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Draft report

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Addendum

Programme questions: proposed programme budget for 2026

(Item 3 (a))

Programme 13

International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice

1. At its 5th meeting, on 14 May 2025, the Committee considered programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed programme plan for 2026 and programme performance in 2024 ([A/80/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#)).

Discussion

2. Delegations expressed appreciation for the presentation of the programme plan for 2026. Several delegations expressed their support with regard to the importance of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
3. Several delegations expressed the view that transnational organized crime could be better tackled through investments in up-to-date technology, intelligence-sharing and cooperation between law enforcement agencies.
4. A delegation acknowledged the United Nations Convention against Corruption as the most comprehensive global agreement on corruption. Another delegation welcomed the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime.
5. A delegation gave an example of South-South cooperation and the exchange of information between Member States, reflecting on different challenges depending on their place along smuggling chains.
6. An example of the data presented in the World Drug Report being a basis for evidence-based drug policies was discussed.



7. A delegation welcomed the incorporation of a gender perspective into the Office's work. Another delegation welcomed involving civil society and giving attention to vulnerable groups, i.e. youth, women, prisoners and persons with disabilities.
8. A delegation reiterated its country's position that UNODC should focus on its core mandate of assisting Member States to implement their commitments under the international drug control conventions, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and other non-binding policy commitments on drug control, crime and corruption.
9. A delegation stressed its country's support for the implementation of the monitoring functions of the International Narcotics Control Board and emphasized the importance of the uninterrupted holding of the Board's meetings and conduct of the Board's missions.
10. Concern was expressed about an unaddressed issue of duplication of work in counter-terrorism operations between UNODC and the Office of Counter-Terrorism, which ran counter to the principle of efficient use of resources amid the ongoing liquidity crisis.
11. While matters relating to parts of the programme dealing with resources were not within the mandate of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, the view was expressed that given the liquidity constraints, effective prioritization and efficiency of spending should be ensured so that the scarce resources could reach the ones who needed it the most. The same delegation further sought information about the UN80 Initiative and its reforms. Another delegation expressed the view that UNODC should rely more on increased regular budget resources and reduce its dependence on extrabudgetary funding.
12. Several delegations stressed that support to drug policy should be holistic, comprehensive and evidence-based. An expectation was expressed that the holistic approach be reflected in the programme plan.
13. Several delegations highlighted the negative impact that transnational organized crime had had in their country by undermining peace and security.
14. The issue of sanctions to which a country was subjected that hampered its efforts to combat the drug smuggling problem was raised. The same delegation called for the obstacle of sanctions to be acknowledged in programme 13.
15. A protest against the politicization of drug control efforts and for the shared responsibility enshrined in international drug control treaties was made.
16. The importance of agreements by Parties to the drug treaties to control synthetic drug precursors and other substances through voting in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was raised. The same delegation stated that its country would oppose any initiatives that would displace the Commission as the sole body undertaking reviews and developing recommendations to strengthen the global drug control framework.
17. A delegation emphasized the importance of ensuring that the efforts to combat organized crime, corruption and terrorism were in full compliance with international human rights standards.
18. The importance of international cooperation and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 16, was raised.
19. Hope was expressed that the adoption of the Pact for the Future would provide additional opportunity to foster a more collaborative and comprehensive approach to addressing transnational organized crime.

20. An expectation to increase the Office's focus on the development pillar to help developing countries to strengthen capacity-building and to improve the equitable geographical representation of its international staff was shared.
21. Several delegations brought up the issue of the use of metrics and goals that helped better track the results, for example, by measuring outputs rather than outcomes. A remark about the importance of showing results not met was made.
22. An enquiry was made as to how the programme plan reflected the importance of field work.
23. An enquiry was made about the Office's ability to support Member States in addressing cybercrime-related threats through partnerships with the private sector.
24. A concern was expressed about frequent violations of the principle of multilingualism due to the liquidity crisis.
25. With regard to paragraph 16.16, under subprogramme 1, Countering transnational organized crime, a delegation welcomed the highlighting of the importance of fighting against organized crime throughout value chains.
26. With regard to subprogramme 2, A comprehensive and balanced approach to counter the world drug problem, a concern was expressed about the absence of a comprehensive approach, manifesting itself by a missing law enforcement component and focusing only on the world drug problem as a public health issue.
27. Also with regard to subprogramme 2, UNODC was commended for giving attention in the programme plan to the issue of access to controlled substances and to reducing demand and supply.
28. With regard to subprogramme 3, Countering corruption, a delegation noted that it was significantly less detailed compared to other subprogrammes. The same delegation enquired as to how the work of the subprogramme could be made clearer to Member States.
29. With regard to paragraph 16.72, on the highlighted result under subprogramme 5, Justice, a delegation commended UNODC for convening regional expert and stakeholder consultations on femicide in South Africa and enquired as to whether other regional consultations were planned for the future.
30. With regard to result 2 of subprogramme 5, a delegation enquired as to how integrating human rights into crime prevention and criminal justice reform was measured and how the 2025 planned result of 30 Member States was to be obtained.
31. With regard to subprogramme 9, component 1, Provision of secretariat services and substantive support to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, a delegation expressed disappointment about the cancellation of the meetings of subsidiary bodies on narcotic substances in 2024 due to the liquidity crisis. The same delegation expressed trust that those events would be carried out in full in 2025 and 2026.
32. With regard to result 2 of subprogramme 9, component 2, Provision of secretariat services and substantive support to the International Narcotics Control Board, information was sought about cooperation with the private sector to prevent the trafficking and marketing of synthetic opioids.

Conclusions and recommendations

33. **The Committee recommended that the plenary or the relevant Main Committee or Main Committees of the General Assembly, in line with Assembly**

resolution [79/247](#), consider the programme plan for programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed programme budget for 2026 under the agenda item entitled “Programme planning” at the eightieth session of the Assembly.
