

18 May 2009

Original: English

**Eighth Meeting of the Heads of National Drug
Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe**

Vienna, 16-19 June 2009

Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

**Current situation with respect to regional and subregional
cooperation****Statistical analysis of drug trafficking trends in Europe and
Worldwide*****Summary*

The present report provides an overview of the latest trends in illicit drug production and trafficking worldwide. The statistics and analysis in the report are based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. In respect of seizure statistics, the report focuses on 2006 and 2007. With regard to illicit drug cultivation and production, the report focuses on the period 2006-2008.

Cannabis continues to be by far the mostly widely produced, trafficked and consumed plant-based drug worldwide. The area under cannabis cultivation in 2007 in Afghanistan was estimated at levels comparable to those in Morocco. Global cannabis resin seizures increased significantly in 2007, in particular in West and Central Europe. While Europe continued to account for a small proportion of global cannabis herb seizures, a significant increase in cannabis herb seizures was registered in East Europe.

The area under opium poppy cultivation decreased by almost one fifth in 2008 in Afghanistan, which however continued to account for the vast majority of the world's production of opium. Global heroin seizures rose moderately in 2007, after remaining relatively stable throughout the period 2004-2006, and seizures in Europe followed the same trend. Heroin seizures in Turkey continued to rise in line with opium seizures in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

* UNODC/HONEURO/8/1.

** This document has not been edited.



Cultivation of coca bush and manufacture of cocaine continued to be concentrated in Colombia, Peru and Bolivia. While the area under cultivation increased, the stable trend in manufacture of recent years was sustained into 2007. Global cocaine seizures remained stable for the second consecutive year, following a significant expansion over the period 2002-2005. In 2007 a marked drop was registered in European cocaine seizures. However, Europe continued to account for virtually all cocaine seizures occurring outside the Americas. Details of individual drug seizures confirmed the growing role of Africa as a transit point for cocaine trafficking to Europe.

The class of amphetamine-type stimulants remained the most subject to limitations in terms of the availability of comprehensive and accurate seizure data. At a global level, reported methamphetamine seizures remained stable for the third consecutive year, while amphetamine seizures rose by a quarter and "ecstasy" seizures rose even more sharply. However, data were difficult to interpret due to a significant decrease in substances reported as "non-specified amphetamines". Nevertheless, in West and Central Europe, in particular in the Netherlands, significant increases were clearly registered both in amphetamine seizures and in "ecstasy" seizures.

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction	4
II. Global trends in illicit drug crop cultivation and the production of plant-based drugs, 2006-2008	4
A. Cannabis	4
B. Opium	6
C. Coca	8
III. Trends in illicit drug trafficking, up to 2007	9
A. Cannabis	10
B. Opiates	13
C. Cocaine	18
D. Amphetamine-type stimulants	21
Table	
Global and regional drug seizures, 2006 and 2007	9
Figures	
I. Global illicit opium production, 1997-2008	6
II. Breakdown of global cannabis herb seizures, 2000-2007	10
III. Breakdown of global cannabis resin seizures, 2000-2007	12
IV. Proportions of opiate seizures by region, 2007	14
V. Principal opium interdiction worldwide, 2000-2007	15
VI. Breakdown of heroin seizures in Europe, 1997-2007	16
VII. Correlation of opium seizures in the Islamic Republic of Iran with heroin seizures in Turkey, 2000-2007	17
VIII. Breakdown of cocaine seizures worldwide, 1997-2007	19
IX. Reported origin of individual cocaine seizures in Europe, 2006 and 2007	20
X. Breakdown of amphetamine seizures worldwide, 2000-2007	22
XI. Breakdown of methamphetamine seizures worldwide, 2000-2007	23
XII. Breakdown of “ecstasy” seizures worldwide, 2000-2007	24

I. Introduction

1. The present report provides an overview of developments in the production and trafficking of the main illicit drugs at the global and regional levels. Analysis is based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
2. The report addresses illicit coca bush, opium poppy and cannabis cultivation and illicit coca and opium production for the years up to and including 2007. With regard to drug trafficking, the report focuses on seizure statistics for 2006 and 2007 (where available) and supplies an update on trafficking trends in opiates, cannabis, cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants.
3. Information on illicit drug crop cultivation and production of plant-based drugs was drawn from the latest illicit crop-monitoring surveys published by UNODC. The primary sources of information on drug trafficking were the replies to the annual reports questionnaire (ARQ), part III (Illicit supply of drugs), submitted by Governments for 2007 and previous years.
4. At the time of preparation of the present report, 114 Member States had submitted their replies to the annual reports questionnaire, part III, for 2007. Among these, 39 Member States were from the European region. Other supplementary sources of information included reports on significant drug seizures, the latest World Drug Report published by UNODC¹ and other reports received by UNODC or submitted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies. The seizure data reflect information available to UNODC as of the 24th March 2009.
5. In general, statistics on drug seizures offer valid, indirect indicators of trafficking trends. However, they should be treated with caution, as they also reflect different reporting practices and also depend on the level and effectiveness of law enforcement capacities.

II. Global trends in illicit drug crop cultivation and the production of plant-based drugs, 2006-2008

A. Cannabis

6. Unlike other illicit crops, such as coca and opium poppy, cannabis lends itself to diverse cultivation methods, being easily grown in varied environments. This renders assessing the extent of its cultivation and production difficult. As of the reporting year 2007, UNODC is re-examining the methodology used in obtaining cannabis production and cultivation estimates, and will publish the latest estimates, as ranges, in the World Drug Report 2009. Apart from references to specific countries, the discussion of the global trends below reflects data relative to 2006 and earlier.
7. UNODC estimated that cannabis continued to dominate the world's illicit drug markets in terms of pervasiveness of cultivation, volume of production, and number

¹ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *World Drug Report 2008*.

of consumers. Based on data relative to the 1996-2006 period, UNODC estimated that cannabis was produced in 172 countries and territories.

8. The total area under cannabis cultivation in 2006 was estimated between 470,000 and 600,000 hectares, but this does not take into account cannabis growing wild. It appears that the extent of cannabis cultivation in Afghanistan is approaching that of Morocco. The latest cannabis survey conducted in Morocco² estimated cultivation in this country at 72,500 hectares in 2005, down from 134,000 hectares in 2003. Morocco continued to estimate the area under cannabis cultivation at this level in 2006 and 2007. In Afghanistan the area under cannabis cultivation increased from 30,000 hectares in 2005³ to 50,000 hectares in 2006 and 70,000 hectares in 2007.⁴ The figure for 2007 is equivalent to 36 per cent of the area under opium poppy cultivation in that country during that year.

9. According to UNODC estimates, global cannabis herb production peaked in 2004, at 45,000 tons, and then decreased twice in succession, albeit slightly: first to 42,000 tons in 2005 and again to 41,400 tons in 2006; during this year the Americas accounted for an estimated 55 per cent of cannabis herb production, followed by Africa (22 per cent), Asia (16 per cent), Europe (6 per cent) and Oceania (1 per cent).

10. It was estimated that, in 2006, 31 per cent of global cannabis herb production (12,900 tons) took place in North America. Production in Mexico (7,400 tons) was the largest worldwide, while production in the United States of America was estimated at 4,700 tons. South America accounted for 24 per cent of production (10,000 tons), of which 5,900 tons were produced in Paraguay. In 2007, Mexico reported the eradication of 21,000 ha under cannabis cultivation – the largest reported worldwide for that year.

11. In Africa, cannabis herb production in 2006 was estimated at 8,900 tons, of which 2,500 tons were produced in South Africa. However, cannabis cultivation is thought to be widespread throughout this region, with notable production in Malawi, Zambia, Swaziland, Nigeria and Ghana.

12. Cannabis herb production in Asia was estimated at around 6,700 tons in 2006. In South Asia, significant production occurred in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, while Indonesia and Thailand were the most prominent in East and South-East Asia.

13. Cannabis resin production was far more geographically focused than production of cannabis herb. Estimates of global cannabis resin production indicated a decrease to 6,000 tons in 2006, from 6,600 tons in 2005 and 7,500 tons in 2004. The decline was largely due to lower production in Morocco. However, in 2006 the country with the world's largest cannabis resin production continued to be Morocco, supplying the illicit markets of Western Europe and North Africa, followed by Afghanistan.

² United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Morocco Cannabis Survey 2005, Executive Summary.

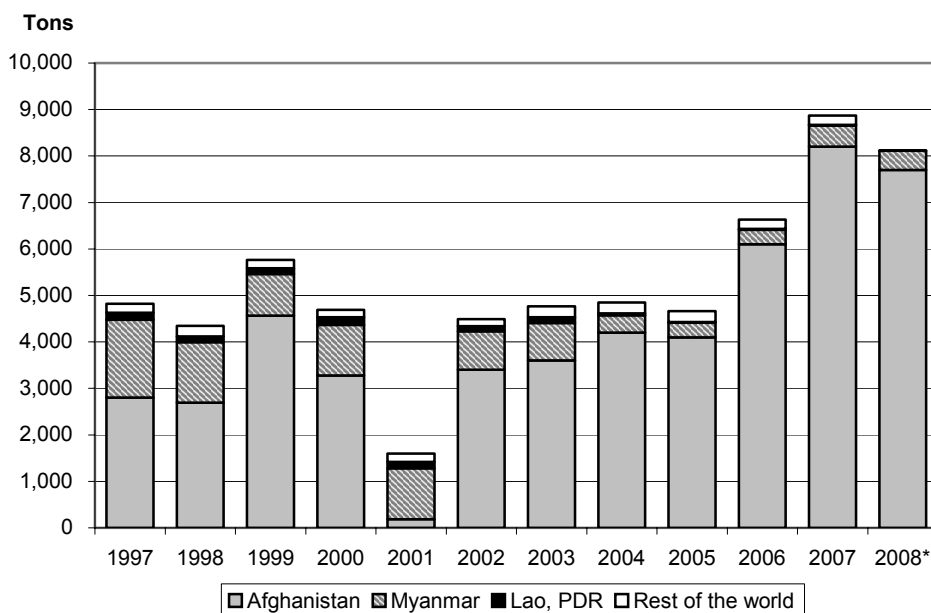
³ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Afghanistan Opium Survey 2006.

⁴ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Afghanistan Opium Survey 2007.

B. Opium

14. There was significant growth in the production of opiates over the period 2001-2008, driven mainly by production in Afghanistan. Globally, the total area under illicit opium poppy cultivation in 2007 was approximately 235,700 hectares, an increase of 17 per cent on 2006 (201,000 hectares). Global illicit opium production in 2007 grew faster, rising to an estimated 8,890 metric tons, an increase of one third on the estimated 6,610 tons of opium produced in 2006. Preliminary estimates indicate that the total area under cultivation declined back to around 200,000 ha in 2008 (essentially the same level as in 2006). However, higher yields helped sustain global production at around 8,300 tons, representing a decrease of only 7 per cent on the level in 2007, and still significantly above the levels in 2005 and 2006. See Figure I.

Figure I
Global illicit opium production, 1997-2008



* Data for 2008 available for Afghanistan, Myanmar and Lao PDR only.

15. In 2005, 2006 and 2007 illicit opium production became more highly concentrated in Afghanistan, which accounted for more than 92 per cent of global opium production in 2007 and, according to preliminary estimates, again in 2008. This compares with levels around 40 per cent at the beginning of the 1990s.

16. The annual Afghanistan Opium Survey for 2008 concluded that the total area under opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan declined to 157,000 hectares in 2008, from 193,000 hectares in 2007 (a decrease of 19 per cent). This is attributed to successful counter-narcotics efforts in the northern and eastern provinces, as well as unfavourable weather conditions that caused extreme drought and crop failure, especially in areas where agriculture is rain-fed. The decline follows increases for

two consecutive years, which saw cultivation rise by 86 per cent from 2005 (104,000 ha) to 2007.

17. The poppy free provinces⁵ in Afghanistan increased from 13 in 2007 to 18 in 2008, and included in particular the province of Nangarhar. Cultivation was concentrated in seven provinces in the south and west of Afghanistan, namely Hilmand, Farah, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Nimroz, Zabul and Daykundi. Cultivation in Hilmand alone, at 103,590 hectares, was essentially stable at the level in 2007 (102,770 hectares), and represented two thirds of the total in Afghanistan for 2008.

18. In spite of the notable decrease in the area under cultivation, production of opium in Afghanistan only decreased by 6 per cent, from 8,200 metric tons in 2007 to 7,700 metric tons in 2008. The average opium yield rose from 42.5 kg per ha in 2007 to 48.8 kg per ha in 2008, due to a shift in cultivation from rain-fed land to well irrigated land in the south.

19. In South-East Asia, opium poppy cultivation has traditionally taken place mainly in Myanmar, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Viet Nam. Cultivation in these countries tends to be on steep hills with poor soil and no irrigation facilities, resulting in lower yields than in Afghanistan. Thailand's crop monitoring system indicates that poppy cultivation in this country has been negligible for some years. Eradication data from the Government of Viet Nam indicates that cultivation in this country is also negligible.

20. In Myanmar, opium cultivation followed a generally decreasing trend from 1996 (163,000 ha) to 2006 (21,500 ha), but increased significantly in 2007, to 27,700 ha, and slightly further in 2008, to 28,500 ha (the latter increase is however not statistically significant). Cultivation in Myanmar was found in the Shan, Kachin and Kayah States, in particular South Shan State, where double cropping, irrigation and fertilization were resulting in high yields. Opium production in Myanmar in 2008 was estimated at 410 tons, below the level in 2007 (460 tons) but still significantly above the low levels of 2005 and 2006 (the lowest since 1990).

21. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, cultivation decreased from 26,800 ha in 1998 to 1,500 ha in 2007, and remained essentially stable in 2008 (1,600 ha). Opium production declined to 9.0 tons by 2007, and also remained essentially stable in 2008 (9.6 tons). Opium cultivation in the Lao People's Democratic Republic was confirmed in six provinces in 2008, but was concentrated mainly in the provinces of Phongsaly and Houaphanh.

22. Although smaller quantities of heroin originating in Asia were beginning to find their way to the market in North America, illicit opiates on the market in the Americas continued to be derived primarily from opium poppy cultivation within the same region. The most significant levels of cultivation in the Americas were to be found in Colombia and Mexico, although those in Colombia had declined significantly since 1998. However, opium poppy cultivation levels in the Americas were low in comparison with South-West and South-East Asia.

⁵ A province is defined to be "poppy free" when the estimated area under opium poppy cultivation is less than 100 ha.

C. Coca

23. Overall, the global cocaine market continued to show signs of stability in 2007. Coca bush cultivation remained concentrated in Colombia, Peru and Bolivia. However, in 2007 the total area estimated to be under coca bush cultivation in these three countries rose by 16 per cent, to 181,600 hectares. Of that total, 54.5 per cent was in Colombia, 29.6 per cent in Peru and 15.9 per cent in Bolivia.

24. The increase in global coca bush cultivation was mainly due to a 27 per cent increase in Colombia, where the estimated area under cultivation rose from 78,000 hectares in 2006 to 99,000 hectares in 2007. The level in 2007 was however still less than two thirds of the levels in 1999 and 2000. Smaller increases were registered in Peru (from 51,400 hectares in 2006 to 53,700 hectares in 2007, a 4 per cent increase) and Bolivia (from 27,500 hectares to 28,900 hectares, a 5 per cent increase).

25. The increase in the estimated area of coca bush cultivation follows a period during which this figure was essentially stable – between 2004 and 2006, the total area stayed within 4 per cent of the level of 2003 (153,800 hectares). The total area in 2007 is however still 14 per cent below the level of 1990 (211,700 hectares).

26. Although coca cultivation increased, the estimated production of cocaine in 2007 remained essentially unchanged from 2006 levels. The total amount of cocaine produced in 2007 is estimated at 994 tons: 600 tons in Colombia, 290 tons in Peru and 104 tons in Bolivia. The total has been relatively stable since 2004, when it stood at an estimated 1,008 tons.

27. In Colombia, the Pacific region had the largest areas under cultivation in 2007 (25,960 ha), followed by the Putumayo-Caquetá (21,130 ha), Central (20,950 ha) and Meta-Guaviare (19,690 ha) regions. Together, these regions represented 89 per cent of the total area under cultivation in Colombia. The largest increase occurred in the Central region, where estimated yields declined, and in the Pacific region, where yields are relatively low. On the other hand, Meta-Guaviare, the region with the highest yields, registered a slight decline in the area under coca bush cultivation. These factors contributed to keeping production of cocaine in 2007 essentially stable at 2006 levels.

28. In Peru, the regions with the largest area under coca bush cultivation continued to be Alto Huallaga (17,200 ha in 2007), Apurímac-Ene (16,000 ha) and La Convención-Lares (12,900 ha), which together accounted for 86 per cent of cultivation. However, significant increases were registered in other regions, in particular Palcazú-Pichís-Pachitea (from 426 ha in 2006 to 1,147 ha in 2007) and Inambari-Tambopata (from 2,366 ha in 2006 to 2,864 ha in 2007). In Bolivia, 69 per cent of the area under coca bush cultivation (19,800 ha) in 2007 was to be found in the Yungas of La Paz, and 30 per cent (8,800 ha, virtually all of the remainder) in the Chapare region.

29. UNODC received reports of the destruction of 3,173 clandestine coca-processing laboratories in 2007, down from 6,390 in 2006. Over 99 per cent of all dismantled clandestine laboratories continued to be found in Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, supporting the thesis that virtually the complete cocaine production chain, from coca paste to cocaine base and finally cocaine hydrochloride, was located

close to the cultivation areas in the three countries. However, while the number of dismantled laboratories in Bolivia fell drastically, Peru registered a sharp increase.

30. There were very few reports of coca-processing laboratories detected in countries other than Colombia, Peru and Bolivia. In 2007, the exceptions were Spain (18 laboratories), Chile (5), the United States (3), Ecuador (1), Mexico (1) and South Africa (1).

III. Trends in illicit drug trafficking, up to 2007

31. Table 1 shows the reported quantities of seized drugs for selected drug types in 2006 and 2007. Seizures attributable to countries and territories in Europe are expressed both in gross amounts and as a percentage of the global total for the corresponding drug type. In broad terms, the share of global seizures attributable to countries in Europe can be used as an indicator of the relative scale of drug trafficking across different drug types. This indicator points to cannabis resin, “ecstasy”, heroin and amphetamine as the drug types of most concern in this region – in 2007, more than two thirds of global cannabis resin, and more than one third of global seizures of “ecstasy”, heroin and amphetamine, were attributable to Europe.

Table
Global and regional drug seizures, 2006 and 2007

Drug type	2006			2007		
	Europe (kilograms)	Global (kilograms)	Percentage	Europe (kilograms)	Global (kilograms)	Percentage
Cannabis						
Cannabis herb	132,688	5,247,257	2.5%	142,409	5,556,915	2.6%
Cannabis resin	615,510	1,003,453	61.3%	860,550	1,209,785	71.1%
Coca						
Cocaine ¹	120,958	692,487	17.5%	78,794	649,818	12.1%
Opiates						
Opium ²	1,292	383,857	0.3%	1,444	508,265	0.3%
Morphine	536	46,391	1.2%	184	27,366	0.7%
Heroin	22,189	56,871	39.0%	26,023	64,386	40.4%
ATS						
Amphetamine	5,884	18,782	31.3%	8,212	23,228	35.4%
Methamphetamine	187	18,808	1.0%	390	18,200	2.1%
“Ecstasy” ³	2,621	4,897	53.5%	3,649	8,511	42.9%
Non-specified	816	8,248	9.9%	292	1,802	16.2%

¹ Cocaine base and cocaine salts.

² Raw opium and prepared opium.

³ Including MDMA, MDA, MDE/MDEA.

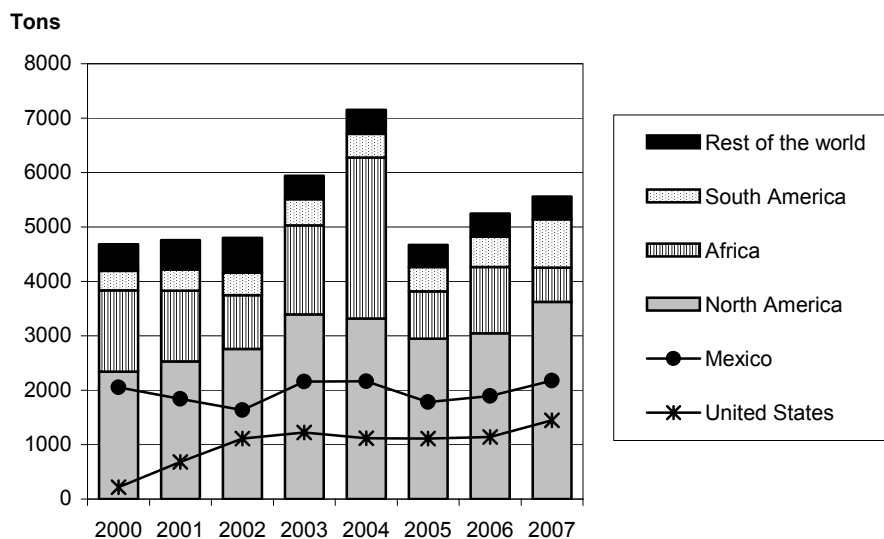
A. Cannabis

32. Cannabis derivatives remain the most widely trafficked drugs worldwide, accounting for approximately one half of global seizure cases. Of 141 countries and territories for which UNODC had collated records of positive drug seizures in 2007, 129 had seized cannabis derivatives.⁶ In 2007, cannabis herb continued to be the most frequently seized drug in Africa, the Americas and Oceania, while cannabis resin was the most frequently seized drug in Europe, followed by cannabis herb.

1. Cannabis herb

33. Global cannabis herb seizures increased gradually over the period 2005-2007, while staying significantly below the peak levels of 2004. See figure II. The global total for 2007 amounted to 5,557 tons, essentially stable at the level in 2006 (5,247 tons). In 2007 the Americas and Africa collectively continued to account for more than 90 per cent of global annual cannabis herb seizures, while the proportion attributable to Europe stayed between 2 and 3 per cent for the fifth consecutive year.

Figure II
Breakdown of global cannabis herb seizures, 2000-2007



34. With the single exception of 2004, North America consistently accounted for more than half of global annual cannabis herb seizures over the period 2001-2007, and for 56 per cent of the entire quantity seized over the period 2000-2007. Seizures in this subregion rose by 19 per cent in 2007, from 3,045 tons in 2006 to 3,624 tons. Starting in 2001, the largest and second largest national annual cannabis herb seizures worldwide have been reported by countries in North America – namely Mexico and the United States of America, respectively. Starting in 2005, cannabis herb seizures in each of these two countries exceeded three times the level of any other country worldwide.

⁶ Specifically cannabis herb, cannabis resin and cannabis oil.

35. In 2007, for the third consecutive year, the subregion of West and Central Europe accounted for approximately one half of cannabis herb seizures in Europe. Cannabis herb seizures in this subregion amounted to 66 tons in 2007, essentially stable at the level in 2006 (69 tons). However, some countries with important contributions in 2006 had not completed the reporting process for 2007 at the time of writing. A comparison of totals computed over 32 countries in West and Central Europe for which seizure data was available both for 2006 and 2007 shows an increase of 31 per cent (these countries accounted for 45 per cent of the total for this subregion in 2007).

36. According to official statistical bulletins issued by authorities in the United Kingdom, over the 2006/2007 financial year seizures of cannabis herb amounted to 25.7 tons in England and Wales,⁷ 54 kg in Scotland⁸ and 27 kg in Northern Ireland.⁹ (The latest seizure data for the United Kingdom submitted through the Annual Reports Questionnaire refer to the year 2005.) However, some seizures made by the Serious Organised Crime Agency of the United Kingdom may not be included in these totals.

37. In 2006 seizures in Greece amounted to 12.4 tons – the highest level in this country since 2000. In the transition from 2006 to 2007, seizures of cannabis herb in Belgium almost tripled, from 4.6 tons to 12.8 tons. In 2007 significant increases in the subregion of West and Central Europe were also registered by Ireland (3.2 tons, up from 431 kg in 2006), Switzerland (3.5 tons, up from 2.3 tons in 2006), Germany (3.8 tons, up from 3.0 tons in 2006) and Spain (1.2 tons, up from 497 kg in 2006).

38. In East Europe, seizures of cannabis herb rose by more than one half, from 24.8 tons in 2006 to 39 tons in 2007. Seizures in the Russian Federation rose by 13 per cent, from 23.7 tons in 2006 to 26.9 tons in 2007. However, the biggest increase was registered by Ukraine, which reported record seizures in 2007, amounting to 12.1 tons. This compared with cannabis herb seizures of only 210 kg in 2006 in this country, and an average of 4.6 tons over the period 1999-2005.

39. In Southeast Europe, seizures of cannabis herb amounted to 37.3 tons in 2007, essentially stable at the level in 2006 (38.9 tons). The largest contribution in this subregion continued to be that of Turkey, which accounted for slightly more than two thirds of the subregional total in 2007. Cannabis herb seizures in this country rose for the third consecutive year, amounting to 25.5 tons in 2007. Bulgaria registered a significant decrease, reporting seizures of 513 kg in 2007, down from 8.2 tons in 2006. Bulgaria was thus replaced by Albania as the country with the second largest seizures of cannabis herb in this subregion. Seizures in Albania amounted to 7.1 tons, essentially stable at the level in 2006 (6.8 tons). Seizures in excess of 1 ton in 2007 were also reported by Romania – 2.1 tons, almost double the amount in 2006 – and Serbia – 1.6 tons.

⁷ *Seizures of Drugs in England and Wales 2006/2007*, Home Office, Statistical Bulletin, ISSN 1358-510X.

⁸ *Drug Seizures by Scottish Police Forces, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007*. Scottish government, Statistical Bulletin, Crime and Justice Series. ISBN 978 0 7559 7129 9 (Web only publication).

⁹ Police Service Northern Ireland. PSNI Statistics: Annual Statistical Report. Statistical Report No. 4. *Drug seizures and arrests 1st April 2007 – 31st March 2008*.

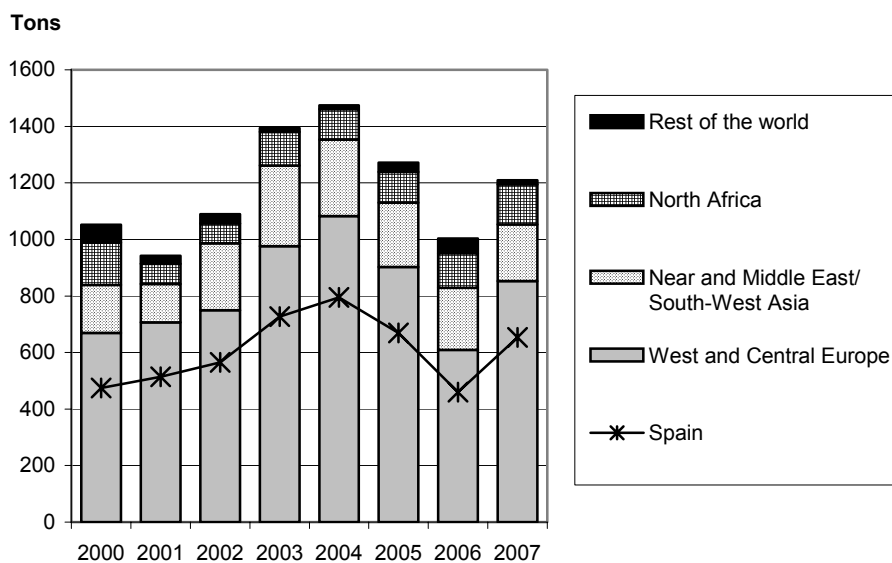
2. Cannabis resin

40. Following decreases for two consecutive years, in 2007 global seizures of cannabis resin rose by one fifth, from 1,003 tons in 2006 to 1,210 tons. Cannabis resin seizures continued to be concentrated in the subregions of West and Central Europe, the Near and Middle East/South-West Asia, and North Africa. See figure III. The increase in the transition from 2006 to 2007 was mainly due to the contribution of West and Central Europe.

41. From 1996 onwards, the subregion of West and Central Europe consistently accounted for more than half of annual global cannabis resin seizures. Moreover, from 2002 onwards more than 99 per cent of cannabis resin seizures in Europe were attributable to the subregion of West and Central Europe. In 2007, seizures of cannabis resin in this subregion rose by 40 per cent, from 610 tons in 2006 to 852 tons.

42. Over the period 2000-2007, Spain in particular consistently accounted for more than 70 per cent of annual cannabis resin seizures in West and Central Europe, setting the trend for the entire subregion (see figure III). Every year from 1998 to 2007, Spain reported the largest annual cannabis resin seizures worldwide. In the transition from 2006 to 2007, seizures in Spain rose from 459 tons to 654 tons. It is thought that cannabis resin continued to be trafficked into Spain from Morocco.

Figure III
Breakdown of global cannabis resin seizures, 2000-2007



43. Over the period 2000-2007, Spanish authorities also reported details of an average of more than 1,000 individual drug seizures per year, of which more than one half (43 per cent in 2007 in particular) involved seizures of cannabis resin. Apart from Spain itself, Morocco was almost exclusively cited as the point of origin of cannabis resin, while France was consistently the most frequently cited as the

destination. In 2007, other countries frequently mentioned as the destination were the Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal and Italy (in that order).

44. In the transition from 2006 to 2007, seizures of cannabis resin grew more than five-fold both in Belgium and in Portugal. In 2007 Belgium registered record seizures (59 tons), while in Portugal seizures reached the highest level (43 tons) since 1993. On the other hand, seizures in France fell by approximately one half, from 68 tons in 2006 to 34 tons in 2007. Significant seizures in 2007 were also reported by Italy (20 tons, essentially stable at the level of 2006) and the Netherlands (10 tons, approximately double the amount in 2006).

45. According to official statistical bulletins issued by authorities in the United Kingdom, over the 2006/2007 financial year seizures of cannabis resin amounted to 19.7 tons in England and Wales,¹⁰ 446 kg in Scotland¹¹ and 3.7 tons in Northern Ireland.¹² (The latest seizure data for the United Kingdom submitted through the Annual Reports Questionnaire refer to the year 2005.) However, some seizures made by the Serious Organised Crime Agency of the United Kingdom may not be included in these totals.

B. Opiates

46. Trafficking in opiates continues along three major routes, reflecting three major production centres supplying three distinct markets. One route goes from Afghanistan, the world's largest opium producer, to neighbouring countries of South, South-West and Central Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Europe. A second route goes from Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic to neighbouring countries of South-East Asia, notably China, as well as Oceania. A third route goes from Latin America to North America.

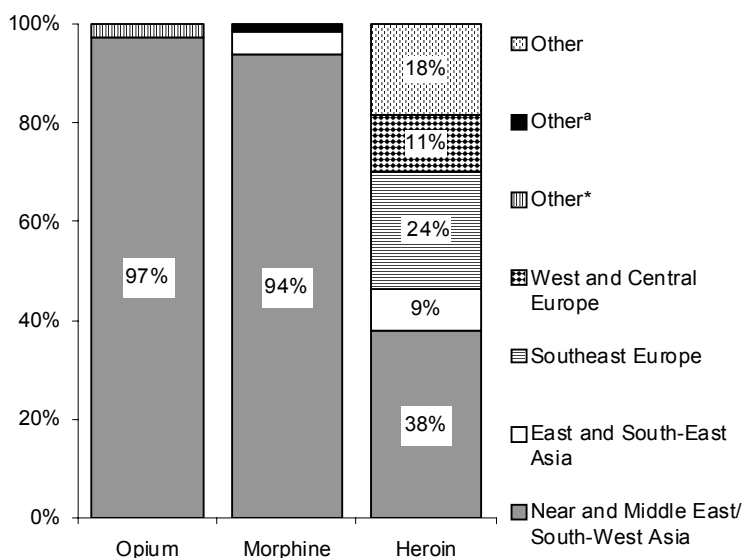
47. The bulk of global opium and morphine seizures takes place in the countries surrounding Afghanistan. Heroin seizures are less geographically concentrated. In 2007, while seizures in Europe amounted to less than 1 per cent of the global total in the case of opium and morphine, Europe continued to account for more than one third of global heroin seizures. See figure IV.

¹⁰ *Seizures of Drugs in England and Wales 2006/2007*, Home Office, Statistical Bulletin, ISSN 1358-510X.

¹¹ *Drug Seizures by Scottish Police Forces, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007*. Scottish government, Statistical Bulletin, Crime and Justice Series. ISBN 978 0 7559 7129 9 (Web only publication).

¹² Police Service Northern Ireland. PSNI Statistics: Annual Statistical Report. Statistical Report No. 4. *Drug seizures and arrests 1st April 2007 – 31st March 2008*.

Figure IV
Proportions of opiate seizures by region, 2007
 (Percentage)



^a Including West and Central Europe and South-East Europe.

* Including West and Central Europe, South-East Europe and East and South-East Asia.

1. Opium

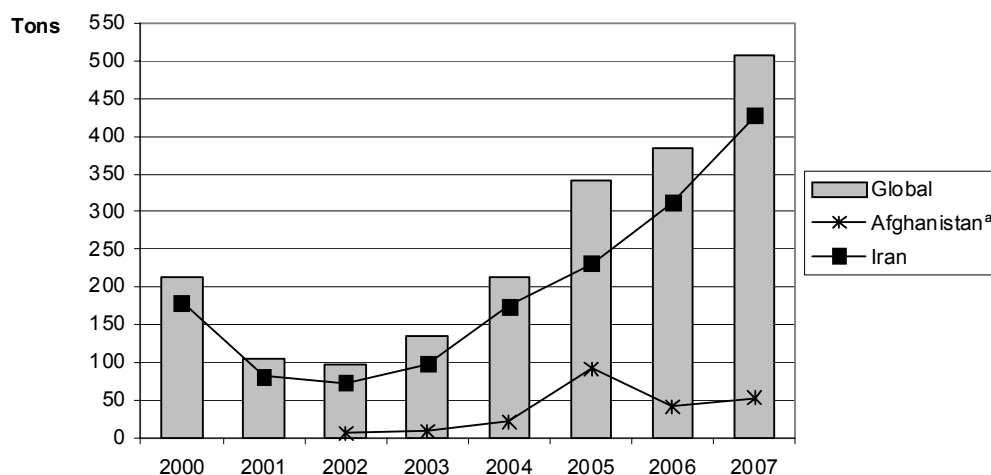
48. Global opium seizures rose steadily from 96 tons in 2002 to 508 tons in 2007, a five-fold increase over a period of five years. This represents an average year-on-year increase of 40 per cent for five consecutive years. Opium seizures in 2007 were concentrated in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Afghanistan.¹³ Since 2004, these two countries together have consistently accounted for more than 90 per cent of annual global opium seizures. See figure V.

49. Total seizures of opium in Europe have followed a generally decreasing trend since 2000, but increased from 1,292 kg in 2006 to 1,444 kg in 2007. The figure for 2007 represented 0.28 per cent of the global total for that year. The increase in 2007 was mainly due to seizures reported by Turkey amounting to 785 kg, up from 440 kg in 2006. This was the third consecutive year-on-year increase in opium seizures registered by Turkey. On the other hand, opium seizures in the Russian Federation fell steadily from 2.2 tons in 2003 to 363 kg in 2007.

50. Significant seizures of opium in 2007 were also reported by Latvia (60 kg), Serbia (57 kg) and Bulgaria (53 kg). These levels represented a marked increase, as prior to 2007 reported opium seizures in each of these countries, and in Serbia and Montenegro, had never exceeded 5 kg.

¹³ Seizure statistics for 2007 in Afghanistan are based on data from the UNODC Field Office.

Figure V
Principal opium interdiction worldwide, 2000-2007



^a For 2007, Afghanistan data are sourced from UNODC field office.

2. Morphine

51. Global morphine seizures fell by 41 per cent in 2007, from 46 tons in 2006 to 27 tons. For the fifth consecutive year, the largest and second largest morphine seizures worldwide were reported by Pakistan and Iran (Islamic Republic of), respectively, and these two countries collectively accounted for more than three quarters of global annual morphine seizures. This suggests that important amounts of heroin are produced outside Afghanistan, as morphine does not have a large user base.

52. The decline in global morphine seizures in 2007 was mainly due to a sharp drop in seizures reported by Pakistan. These fell to 11.0 tons in 2007, representing the lowest level since 2002 and only one third of the level in 2006 (32.7 tons). In the Islamic Republic of Iran, seizures amounted to 9.7 tons, essentially stable at the level in 2006 (10.6 tons).

53. In Europe, seizures of morphine fell from a total of 536 kg in 2006 to 184 kg in 2007, representing 0.67 per cent of the global total for 2007. The decline was mainly due to a drop in seizures registered by Turkey, which nevertheless continued to account for more than 90 per cent of morphine seizures in Europe, as it had done since 1995. Morphine seizures in this country fell from 529 kg in 2006 to 169 kg in 2007. The only other countries in Europe reporting morphine seizures in 2007 in excess of 5 kg were France (7.8 kg) and the Russian Federation (5.6 kg).

3. Heroin

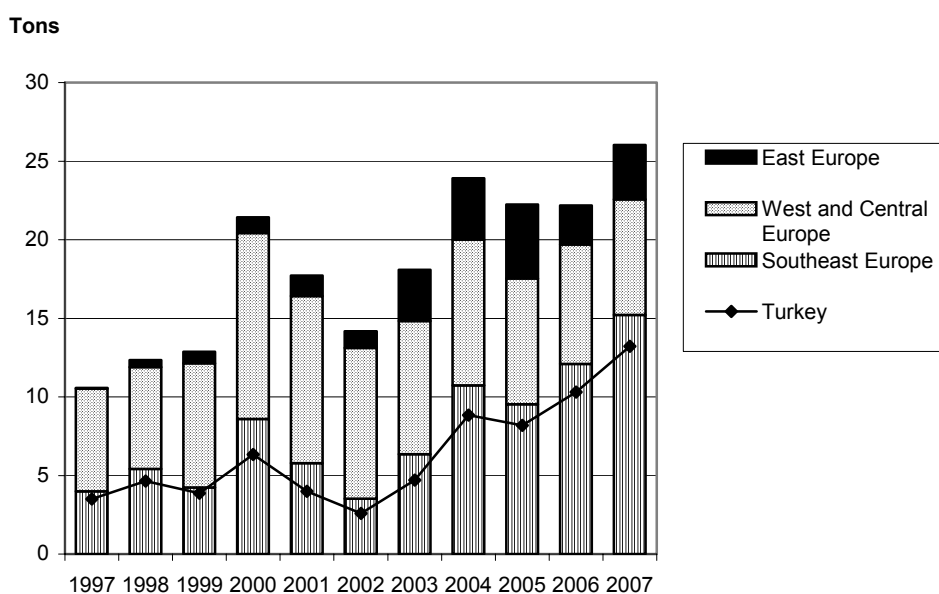
54. Following two years in which global heroin seizures remained stable, in the transition from 2006 to 2007 the quantity of heroin seized globally rose by 13 per cent, from 56.9 tons to 64.4 tons. Significant increases in the total quantities of seized heroin occurred in the subregions of the Near and Middle East/South-West

Asia, South-East Europe, East Europe and North America, while a significant decline was registered in the subregion of East and South-East Asia.

55. In 2007, the subregion accounting for the largest seizures of heroin continued to be that of the Near and Middle East/South-West Asia. Heroin seizures in this subregion grew steadily over the period 2004-2007, both in relative terms (from 18 per cent in 2004 of the global total to 38 per cent in 2007) and in absolute terms (from 10.9 tons in 2004 to 24.3 tons in 2007). This was mainly due to increased levels of interdiction in Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Afghanistan. Heroin seizures in Pakistan, while substantial, registered a moderate decrease over the period 2004-2007.

56. In line with the global trend, seizures of heroin in Europe rose in 2007, after remaining relatively stable throughout 2004-2006. See figure VI. The European total rose from 22.2 tons in 2006 to 26.0 tons in 2007, the latter figure representing 40 per cent of the global total for 2007. The increase was not to be found in the subregion with the biggest consumer market for heroin, namely West and Central Europe, but rather in the subregions of Southeast Europe and East Europe, believed to be transit zones in the trafficking of opiates to West and Central Europe.

Figure VI
Breakdown of heroin seizures in Europe, 1997-2007



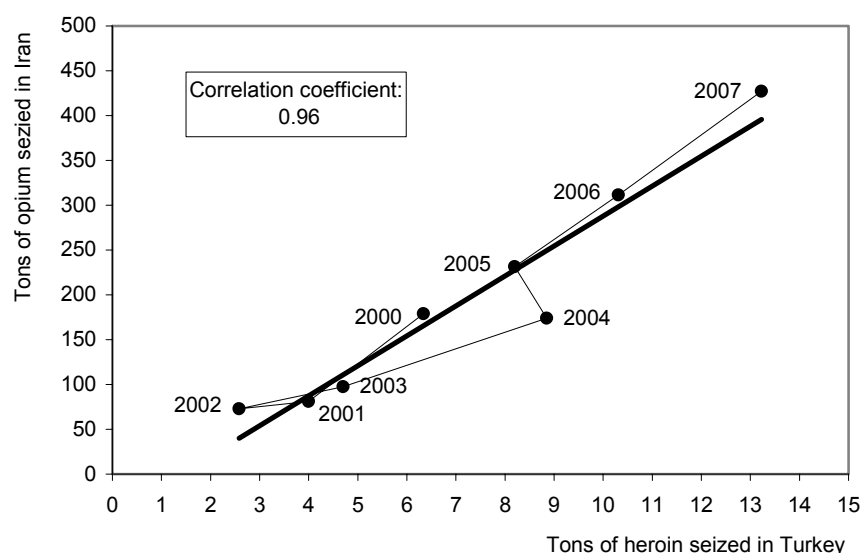
57. For the second consecutive year the subregion of South-East Europe accounted for more than half of the European total. Heroin seizures increased by one quarter in 2007, from 12.1 tons in 2006 to 15.2 tons. This was mainly due to heroin seizures in Turkey amounting to 13.2 tons, up from 10.3 tons in 2006. For the fifth consecutive year heroin seizures in Turkey were the second largest worldwide. Over the period 2002-2007, heroin seizures in Turkey followed a generally increasing trend, growing by five times over a five-year period. The same is true of opium seizures in

the neighbouring country of Iran (Islamic Republic of). In fact, heroin seizures in Turkey and opium seizures in Iran (Islamic Republic of) kept in step to a remarkable degree over the period 2000-2007, as clearly shown in figure VII. See also figures V and VI. Heroin seizures also rose in Bulgaria, from 701 kg in 2006 to 1,164 kg in 2007.

58. An even sharper increase (in relative terms) occurred in East Europe, where total seizures rose by more than a third in 2007, from 2.5 tons in 2006 to 3.5 tons in 2007. This was mainly due to the contribution of the Russian Federation, which rose from 2.4 tons in 2006 to 2.9 tons in 2007, and that of Ukraine, which rose more than ten-fold, from 49 kg in 2006 to 515 kg in 2007. The quantities reported by Ukraine point to a shift in trafficking patterns, as annual heroin seizures in this country averaged 27 kg during the decade prior to 2006.

Figure VII

Correlation of opium seizures in the Islamic Republic of Iran with heroin seizures in Turkey, 2000-2007



Note: A correlation coefficient can range between -1 and 1. A value close to 1 indicates strong correlation.

59. Heroin seizures in West and Central Europe have followed a generally decreasing trend since the year 2000. In 2007 seizures in this subregion amounted to 7.4 tons, essentially stable at the level in 2006 (7.6 tons). Seizures in Italy rose from 1.3 tons in 2006 to 1.9 tons in 2007, accounting for one quarter of the total for the subregion for 2007. Seizures in Germany rose for the fifth consecutive year, reaching 1,074 kg in 2007. Seizures in France amounted to 1,036 kg, sustaining the high level of 2006 (1,052 kg), also attained as a result of increases for five consecutive years.

60. According to official statistical bulletins issued by authorities in the United Kingdom, over the 2006/2007 financial year heroin seizures amounted to 1,003 kg

in England and Wales,¹⁴ and to 83.8 kg in Scotland.¹⁵ (The latest seizure data for the United Kingdom submitted through the Annual Reports Questionnaire refer to the year 2005.) However, some seizures made by the Serious Organised Crime Agency of the United Kingdom may not be included in these totals.

61. In the transition from 2006 to 2007, heroin seizures fell by approximately one half in the Netherlands (from 984 kg to 519 kg) and in Spain (from 472 kg to 227 kg), while seizures tripled in Belgium (from 176 kg to 548 kg) and in Austria (from 34 kg to 117 kg). The only other countries in this subregion to register heroin seizures above 100 kg in 2007 were Poland (178 kg), Ireland (169 kg) and Switzerland (135 kg).

C. Cocaine

62. After a significant expansion over the period 2002-2005, global cocaine seizures remained essentially stable for the second consecutive year. Cocaine seizures amounted to 650 tons in 2007, compared with 692 tons in 2006. The vast majority of cocaine seizures continued to be made in the Americas and in Europe. See figure VIII.

63. Large quantities of cocaine continued to be trafficked from the Andean region, notably Colombia, to the North American market, notably the United States. From 1980 (the earliest year for which records are available) onwards, the Americas consistently accounted for more than four fifths of annual global cocaine seizures. Starting in 1998, cocaine seizures in Colombia and the United States together amounted to more than half of the total cocaine seizures in the Americas. Moreover, over the period 2002-2007, cocaine seizures in these two countries followed essentially the same trend.

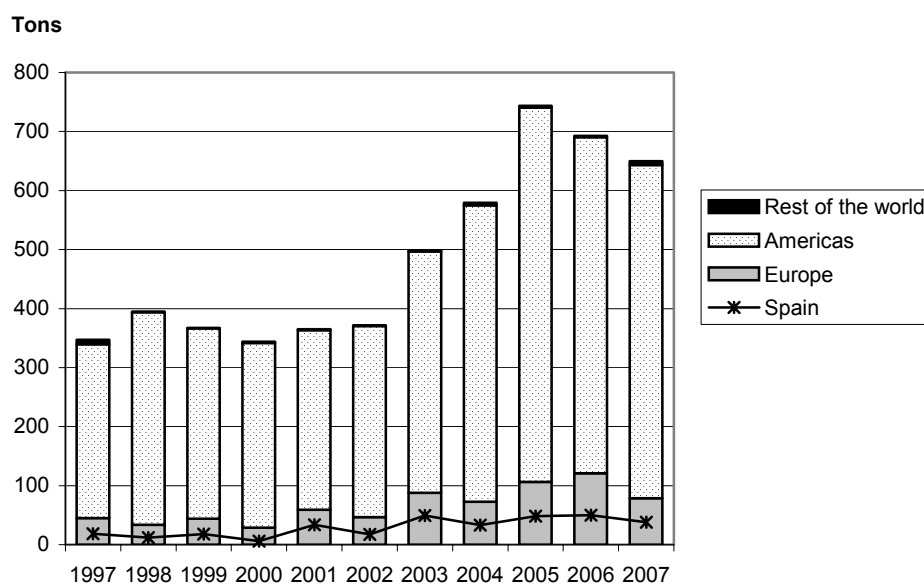
64. European countries, in particular countries in the subregion of West and Central Europe, continued to account for virtually all cocaine seizures occurring outside the Americas, with the European total for 2007 amounting to 12 per cent of the global total. Nevertheless, total seizures of cocaine in Europe fell by 35 per cent in 2007, from 121.0 tons in 2006 to 78.8 tons. The decline followed increases for two consecutive years in European cocaine seizures, which grew by two thirds over the period 2004-2006. The European total for 2007 was comparable to that in 2004 – 72.6 tons. With the single exception of the Netherlands, the six European countries reporting the largest cocaine seizures in 2006 all registered significant decreases in 2007.

65. Throughout the period 2003-2007, Spain consistently accounted for more than 40 per cent of annual European cocaine seizures. Following record seizures in 2006, amounting to 49.7 tons, in 2007 cocaine seizures in Spain fell by 24 per cent, to 37.8 tons. Nevertheless, 2007 was the seventh consecutive year in which Spain accounted for the largest cocaine seizures in Europe.

¹⁴ *Seizures of Drugs in England and Wales 2006/2007*, Home Office, Statistical Bulletin, ISSN 1358-510X.

¹⁵ *Drug Seizures by Scottish Police Forces, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007*. Scottish government, Statistical Bulletin, Crime and Justice Series. ISBN 978 0 7559 7129 9 (Web only publication).

Figure VIII
Breakdown of cocaine seizures worldwide, 1997-2007
 (Kilograms)



66. Over the period 2000-2007, Spanish authorities also reported (via a reporting mechanism distinct from the Annual Reports Questionnaire) details of an average of more than 1,000 significant individual drug seizures per year. The proportion of significant seizures involving cocaine grew from around one third in the period 2000-2003 to more than one half throughout 2004-2007. In 2007, the three countries most frequently cited as the origin of the seized drug were the Dominican Republic, Argentina and Brazil (in that order).

67. Among European countries, the largest decline in cocaine seizures was registered by Portugal, which reported cocaine seizures amounting to 34.5 tons in 2006, but approximately one fifth of this level in 2007 – 7.4 tons. The Netherlands reported cocaine seizures amounting to 10.5 tons in 2007 – essentially the same level as in 2006 (10.6 tons) – replacing Portugal as the country with the second largest cocaine seizures in Europe.

68. In the transition from 2006 to 2007, significant decreases in cocaine seizures were also registered by France (from 10.2 tons to 6.6 tons), Belgium (from 3.9 tons to 2.5 tons) and Italy (from 4.6 tons to 3.9 tons). On the other hand, Ireland reported seizures of 3.4 tons in 2007, more than 10 times the level reported by this country in any of the previous eight years. The figure for 2007 included a single seizure of 1.55 tons from a vessel in Dunlough Bay. Although the Annual Reports Questionnaire for 2008 from Ireland was not available at the time of writing of the present report, several press reports mentioned a similar seizure in November 2008.

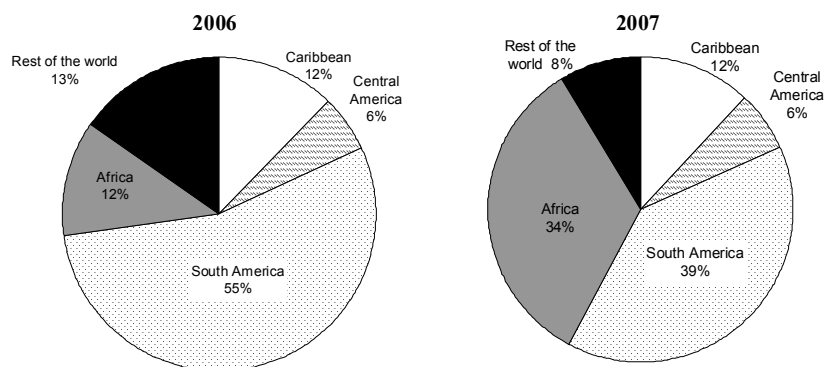
69. According to official statistical bulletins issued by authorities in the United Kingdom, over the 2006/2007 financial year cocaine seizures amounted to 3,191 kg

in England and Wales,¹⁶ 93 kg in Scotland¹⁷ and 36 kg in Northern Ireland.¹⁸ (The latest seizure data for the United Kingdom submitted through the Annual Reports Questionnaire refer to the year 2005.) However, some seizures made by the Serious Organised Crime Agency of the United Kingdom may not be included in these totals.

70. An analysis of cocaine consignments seized in Europe, based on UNODC's Individual Drug Seizures database, confirmed the growing role of Africa as a transit point for cocaine from South America to Europe. Among seizures in which the origin was identified, in 2007 countries in Latin America continued to account for more than half of citations as a point of origin, but the proportion of citations of African countries (or Africa) grew from 12 per cent in 2006 to 34 per cent in 2007. See figure IX. On the other hand, cocaine seizure quantities reported by countries in Africa amounted to only 5.5 tons in 2007, or 0.85 per cent of the global total.

Figure IX

Reported origin of individual cocaine seizures in Europe, 2006 and 2007



71. The emerging cocaine trafficking routes from South America to Europe via Africa involve most prominently a number of West African countries as points of trans-shipment. A UNODC report on drug trafficking in West Africa¹⁹ published in 2008 concluded that cocaine from South America apparently arrived on the African continent mainly at one of two hubs, centred around Guinea-Bissau in the north and around Ghana in the south. The drugs are then trafficked between West African countries before being shipped out by boat or on commercial flights.

¹⁶ *Seizures of Drugs in England and Wales 2006/2007*, Home Office, Statistical Bulletin, ISSN 1358-510X.

¹⁷ *Drug Seizures by Scottish Police Forces, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007*. Scottish government, Statistical Bulletin, Crime and Justice Series. ISBN 978 0 7559 7129 9 (Web only publication).

¹⁸ Police Service Northern Ireland. PSNI Statistics: Annual Statistical Report. Statistical Report No. 4. *Drug seizures and arrests 1st April 2007 – 31st March 2008*.

¹⁹ *Drug Trafficking as a Security Threat in West Africa*, UNODC, October 2008.

D. Amphetamine-type stimulants^{20, 21}

72. Among the various groups of illicit drugs, the class of amphetamine-type stimulants is perhaps most subject to limitations in terms of the availability of seizure data. This is due both to lack of reported seizure quantities from various countries, and also to difficulties in classifying seized quantities according to the specific type of drug. While reported seizures of methamphetamine remained stable for the third consecutive year, amphetamine seizures rose by almost one quarter and “ecstasy” seizures rose even more sharply. However, reported seizures of substances classified as “non-specified amphetamines” declined sharply, so that the total quantity of amphetamine-type stimulant seizures remained essentially stable at the level in 2006. See Table 1.

1. Amphetamine

73. After appearing to stabilize in 2006, global seizures of amphetamine reached record levels, amounting to 23.2 tons in 2007, and returning to the increasing trend seen over the period 1998-2005. Seizures in the Near and Middle East/South-West Asia continued to increase, reaching 14.8 tons (almost two thirds of the global total) in 2007. Amphetamine seizures in this subregion exceeded the total for Europe for the fourth consecutive year.

74. In the subregion of the Near and Middle East/South-West Asia, amphetamine was seized mainly in the form of counterfeit *Captagon* tablets. In 2007, according to data from the World Customs Organization, seizures in Saudi Arabia alone amounted to 13.9 tons, and most of the *Captagon* continued to arrive in Saudi Arabia from Syria via Jordan, by road.²² Some consignments of *Captagon* seized in this subregion consisted of more than a million tablets.

75. Amphetamine seizures in Europe rose by 40 per cent, amounting to 8.2 tons in 2007. This is the highest total ever registered for Europe,²³ and represented more than one third of the global total in 2007. The increase was mainly due to the contribution of West and Central Europe, which in 2007 accounted for more than 90 per cent of the European total, for the first time since 2002.

76. In West and Central Europe, amphetamine seizures rose from 4.8 tons in 2006 to 7.9 tons in 2007. The largest increase was registered by the Netherlands, which reported seizures of 2.8 tons in 2007, representing the highest level of amphetamine

²⁰ Amphetamine-type stimulants, as defined by UNODC, consist of: (a) amphetamines (amphetamine, methamphetamine); (b) “ecstasy” (methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)) and related substances such as methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA) (the “‘ecstasy’-group substances”); and (c) a number of other synthetic stimulants such as methcathinone, phentermine and fenetylline.

²¹ For the purposes of ATS seizure statistics, one tablet is assumed to contain 30 milligrams of psychoactive ingredient, except for “ecstasy” tablets, which are assumed to contain 100 milligrams of psychoactive ingredient.

²² World Customs Organization, *Customs and Drugs Report 2007*.

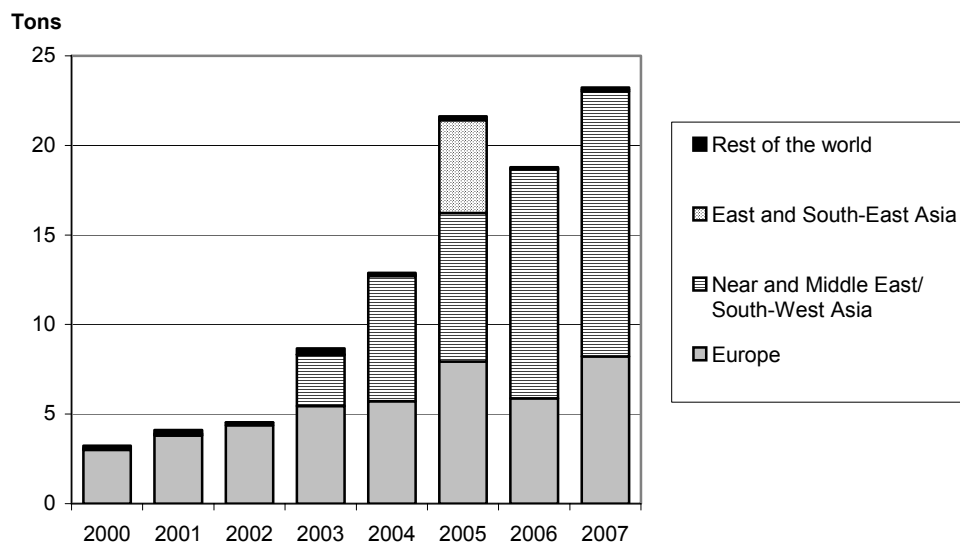
²³ In 2004 unusually high levels of “non-specified amphetamines” were reported by European countries. It is plausible that substances reported under this category in Europe are mostly amphetamine. The combined total of amphetamine and “non-specified amphetamines” for 2004 slightly exceeds that for 2007.

seizures ever reported by a European country, and more than four times the level in this country in 2006 (634 kg).

Figure X

Breakdown of amphetamine seizures worldwide, 2000-2007

(Ton equivalent)



77. According to official statistical bulletins issued by authorities in the United Kingdom, over the 2006/2007 financial year 1.4 tons of amphetamines were seized in England and Wales,²⁴ 283 kg of amphetamines were seized in Scotland²⁵ and 18 kg of amphetamine powder and 241 tablets and wraps were seized in Northern Ireland.²⁶ (The latest seizure data for the United Kingdom submitted through the Annual Reports Questionnaire refer to the year 2005.) However, some seizures made by the Serious Organised Crime Agency of the United Kingdom may not be included in these totals.

78. Amphetamine seizures in Germany rose steadily over the period 2001-2007, from 263 kg in 2001 to 810 kg in 2007. Seizures reached record levels in France, amounting to 307 kg in 2007 (up from 78 kg in 2006), and rose sharply also in Belgium (from 119 kg to 484 kg). In the transition from 2006 to 2007, significant increases were also to be observed in Poland (from 332 kg to 424 kg) and in Norway (from 319 kg to 393 kg), while Sweden registered a drop to 292 kg (from 422 kg in 2006).

79. In South-East Europe, amphetamine seizures fell for the third consecutive year, amounting to 370 kg in 2007 – approximately one third of the level in 2006

²⁴ *Seizures of Drugs in England and Wales 2006/2007*, Home Office, Statistical Bulletin, ISSN 1358-510X.

²⁵ *Drug Seizures by Scottish Police Forces, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007*. Scottish government, Statistical Bulletin, Crime and Justice Series. ISBN 978 0 7559 7129 9 (Web only publication).

²⁶ Police Service Northern Ireland. PSNI Statistics: Annual Statistical Report. Statistical Report No. 4. *Drug seizures and arrests 1st April 2007 – 31st March 2008*.

(1.0 tons). Throughout the period 2004-2007, the decline in seizures in this subregion was mainly due to the contribution of Bulgaria, which fell steadily from 1.5 tons in 2004 to 876 kg in 2006 and 124 kg in 2007. On the other hand, amphetamine seizures in Turkey rose from 130 kg in 2006 to 233 kg in 2007.

80. In East Europe, amphetamine seizures rose from 83 kg in 2006 to 157 kg in 2007. This was mainly due to the contribution of the Russian Federation, which reported seizures of 118 kg in 2007 (up from 48 kg in 2006), while seizures in Ukraine remained essentially stable, amounting to 33 kg in 2007.

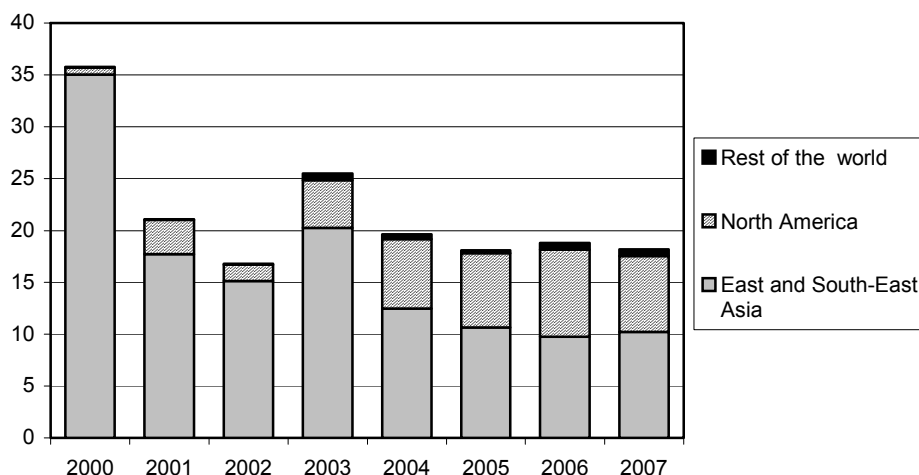
2. Methamphetamine

81. In 2007, global seizures of methamphetamine remained stable for the third consecutive year, amounting to 18.2 tons. Methamphetamine seizures continued to be concentrated in East and South-East Asia and in North America. See figure XI. However, for the first time seizures in Europe exceeded one per cent of the global total, accounting for 2.1 per cent of global methamphetamine seizures in 2007.

Figure XI

Breakdown of methamphetamine seizures worldwide, 2000-2007

(Ton equivalent)



82. East and South-East Asia continued to account for the majority of methamphetamine seized globally, with seizures amounting to 9.8 tons in 2006 and 10.2 tons in 2007. For the third consecutive year, China reported seizures in excess of 6 tons. The figure for 2007 – 6.1 tons – was the largest reported by a single country worldwide in 2007. In North America, methamphetamine seizures dropped from 8.4 tons in 2006 to 7.3 tons in 2007. The decline was mainly due to a 36 per cent decrease registered in the United States, where seizures amounted to 4.9 tons in 2007, down from 7.6 tons in 2006.²⁷

²⁷ Methamphetamine seizure quantities for the United States relative to 2006 and 2007 were revised based on data from the report *National Methamphetamine Threat Assessment 2009*, issued by the National Drug Intelligence Center, United States Department of Justice.

83. Although still small by comparison with Asia and the Americas, in 2007 methamphetamine seizures in Europe more than doubled, from 187 kg in 2006 to 390 kg in 2007. The largest increase was registered by Norway, from 68 kg in 2006 to 167 kg in 2007. Methamphetamine seizures also rose in Lithuania, from 22 kg in 2006 to 49 kg, and in Sweden, from 38 kg in 2006 to 50 kg. Seizures amounted to 25 kg in Belgium and 10 kg in the Netherlands – the first ever reports of methamphetamine seizures from these countries. Methamphetamine seizures above 20 kg were also reported by Finland (22 kg, more than six times the level in 2006) and the Russian Federation (24 kg, essentially stable at the level in 2006).

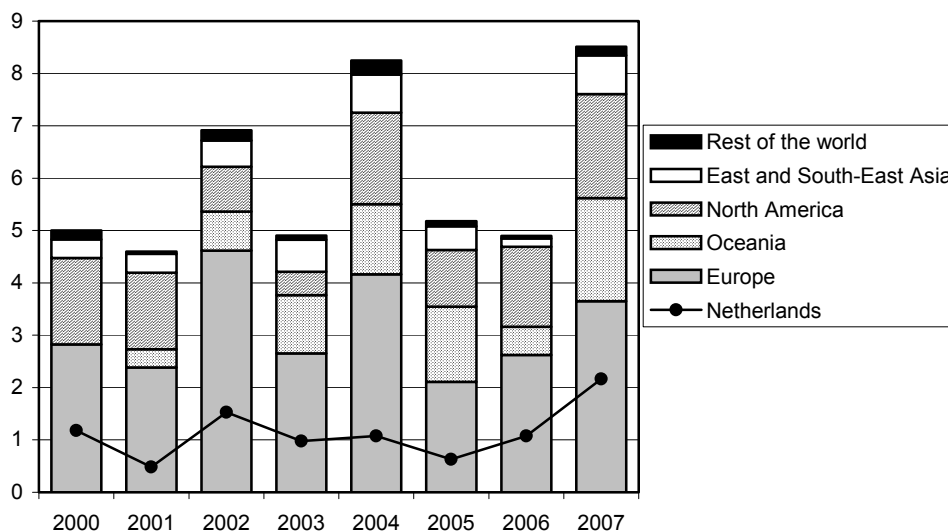
3. “Ecstasy”-type substances

84. In 2007 global seizures of ecstasy reached record levels, amounting to 8.5 tons – an increase of 73 per cent over the level in 2006. Europe, Oceania, North America and East and South-East Asia continued to account for more than 98 per cent of global “ecstasy” seizures. All of these registered significant increases in the transition from 2006 to 2007. See figure XII.

85. Seizures of “ecstasy” in Europe increased by more than one third in 2007, from 2.6 tons in 2006 to 3.6 tons. In spite of an even bigger increase in Oceania, Europe continued to account for the highest total “ecstasy” seizures among the five regions. The increase in the European total was mainly due to the contribution attributable to the subregion of West and Central Europe, which returned to 96 per cent of the European total in 2007, while declines were registered in East Europe and in South-East Europe.

Figure XII

Breakdown of “ecstasy” seizures worldwide, 2000-2007 (Ton equivalent)



86. In West and Central Europe, “ecstasy” seizures grew for the second consecutive year, amounting to 3.4 tons in 2007. Both in 2006 and 2007, the increase was driven mainly by the contribution of the Netherlands. In this country,

“ecstasy” seizures doubled in 2007, from 1.1 tons in 2006 to 2.2 tons – the highest amount ever reported by a single country for a single year.

87. According to official statistical bulletins issued by authorities in the United Kingdom, over the 2006/2007 financial year 6.6 million doses of “ecstasy”-type substances were seized in England and Wales,²⁸ 146,300 doses were seized in Scotland²⁹ and 2 kg of “ecstasy” powder and crystal and more than 118,000 “ecstasy” tablets and capsules were seized in Northern Ireland.³⁰ (The latest seizure data for the United Kingdom submitted through the Annual Reports Questionnaire refer to the year 2005.) However, some seizures made by the Serious Organised Crime Agency of the United Kingdom may not be included in these totals.

88. In 2007, “ecstasy” seizures remained essentially stable in France (136 kg), Germany (99 kg) and Spain (49 kg). Seizures rose markedly in several other countries in West and Central Europe, notably Poland (68 kg, up from 15 kg in 2006) and Italy (50 kg, up from 21 kg in 2006), as well as Ireland, Iceland, Latvia and Norway. Moderate increases were also registered by Belgium – from 48 kg in 2006 to 54 kg in 2007 – and by Hungary – from 39 kg in 2006 to 46 kg in 2007.

89. Among European countries not included in the subregion of West and Central Europe, in 2007 the largest “ecstasy” seizures were reported by Turkey and the Russian Federation. Seizures in Turkey fell for the second consecutive year, amounting to 110 kg, down from 159 kg in 2006 and 175 kg in 2005, while seizures in the Russian Federation remained essentially stable, amounting to 35 kg in 2007. Bulgaria registered a significant drop, from 80 kg in 2006 to 2 kg in 2007.

4. Precursor chemicals and pharmaceutical preparations used in the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants

90. The Russian Federation continued to report declining numbers of illicit laboratories manufacturing amphetamine in 2007, while the number of identified methamphetamine-producing laboratories remained high in the Czech Republic. In Australia, the number of detected ATS-related laboratories declined overall, but there was an increase in those producing MDMA – a substance which, in Australia, historically tended to originate from West and Central Europe. China and Indonesia both registered increased numbers of ATS-related clandestine laboratories.

91. According to the International Narcotics Control Board,³¹ 23 countries reported for 2007 seizures of ephedrine, for a total of 21.8 tons, and 15 countries reported seizures of pseudoephedrine, for a total of 25.3 tons. In particular France

²⁸ *Seizures of Drugs in England and Wales 2006/2007*, Home Office, Statistical Bulletin, ISSN 1358-510X.

²⁹ *Drug Seizures by Scottish Police Forces, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007*. Scottish government, Statistical Bulletin, Crime and Justice Series. ISBN 978 0 7559 7129 9 (Web only publication).

³⁰ Police Service Northern Ireland. PSNI Statistics: Annual Statistical Report. Statistical Report No. 4. *Drug seizures and arrests 1st April 2007 – 31st March 2008*.

³¹ *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2008 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988*.

seized 7 tons of pseudoephedrine. The customs authority of Germany seized a shipment of 535 kg of brown ephedra powder in transit from India and destined for Mexico.

92. The Board also reported³¹ that, in 2007, seizures of the chemical 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone (also known as piperonyl methyl ketone), which can be used in the manufacture of methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), continued to decline. The Board noted that the seized quantities were extremely low in comparison with global seizures of MDMA.
