Annex 1: Report on WHO Questionnaire for Review of Psychoactive Substances for the 39th ECDD: Evaluation of UR-144

Data was obtained from 57 Member States (7 AFR, 4 EMR, 25 EUR, 7 PAH, 2 SEAR and 12 WPR) for the WHO Questionnaires for the Review of Psychoactive Substances.

A total of 41 Member States answered the questionnaire regarding UR-144. Of these, 17 respondents had information on the substance.

Region	Number of countries responded	Number of countries with information on substance
AFR	6	0
EMR	3	0
EUR	19	13
PAH	3	1
SEAR	2	1
WPR	8	2
TOTAL	41	17

LEGITIMATE USE

No countries reported any approved human medical products or veterinary products containing UR-144.

One country reported that UR-144 is currently being used in medical or scientific research for drug qualification analysis. One country reported that UR-144 is used as an analytical standard.

No countries reported industrial use or other non-medical or non-scientific use.

No countries reported the use of UR-144 for any cultural, religious or ceremonial purposes.

EPIDEMIOLOGY OF NON-MEDICAL/NON-SCIENTIFIC USE – USE FOR PSYCHOACTIVE PURPOSES OR RECREATIONAL DRUG USE

Eleven countries reported that UR-144 is being misused for its psychoactive properties (as a recreational drug).

The most common route of administration reported was smoking (Table 1).

Route of administration	Number of countries
Smoking	8
Inhalation	1
Oral	0
Sniffing	0
Injection	0
Don't Know	4

Table 1: Common routes of administration

The most common formulation of UR-144 reported was powder (refer to Table 2). However, nine countries mentioned how UR-144 is generally dissolved in solvents and administered to leaf or plant material before being smoked. Also, one country stated that powder may be dissolved into liquid for e-cigarette use.

Formulations	Number of countries	
Powder	8	
Liquid for oral use	1	
Tablets	0	
Solution for injection	0	
Other	9	

Table 2: Common formulations reported by countries

Smuggling was the source of UR-144 for non-medical/non-scientific use in eight countries (refer to Table 3).

Sources	Number of countries
Smuggling	8
Illegal manufacturing	1
Legal manufacturing	0
Legal trade	0
Diversion	0
Don't know	3

Table 3: Sources of substance for non-medical or non-scientific use

The level of negative health-impact originating from this substance's non-medical consumption was reported as:

Serious	Substantial	Negligible	Don't Know
3	2	3	3

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Those countries which reported a serious or substantial level of negative health-impact indicated that this level was chosen due to the association of UR-144 with the risk of intoxication, drug dependence, severe adverse effects and fatalities.

Three countries reported emergency room admissions related to the non-medical use of UR-144. Reported adverse effects include nausea, vomiting, panic attacks, confusion, tachycardia, poor coordination, tremors and death.

One country provided information about a single death in 2012 related to the misuse of UR-144.

STATUS OF NATIONAL CONTROL AND POTENTIAL IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL CONTROL

Fourteen countries reported that UR-144 was under national control. The legislation that the control is based upon included the Controlled Substances Act (9 countries), Medicines Act (1 country), Consumer Protection Act (1 country), Psychoactive Substances Act (1 country) and other specific legislation (2 countries).

The scope of the controls includes production (14 countries), manufacturing (14 countries), exporting (13 countries), importing (13 countries), distribution (14 countries), use (8 countries) and possession (12 countries).

Two countries reported challenges in implementing controls including forensic laboratory capacity, resources to implement and/or enforce and expertise to detect or enforce.

The most commonly reported illicit activities involving UR-144 (Table 4) include:

Illicit Activities	Number of countries
Internet sales from abroad	4
Internet sales from unknown locations	4
Trafficking	3
Sales to people who use the substance	2
Internet sales within your country	1
Manufacture of substance by chemical synthesis	0
Manufacture of substance by extraction from other products	0
Production of consumer products	0
Don't know	7

Table 4: Reported illicit activities involving UR-144

There were ten countries that completed the section on the number of seizures. The combined number of seizures was 1095 (2014), 261 (2015), 270 (2016).

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If UR-144 was placed under international control, sixteen countries responded that they would have the capacity to enforce the control at the national level. There were fifteen countries which responded that they would have the forensic laboratory capacity to analyse the substance.