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Item 5 of the provisional agenda

ABOLITION OF OPIUM SMOKING

Note by the Secretary-General

In connexion with item 5 of the provisional agenda, the Secretary-General has the honour to communicate to the members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs a report for the year 1953 on the situation regarding opium smoking in Cambodia, transmitted by the Government of Cambodia as an appendix to its report on illicit traffic for 1953 (published in document E/CN.7/R.2/Add.3).

All the measures described in the 1951 report with regard to the sale of opium and the control of opium smoking in Cambodia, which were taken in accordance with the programme of progressive disintoxication instituted in Indo-China under the High Commissioner's Order of 3 September 1948, are still in force.

Smokers' cards were renewed on 1 January 1953, the reduced quantities permitted under the above-mentioned Order being as follows:

TABLE

Category 1	5 grs. per month as against					10 grs. in 1952		
Category 2	10	"	"	"	"	20	"	"
Category 3	15	"	"	"	"	30	"	"
Category 4	20	"	"	"	"	40	"	"
Category 5	25	"	"	"	"	50	"	"
Category 6	40	"	"	"	"	80	"	"

On 31 December 1953, the number of registered smokers was unchanged from the figures on 1 January 1953, which were as follows:

Category 1	344
Category 2	295
Category 3	183
Category 4	402
Category 5	280
Category 6	<u>518</u>
	<u>2,022</u>

Official consumption decreased from 1,078.280 kilogrammes in 1952 to 520.505 kilogrammes in 1953 as a result of the decline in the number of smokers and the curtailment of their allowances.

Stocks of opium at Customs on 31 December 1952 were 333.175 kilogrammes and 78.350 kilogrammes on 31 December 1953.

Seizures of opium in 1953 totalled 76 kilos.

Cambodia, having acceded to the Protocol of 23 June 1953, is covered by the transitional measures provided for in article 19 thereof whereby the internal system prior to 1 January 1954 is maintained provisionally in effect for a maximum period of 15 years.
