).

B. THE PRODUCTION OF HEMP FIBRE AND HEMP SEED FROM THE CANNABIS PLANT

Present Situation: No authorizations have been issued for the production of hemp fibre or hemp seed. (11, p.1)

C. THE LEGAL PRODUCTION OF CANNABIS, CANNABIS RESIN AND PREPARATIONS CONTAINING THEM AND THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THEY ARE USED

Present Situation: The production of cannabis, cannabis resin and preparations containing them is forbidden except under a special licence granted by the Government on the advice of the Directorate of Public Health or the Council of Public Health. (1, 73). No such licences have been issued. (12, p.2).

(2) The cannabis plant and cannabis are known locally as "liamba" or "riamba". (2, p.2)

D. INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN THE CANNABIS PLANT AND ITS PRODUCTS AND PREPARATIONS CONTAINING CANNABIS

I. Exports: No cannabis and probably no cannabis resin, cannabis extract and tincture or preparations containing any of them were exported during the years 1947-54. (3, p.39; 4, p.20; 5, p.20; 6, p.19; 7, p.20; 8, p.23; 9, p.25; 10, p.25; 11, p.2). In 1952-54 there were no exports of any narcotic drugs. (2, 2(a), 2(b), Chapter III).

II. Imports: Cannabis extract, in bulk and in liquid form is imported for medicinal purposes; there were no imports during the years 1950-1952, and in 1953, 35 grammes of soft cannabis extract were imported from Belgium (10 grammes) and from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (25 grammes). A kilogramme was imported in 1954. (2, pp.2-3; 3, p.39; 4, p.20; 5, p.20; 6, p.19; 7, p.20; 8, p.20; 9, p.25; 10, p.25; 11, p.2)

E. THE MANUFACTURE OF CANNABIS EXTRACT AND TINCTURE AND OF PREPARATIONS CONTAINING THEM; THE EXTENT OF THEIR USE; AND THEIR ROLE IN PRESENT-DAY MEDICINE

I. The Manufacture of Cannabis Extract and Tincture and of Preparations Containing them: No extract or tincture of cannabis is manufactured in Angola, since the plant is not imported. (11, p.2)

II. The Consumption of Cannabis Extract and Tincture and of Preparations Containing them and the Stocks Maintained:

The following table indicates the quantities of cannabis⁽³⁾ imported, kept in stock, consumed and exported:

(3) Paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Note to Table XII (10) reads in part as follows:

"5. The scope of the information requested under the convention /i.e. the International Opium Convention signed at Geneva on 19 February 1925/ varies from substance to substance:

"Cannabis. As far as cannabis, its resin and preparations are concerned, only the imports, exports and confiscations effected on account of illicit exports and imports are to be reported to the Board /i.e., the Permanent Central Opium Board/. The statistics relating to the galenical preparations of cannabis are more complete but do not include manufacture. Thus it is not possible to strike a balance. The figures ... /relating to consumption and stocks/ ... refer only to galenical preparations."

(Figures in parentheses give equivalent value of soft extract)

Year	Stock (1 Jan.)	Imports	Consumption	Exports	Source
	kg.	kg.	kg.	kg.	
1947	13	-	-	-	<u>3</u> , p.39
1948	6	-	1	-	<u>4</u> , p.20
1949	17	-	1	-	<u>5</u> , p.20
1950 Cannabis	14.562 (1.750)	-	1.388 (0.198)	-	<u>6</u> , p.19; <u>11</u> , p.2
Fluid extract	3.282				
Tincture	0.150				
1951 Cannabis	14.198 (1.732)	-	0.364 (0.052)	-	<u>7</u> , p.20; <u>11</u> , p.2
Fluid extract	2.941				
Tincture	0.190				
1952 Cannabis	13.533 (1.76)	-	0.665 (0.095)	-	<u>8</u> , p.20; <u>11</u> , p.2
Fluid extract	1.708				
Tincture	0.150				
1953 Cannabis	13.205 (1.68)	0.035*	0.545 (0.076)	-	<u>9</u> , p.25; <u>11</u> , p.3
Fluid extract	2.07				
1954	13	1	2	-	<u>10</u> , p.25

* Soft cannabis extract.

III. The Role of Cannabis Extract and Tincture in Present-Day Medicine:

Soft and fluid extracts and tinctures are used only in galenical preparations when prescribed by a doctor (11, p.2)

- (a) Internal Use: They are used internally as a sedative in combination with other substances (11, p.3)
- (b) External Use: There is little external use. (11, p.3)
- (c) Lay Opinions on the Medical Use of Cannabis:
No definite views (11, p.3)
- (d) Uses in Veterinary Medicine: No information.

F. THE NON-MEDICAL USE OF CANNABIS, CANNABIS RESIN, AND PREPARATIONS CONTAINING THEM: LEGAL CONSUMPTION AND ARRANGEMENTS PROVIDING FOR IT

The non-medical use of cannabis and its preparations is illegal in Angola. (11, p.3)

G. THE NON-MEDICAL USE OF CANNABIS, CANNABIS RESIN AND PREPARATIONS CONTAINING THEM: ILLICIT TRAFFIC AND CONSUMPTION

I. Origin of the Illicit Traffic

- (a) Within the Territory of Angola: See Part A, III, (a) above.
- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| (b) <u>Belgian Congo:</u> |) | The authorities in Angola have |
| (c) <u>Northern Rhodesia:</u> |) | no knowledge of any illicit |
| (d) <u>South-west Africa:</u> |) | traffic between that territory |
| | | and its neighbours. (11, p.3) |

II. Nature of Cannabis Used Illicitly and Methods of Consumption:
No information.

III. Quantities of Cannabis Seized in the Illicit Traffic and Location of Seizures:

- (a) Quantities seized: Two packages containing 44 grammes of cannabis were seized at Lobito in 1952. (2, p.2) This seizure may be regarded as an isolated case. (12, p.3).
- (b) Disposal of Contraband: The foregoing cannabis was destroyed. (2, p.2).

IV. Number of Persons Prosecuted for Cannabis Offences: In 1952, a single individual was prosecuted in the case mentioned under III. above. (11, p.3).

V. Information about Persons Consuming Cannabis: Does not apply. (11, p.3).

VI. The Illicit Trafficker and the Methods Used by him: Does not apply. (11, p.3).

VII. Judicial Proceedings, Convictions and Sentences:

- (a) Judicial Proceedings: Prosecutions are undertaken in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 90 of Legislative Order No. 1,193 of 28 August 1940. (2, Chapter V).
- (b) Convictions: No information.
- (c) Sentences:
1. Statutory Provisions: See Part H, Section X(a), below.
 2. Current Practice: No information.

VIII. Administrative Measures Employed to Suppress or Detect the Illicit Traffic and Illicit Consumption: The consumption and use of narcotic drugs is supervised by the inspectors of the Pharmacy Control Service or by the administrative authorities in places where the Service does not exist. (2, p.2)

IX. Prices of Cannabis in the Illicit Traffic: Does not apply. (11, p.4)

X. Illicit Exports:

(a) Quantities Exported and Countries Affected:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>Belgian Congo:</u> |) | |
| 2. <u>Northern Rhodesia:</u> |) | see Section G, I, above. |
| 3. <u>South-west Africa:</u> |) | |

(b) Preventive Measures: No information.

H. NATIONAL LEGAL PROVISIONS FOR CONTROLLING THE CANNABIS PLANT AND ITS PRODUCTS(4)

This part has been resubmitted to the Government of Portugal and will be issued later on as a separate addendum to the present series.

(4) The International Opium Convention signed at Geneva on 19 February 1925 which contains provisions relating to the international control of cannabis and its derivatives and preparations is in force in Angola.

LIST OF SOURCES CONSULTED BY THE SECRETARIAT:

(Numbers at left are used for reference purposes throughout the survey).

1. Diploma legislativo (Legislative Decree) No. 1,193 of 28 August 1940.
- 1(a) Portaria (Order) No.508 of 13 May 1913.
2. Annual Report for 1952 (document E/NR.1952/49).
- 2(a) Annual Report for 1953 (document E/NR.1953/29).
- 2(b) Annual Report for 1954 (unpublished; available in the Archives of the Secretariat).
3. Permanent Central Opium Board, Addendum to the Report to the Economic and Social Council on Statistics of Narcotics for 1947 and the work of the Board in 1948 (document E/OB/4/Addendum).
4. Permanent Central Opium Board, Addendum to the Report to the Economic and Social Council on Statistics of Narcotics for 1948 and the work of the Board in 1949 (document E/OB/5/Addendum).
5. Permanent Central Opium Board, Addendum to the Report to the Economic and Social Council on Statistics of Narcotics for 1949 and the work of the Board in 1950 (document E/OB/6/Addendum).
6. Permanent Central Opium Board, Addendum to the Report to the Economic and Social Council on Statistics of Narcotics for 1950 and the work of the Board in 1951 (document E/OB/7/Addendum).
7. Permanent Central Opium Board, Addendum to the Report to the Economic and Social Council on Statistics of Narcotics for 1951 and the work of the Board in 1952 (document E/OB/8/Addendum).
8. Permanent Central Opium Board, Addendum to the Report to the Economic and Social Council on Statistics of Narcotics for 1952 and the work of the Board in 1953 (document E/OB/9/Addendum).
9. Permanent Central Opium Board, Addendum to the Report to the Economic and Social Council on Statistics of Narcotics for 1953 and the work of the Board in 1954 (document E/OB/10/Addendum).
10. Permanent Central Opium Board, Addendum to the Report to the Economic and Social Council on Statistics of Narcotics for 1954 and the work of the Board in 1955 (document E/OB/11/Addendum).
11. Information communicated by the Government of Portugal (Legation at Berne) on 18 July 1955.
12. Information communicated by the Government of Portugal (Embassy at Washington) on 21 September 1955.