

AFRICAN UNION

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**MECHANISM FOR IMPLEMENTATION, FOLLOW-UP AND
EVALUATION OF THE REVISED AU PLAN OF ACTION ON DRUG
CONTROL AND CRIME PREVENTION
(2007-2012)**

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CONTROL AND CRIME PREVENTION (2007-2012)**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The 3rd AU Ministerial Conference on Drug Control and Crime Prevention has taken place against the background of stabilizing world drug abuse and trafficking trends, but increased linkages between drugs and conventional and organised crime in Africa. Already at the 2nd AU Ministerial Conference on Drug Control in Africa, which took place in Mauritius, December 2004, it was recommended that the 3rd Ministerial Conference should also take on board crime prevention, alongside drug control, in future programmes and activities. The 3rd AU Ministerial Conference on Drug Control and Crime Prevention also took note of the previous initiatives and programmes of the African Union and Regional Economic Communities with regard to Drug Control. The Conference was satisfied that, with the exception of one (1) Regional Economic Community, all others do have drug control protocols, declarations or conventions in place. However, the majority of Regional Economic Community Secretariats and the African Union Commission, have not yet succeeded in providing continuous regional and continental coordination services in the area of drug control. At national level, most Member States have also established dedicated national drug control bodies. Hence, the need for guidance as contained in this Follow-up Mechanism, which is based upon the priority areas as stipulated in the Revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012).

II. FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM

2. The overall objective of the Mechanism will be to assess and evaluate progress made in the implementation of the Revised Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012).

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

3. Existing National Drug Control and Crime Prevention Coordinating bodies, would be responsible for following up and implementing the Revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention. Where these institutions do not exist Member States are called upon to establish them. In addition, Member States are urged to establish Anti-Corruption Commissions, as well as Financial Intelligence Units.

4. The functions of the National Follow-up Institutions shall include:

- a) To develop detailed Plans of Action with clear objectives, milestones, roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders and development partners and indicators using the Revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012) as a guideline framework. The Plan must also indicate how resources will be mobilised.

- b) To review, revise and propose national drug control and crime prevention policies and programmes in line with the Revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012).
- c) To provide necessary national services, and support to civil society organisations in favour of the victims of drugs and crime;
- d) To disseminate and popularize national plans (e.g. through national campaigns) the Revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012).
- e) Prepare National country progress reports with wide consultation with relevant stakeholders and submit reports to the AU Commission.

AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

5. Each Regional Economic Community (REC) shall establish within its own structure a focal point for drugs and crime where one does not exist.

6. The functions of the RECs shall include:

- a) Each REC will be responsible for the coordination of the implementation of its coordinating function as identified in the Revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012).
- b) Hold regional meetings with National Follow-up Institutions, in particular the National Drug Control and Crime Prevention Coordinating bodies ;
- c) Follow up on all drugs and crime related issues within the region;
- d) Prepare regional progress reports in wide consultation with relevant stakeholders and submit them to the AU Commission on an annual basis;
- e) RECs should strengthen their links with the UNODC and offices in the region, in order to ensure technical support for the effective implementation of the Revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012);
- f) Disseminate and popularize the Revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012);
- g) Promote support to activities and programmes of regional institutions and CSO's;

AT THE CONTINENTAL LEVEL

7. The African Union Commission will coordinate the follow-up and evaluation of the implementation of the Revised AU Plan of Action at the Continental level. The Bureau of the AU Conference of Ministers for Drug Control and Crime Prevention shall provide the oversight for the follow-up and evaluation. The Bureau of the AU Conference of Ministers

for Drug Control and Crime Prevention shall meet regularly and, in collaboration with the the Africa Group in Vienna, provide the oversight for the follow-up and evaluation.

8. The Commission of the African Union will perform the following functions:

- a) To review progress in the implementation of the decisions of the AU Conference of Ministers for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, including:
 - (i) Sensitising African countries and international intergovernmental and non governmental organisations about the need to initiate and coordinate actions and programmes to implement the Plan of Action;
 - (ii) Ensuring that all Member States and Regional Economic Communities establish the National and Regional Institutions and mechanisms to follow-up and evaluate the implementation of the Plan of Action;
 - (iii) Liaising with the Government of each Member State and each Regional Economic Community for follow up on the implementation of the Plan of Action;
 - (iv) Collecting and documenting information from countries, UN Agencies, donor agencies, IGOs and NGOs, commissioning inter-disciplinary studies, research and evaluating drug control and crime prevention situations;
 - (v) Receiving and reviewing reports from the Regional Economic Communities and make recommendations on them;
 - (vi) Reviewing past decisions, resolutions and recommendations in drug control and crime prevention issues and advise on their relevance and how they can be implemented at all levels in collaboration with all stakeholders;
 - (vii) Providing assistance and technical advice to Member States for the implementation of the Plan of Action.
- b) Prepare relevant reports including:
 - (i) An annual report on the follow-up activities of the Commission;
 - (ii) Analytical reports every two years based on submission of at least one third of the number of AU Member States to assess the status of implementation including factors and issues contributing to, or affecting the implementation of the Revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012) and suggesting possible solutions to constraints and problems;
 - (iii) A Comprehensive evaluation report on the implementation of the Plan of Action by December 2012;

AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Cooperate with UN Agencies, especially UNODC, and INTERPOL and UNAFRI, and other international organizations concerned with drug control and crime prevention issues and problems, and mobilizing resources and support from development partners.

III. POST CONFERENCE FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES

12. Various activities have to be undertaken by the AU Commission:

- a) Establish an inter-departmental coordinating mechanism to facilitate and support the implementation of activities to combat drug abuse and drug-trafficking, corruption, money laundering, terrorism, human trafficking and smuggling, and arms smuggling.
- b) Convene consultative meetings with the RECs and cooperating partners to popularise the Conference outcomes on regional level;
- c) Develop guidelines to assist Member States, which so desire, to formulate detailed Plans of Action and decide on the composition and mandate of the Follow Up mechanisms at regional and national level;
- d) Develop standardized reporting format that ensures continuity and comprehensive reporting.

IV. REPORTING

13. Biennial Reports on the status of implementation will be submitted to the AU Conference of Ministers for Drug Control and Crime Prevention for its consideration and action and make recommendations to the relevant AU Organs. This could serve as inputs into the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) process.

V. RESOURCE MOBILISATION

14. Due regard should be given to modalities for the funding of the activities of the follow-up process at the national, regional and continental level. Such modalities should be worked out by the Commission of the African Union, together with the Bureau for consideration by the AU Conference of Ministers for Drug Control and Crime Prevention and approval and adoption by the appropriate policy organs of the AU.

15. It is hoped that appropriate measures would be taken at all levels to implement the Revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention.