The Eighteenth World Health Assembly,

Recalling that international narcotics control has been operating successfully for several decades;

Noting with great concern the increasing frequency of abuse of sedatives or stimulants not classified internationally as narcotic drugs, as has also been noted by the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and being aware of the epidemic-like spreading of this abuse, particularly among young persons in certain countries;

Referring to the repeated recommendations of the WHO Expert Committee on Dependence producing Drugs concerning the need for control of certain sedatives and stimulants;

Convinced that an important factor in fighting the abuse of narcotics and other dependence producing drugs is, by means of international conventions, to limit their availability to legitimate medical purposes only; and

Realizing that national efforts to control this health problem are often insufficient,

1. CONCLUDES that control of widely abused sedatives and stimulants, such as barbiturates, tranquillizers and amphetamines, is desirable;

2. RECOMMENDS that Member States which have not already done so place such drugs on medical prescription;

3. RECOMMENDS that Member States promote an intensive health education action with regard to the dangers of the abuse of sedatives and stimulants;

4. RECOMMENDS the promotion of further research into the epidemiology of drug dependence; and

5. REQUESTS the Director-General to study the advisability and feasibility of international measures for control of sedatives and stimulants.

Handb. Res., 7th ed., 1.3.3 Twelfth plenary meeting, 20 May 1965
(Committee on Programme and Budget, sixth report)