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Administrative and budgetary questions

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
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Item 9 of the provisional agenda**
Strategic management and programme questions

Proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007

Note by the Secretary-General***

1. In its resolution 58/269 of 23 December 2003, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, for submission to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, a strategic framework to replace the current four-year medium-term plan, which would comprise in one document:

(a) Part one: a plan outline, reflecting the longer-term objectives of the Organization;

(b) Part two: a biennial programme plan, to cover two years.

2. The attention of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is drawn to rule 104.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation:

“Rule 104.6: The Secretary-General shall take appropriate measures to submit proposals to the sectoral, functional and regional bodies, to enable them to review the relevant portions of the medium-term plan or its revisions with a view to facilitating their consideration by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the General Assembly.”

* E/CN.7/2004/1.

** E/CN.15/2004/1.

*** The present document on the strategic framework, which is to replace the medium-term plan, was submitted late with respect to the forecasted submission date according to the slotting system because of the requirement that it be cleared by the Programme Planning and Budget Division of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts of the Secretariat.



3. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are invited to review the proposed biennial programme plan for the programme on drugs and crime, annexed to the present note, and to provide comments to the Secretary-General. The proposed biennial programme plan, modified as appropriate, will be first submitted to the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-fourth session. Its recommendations will be transmitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, when the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007 will be considered.

Annex

Strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007 Programme on drugs and crime

Overall orientation

In the United Nations Millennium Declaration,^a the General Assembly established the achievement of sustainable development as an aim of the United Nations. Sustainable development has many dimensions: it requires that the resources of the planet be shared so as to promote human dignity; it further requires good stewardship of those resources, so that future generations may inherit a better world. Sustainable development also entails an improvement in human security, including freeing individuals from the burden of “uncivil” behaviour. This aspect is at the core of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which is mandated to assist Member States in their struggle against illicit drugs, crime and terrorism. In paragraph 9 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, Member States also resolved to intensify their efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions, to redouble their efforts to implement their commitment to counter the world drug problem and to take concerted action against international terrorism.

The policy directions for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime are grounded in the following:

(a) The international drug control conventions,^b the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime^c and the Protocols thereto,^d the United Nations Convention against Corruption^e and the international legal instruments against terrorism;

(b) Key resolutions of legislative organs, in particular General Assembly resolution 46/152, of 18 December 1991, on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, and Assembly resolution 45/179 of 21 December 1990, on enhancement of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control, and Assembly resolution 46/185 C, section XVI, of 20 December 1991, entitled “Section 22. International drug control”;

(c) The twentieth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to countering the world drug problem together;

(d) The United Nations Millennium Declaration.

The three pillars of the work programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime are:

(a) Research and analytical work to increase knowledge and understanding of the issues of illicit drugs and crime and to expand the evidence base for policy and operational decisions;

(b) Normative work to assist States in the ratification and implementation of the international treaties, and the development of domestic legislation, on illicit drugs, crime and terrorism, and work to provide secretariat and substantive services to the treaty and governing bodies;

(c) Field-based technical cooperation projects to enhance the capacity of Member States to counteract illicit drugs, crime and terrorism.

Globalization has created an environment where illicit drugs, crime and terrorism can easily flow across borders. The welfare gains to be derived from open trade and the flow of public goods are, however, offset by the globalization of threats to human security. The interventions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime are therefore designed to contribute to the achievement of the following:

(a) Governments will be better equipped to fulfil their obligations under the international treaties, in particular through effective judicial cooperation, prevention efforts and countermeasures targeting illicit drug production, trafficking and abuse, human trafficking and other forms of organized crime, money-laundering, corruption and terrorism;

(b) Decisions by policy makers will be more evidence-based, relying on more extensive and intensive knowledge of issues involving illicit drugs, crime and terrorism;

(c) Civil society and public opinion will be more firmly committed to action against problems involving illicit drugs and crime, relying on greater awareness and understanding of the issues.

In pursuing its objectives, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime will make every effort to integrate the gender perspective into its projects, in particular projects in the areas of prevention and the provision of alternative livelihoods, as well as projects targeting human trafficking.

Subprogramme 1

Research, analysis and advocacy

Subprogramme 1 falls under the responsibility of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs.

Objective

The objective of subprogramme 1 is to increase knowledge and understanding of issues involving drugs and crime and to increase support for the prevention and reduction of problems involving illicit drugs and crime.

Strategy

The strategy for achieving the objective will include the following main elements:

- (a) Provision of timely and accurate statistics on and analysis of the world drug and crime problems;
- (b) Expansion of the evidence base for policy-making;
- (c) Provision of drug-testing and forensic expert services;
- (d) Evaluation of projects, programmes and the impact of interventions;
- (e) Development of strategic planning and analysis;

- (f) Achievement of a better balance between prevention and enforcement in programme planning and project development;
- (g) Policy dialogue with donor Governments, Member States, international organizations and private-sector entities for resource mobilization;
- (h) Outreach to civil society, non-governmental organizations and international media;
- (i) Targeted advocacy and communications with emphasis on the media;
- (j) Coordination with other United Nations entities on issues related to drugs, crime and terrorism.

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
(a) An increase in the use of the evidence base by the international community to counteract drug and crime problems;	(a) (i) An increase in the use and number of citations of publications, technical reports and statistics of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; (ii) An increase in the number of page views of and downloads from the web site;
(b) Better quality drug-testing and forensic laboratories at the national level;	(b) An increase in the number of countries establishing or strengthening operational capacity to enable forensic laboratories to provide scientific support to national authorities;
(c) An increase in support for national drug control and crime prevention activities;	(c) (i) An increase in the number of partnership and funding agreements with Governments, foundations, non-governmental organizations, and private-sector entities; (ii) An increase in the number of joint programmes with partner organizations;
(d) An increase in public awareness of issues related to drugs, crime and terrorism.	(d) (i) An increase in the number of web site visitors; (ii) An increase in the number of media stations that air information on drugs and crime.

Subprogramme 2

Services for policy-making and treaty adherence

Subprogramme 2 falls under the responsibility of the Division for Treaty Affairs.

Objective

The objective of subprogramme 2 is to facilitate policy-making on drug control, crime and terrorism issues and ratification of and compliance with the related international legal instruments, in particular recently adopted instruments

such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols and the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Strategy

The objective will be achieved by pursuing a multi-pronged strategy, consisting mainly of:

- (a) Promoting the ratification and implementation of the treaties on drug control, crime prevention and terrorism prevention, especially by providing legal advisory, legislative and related institutional capacity-building support services and training;
- (b) Strengthening the legal regime against terrorism and cooperating closely with the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council;
- (c) Promoting judicial cooperation among countries, especially in matters involving extradition and mutual legal assistance;
- (d) Performing the functions of the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;
- (e) Providing technical and substantive support to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;
- (f) Assisting the International Narcotics Control Board in monitoring and encouraging compliance by Governments with the international drug control treaties;
- (g) Coordinating and collaborating with other relevant actors, especially the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network.

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
(a) Enhanced quality of services provided for decision-making and policy direction by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as for the implementation of the work of the International Narcotics Control Board;	(a) (i) The percentage of members of the extended bureaux of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice expressing satisfaction with the technical and substantive support provided by the Secretariat to the Commissions, on a scale of one to five; (ii) The percentage of members of the International Narcotics Control Board expressing full satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of substantive secretariat services provided to the Board;

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
(b) An increase in the number of States that have ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the international legal instruments against terrorism;	(b) (i) The new ratifications of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols expressed as a percentage of the number of States that had not ratified those instruments at the beginning of the biennium; (ii) The new ratifications of the United Nations Convention against Corruption expressed as a percentage of the number of States that had not ratified that instrument at the beginning of the biennium; (iii) The new ratifications of the international legal instruments against terrorism expressed as a percentage of the number of States that had not ratified those instruments at the beginning of the biennium;
(c) Enhanced capacity of Member States to comply with the provisions of the international legal instruments on drug control, crime prevention and terrorism prevention.	(c) The number of countries that comply with the increased number of provisions of international legal instruments on drug control, crime prevention and terrorism prevention, compared with their status of compliance at the beginning of the biennium.

Subprogramme 3

Technical assistance and advice

Subprogramme 3 falls under the responsibility of the Division for Operations.

Objective

The objective of subprogramme 3 is to sustainably reduce drug abuse, illicit drug production and drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings and other forms of transnational organized crime, including money-laundering and corruption.

Strategy

The strategy for achieving the objective will include: timely analysis of trends and identification of emerging regional and global issues; development and dissemination of best practices through pilot testing of new approaches and measures and desk research; and publication of manuals and toolkits; and provision of assistance to Member States, upon request, to enable them to fulfil their international commitments, through technical cooperation, including training, advisory services and equipment, focusing in particular on capacity-building in drug control and crime prevention, and paying special attention to the human impact of drug- and crime-related problems on the population.

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
(a) Strengthened capacity of Member States to implement policies, strategies and actions in line with the Political Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, ^f in six key areas:	
(i) Drug demand reduction;	(a) (i) An increased number of countries implementing action-oriented demand reduction strategies in order to achieve significant and measurable results in the reduction of drug abuse;
(ii) Production of, trafficking in and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants;	(ii) An increased number of countries making use of the agreed cooperation mechanisms, legal instruments and modern investigative techniques to curb illicit drug production and trafficking and related crimes;
(iii) Control of precursors;	(iii) An increased number of countries applying effective and sustainable illicit crop eradication strategies;
(iv) Judicial cooperation;	(iv) An increased number of countries providing alternative development to farmers in need;
(v) Money-laundering;	(v) An increased number of countries with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Legislation that criminalizes money-laundering in relation to all serious crimes; b. The measures necessary to enable their authorities to identify, trace and freeze or seize the proceeds of crime; c. An effective financial and regulatory regime that can deny criminals access to the proceeds of their criminal activity;
(vi) Eradication of illicit crops;	
(b) Strengthened capacity of Governments to reduce the main forms of transnational organized crime, including human trafficking and money-laundering, in the framework of the commitments made by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;	(b) (i) An increased number of countries with national action plans to combat different forms of organized crime; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (ii) An increased number of countries with task forces to implement those action plans; (iii) An increased number of countries that have established specialized units to fight organized crime and trafficking in human beings; (iv) An increased number of countries with provisions for the forfeiture and confiscation of assets and for victim and witness protection;

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
(c) Strengthened capacity of Governments to reduce the main forms of corruption in the framework of the commitments made by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption.	(c) (i) An increased number of countries that have mechanisms for the recovery and return of assets; (ii) An increased number of countries that have established anti-corruption agencies or units; (iii) An increased number of countries implementing the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Notes

^a General Assembly resolution 55/2.

^b The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152), the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1019, No. 14956) and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627).

^c General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.

^d The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex II); the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (Assembly resolution 55/25, annex III); and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition (Assembly resolution 55/255, annex).

^e General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

^f General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.