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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

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Agenda item 7 (d)

**Implementation of the international drug control treaties:
other matters arising from the international drug control
treaties**

Argentina: revised draft resolution

Responding to the threat posed by the abuse and diversion of ketamine

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling its resolution 48/1, on promoting the sharing of information on emerging trends in the abuse of and trafficking in substances not controlled under the international drug control conventions,

Recalling also its resolution 49/6, in which it called on Member States to place ketamine on the list of substances controlled under their national legislation, where the domestic situation so required, and encouraged Member States to consider adopting a system of import-export certificates for use by their government agencies,

Recalling further the reports of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2004¹ and 2005,² in which the Board noted the widespread abuse of substances not scheduled under the international drug control treaties, in particular the abuse of ketamine, especially among youth in East and South-East Asia, and the trafficking in ketamine in that region and in other regions, including Oceania and South America,

Recognizing that, in many countries, when compressed oxygen is not available, ketamine is the only means of anaesthesia,

¹ *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2004* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.XI.3).

² *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.06.XI.2).



Noting the diversion of ketamine for illicit use in a mixture or in conjunction with amphetamine-type stimulants, especially methylenedioxymethamphetamine (commonly known as “ecstasy”), as well as its harmful effects,

Noting also that the World Health Organization is conducting a critical review of ketamine,

Concerned by the threat to the well-being of youth and society posed by the diversion and abuse of ketamine,

Noting that a number of Member States in many regions have placed ketamine on their lists of substances controlled under national legislation,

Noting also the efforts made to discuss in international forums on drug law enforcement held in Asia and the Pacific the placing of ketamine on the list of substances controlled under the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,³ in order to better control and limit abuse of and trafficking in that substance,

1. *Encourages* Member States to pay particular attention to the emerging problem of widespread abuse and diversion of ketamine, in particular in East and South-East Asia and South America, which also affects States in other regions;

2. *Also encourages* Member States to consider adopting a system of precautionary measures for use by their government agencies to facilitate the timely detection of the diversion of ketamine;

3. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to share the concerns of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence of the World Health Organization, and, in that regard, looks forward to the updated review of ketamine in the report of the Expert Committee.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.