

24 July 2012

Arabic, English and Russian only*

**Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and
Related Matters in the Near and Middle East**

Forty-seventh session

Antalya, Turkey, 19-23 November 2012

Provisional agenda and annotations

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its forty-fifth session.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups:
 - (a) Modi operandi of organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking;
 - (b) The emergence of West African drug trafficking networks and the threat they pose to the region covered by the Subcommission;
 - (c) Trends in the illicit manufacture and use of and trafficking in synthetic drugs, pharmaceutical preparations and psychotropic substances.
6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.
7. Organization of the forty-eighth session of the Subcommission.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report of the Subcommission on its forty-seventh session.

* Arabic, English and Russian are the working languages of the subsidiary body.



Annotations

1. Election of officers

Elections are held in accordance with the practice set forth in rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. Past custom has been for the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East to elect a Chair, two Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

The draft provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session was approved by the Subcommittee at its forty-sixth session. Following the adoption of the agenda, the Subcommittee will establish a timetable and agree on the organization of work for its forty-seventh session. A proposed organization of work for the consideration of the Subcommittee is shown in the annex to the present document.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (UNODC/SUBCOM/47/1)

3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation

Participants will be invited to inform the Subcommittee of their respective countries' activities regarding regional and subregional cooperation in areas such as joint investigations, law enforcement training and sharing of information and experiences in countering drug trafficking. Participants are requested in particular to indicate any practical problems impeding subregional cooperation, as well as measures to overcome those problems.

At its thirty-eighth session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommended that general statements and statistics relating to national trends in drug trafficking should not be made orally during meetings but rather should be circulated in written form. In particular, the Commission recommended that participants should be informed of new and important trends with regard to cooperation and new developments that drug law enforcement agencies in the region should be made aware of. Governments are expected to submit to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by 3 September 2012 a two-page report on recent trends in drug trafficking in their respective countries during the past year. Country reports received by that date will be made available in the other working languages of the subsidiary body.

Documentation

Report of the Secretariat on statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Near and Middle East, in South, West and Central Asia and worldwide (UNODC/SUBCOM/47/2)

4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommittee at its forty-fifth session

Participants are expected to inform the Subcommittee of action taken by their Governments in the implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommittee at its forty-fifth session, held in Damascus from 8 to

12 November 2010. The Subcommission will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the status of the recommendations, prepared on the basis of replies received to a questionnaire concerning action taken by Governments. To enable the Secretariat to prepare that document, Governments are urged to return the completed questionnaire by 3 September 2012.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the review of implementation by States of the region of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East at its forty-fifth session (UNODC/SUBCOM/47/3)

5. Consideration of topics by working groups

Ad hoc working groups will be established in order to review issues of regional importance and to facilitate informal discussions and frank exchanges of views on specific matters. The working groups will be invited to present their findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Subcommission for endorsement and inclusion in its report on the forty-seventh session. Each working group will be invited to take into consideration the following in the formulation of its recommendations:

- (a) Identification of specific operational and other problems facing drug law enforcement in the region;
- (b) Discussion of specific measures to address particular regional patterns of drug trafficking that could or should be implemented at the national, subregional or regional levels;
- (c) Enhancement of regional cooperation by identifying potential partners in specific problematic areas of drug control;
- (d) Presentation of relevant findings and recommendations to the Subcommission.

(a) Modi operandi of organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking

The working group on the modi operandi of organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking will examine the profiles and nationalities of those involved in drug trafficking in member States of the Subcommission and share examples of the modi operandi used in illicit crop cultivation and illicit drug manufacture and trafficking. Issues to be explored include identification of who the principal organizers are, how the groups involved in such activities are structured, how they operate and work and whether they are connected by ethnic ties or by past criminal association. Participants will be asked to share details of the investigations they have undertaken and the information they have obtained as a result of those investigations. Participants may also wish to share their assessments of domestic cannabis production and inform other participants of the level of production, the area of cultivation and the importance of cannabis to organized crime. Reference to specific case studies will be a key element of the discussion, and participants should be ready to make recommendations on effective ways to confront organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking.

(b) The emergence of West African drug trafficking networks and the threat they pose to the region covered by the Subcommission

The criminal activities of West African syndicates linked to drug trafficking have been identified in a growing number of States members of the Subcommission; investigating the operations of such groups and successfully dismantling them are a challenge to law enforcement agencies. Participants in the working group on the emergence of West African drug trafficking networks and the threat they pose to the region covered by the Subcommission will be asked to share the experiences they have had in dealing with West African syndicates smuggling drugs through and into their territories. Details of intercepted consignments that were linked to these groups, together with an account of the investigations undertaken, should be provided. Issues to be explored include the *modi operandi* of these groups, how active they are and with whom they are working or associating. Participants should share the challenges they have encountered and be prepared to make recommendations on effective ways to address the threat posed by the operations of these groups.

(c) Trends in the illicit manufacture and use of and trafficking in synthetic drugs, pharmaceutical preparations and psychotropic substances

Participants in the working group on trends in the illicit manufacture and use of and trafficking in synthetic drugs, pharmaceutical preparations and psychotropic substances are expected to discuss the challenges they face with regard to the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants and the smuggling of such substances through the region. Information to be provided by participants should include information on the location of production sites, the groups or individuals that are behind the main trafficking operations and the measures in place to counter trafficking in amphetamine-type stimulants. Participants should be prepared to provide illustrative case studies and information on their precursor control measures, investigations that have been completed or are under way and areas in which assistance or cooperation with national or cross-border counterpart agencies would assist in the more effective disruption and prevention of the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants.

6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

In its resolution 64/182, the General Assembly, welcoming the outcome of the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, adopted the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A.) and called upon States to take the necessary measures to fully implement the actions set out therein, with a view to attaining in a timely manner their goals and targets.

Member States committed themselves to effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action through resolute international cooperation, in collaboration with relevant regional and international organizations.

In its resolution 66/183, the General Assembly encouraged the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommittee to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation.

In the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, Member States decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, should conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Declaration and Plan of Action. The round-table discussions of the Commission at its fifty-sixth session, in 2013, will be linked to the preparations for such review and focus on the following topics:

- (a) Demand reduction and related measures;
- (b) Supply reduction and related measures;
- (c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.

Under agenda item 6, participants will be invited to consider the challenges posed to the States of the region with regard to the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, particularly part II of the Plan of Action, on supply reduction and related measures, as well as the implications with regard to follow-up and the contribution that the Subcommittee could make to the Commission in that regard.

7. Organization of the forty-eighth session of the Subcommittee

The Subcommittee is to consider a draft provisional agenda for its forty-eighth session, including topics for discussion in working groups and possible venues for future sessions. For planning purposes, a decision by the Subcommittee at its forty-seventh session on the venue for its forty-eighth session and on topics for discussion in working groups would greatly facilitate the organization of its forty-eighth session. The Secretariat will provide, upon request, a copy of the standard letter of agreement setting out the contributions of the United Nations and those of the host Government.

The Subcommittee may also wish to discuss any other matter related to the organization of its deliberations, with a view to improving their substantive content and the follow-up thereto.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Subcommittee (UNODC/SUBCOM/47/4)

8. Other business

The Subcommittee may wish to address other important issues, such as urgent matters mentioned in the country reports.

9. Adoption of the report of the Subcommittee on its forty-seventh session

The Subcommittee will adopt the report on its forty-seventh session, including the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the working groups.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Subject</i>
Monday, 19 November		
8.30 a.m.		Registration
10 a.m.		Opening of the session
	1	Election of officers
	2	Adoption of the agenda
	3	Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation
3 p.m.	3	Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation (<i>continued</i>)
	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its forty-fifth session
Tuesday, 20 November		
9 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups
2 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
Wednesday, 21 November		
9 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
2 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
Thursday, 22 November		
9 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
2 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
	6	Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem
Friday, 23 November		
10 a.m.	7	Organization of the forty-eighth session of the Subcommission
	8	Other business
3 p.m.	9	Adoption of the report