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SITUATION AND TRENDS IN DRUG ABUSE AND THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC,  
INCLUDING REPORTS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES CONCERNED WITH  
THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN DRUGS

Operational Heads of National Narcotics  
Law Enforcement Agencies, Far East Region,  
Report on the Eleventh Meeting  
26-30 November 1984

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## I. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1845 (LVI) of 15 May 1974, the Eleventh Meeting of Operational Heads of National Narcotics Law Enforcement Agencies, Far East Region (HONLEA) was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 26-30 November 1984. The Division of Narcotic Drugs provided the secretariat services for the Meeting.
2. All participants were welcomed by Police Major General Chavalit Yodmani, Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board of Thailand who drew attention to the ten successful years of work by HONLEA, to the profits from drug traffic which had nevertheless caused the spread of such traffic and which consistently increased the need for co-ordinated drug law enforcement action. The Far East region was a strategic area and the Government of Thailand was convinced that with persistent co-operation it would be possible to overcome the present difficult situation.
3. The representative of the Division thanked the Secretary-General of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) for his welcome and noted that this was the third occasion on which the Government of Thailand had generously acted as host to HONLEA. He expressed the belief that HONLEA, which had been established under United Nations auspices, was a most successful regional co-ordination mechanism for drug law enforcement. It would be very useful to extend similar mechanisms to other regions, especially at present to Africa. Recent trends included worldwide seizures in 1983 of 40 tons of cocaine, 10,000 tons of cannabis, 280 tons of cannabis resin and 80 tons of opium as well as 12 tons of heroin; in spite of these increased seizures, which were partly the result of improved co-ordinated action of the type encouraged by HONLEA, availability in many regions was increasing and prices were falling on the illicit market. He drew attention to recent initiatives in the United Nations General Assembly including the possibility of a draft Convention relating to the illicit drug traffic.
4. The meeting was inaugurated by H.E. General Prachuab Suntrangkoon, Deputy Prime Minister, who welcomed all participants on behalf of the Royal Thai Government. Expressing appreciation to the United Nations Division of Narcotic Drugs, he outlined the worldwide problem of drug abuse and the emergence of new techniques of drug smuggling. This placed a heavy burden on drug law enforcement officers to work out more effective approaches to counter drug trafficking.
5. The Deputy Prime Minister stressed the need to counter increased transit and other traffic by greater unification of action and mutual collaboration. The Government of Thailand remained fully committed to the international drug control treaties. It was concentrating on reducing illicit cultivation and on destroying clandestine heroin laboratories along the country's borders. More severe punishment for traffickers was now in the process of being adopted into national law.

6. Finally, the Deputy Prime Minister reiterated the support of the Government of Thailand for the kind of work of HONLEA in exchanging experience leading to closer co-ordination of work against the illicit traffic.

7. Invitations had been extended to 26 countries and territories of the region and accepted by 20 of them. A number of countries outside the region were represented by observers as were a number of international and intergovernmental organizations. A list of participants is in the Annex to the present document.

8. Police Major General Chavalit Yodmani (Thailand) was unanimously elected to the office of Chairman, Mr. B. Gibson (New Zealand) and Mr. M. Yassin (Malaysia) were unanimously elected as First and Second Vice Chairmen. The meeting adopted the following agenda:

- (a) Follow up to recommendations of the Tenth HONLEA Meeting;
- (b) Current trends in the illicit traffic;
- (c) Newly developed legislative and administrative measures to counter the illicit traffic;
- (d) Measures for improving co-operation in applying co-ordinated countermeasures within the region;
- (e) Measures for improving the application of co-ordinated countermeasures at inter-regional level;
- (f) Consideration of specific countermeasures: controlled delivery;
- (g) Consideration of specific countermeasures: extradition;
- (h) Consideration of specific countermeasures: tracing, freezing and forfeiture of the proceeds of drug crimes;
- (i) Development and promotion of more effective action against illicit drug traffic through training;
- (j) Development of measures to counter drug smuggling through the postal system;
- (k) Agenda for the Twelfth HONLEA Meeting.

## II. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

(a) Follow up to recommendations of the Tenth HONLEA Meeting

9. At the invitation of the Chairman, the representative of the Division outlined activities which had been pursued as a result of the recommendations of the Tenth HONLEA Meeting. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs had adopted a resolution (3(S-VIII)) entitled "International Campaign Against the Traffic in Drugs"; this contained a number of elements which had been identified as desirable by the Tenth HONLEA Meeting. A number of these were also being pursued and debated at the current thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York. Measures to improve communication between States in parts of South West Asia had been pursued in a number of informal meetings; these had culminated in a formal meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 14-16 November 1984. Similar action had now been requested in the Caribbean where measures against the illicit drug traffic were similarly inhibited by lack of regular communication between national agencies.

10. A Second Expert Group Meeting on the Forfeiture of the Proceeds of Drug Crimes had been held in Vienna in October 1984. Experts from India and Malaysia had been participants in this meeting, the report of which would be considered by the Commission in February 1985. The Government of Thailand had acted as host to a meeting designed, as the Tenth HONLEA Meeting had suggested, to continue to involve non-governmental organizations in prevention and reduction of drug abuse. He paid tribute to the work of the Governments of Thailand and Indonesia which were very active in this field and to the consistent involvement and support of the Colombo Plan Bureau. The Tenth Meeting's recommendations concerning exchange of liaison officers had been followed by additional postings in many States of the region; this, in turn, had increased the ability of international organizations concerned to provide practical drug law enforcement training with the support of the Governments of many Member States.

11. The representative of Indonesia stated that those suspected of drug-related crimes can be prevented from travelling outside the country by denial of exit permits. Foreigners known to be involved in such crimes are forbidden to enter Indonesia or can be deported. A maximum penalty of capital punishment for trafficking in opiates and of life imprisonment for trafficking in cannabis and coca had been introduced. Indonesia participated actively in drug law enforcement training within the ASEAN group and in-country training had also been conducted with support from the United States of America. The Federal Republic of Germany had posted a drug expert at the Criminal Investigation Training Centre for four years. As part of the continuing emphasis on the involvement of non-governmental and voluntary organizations, the Government would act as host to the International Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations Conference in collaboration with the Colombo Plan Bureau which would meet in Jakarta from 10-14 December 1984. Finally, a special forum had been established where the highest officers of the judiciary and the drug law enforcement agencies could meet to discuss the application of laws relating to crime control including drug control. All these measures were in pursuit of recommendations of the Tenth HONLEA Meeting.

12. The representative of Malaysia, outlining the situation in his country, described how co-ordination on better intelligence-gathering, with the full support of the Government, had resulted in more arrests and convictions and the seizure of much greater quantities of drugs from the traffic during 1984. A new Bill shortly to be placed before the Legislature would, when it became law, allow the detention without trial of those believed to be involved as organizers of the traffic for renewable periods of two years. One result of measures already taken had been a decrease in the number of new drug abusers coming to notice. A second had been to force couriers to avoid Malaysian territory and a third had been the arrest of more established organizers of the traffic. Much remained to be done. Heroin base had increasingly been found in the traffic in the last two years; the processing of this base in urban areas to be distributed in the illicit market was a relatively simple process. There was more traffic by fishing and other vessels to avoid blocks on the land routes. There had been increased abuse of inhalants in eastern parts of Malaysia with the growing danger of abuse of psychotropic substances as substitutes for heroin. Co-operation in the exchange of intelligence had been improved. There was still, however, a need for a more complete flow of information on Malaysian nationals who were deported after conviction in foreign countries and much could be gained by working towards more harmonization of drug-related laws.

13. The representative of India welcomed the recent Colombo meeting to improve communications in parts of South West Asia. The representative of Thailand urged the need for continued emphasis on technical training to improve the efficiency of the use of new equipment and the application of new techniques. He supported any initiatives which would help the African region to develop the same kind of co-operation that existed in the HONLEA area. Finally, he urged constant exchange and updating of contacts, addresses, telephone and telex numbers between all participants.

(b) Current trends in the illicit traffic

14. Most participants and observers addressed this item of the agenda. The observer from Interpol noted that accurate assessments of trends worldwide were frequently difficult because of gaps in reporting. A number of new trends could however be discerned. There was increasing involvement of diplomats and others of similar status as couriers in the traffic. Nationals of developing countries were increasingly recruited as couriers by trafficking groups. High profits, increasing demand for illicit drugs and apparently growing supply all contributed to a deteriorating situation which was characterized, inter alia, by spreading multiple drug abuse and by abusers switching from one drug to another and from narcotic drugs to psychotropic substances if any group of drugs was in short supply. There was more heroin seized in Europe and in the Far East. There were unquestionable increases in availability of psychotropic substances in many regions.

15. The Interpol office in Bangkok was being strengthened as were the mechanisms for supporting Interpol activity in South America and in Africa.

16. The representative of the Division and the observer from Interpol, at the invitation of the Chairman, provided assessments of the balance between the supply of heroin in the traffic from South West Asia and from South East Asia. In most of Europe the supply of South West Asian heroin continued to be considerably in excess of that from South East Asia although the percentage of heroin from the latter source had increased as a result of abundant opium harvests in parts of South East Asia during the last four years.

17. The representative of Australia outlined trafficking trends. These included: several major seizures at airports; a developing traffic in cocaine; considerable traffic in the post office mails where difficulty was being encountered because of the provisions of the Universal Postal Convention, and trafficking in containers, notably of cannabis resin. The majority of traffic in heroin was still of the No.4 type from South East Asia but with some No.3 heroin apparently obtained in Malaysia and Hong Kong. Some South West Asian heroin, obtained in Turkey, had been seized in the traffic and, despite some price increases within Australia, there was increased heroin availability together with availability of cocaine in kilo consignments.

18. Australia reported on the success of intelligence units in Member States. Emphasis continued to be given to accessing of financial records as a countermeasure against drug trafficking. The Australian Federal Police had been given responsibility for co-ordinating coastal surveillance against drug traffic. The secondment of a Customs officer to work against drug traffic with the Australian Federal Police had been most successful. During the last year Australian courts had handed down severe penalties for persons convicted of drug trafficking. The technique of controlled delivery had generally worked well and was to be encouraged; the posting of liaison officers abroad had also provided excellent results in work against the traffic.

19. The representative of Japan outlined the development of the present wave of methamphetamine abuse with abusers beginning at a younger age. This was the major problem in Japan. Annual strategy guidelines were established by a co-ordinating body operating under the Prime Minister's Office. These guidelines were then adopted by local Prefecture Governments under Central Government guidance. Present guidelines were intended: to increase public education of the awareness of the dangers of drug abuse; to strengthen enforcement action, and to establish closer links between concerned agencies. Education in schools, homes and society at large was being supported by volunteer rehabilitation workers and, in one special operation, a careful check had been made on over 2,000 handlers of stimulant drug precursors to guard against leakage of these precursors for the manufacture of drugs of abuse.

20. These measures were all intended to counter the activity of organized crime groups which spread drug abuse in order to obtain funds. There had been a recent marked change in the sources of methamphetamine smuggled into Japan. Until 1983 about 75 per cent was smuggled from the Republic of Korea and 25 per cent from Taiwan; in 1984, 85 per cent was of Taiwanese origin. A new trend was the increased inward smuggling to Japan of cannabis, often along the Philippine route. There had also been 58,000 arrests in 1983 for contravention of the laws governing the abuse of solvents; 88 per cent of solvent abusers were juveniles and a number of deaths had been recorded.

21. Stimulants were smuggled into Japan by air passengers and crew who used increasingly sophisticated means of concealment. New trends included smuggling in commercial air cargo and freight and the transfer of smuggled drugs from "mother ships" into small boats. There appeared to be links between inward drug smuggling and the smuggling of firearms.

22. The representative of Hong Kong described consistent pressure from trafficking syndicates which rapidly adjusted to enforcement activity to continue to smuggle heroin base into Hong Kong from South East Asia. Thai trawlers were again being used in the traffic and there was more frequent inward smuggling by air of small consignments. A threat from smuggling in containers undoubtedly existed, however enforcement action had reduced the number of attempts at smuggling by internal concealment. Several attempts had been detected to smuggle opiates in transit through China into Hong Kong and synthetic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methaqualone, diverted from licit manufacture in China. These trends were being countered by closer liaison across the border between China and Hong Kong.

23. Hong Kong was one of the many free trade centres which certainly attracted money-laundering operations and new countermeasures were now being considered by the authorities. Other successful countermeasures already taken had been based on the conspiracy laws of Hong Kong; these had enabled action to be taken against major syndicates which had been operating since 1978. Controls over acetylating substances had also been successful; they were undoubtedly one of the reasons why traffickers were now importing primarily heroin base which was rapidly and readily transformed into No.3 heroin in Hong Kong.

24. The representative of India drew particular attention to the fact that while domestic seizures of opium and herbal cannabis (ganja) had decreased during 1983, those of opiates entering Indian territory across the Indo-Pakistan border consistently increased. Opium seizures across this border in India had more than doubled between 1982 and 1983 and were maintained at a high level in 1984. A similar situation existed in respect of heroin entering India from the Near and Middle East, mainly Pakistan. Thirty-four kilogrammes of heroin had been seized in 1982 and 139 kgs. in 1983. As per reports received up to October 1984 a quantity of 86 kgs. of heroin had been seized in the first three quarters of 1984. Similar trends existed in respect of cannabis from Nepal and in particular of cannabis resin from parts of the Near and Middle East, especially from Pakistan. Describing action taken by the Government of India in 1984 to prohibit the manufacture, sale and import of methaqualone in India, the delegate expressed the belief that once the quantity which was already in the illicit pipeline and appeared to be moving mainly to Zambia had been seized or disposed of, the problems posed by methaqualone would be overcome.

25. Some delegates indicated that there was a distinct likelihood that illicit opiates from parts of South East Asia may be trafficked westward across Indian territory and that traffickers may try to move acetic anhydride across the same territory into parts of South East Asia. There was therefore a need for the Government of India to give particular attention to its western as well as eastern frontiers.

26. The representative of Indonesia stated that there have been some increase in cannabis abuse by young people and in outward smuggling of this drug. However, increased enforcement action had countered these problems. The Government had used helicopters to detect illicit cannabis cultivation and helicopter-borne forces to destroy it. The neighbourhood security system which existed in all urban and rural areas of Indonesia had also been mobilized to support the police in the early detection and prevention of crime including drug criminality. With regard to inward smuggling, there have been consistent increases in traffic in cannabis resin from Nepal and Sri Lanka and transit traffic in heroin, apparently obtained in Malaysia and intended primarily for Australia and New Zealand. Internal concealment had been used by couriers and the Government was particularly conscious of the possible threat from psychotropic substances.

27. The representative of Nepal drew attention to increasing quantities of opiates being moved in the traffic, although seizures of cannabis and cannabis resin indicated decreased availability of these drugs. Calling for increased co-operation between Governments and agencies concerned, he drew attention to the marked increase in the number of foreigners involved in the illicit traffic in Nepal in 1984 compared with 1983.

28. The representative of Bangladesh outlined the spread of cannabis abuse among young people and the growing inward smuggling of cannabis and its preparations, including liquid cannabis, from abroad as the areas of cannabis cultivated in Bangladesh under government license were progressively reduced so that such cultivation could be ended as required by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, in 1989. Cocaine, opium, morphine, pethidine and cannabis resin had been seized from traffic in 1983. Smuggling by ships had been encountered and it seemed likely that this would increase.

29. The representative of Tonga reported smuggling of cannabis by passengers on ships and on private yachts. The Government of the Kingdom of Tonga was well aware of the possibility that drug sub-cultures elsewhere could affect the territory and the people of Tonga, and legislation being submitted to the Legislative Assembly provided for capital punishment for the illegal distribution of more potent drugs.

30. The observer from Italy outlined the history of transit traffic in drugs through that country which had led to spreading abuse within Italy and to the increased involvement of Mafia and other organized criminal groups. The source of supply of heroin now seized was almost equally divided between South East Asia and the Near and Middle East and, judging from quantities seized, there was increasing availability of heroin from both sources; seizure figures indicated a 27.7 per cent increase in seizures in 1984 compared with 1983. The use of containers for smuggling compounded the difficulties faced by law enforcement agencies, as did increasing concentration by traffickers on maritime smuggling. The observer outlined in detail the successes that had been possible against Mafia-type conspiracies and groups under new Italian legislation intended to counter organized crime in all its aspects.

31. The observer from the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East (Sub-Commission) conveyed the strong desire of all Member States of the Sub-Commission to co-operate fully with HONLEA both at bilateral and regional levels. He stressed the threat



presented by continued illicit opium cultivation and the resultant damage to the social fabric of States as well as to their economic development. The links between drug trafficking, other organized crime, violence and corruption were very clear. Illicit opium poppy cultivation undoubtedly existed in parts of the area of the Sub-Commission and in spite of domestic illicit demand still provided a considerable quantity of illicit opiates and especially heroin intended for export to the Islamic Republic of Iran and to parts of Western Europe and North America. No opium had been produced in Turkey during the last ten years since the Government had adopted the poppy straw method for providing raw material for legitimate world medical needs. Forty-one clandestine laboratories had been seized in Pakistan in 1983.

32. No illicit opium poppy cultivation had been detected in the Islamic Republic of Iran in 1984 where all major traffickers carrying any quantity of any drug purposely and with intent to traffic were liable to capital punishment. Many traffickers were nationals of neighbouring States along the country's eastern frontiers. These penalties and other legislative and administrative measures had markedly increased the price of illicit opiates within the Islamic Republic of Iran and were contributing to a switch in trafficking routes so that traffickers avoided national territory and tended to use airports and seaports in other States as transit routes. The observer from the Sub-Commission hoped that an observer from HONLEA would attend the next autumn meeting of the Sub-Commission which would be held in Teheran so as to consider practical countermeasures to current problems in the area of the Sub-Commission itself.

33. The observer from China, affirming his Government's full support for all measures to guard the health of the world's peoples, outlined measures taken during 1950 and 1952 in China to eradicate the catastrophe of opium abuse which had previously existed. These measures included: the banning of all opium poppy cultivation; severe punishment for offenders and a limited time period for the surrender of all materials used for abuse and avoidance of addiction. They had received the full support of the Chinese people and had been successful for three decades. Now, unfortunately, a handful of foreigners were taking advantage of China's open-door policy and a number of attempts to transit China with drugs had been detected. This had been undertaken by tourists who came allegedly for sightseeing or to visit relatives. Attempts at transit traffic had been detected at major airports, mainly of drugs from South East Asia. There had also been problems on the south-western frontiers of China where some border-crossing with drugs had been attempted; these had been overcome. The Penal Code had been amended in 1982 and those convicted of trafficking offences, whether they were Chinese nationals or foreigners, now faced penalties ranging from ten years to life imprisonment and capital punishment and would forfeit all assets.

34. The observer from the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) agreed with the overall assessments by the representatives of Interpol and the Division and described the situation worldwide as increasingly serious with an increasing number of countries affected by drug traffic. This, however, was being countered by unprecedented co-ordinated countermeasures by the world community. The INCB commended in particular work being done to improve communications between the Sub-Commission and HONLEA. He outlined the work of INCB to control and monitor the legal trade and movement of drugs. A very good response from Governments in terms of voluntary reporting of licit requirements had foiled a number of attempts at large-scale

diversion of substances in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances. It was emphasized that the control problem of psychotropic substances was in some respects more complex than that of narcotic drugs and deserved the special attention of law enforcement agencies.

35. The observer from the Federal Republic of Germany said that there was no decrease in demand for illicit drugs. Heroin was likely to be prominent for the next few years; cannabis was increasingly abused and it seemed certain that cocaine abuse would rise. The Federal Republic of Germany was both a market and a transit area for illicit drugs. Cannabis came from the Near and Middle East and Africa, particularly Gambia and Nigeria. Heroin originated both in the Near and Middle East and South East Asia. Heroin from the Near and Middle East came mainly by air and overland with air cargo now being used for smuggling from Pakistan; heroin obtained in Turkey generally came overland. In respect of South East Asia, heroin routes were generally by air, often using internal concealment which was a method of smuggling frequently used by European couriers to carry quantities of 100 to 1,000 grammes. There had been 259 drug-related deaths in the Federal Republic of Germany in the first nine months of 1984.

36. The representative of the Republic of Maldives described trafficking by tourists for personal abuse. These were frequently persons from Europe travelling to the Republic of Maldives through Sri Lanka, India or Nepal and obtaining their drugs on the way. Cannabis resin and heroin had been seized in 1984. Four nationals of Maldives had been convicted of trafficking elsewhere and on return to their country had been charged with misconduct in a foreign State.

37. The representative of the Philippines said that there was sporadic abuse of heroin, cocaine and LSD among the more affluent sectors of society and some abuse in all sectors of cannabis, volatile solvents, tranquillizers and of medical or pharmaceutical preparations which were not under control. Multiple drug abuse was frequent. The Government faced problems of illicit cannabis cultivation. The number of plants detected and destroyed had doubled to 1.8 million in 1984. Much of this illicit cannabis cultivation was in remote areas and the plantations were protected by terrorists. No illicit opium or coca bush cultivation or clandestine laboratories were known to exist in the Philippines.

38. There was heavy smuggling through the post office mails and a new trend had been the use of crew members of the Philippine Air Lines for smuggling drugs from Pakistan, mainly in transit. There was considerable foreign involvement in all drug trafficking using nationals of the Philippines as couriers. The foreigners involved were frequently members of criminal groups. It was likely that the Government would have to divert more resources to eradicate cultivation of cannabis, much of which were destined for Hong Kong, Japan and the United States.

39. The representative of Sri Lanka, describing the situation in that State, said that opium seizures had decreased, possibly because security forces were deployed for other reasons in traditional landing areas and because young people were not acquiring the habit of opium abuse, turning to the use of heroin instead. A new worrying phenomenon was the emergence of a young generation of heroin abusers; the number of heroin-related incidents had risen five times between 1983 and 1984. The price of heroin was very low

indeed and the source almost invariably Pakistan. Heroin was smuggled by air and sea, either directly or via India. There was extensive use of the postal system. Businessmen and seamen were involved and there were consistent links to the source of supply in Pakistan. Much of the heroin was in transit and trafficking groups were clearly intent upon using Sri Lankan nationals as couriers in the traffic.

40. Terrorists operating in Sri Lanka were certainly involved in arranging drug smuggling to Europe to obtain both firearms and financial support for their operations. The Government had, under new legislation in April 1984, made capital punishment mandatory for serious offences and life imprisonment the punishment for other somewhat less serious breaches of the law. The situation generally, although not hopeless, was bleak.

41. The representative of Fiji described how cannabis abuse and cultivation, which had previously been confined to older males, was now spreading to young people. Drug traffic was a phenomenon that also accompanied tourism. The Government had therefore reorganized the two drugs squads in Fiji and had concentrated on increased training in drug law enforcement techniques with the assistance of the United Nations, Australia and New Zealand. Maximum penalties had been raised under recent amendments to the law as part of the Government's response to a situation which could deteriorate.

42. The observer from Canada described in detail the situation regarding heroin trafficking and abuse which, with local variations, indicated generally steady availability in most parts of the country with heroin of both South East Asian and South West Asian origin being smuggled in through international airports and through the postal system. Cocaine was widely and amply available. There was growing demand among all sectors of most communities and abuse was spreading into rural areas. Motorcycle gangs were involved in distribution. Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver were probably the main distribution centres but many airports receiving flights directly or indirectly from Mexico, the United States, Jamaica, and parts of Western Europe also served as importation points in the traffic. Cocaine was also smuggled through the post office mails and one cocaine laboratory had been detected in Canada in 1984.

43. A wide range of chemical drugs including LSD, MDA, PCP, amphetamines, methamphetamines, barbiturates and hallucinogenic mushrooms were available. Two clandestine methamphetamine laboratories had recently been detected. LSD was particularly widely available at present. Cannabis resin and liquid cannabis were also widely available, with cannabis entering from Jamaica, resin from Lebanon and liquid cannabis and resin from Morocco. Again, the postal services were frequently used for cannabis smuggling.

44. The representative of Brunei described an increase in drug abuse and stated that records showed that 70 per cent of abusers who had come to notice since 1978 were aged between 20 and 30 years. There was some abuse of heroin, opium and cannabis but, since 1983, a worrying problem of abuse of volatile solvents had emerged and the representative asked that HONLEA consider how this problem could be tackled.

45. The representative of Thailand described the difficult situation facing the Government because of Thailand's proximity to major illicit opium-producing areas. Within Thailand, illicit opium cultivation and production were estimated as stable with about 17,000 acres being cultivated in the two most recent growing seasons producing an assessed 35 tons of opium per year. It was assessed that about 50 per cent of the heroin manufactured along the Thai-Burma border was intercepted before it moved into Thailand because of strong countermeasures along the frontier areas; since 1983 many laboratories, chemicals and large quantities of equipment had been seized. Similar severe action had been taken against illicit cannabis cultivation in north-east Thailand near the Mekong river and an estimated 1,500 tons had recently been destroyed by Border Patrol personnel alone. Heroin was generally smuggled out by air via Bangkok while cannabis was moved on sea routes.

46. Enforcement action was concentrating increasingly on eradication of illicit opium poppy cultivation and on obtaining evidence leading to the conviction of major traffickers. The Government maintained close intelligence and other contacts with a wide range of liaison officers and other Governments' agencies. New legislation now being drafted included provisions for: preventive detection, confiscation of illegally-acquired assets, countering conspiracy, and withdrawal of passports and other travel documents.

47. The representative of Western Samoa described the steady increase in drug cases in 1984, mainly for possession and cultivation of cannabis. Main sources of inward smuggling were: American Samoa, Hawaii and the United States of America. Local youths who had been abroad and yacht crews were increasingly involved in the traffic and, because 65 per cent of the population of Western Samoa was under 21 years of age, this caused the authorities grave concern. The representative welcomed training assistance which had been given and asked for more, taking particular account of the fact that Western Samoa was increasingly likely to be used as a transit point as trafficking groups tried to diversify their routes.

48. In summing up, the Chairman described a continuing uphill battle despite the generally successful seizures of the past year. It was clear that much more must be done to prevent and reduce illicit demand in parallel with efforts to reduce supply and to interdict the illicit traffic.

(c) Newly developed legislative and administrative measures to counter the illicit traffic

49. The meeting noted that many Governments had adopted new legislative and administrative measures which had been reported in describing current trends in the illicit traffic. The movement towards harmonization of laws within the region was particularly apparent and in many States capital punishment for serious trafficking offences had been adopted as the ultimate deterrent. It was noted that preventive detention continued, in States where it had been adopted, to provide an additional enforcement tool under appropriate constitutional and other safeguards. These and other measures indicated increased public concern over the threat from the illicit traffic.

50. In Australia, two recent Royal Commissions on Organized Crime had, inter alia, resulted in the establishment of a National Crime Authority to co-ordinate the attack on organized crime. Joint Task Forces had been set up and regular operational contact was maintained between the Federal and State Police and the Customs authorities. Coastal surveillance and protection had become a responsibility of the Australian Federal Police. The Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence continued to provide a vital and valuable service to Australian law enforcement.

51. In Malaysia, drug trafficking had been recognized in 1983 as a threat to national security and was now the major public enemy. An Anti-Narcotics Committee, with the Deputy Prime Minister as Chairman, worked under the National Security Council with an Anti-Narcotics Drugs Task Force as executing agency. Recent legislative amendments permitted any Police or Customs officer, with the authority of the Public Prosecutor, to intercept mails, telephones, etc. in pursuit of the drug traffic. Capital punishment was mandatory for trafficking offences and the possession of more than 15 grammes of heroin and specified amounts of other drugs carried a presumption of possession for the purposes of trafficking. More effective controls had been introduced over the importation of acetylating substances; the maximum sentence for unlicensed importation was 14 years imprisonment with whipping of not less than six strokes. In addition to preventive detention, the Government hoped to introduce new legislation relating to forfeiture of the proceeds of drug crimes.

52. In India, comprehensive draft legislation, including provision for deterrent punishment, was in the process of finalization. Provisions allowing for preventive detention and forfeiture under appropriate safeguards already existed and were being applied against illegally acquired property and assets. In addition to the prohibition of manufacture and import of methaqualone, narcotics cells at sea and airports and at land frontier crossing points were being strengthened. The preventive and intelligence machinery of Customs was being strengthened. Provision for payment of rewards for seizures of drugs other than opium (where the system already existed) was being made. Drug-scenting dogs were being used at Delhi airport and were being trained for use at other places. A wireless telecommunication system covering licit opium poppy-growing areas was being considered. These measures were the result of continuous review at the highest national level and of co-ordination of action in accordance with Article 35 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.

53. In Sri Lanka, and in pursuit of the provisions of the same Convention, a Narcotics Control Board had been established, with Sub-Committees, in May 1984. More comprehensive legislation giving more power to attack organizers and financiers of illicit traffic had also been introduced and action was being taken to increase awareness of mutual problems between members of the Judiciary and drug law enforcement officers.

54. The meeting noted co-ordinated approaches within ASEAN in relation to: preventive detention, conspiracy and passport withdrawal and discussed the impact of capital punishment as a deterrent to trafficking. The meeting noted the experience of Malaysia where, with 80,000 registered heroin abusers, all of whom were potential traffickers, a younger generation of traffickers appeared to be taking over from older men, in spite of capital

punishment. A close watch was being kept in Malaysia on the possibility that capital punishment might result in more violent reactions by trafficking groups, including the use of firearms.

(d) Measures for improving co-operation in applying co-ordinated counter measures within the region

55. The meeting noted with appreciation the contact lists regularly produced and updated by the Colombo Plan Bureau Drug Adviser and, in the context of discussion on this item of the agenda, paid particular attention to the progress that had been achieved in ASEAN as a result of constant consultation and exchange of experience at all levels. In April 1984, an ASEAN Experts' Meeting in Indonesia had determined a regional policy and strategy designed to achieve uniformity of approaches to common problems and harmonization of significant drug-related legislation and its application. Strengthening of national co-ordination mechanisms and intensive action to prevent and reduce drug abuse were also agreed upon; particular attention was given to the potential of non-governmental organizations in support of Government activity.

56. A number of planned ASEAN projects would include studies of the effect of preventive detention in Malaysia and Singapore and of compulsory treatment as well as of measures to ensure the forfeiture of the proceeds of drug crimes undertaken within and outside the region. Operational heads of national drug law enforcement agencies were encouraged to develop standing operation procedures and, in November 1985, it was planned to hold a month-long Anti-Narcotics Campaign. The representative of the Division and other participants expressed appreciation for the work being undertaken by the ASEAN Narcotic Desk Officer in Jakarta to make knowledge of action taken in ASEAN available to the United Nations and other organizations. The meeting noted that UNFDAC and UNDP were actively considering assistance to ASEAN for drug law enforcement training and for rehabilitation and noted with pleasure that an increasing number of United Nations bodies were now supporting activity against the drug traffic and drug abuse.

57. The representatives of India and Sri Lanka outlined the results of a fruitful discussion on improved communications between concerned agencies of Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka which had been held in Colombo from 14-16 November 1984. They welcomed the support which had been received from the Division, International Telecommunications Union (ITU), ICPO/Interpol and the Office for Field Operational and External Support Activities (OFOESA). The meeting hoped that continued contacts would forge fruitful arrangements especially in improved communications. The availability of telex facilities might be further examined as a supplement to existing Interpol channels of communication which were shortly to be strengthened in the area concerned.

58. In the context of this discussion and of earlier reports by many participants which indicated that Pakistan was a major source of opiates and sometimes of other drugs seized from the traffic, the meeting expressed the hope that the Government of Pakistan would be able to be represented in an observer capacity at the Twelfth HONLEA Meeting in view of the clear links existing in the traffic between Pakistan and a number of HONLEA Member States. The Division was asked to bring this sincere wish of the Eleventh HONLEA Meeting to the attention of the Government of Pakistan through appropriate channels.

(e) Measures for improving the application of co-ordinated countermeasures at inter-regional level

59. In the context of this item of the agenda, the Chairman and participants asked the representative of the Division to provide an assessment of the current situation regarding the traffic in cocaine and the likely threat to parts of the HONLEA region. He stressed, as had the observer from Interpol, that in this as in many other fields, statistics were frequently approximate and incomplete. Nevertheless, recent reports from the Governments concerned and from other reliable official sources indicated that the total areas under illegal coca bush cultivation in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Peru might now be as high as 170,000 hectares, and illicit cultivation continued to expand in some parts of the South American region. Despite unprecedented total cocaine seizures in the Americas and Europe, availability was increasing and wholesale and retail prices were dropping. It seemed very probable that cocaine traffickers would try to expand their markets to other regions including parts of Asia and the Pacific. The total amount of cocaine in various forms available for the illicit market was variously estimated at between 200 and 500 tons, the latter being an estimation recently received by the Division from the Government of Chile. Traffickers would probably aim at markets in the richer countries and at those where stimulants abuse was known to exist.

60. A number of speakers, in this context, referred to the growing threat of transit traffic through the island States of the Pacific. The meeting noted an informal enquiry from the Government of Vanuatu concerning the possibility of an invitation to participate in HONLEA and, on the motion of the representatives of Australia, Hong Kong and New Zealand, decided to recommend to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-first session that Vanuata be authorized to participate in HONLEA.

61. The observer from the Customs Co-operation Council (CCC) outlined the many initiatives taken by CCC since it was founded in 1953 to assist Member States to protect themselves and to aid each other against illicit drug traffic. A series of recommendations had addressed mutual administrative assistance. The "Nairobi Convention" provided a legal basis for such assistance between Parties. A number of catalogues of places of concealment, technical aids and on methods of controlling smuggling by containers had been produced; joint studies were undertaken with the United Nations and Interpol. All these activities would be continued and strengthened at inter-regional level.

62. An observer from the United States of America Customs Service, taking account of the increased frequency of drug smuggling by air and sea, outlined new measures which had been adopted as one part of his Government's strategy to counter the drug traffic. Written agreements or unwritten understandings were now sought between the Government and carriers based on the identified need to: control access to planes and vessels; search them before departure; seal vulnerable compartments; search ground and service personnel before they reached the aircraft or vessel; screen employees for security or other risks; improve cargo security. These measures were gradually taking effect and initial problems were being overcome. It was necessary to involve Airport and Port Authorities as well as carriers. The present target area was South America in respect of cocaine and cannabis but it was hoped, with the co-operation of other States, to apply the same successful countermeasures in other areas and in respect of other drugs.

63. The observer from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) outlined the provisions of the two annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation which were of most relevance to action against drug traffic. Annex 9 dealt with Facilitation and Annex 17, which was supported by a manual, dealt with Aviation Security, security being defined as prevention of unlawful interference, sabotage, or terrorism. ICAO certainly wished to support work against drug smuggling to the extent possible within its mandate. A search checklist, for instance, which had been produced to cover possible hiding places for bombs and weapons in aircraft, might be very useful for countering drug smuggling. However, as far as the Convention on International Civil Aviation was concerned, a constant balance must be maintained between the need for essential control and the need to avoid disruption of the air traffic flow at airports.

64. Passenger manifests were very useful in checking drug traffickers, couriers and smugglers. It was noted that some airlines were reluctant to provide these manifests. The Convention on International Civil Aviation did not require them to do so but any of the 152 States Parties to the Convention could notify ICAO and require the regular production of such manifests within its territory.

65. The representative of India reported on his attendance as observer from HONLEA at the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the Sub-Commission. He had relayed the concern of HONLEA at continuing transit and other traffic in opium, heroin and cannabis resin from parts of the Sub-Commission into parts of the HONLEA area. He had stressed the need to dismantle sources of supply of these drugs.

66. In this context, the meeting took account of the fact that recent General Assembly resolutions foresaw an Inter-regional Meeting of Operational Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies in 1986 and decided not to pursue a proposal made at the First Joint Meeting between HONLEA and the Sub-Commission in New Delhi in November 1983 to have a second joint meeting in 1985. The meeting also decided that HONLEA meetings continued to serve the purposes for which HONLEA was originally established. However, care must be taken to ensure that membership did not become unwieldy and it was agreed to concentrate more heavily in future on specific operational items in the HONLEA agenda.

(f) Consideration of specific countermeasures: controlled delivery

67. A large number of participants addressed this item of the agenda. The CCC had carried out a study in 1982 which indicated that several members of CCC had achieved considerable success by use of controlled delivery. It was the subject of special concern to the newly-established CCC Enforcement Committee and an international seminar with United Nations support was planned for 1985. The Division was continuing to work on this subject and had published material in the Bulletin on Narcotics as well as special documents for the Commission.



68. It was the experience of Interpol and of a number of delegates that controlled delivery could be used to eliminate organizers of the drug traffic and was most usefully employed against major violators or large drug shipments. The technique had also been successfully used in connection with the chemical and other precursors of illicit drugs and clandestine laboratories as well as to detect diversion of major shipments of legally-produced drugs.

69. All who spoke on this subject agreed that careful co-ordination and planning were essential to the success of any controlled delivery operation, whether internal or external. There were many advantages to "clean" controlled delivery where the laws of States concerned did not require that some or all of the illicit consignment remained for evidential purposes. It was clear that any controlled delivery operation should not preclude the application of other enforcement measures, e.g. surveillance of members of trafficking organizations, electronic surveillance, etc.

70. The meeting noted that some Governments would find great difficulty in agreeing to a controlled delivery operation and could only do so in exceptional circumstances. In the case of Malaysia, for instance, consideration for controlled delivery could only be provided if: no nationals of Malaysia were involved; the drugs concerned did not leave the vehicle, aircraft or vessel in which they would be carried in transit through Malaysian territory, and the laws in the recipient State provided similar penalties to those under Malaysian legislation.

71. The meeting concluded that the benefits of controlled delivery as a technique were clear provided that all essential security pre-conditions were met and that the laws and administrative practices of all States along the route were respected. The international community, therefore, might be encouraged to pursue the technique in principle making selective use of it in specific cases. It would be desirable to move towards more general acceptance of the concept, thus making it more effective and secure for those who employed it, while taking account of national circumstances and always ensuring appropriate safeguards.

(g) Consideration of specific countermeasures: extradition

72. It was clear from discussion on this item of the agenda that, as far as a number of drug law enforcement agencies were concerned, existing extradition procedures were cumbersome, lengthy and difficult to implement. These factors often militated against rapid action when it was most needed against individual traffickers and their associates. It was noted that under Indian legislation, drug smuggling was an offence falling within the ambit of the Extradition Act. Under Indonesian law, extradition can be requested for drug trafficking offences even in the absence of any extradition treaty. In some cases, because of the long procedures which were necessary under laws governing extradition, use could be made of provisions of national legislation permitting deportation of foreign nationals involved in narcotic crimes (as was the case in Indonesia) and of the immigration laws and regulations as they affected foreign nationals (as was the case in Thailand). It was noted that, in the case of Thailand, even if extradition of Thai nationals was not possible, drug traffickers could be brought before the Thai Courts on the basis of sufficient evidence received from foreign jurisdictions.

73. The meeting noted that the Division was concluding a major study on extradition and expressed the view that when the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered the draft Convention against Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Related Activities in February 1985, which would be before it as a result of action by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, attention might usefully be directed towards streamlining extradition procedures as part of the provisions of a future Convention.

(h) Consideration of specific countermeasures: tracing, freezing and forfeiture of the proceeds of drug crimes

74. Interventions by participants indicated that progress continued to be made in respect of measures to ensure the forfeiture of the proceeds of drug crimes in many States and international organizations. This was a result of concerns which had been expressed in earlier meetings of HONLEA and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs since 1979. Progress in this complex area of drug law enforcement was still to a large extent dependent on the acquisition of new skills by investigators and others concerned who, in some cases, had little previous experience with devious financial transactions and complicated commercial crimes.

75. In Hong Kong, the Solicitor-General had recently concluded a major study of forfeiture measures adopted in various countries, including Australia, Canada and the United States. As a result of this study, present proposals included the following: a requirement that convicting courts should in appropriate circumstances on the application of the Attorney General, apply severe mandatory pecuniary penalties on conviction; the provision of more wide-ranging investigatory powers; some shifting of the burden of proof to those found in possession of unexplained assets; power to freeze assets pending finalization of investigation. It would still be necessary for requests from jurisdictions outside Hong Kong for assistance in tracing illegal assets to be made on a court-to-court basis.

76. In Malaysia, new legislation on this subject was proposed and close contact was being maintained between the Governments of Malaysia and Singapore; the latter Government was awaiting with great interest the enactment of the new Malaysian Law.

77. In Australia, Royal Commissions had in recent years, made specific recommendations on this subject, a number of which were gradually being implemented. It had been proposed that the recently established National Crimes Authority would have access to taxation records in pursuit of the identification of illegally-acquired assets. Powers also existed under Customs legislation and these were being used. The complexity of existing legislation concerning the imposition of pecuniary penalties had been an inhibiting factor in efforts to deprive traffickers of illegally-acquired assets. As was the case in some other States, Australian drug law enforcement agencies would prefer to have more simple legislation and administrative procedures in relation to the forfeiture of assets. Present legislation demanded specific investigative skills which was requiring emphasis on specialist training of investigators.

78. In India, success was being achieved in the application of legislation permitting the forfeiture of illegally-acquired property and assets. The representative of the Division undertook to transmit copies of the relevant Indian legislation to participants.

79. The observer from Interpol described relevant work undertaken by his Organization; this included the establishment of a special Commercial Crime Unit (FOPAC) which, like the Drugs Sub-Division, worked closely with the Division and CCC. Interpol's Financial Assets Encyclopaedia continued to be updated. A pattern of ad hoc working groups had proved very useful and could be extended on request from Member countries. Similar action had been taken by CCC to complement work done by the Division and Interpol; guidelines were now being developed for Customs officers on the basis of individual States' legislative provisions. The United Nations had held two recent Expert Group Meetings and published one special issue of the Bulletin on Narcotics on this subject; a second special issue would be published in early 1985 to further increase knowledge of measures which had been successfully taken in this field.

80. The meeting welcomed all these developments, expressed satisfaction with the work that had been done by concerned international organizations and believed that any new Convention might very usefully address means of streamlining mutual judicial and other assistance in order to facilitate the tracing, freezing and forfeiture of the proceeds of drug crimes at the international level.

(i) Development and promotion of more effective action against illicit drug traffic through training

81. The meeting debated the subject of training at length and concluded that this area of mutual assistance was one which, with the co-operation of all concerned, had probably moved most effectively in parallel with the development of HONLEA and as a result of its various decisions and recommendations on this subject. A great deal had already been achieved to increase awareness of drug-related problems through national, regional and international workshops and seminars. This had been increasingly effective not only in respect of drug law enforcement but also for those concerned with other aspects of drug abuse control. It was very important to continue to provide training. To the extent possible, this should now be further refined to provide more specialized instruction. Such refinement should take account of legal and evidential circumstances in individual States and should also, to the extent possible, concentrate on training trainers to achieve the maximum multiplier effect. In this context, participants undertook to identify instructors with experience in teaching training techniques who could be made available at the request of Governments or international organizations.

82. Representatives of Australia and New Zealand described action being taken with the Division to make training manuals and other material more widely available. All participants agreed this was an important service which should be further expanded. The Colombo Plan Bureau would also welcome the provision of training material, including slides and films, for distribution to concerned national agencies through the Bureau. The meeting welcomed the possibility that the Government of India might, to the extent feasible, establish a pattern of annual international drug law enforcement

seminars with the support of the Division, Interpol, the CCC, the Colombo Plan Bureau and the Governments of other Member States. The meeting also expressed appreciation for the annual seminars which had been organized by the National Police Agency of Japan since 1962 and which had so far trained 451 participants. Many participants expressed appreciation for the training assistance and support which they had received from the Governments of other States represented at the meeting. Others also thanked those Governments, Members of HONLEA, which had provided facilities for seminars and particular mention was made of the work of Thailand in the ASEAN context.

83. The meeting noted with pleasure that, in addition to training support which had traditionally been provided by UNFDAC, the Division, the Colombo Plan Bureau and CCC at international level, negotiations were now underway for assistance to be provided by UNDP.

84. In some States, for example Bangladesh, it would be helpful to receive support with the supply of training equipment and facilities in addition to training manuals, slides and films.

85. A relatively new development, which had started in Indonesia, in collaboration with the Colombo Plan Bureau Drug Advisory Programme, was the training of members of non-governmental organizations and volunteers in techniques of preventing or reducing drug abuse. This was one important means of ensuring that these NGOs and volunteers were well aware of Government policy and guidelines in this field. It should be actively pursued as one means of reducing demand for illicit drugs.

86. The meeting considered in detail the most interesting work being carried out in Indonesia to train local dogs for drug-scenting. This appeared to have been very successful; future HONLEA meetings would doubtless wish to receive further reports on progress and the work merited international support, if this were necessary and feasible. Local dogs were naturally much more resistant than imported dogs to tropical or sub-tropical climatic changes and diseases. In Australia, it had been possible to diversify the range of breeds of dogs which could be successfully used for drug-scenting. Any healthy dog meeting the selection criteria could normally be trained. Animals should not be neutered, and experience showed that good dogs could rapidly be ruined by bad handlers; the meeting stressed that this aspect of selection of drug-scenting teams must always be given high priority.

(j) Development of measures to counter drug smuggling through the postal system

87. The meeting noted with concern the growing use of the postal system as a means of smuggling drugs. Quantities were small, seldom more than 500 grammes, but the aggregate amounts moved through the postal system were undoubtedly very considerable. Reports available to the Division indicated that up to 20 per cent of total seizures were of drugs being smuggled through the post office mails.

88. There appeared to be some possible conflict between the Universal Postal Convention and the international drug control treaties. It was not always entirely satisfactory, and it was certainly time-consuming, to have to deal with this kind of "ant" traffic by use of the technique of controlled delivery, which was now the only possibility in many States.

89. In Australia, and as a temporary measure, the Australian Postal Service acted as agents of the Australian Federal Police to counter this type of smuggling. In Canada, efforts were being made to change legislation to allow access to first-class mail in which drugs were suspected of being smuggled and to reduce the upper limit of weight for first-class mails from 500 grammes to 28 grammes. In Indonesia, legislation allowed any incoming letter or package suspected of containing narcotics to be opened by law enforcement officers; trained officers with dogs had made a number of seizures from the mails, particularly of cocaine. In Hong Kong, checks on parcels were carried out in Post Offices by Customs officers but difficulty was often encountered in identifying the consignor and sometimes the addressee.

90. The meeting asked the Division, in consultation with Interpol, the CCC and the Universal Postal Union (UPU), to continue to pursue this matter at international level in view of the seriousness of the situation.

(k) Agenda for the Twelfth HONLEA Meeting

91. The meeting agreed that a more practically-oriented agenda should be adopted for the Twelfth HONLEA Meeting. This should concentrate on operational aspects of work against the illicit traffic. It was agreed that in future country reports would highlight changes in drug trafficking patterns and any new developments together with any newly-applied and successful countermeasures. These reports should, of course, continue to be supplemented by the most valuable written presentations which were now circulated by all participants.

92. The meeting also agreed that participants at the Twelfth HONLEA Meeting would, to the extent possible, provide the Division with short background or discussion papers relating to each item of the agenda in advance of the meeting so that these might be circulated for prior consideration. A number of participants offered to undertake this task in respect of specific agenda items; they are indicated against the agenda items concerned below.

93. The provisional agenda for the Twelfth HONLEA Meeting would be as follows:

- Opening of the meeting
- Election of officers
- Adoption of the agenda
- Follow up to recommendations and decisions of the Eleventh Meeting
- Current trends in the illicit traffic (country reports)
- Newly developed legislative, administrative or other countermeasures
- Measures for improving co-ordination at inter-regional level
- The possibility of developing or strengthening a harmonized regional policy on the following issues:

- a. Storage, control and destruction of seized drugs (Australia)
- b. Use of secondary evidence to avoid the storage of large quantities of seized drugs for long periods

- c. Principles governing the use of information and payment of rewards (Australia)
- d. Development of an effective substance for substitution of seized drugs in controlled deliveries
- e. The development, availability and use of technical aids to drug law enforcement (CCC)
- f. Drug law enforcement and related training
- g. The detection and countering of drug smuggling by internal concealment (Hong Kong)
- h. Legislative and administrative measures to counter the abuse of volatile solvents
- i. Means of countering smuggling through the post office mails (Division)
- j. Recent developments in illicit heroin manufacturing and countermeasures thereto (Hong Kong)
- k. Effective ship searching and rummaging (Hong Kong)
- l. Development of countermeasures at air and sea ports
- m. A possible regional drug intelligence network
- n. Measures to counter the diversion of chemical and other precursors of drugs for clandestine manufacture
- o. Countermeasures to laundering and investment of proceeds of drug crimes
- p. Possible use of regional task forces against major identified trafficking groups.

94. The meeting accepted that it would probably not be possible to address all the above agenda items in detail during the Twelfth HONLEA Meeting. Much would depend on participants' ability to undertake the necessary research for the production of background documentation. The Twelfth Meeting itself would, of course, decide on the final agenda when it convened.

### III. DECISIONS

95. The Eleventh HONLEA Meeting agreed unanimously that the Government of India be requested to facilitate the attendance of Mr. M.M. Bhatnagar, Narcotics Commissioner of India, as the designated observer from HONLEA to the nineteenth session of the Sub-Commission and requested the Division to make appropriate arrangements for his attendance in accordance with earlier decisions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

#### IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

96. The Eleventh HONLEA Meeting, having considered the development of the illicit drug traffic within the region during 1984, adopted the following recommendations and commended them to the attention of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs during its thirty-first session in Vienna in February 1984. These recommendations were submitted in addition to the suggestions made to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs concerning matters which might be considered in the context of a new Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Related Activities. These suggestions concern streamlining extradition procedures and facilitation of the tracing, freezing and forfeiture of the proceeds of drug crimes internationally; the suggestions are set out in paragraphs 73 and 80 respectively above.

A. Admission of Vanuatu as a participant at annual HONLEA meetings

The Eleventh HONLEA Meeting strongly recommended that the Government of Vanuatu be invited, under the authority of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, to participate in future HONLEA meetings in accordance with the procedures set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1845(LV1) of 15 May 1974.

B. Controlled Delivery

Governments should be encouraged to move towards the acceptance of the concept of controlled delivery as a viable drug law enforcement technique having due regard to its potential for identifying the organizers of drug trafficking operations and also having due regard to the constitutional, legislative and administrative systems of Member States and States Parties.

C. Smuggling of drugs through the post office mails

The Division should be requested, in co-operation with ICPO/Interpol, the CCC, UPU and the Governments of Member States, to continue to pursue means by which action could be facilitated to counter drug smuggling through the post office mails, taking account of existing restraints and requirements of relevant international treaties relating to the post office mails and to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

D. Action against the traffic in psychotropic substances

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs might again urge States to become Parties to the Convention on Psychotropic Substances and, meanwhile, to the extent possible, to adhere to its provisions on a voluntary basis, so as to improve the present situation in which smuggling of unprecedented quantities of narcotic drugs was being supplemented by apparently expanding traffic in psychotropic substances.

E. Prevention and reduction of demand for illicit drugs

- (i) The Eleventh HONLEA Meeting noted with grave concern that in some parts of some regions determined action to initiate and to co-ordinate measures to prevent and reduce demand for illicit drugs was apparently not given high priority, thus contributing to a situation in which the financial proceeds available to traffickers increased rapidly. This attracted organized criminal groups to engage in the drug traffic, sometimes as a means of financing other criminal activities including the traffic in firearms, subversion, and terrorism. Failure to prevent and reduce demand for illicit drugs also made the reduction of supply of narcotic raw material much more difficult and expensive in some parts of affected States.
  
- (ii) The Eleventh HONLEA Meeting therefore requested the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to consider further measures which might usefully be taken to impress upon States concerned the absolute necessity of giving high priority to the mobilization of all national and international resources which could contribute to the prevention and reduction of demand for illicit drugs.



ANNEX

Participants

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <u>Australia</u>             | J.D. Allen; Laurence Thwaites;<br>David J. Schramm; Colin Rowley                                      |
| <u>Bangladesh</u>            | Syed Nurul Islam  |
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| <u>Cook Islands</u>          | Tiki Matapo   |
| <u>Fiji</u>                  | Jimi Koroi  |
| <u>Hong Kong</u>             | C.J.W. Bagley; Mak Kam-Lau;   |
| <u>India</u>                 | Madan M. Bhatnagar  |
| <u>Indonesia</u>             | Jeanne Mandagi; K. Karpono;<br>Koesnadi Dancodiningrat; Muljo Rahardjo                                |
| <u>Japan</u>                 | Takeshi Ozono; Akira Yamamoto;<br>Masayasu Kawano; Mitsuo Funabiki;<br>Hatsuo Odamura; Isao Takahashi |
| <u>Republic of Korea</u>     | Yong-Soo Chang; Moon Woo Yi   |
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| <u>Republic of Maldives</u>  | Adam Zahir  |
| <u>Nepal</u>                 | Tek Bahadur Thapa   |
| <u>New Zealand</u>           | Bryan Gibson; Vincent Ray Robinson;<br>P.H. Berryman; R. Rangihika                                    |
| <u>Philippines</u>           | Miguel M. Villamor; Franklin Zabala Littaua   |
| <u>Republic of Singapore</u> | Melic Azeez Merican   |
| <u>Sri Lanka</u>             | Gamini Weerasinghe; Hema Weerasinghe  |
| <u>Western Samoa</u>         | Asi James Blakelock   |

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Choob Sanguansat; Komgrich Patpongpanich;  
Prakard Satamarn; Viraj Jutimitta;  
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Ms. Naramon Chuangrangsri;  
Niyom Intaramontri; Ms. Patraporn Moolsawad;  
Ms. Kamoltip Duang-Som; Vetin Chowalit;

Tonga

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United States of America

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Intergovernmental Organizations

Colombo Plan Bureau

Pio A. Abarro

Customs Co-operation  
Council (CCC)

Sathit Limpongpan

ICPO/Interpol

Walter J. Leamy; Charlie C. Stevenson

Specialized Agency

International Civil  
Aviation Organization

M.Y. Wazirzada; Carl Nordlander

United Nations Bodies

International Narcotics  
Control Board (INCB)

Jasjit Singh

United Nations Fund for  
Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC)

Jorgen Gammelgaard

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Sub-Commission on Illicit  
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Ghodratollah Assadi

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Michael Davies; Stephen Walsh