

6th Global Meeting

11-13 February 2019



“AIRCOP task forces are a testimony to the fact that inter-agency work and international cooperation are essential in fighting organised crime and terrorism”.

Ms. Miwa Kato, Director, UNODC Division for Operations.

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Special Global Meeting Edition



90 representatives of national law enforcement agencies and international organisations gathered at INTERPOL Headquarters in Lyon, France, to share good practices and challenges in the detection of illicit trafficking by air on the occasion of AIRCOP 6th Global Meeting.

On 11 February 2019, the meeting was opened by Ms. Miwa Kato, Director Division for Operations (UNODC), Mr. Tim Morris, Executive Director of Police Services (INTERPOL) and Ms. Ana Hinojosa, Director of Compliance and Facilitation (WCO).

“It is heartening to see that the important role of Customs Officers, in these types of law enforcements efforts, is recognised by the global community”, declared Ms. Ana Hinojosa.

Mr. Morris encouraged participants to work together and go beyond on seizures to have a lasting impact on organised crime groups: *“If we limit ourselves to seizures, we can never identify or disrupt the criminal organised networks behind them. We would only be scratching the surface of this multi-billion-dollar criminal industry”*.

GENDER CONSIDERATIONS, INTEGRITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS WITHIN AIRCOP

The importance of gender considerations, integrity and human rights within law enforcement agencies in general, and within AIRCOP task forces in particular, was highlighted. The Royal Mounted Canadian Police shared its experience with the polygraph as a tool to support integrity assessments. The first joint test will be conducted for the JAITF of Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire.

INTERREGIONAL COMMUNICATION

During the meeting, WCO presented the CENcomm 3.0 that will soon be provided to task forces and be available on smartphones. This significant improvement will support task forces in strengthening secure and real-time communication between the different continents. INTERPOL also presented different tools that support the work of task forces on a daily basis, including I-24/7 and I-Checkit.

NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES (NPS): A NEW THREAT

A substantive increase in NPS seizures was reported in recent years, due to both a legislative blind spot and an ease to obtain such substances online with minimum risks, using mainly postal courier. Moreover, the increased use of NPS is alarming in terms of public health, as it is fairly easy to “overdose”, and users risk serious health damage or even death.

AIRCOP EVER EXPANDING NETWORK

AIRCOP network keeps on expanding with over 30 airports at the moment and new countries interested in joining in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia. AIRCOP has also developed its network of partners and representatives from CTED, UNOCT, UNICT, ICAO, IATA, FRONTEX, OSCE, CEPOL, the Council of Europe, EURO-POL, etc. present during the meeting, as well as trainers from around the globe.



ALL-OF-UN PROJECT ON USE OF PASSENGER DATA TO IMPROVE TARGETING

The 6th Global Meeting was the occasion to announce the participation of AIRCOP in an All-of-UN project to assist Member States in building their capacities to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute terrorist offences and other serious crimes, including their related travel, by collecting and analyzing passenger data (API), in accordance with international obligations and standards, in particular Security Council resolution 2396 (2017). This project will be implemented by the UN Office on Counter-Terrorism, in partnership with the

Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the International Civil Aviation Organisation, the UN Office of Information and Communication Technology and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (both AIRCOP and the Terrorism Prevention Branch).

Within the project, AIRCOP will contribute to the establishment of Passenger Information Units (PIUs) that will collect and analyse passenger data with a view to identify and intercept high-risk passengers. AIRCOP will also support capacity-building on this issue.