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MANEE PIRIYAWANICH : IMPACT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, 1988: CASE STUDY OF THAILAND. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO.PROF. VITIT MUNTARBHORN, PORNCHAI DANVIVATHANA, Ph.D. 394 PP. ISBN 974-581-644-2

The economic conditions of developing countries in Asia and South America are still serious, and there has been a problem of political power-changes for a long time within the countries which are sources of drugs production. There are also problems concerning the progress of international transportation and communication technology, and experimental chemical science which allow drug dealers to obtain benefits from illegal drug selling. All these become very important factors which make the crime of drug smuggling spread into the international level fast and continuously in the form of crime organizations working jointly in many countries. As a result, the prevention and suppression of crime of this kind cannot be achieved because of the ineffective system of international control of previous United Nations Conventions on the prevention and suppression of crimes of this kind.

The 1988 United Nations Convention is an instrument which many countries have created to act as an effective legal measure to prevent and suppress drug smuggling all around the world at the present time. This Convention contains legal measures in conformity with international law and it is different from other United Nations Conventions of this kind. It can create more international cooperation on the prevention and suppression of drug smuggling. Moreover, when each country becomes conscious of its obligation to the cooperate internationally, Thailand, as a member of world community and of United Nations, should cooperate with the United Nations, by becoming a contracting party to this 1988 Convention.

However, no matter how precise and effective its provisions are, the effectiveness of such prevention and suppression cannot be achieved if all measures in this Convention are not implemented and transformed into domestic legal measures actively and realistically with the mutual goals of peace, safety and good health of mankind.

This dissertation tries to explain the drugs problem that Thailand is now facing and its suppression within the framework of cooperation in accordance with the 1988 Convention. Existing problems include the promulgation of domestic law to implement the obligations in the Convention. This is studied and explained in this dissertation. Finally, it is submitted that Thailand should become a contracting party to this Convention and to introduce the implementing legislation as soon as possible.