

RESOLUTION No. AGN/42/RES/3

SUBJECT:

CONTROL OF TRADE IN ACETIC ANHYDRIDE

To be classified as follows:

1 copy in the Chronological  
Series: year 1973

1 copy in the Subject Series

Heading: Drugs

Sub-heading: Opium and its derivatives

TEXT OF RESOLUTION

NOTING that heroin is the most dangerous drug trafficked and abused internationally;

RECOGNISING that acetic anhydride is the one substance essential to the illicit transformation of morphine base to heroin;

The ICPO-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Vienna from 2nd to 9th October 1973 at its 42nd session:

RECOMMENDS that in countries where the illicit manufacture of heroin exists and there is little or no industrial need for acetic anhydride, the importation and internal distribution of that chemical be placed under strict control;

RECOMMENDS further that in countries where illicit heroin manufacture exists but the heavy industrial utilisation of acetic anhydride renders its control impractical, the narcotic control authorities develop the co-operation of the legal distributors of this substance to trace suspicious sales as a means to discover clandestine laboratories;

RECOMMENDS further that countries which manufacture and export acetic anhydride take every practical measure to prevent its export for illicit heroin manufacture and co-operate with the authorities of countries where heroin is illicitly produced in their efforts to monitor the trade in acetic anhydride for the purpose of detecting illicit heroin laboratories.

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