

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

I.

CONTROL OF THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.¹

12/26454/770.

REPLY FROM THE ALBANIAN GOVERNMENT.

[*Translation.*]

Tirana, February 18th, 1931.

In reply to your Circular Letter 330.1930.XI, dated November 26th, 1930, in which you communicated to me the resolution regarding the traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs adopted on October 1st, 1930, by the Assembly of the League of Nations, I have the honour to inform you as follows:

The Albanian Government has taken the necessary steps to ensure that the recommendations of the League of Nations regarding the suppression of the illicit traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs should be fully applied in Albania, although the evil in question does not exist in that country.

As regards the questions mentioned in paragraph (c) of the above-mentioned resolution, it should be pointed out that, during the past year, no case was reported of any person being addicted to any type of drug. A certain quantity of dangerous drugs imported from foreign countries is used by chemists for their requirements. The figures in question we communicate to the League at the end of each year.

(Signed) Pandeli EVANGHELI,

Prime Minister Minister for Foreign Affairs ad interim.

12/1030/770.

REPLY FROM THE LATVIAN GOVERNMENT.

[*Translation.*]

Riga, February 19th, 1931.

In reply to your Circular Letter 330.1930.XI, of November 26th, 1930, containing the text of the resolution regarding the traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations on October 1st, 1930, I have the honour to inform you that the competent Latvian authorities take all the League's recommendations into account in the suppression of the illicit traffic in drugs, in so far as those recommendations are applicable in Latvia, where no drugs are manufactured.

As regards paragraph (b) of the resolution referred to, particulars of the confiscations effected in the course of the last three years will be found in the tables attached² It may be added that no case of illicit trafficking has been discovered in connection with undertakings authorised to deal in narcotics.

(Signed) G. ALBAT.

¹ See *Official Journal*, March 1931, pages 627 to 632.
Retained in the Archives of the Secretariat.

12/6292/770.

REPLY FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF MONACO.

[*Translation.*]

Monaco, December 24th, 1930.

In reply to your Circular Letter 330.1930.XI, of November 26th last, regarding the traffic in opium, I have the honour to forward to you herewith a certified copy of the report by the Director of the Public Health Service of the Principality of Monaco.

For the Secretary of State, Director of
Foreign Relations,

(Signed) Maurice CANU,
Consul-General, Assistant to the Director
of the External Relations Service.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT
COUNCILLOR FOR PUBLIC WORKS.[*Translation.*]

Monaco, December 15th, 1930.

With reference to the Secretary of State's letter and the annex thereto concerning the suppression of the illicit traffic in opium, I can only furnish the reply already given on various occasions.

There is no illicit traffic in opium in the Principality so far as I am aware. Drugs derived from opium may only be sold by chemists for medical purposes.

Monaco has the same law on poisonous substances as France, and no special measures would appear to be necessary in regard to opium.

(Signed) Dr. MARSAN,
Director

12/8346/770.

REPLY FROM THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT.

[*Translation.*]

The Hague, February 20th, 1931.

With reference to Circular Letter 330.1930.XI from the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, regarding the resolution adopted by the eleventh Assembly on the illicit traffic in drugs, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs has the honour to state that the measures recommended by the League of Nations to suppress the illicit traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs have been applied both in the Kingdom in Europe and in the Netherlands overseas territories, so that there is no reason to undertake the investigation referred to in (b) of the resolution.

II.

EXTRADITION FOR CONTRAVENTION OF THE LAWS RELATING TO
OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.¹

12/26659/20950.

REPLY FROM THE SWISS GOVERNMENT.

[*Translation.*]

Berne, March 2nd, 1931.

In letter No. 138 of July 9th last, you were good enough to inform us of the decision of the Council of the League of Nations to call the attention of the Governments to the resolution adopted by the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium at its seventh session, on the question of extradition for contraventions of the laws relating to opium and other dangerous drugs. You also asked us to inform you of any steps which the Swiss Government has taken or proposes to take in this connection.

¹ See *Official Journal*, March 1931, pages 632 to 637.

In agreement with the Federal Department of Justice and Police, we carefully examined the question and beg to forward you the following information:

Following on the entry into force on August 1st, 1925, of the Federal Law on Narcotic Drugs of October 2nd, 1924, the Federal Chambers promulgated a law on June 14th, 1928, amplifying Article 3 of the Federal Law on Extradition of January 22nd, 1892, so as to render "wilful offences against the laws and regulations on narcotic drugs, in so far as these offences are punishable with imprisonment" extradition offences. Switzerland is thus in a position to grant or request extradition for the offences referred to. The Federal Council can also propose to conclude agreements with other States on a basis of reciprocity for the purpose either of supplementing existing extradition treaties or of inserting in new treaties stipulations as to offences connected with the traffic in narcotic drugs.

We have had occasion more than once during the past few years to ask foreign States to surrender persons who were being proceeded against in Switzerland for offences of this kind. In a special case we desired a foreign Government to agree to extradition on the basis of a declaration of reciprocity. The Government in question felt unable to accede to our request, as extradition is only granted to foreign States under its law for offences punishable with imprisonment for a period of at least two years, and the law in question provided no such penalty for drug offences. A requisition for extradition submitted to another State also fell through for similar reasons, as the State in question only grants extradition in the case of "crimes" whereas offences against the drug laws are defined as "contraventions"

In our negotiations for the conclusion of new extradition treaties, we shall always endeavour to secure the insertion in the agreement of an explicit provision relating to contraventions of the laws on narcotic drugs.

Federal Political Department.
(Signed) MOTTA.

III.

SCHEME FOR LIMITING THE OUTPUT OF MANUFACTURED DRUGS, SUBMITTED BY MR. C. K. CRANE.¹

C.85.M.32.1931.XI.
[O.C.1356.]

REPLY FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF HAITI.

[*Translation.*]

Port-au-Prince, December 10th, 1930.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the communication from the Secretary-General of the League of Nations transmitting a scheme for limiting the output of manufactured drugs, submitted by Mr. C. K. Crane and expressing a desire to receive the reply which the Government of Haiti has addressed, or proposes to address, to the League Secretariat for the purpose of comparing all the replies on this matter (document C.I.M.I.1929.XI.).

In this connection the Secretary of State begs to state that the National Public Health Service, which has been consulted on the matter, states that its office accepts the said scheme.

C.172.M.63.1931.XI.
[O.C.1211(a).]

REPLY FROM THE POLISH GOVERNMENT.

[*Translation.*]

Geneva, January 28th, 1931.

I have the honour to inform you that my Government maintains its views on the American proposal, already expressed in the note of the Polish delegation accredited to the League of Nations dated April 5th, 1930² (1241/30). In view of the divergencies between the report of the Subcommittee for the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and the scheme of stipulated supply forwarded by the Government of the United States of America, the Polish Government is willing to accept the obligation to notify in advance, for a period of one year, Poland's

¹ See *Official Journal*, August 1930, page 1069.
See *Official Journal*, July 1930, page 954:

requirements in narcotic drugs for medicinal and scientific purposes and to indicate the countries from which it will make the necessary purchases in accordance with the American scheme.

(Signed) F. SOKAL,

*Minister Plenipotentiary
Delegate to the League of Nations.*

IV

APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 10 OF THE GENEVA INTERNATIONAL OPIUM CONVENTION OF 1925.

C.L.22.1931.III.

CIRCULAR LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS TO STATES PARTIES TO THE 1925 OPIUM CONVENTION.

Geneva, February 20th, 1931.

I have the honour to communicate to you herewith, in conformity with the provisions of Article 10 of the International Opium Convention signed at Geneva on February 19th, 1925, the list of Governments which have accepted the recommendations of the Health Committee in regard to:

- (a) *Eucodal* and *dicodide*
- (b) *Dilaudide*, *benzoylmorphine* and the other esters of *morphine*
- (c) Preparations containing *eucodal*, *dicodide*, *dilaudide* or esters of *morphine* and to the salts of these substances
- (d) *Acedicone*.

(Signed) ERIC DRUMMOND,
Secretary-General.

* * *

Application of Article 10 of the International Opium Convention dated February 19th, 1925.

C.L.22 and 22(a).1931.III (Annex).

I. EUCODAL ((C₁₈H₂₁O₄N) HCl + 3H₂O) AND DICODIDE (C₁₈H₂₁NO₃).

At its session in December 1927¹ the Council of the League of Nations took note of the following resolution adopted by the Health Committee in November 1927:

"The Health Committee,

"Having taken note of the recommendation formulated by the Permanent Committee of the Office international d'Hygiène publique, in its report of May 6th, 1926:

"Decides to adopt the conclusions of this report, and in consequence to inform the Council of the League of Nations, in conformity with the stipulations of Article 10 of the International Opium Convention of February 19th, 1925, that *eucodal* and *dicodide* are narcotics liable to produce injurious effects analogous to those of the drugs expressly referred to by that Convention, and that consequently they should come under the said Convention."

The Secretary-General communicated this recommendation to the contracting parties in a letter dated January 27th, 1928, requesting them to let him know whether they were willing to accept it. Up to the present, affirmative replies have been received from the Governments of the following countries:

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|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Australia | 12. Greece | 22. Portugal |
| 2. Austria | 13. Hungary | 23. Roumania, |
| 3. Belgium | 14. India | 24. Siam |
| 4. Bulgaria | 15. Italy | 25. Spain |
| 5. Canada | 16. Japan | 26. Sweden |
| 6. Czechoslovakia | 17. Latvia | 27. Sudan |
| 7. Danzig | 18. Luxemburg | 28. Switzerland |
| 8. Egypt | 19. Netherlands and colonies | 29. Union of South Africa |
| 9. Finland | 20. New Zealand | 30. Venezuela |
| 10. Germany | 21. Poland | 31. Yugoslavia |
| 11. Great Britain | | |

¹ See *Official Journal*, February 1928, pages 140 and 214.

II. DILAUDIDE (C₁₇H₁₉O₃NHCl), BENZOYLMORPHINE AND OTHER ESTERS OF MORPHINE.

At its session in December 1928,¹ the Council of the League of Nations took note of the following resolution adopted by the Health Committee in October 1928:

“ The Health Committee,

“ Having taken note of the opinion formulated by the Permanent Committee of the Office international d'Hygiène publique in its report of May 15th, 1928,

“ Having noted that dilaudide, on the one hand, and benzoylmorphine and, in general, the morphine esters, on the other hand, are capable of producing toxicomania:

“ Decides to inform the Council of the League of Nations, in conformity with Article 10 of the International Opium Convention of February 19th, 1925, that dilaudide, on the one hand, and benzoylmorphine and the morphine esters² generally, on the other hand, are narcotics capable of producing harmful effects similar to those produced by the products envisaged by the Convention, and that they should, in consequence, be brought within the scope of the Convention. ”

The Secretary-General communicated this recommendation to the contracting parties in a letter dated January 11th, 1929, and asked them to let him know whether they were willing to accept it. Up to the present, the Governments of the following countries have replied in the affirmative:

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|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Australia | 12. Hungary | 22. Portugal |
| 2. Austria | 13. India | 23. Siam |
| 3. Belgium | 14. Italy | 24. Spain |
| 4. Bulgaria | 15. Japan | 25. Sweden |
| 5. Canada | 16. Latvia | 26. Sudan |
| 6. Danzig | 17. Luxemburg | 27. Switzerland |
| 7. Egypt | 18. Monaco | 28. Union of South Africa |
| 8. Finland | 19. Netherlands and colonies | 29. Uruguay |
| 9. Germany | 20. New Zealand | 30. Venezuela ³ |
| 10. Great Britain | 21. Poland | 31. Yugoslavia |
| 11. Greece | | |

III. PREPARATIONS CONTAINING ESTERS OF MORPHINE, EUCODAL, DICODIDE OR DILAUDIDE, AND SALTS OF THESE SUBSTANCES.

At its session of May 1930,⁴ the Council of the League of Nations took note of the following resolution adopted by the Health Committee in March 1930:

“ The Health Committee considers that preparations which contain esters of morphine, di-hydro-oxycodone, di-hydro-codeinone (dicodide), di-hydro-morphone (dilaudide), should be treated in the same manner as those which contain diacetylmorphine—that is to say they should come within the scope of the Convention, whatever the percentage of narcotic substances contained may be.

“ It also considers that all salts of these substances should come within the scope of the Convention according to the provisions of Article 10 of the said Convention. ”

The Secretary-General communicated this recommendation to the contracting parties in a letter dated June 7th, 1930. Up to the present, only one Government, that of *Portugal*, has informed the Secretariat that it was willing to accept this recommendation.

IV ACEDICONE (C₂₀H₂₃NO₄).

At its session of October 1930,⁵ the Council of the League of Nations took note of the following resolution adopted by the Health Committee in October 1930:

“ The Health Committee decides, in virtue of Article 10 of the Convention, to inform the Council of the League of Nations that acedicone (acetylo-demethylo-dihydro-thebaine) is liable to similar abuse and productive of similar ill effects as the substances to which

¹ See *Official Journal*, January 1929, pages 11 and 83.

A supplementary resolution of the Health Committee (fourteenth session), which was noted by the Council at its fifty-fifth session (see *Official Journal*, July 1929, pages 979 and 1047) and communicated to the contracting parties by letter dated July 24th, 1929, explains that the words “ benzoylmorphine and the morphine esters generally ” include all the esters of morphine without exception.

³ In its reply, the Government of Venezuela accepts the Health Committee's recommendation as regards dilaudide and benzoylmorphine, but does not mention the other morphine esters.

⁴ See *Official Journal*, June 1930, pages 523 and 737.

⁵ See *Official Journal*, November 1930, pages 1529 and 1646.

Chapter III of the International Opium Convention of 1925 applies, and recommends that the provisions of the said Convention should be applied to it.”

The Secretary-General communicated this recommendation to the contracting parties in a letter dated November 21st, 1930, requesting them to let him know whether they were willing to accept it. Up to the present, affirmative replies have been received from the Governments of the following countries:

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|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Belgium | 5. Monaco | 8. Switzerland |
| 2. Denmark ¹ | 6. Netherlands | 9. Venezuela |
| 3. Finland | 7. Sudan | 10. Yugoslavia |
| 4. Italy | | |

¹ The acceptance of the Danish Government is given on condition that the majority of the contracting Powers accept the resolution of the Health Committee.