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Your reference:

His Excellency
Mr António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York, NY 10017
USA

24 January 2019

Dear Mr Secretary-General,

The forty-first meeting of the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (ECDD) convened from 12 to 16 November 2018 at WHO headquarters in Geneva. The objective of this meeting was to carry out an in-depth evaluation of psychoactive substances in order to determine whether the World Health Organization (WHO) should recommend if these substances should be placed under international control or if their level of control should be changed.

The forty-first WHO ECDD reviewed ten New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), five of which are synthetic opioids and two pain-relieving medicines; pregabalin and tramadol. The ECDD scheduling recommendations for these substances are detailed below.

In addition, the forty-first WHO ECDD critically reviewed cannabis and cannabis-related substances. The recommendations regarding cannabis and cannabis-related substances are communicated to you through a separate letter under the same date as this letter.

With reference to Article 3, paragraphs 1 and 3 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961), as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and Article 2, paragraphs 1 and 4 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971), I am pleased to submit recommendations of the forty-first meeting of the ECDD regarding NPS and two pain-relieving medicines, tramadol and pregabalin, as follows:

ENCL:(1)

New Psychoactive Substances

To be added to Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961):

- **Parafluorobutyrylfentanyl**
chemical name: N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]butanamide
- **Ortho-fluorofentanyl**
chemical name: N-(2-fluorophenyl)-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]propanamide
- **Methoxyacetyl fentanyl**
chemical name: 2-methoxy-N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]acetamide
- **Cyclopropylfentanyl**
chemical name: N-Phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]cyclopropanecarboxamide

To be added to Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971):

- **ADB-FUBINACA**
chemical name: N-[(2S)-1-amino-3,3-dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl]-1-[(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide
- **FUB-AMB (MMB-FUBINACA, AMB-FUBINACA)**
chemical name: methyl (2S)-2-({1-[(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-1H-indazole-3-carbonyl} amino)-3-methylbutanoate
- **CUMYL-4CN-BINACA**
chemical name: 1-(4-cyanobutyl)-N-(2-phenylpropan-2-yl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide
- **ADB-CHMINACA (MAB-CHMINACA)**
chemical name: N-[(2S)-1-amino-3,3-dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl]-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide
- **N-Ethylnorpentylone (ephylone)**
chemical name: 1-(2H-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2-(ethylamino)pentan-1-one

To be kept under surveillance:

- **Paramethoxybutyrylfentanyl**
chemical name: N-(4-methoxyphenyl)-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]butanamide

Medicines

To be kept under surveillance:

- **Pregabalin**
chemical name: (3S)-3-(aminomethyl)-5-methylhexanoic acid
- **Tramadol**
chemical name: (1R,2R*)-2-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)cyclohexan-1-ol*

The assessments and findings on which they are based are set out in detail in the forty-first report of the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence. An extract of the report is attached in Annex 1 of this letter.

I am very pleased with the ongoing collaboration between WHO, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), and in particular, how this collaboration has benefited the work of the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (including through the participation of UNODC and INCB in the forty-first meeting of the ECDD), and more generally, the implementation of the operational recommendations of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) 2016.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General