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**Thirty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law
Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific**
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Item 3 of the provisional agenda*
**Major regional drug-trafficking trends and
countermeasures**

Statistics on drug trafficking trends in East, South-East and South Asia, Oceania and worldwide**

Summary

The present report provides an overview of global trends in illicit drug production and trafficking, with a specific focus on East, South-East and South Asia, and Oceania, collectively referred to as the Asia-Pacific region. The statistics and analysis are based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The report focuses on 2006, but includes information for 2007 and 2008, where data is available. The global cannabis market, which is the biggest illicit drug market, remains essentially stable. Cannabis seizures in the Asia-Pacific region remain small as a proportion of global seizures. However, in 2006 cannabis herb seizures in this region essentially sustained the increased 2005 levels, while cannabis resin seizures increased significantly. Cultivation and production of opium is increasingly concentrated in Afghanistan. Although in recent years opium cultivation declined in both Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, cultivation in Myanmar increased significantly in 2007. While heroin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region have decreased, significant increases were registered in opium and morphine seizures in this region. Globally, the cocaine market also remains relatively stable. Global cocaine seizures decreased slightly in 2006. In 2007 Colombia, Peru and Bolivia remained the main cultivators of coca bush, and estimated cultivation rose in all three countries, most notably in Colombia. While cocaine seizures remain concentrated in the Americas and Europe, cocaine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region more than doubled in 2006. Efforts over the last few years to contain the market for amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) appear to have been successful at the global level. Manufacture of ATS appears to have stabilized, albeit at high levels, in Oceania, although it is on the rise in several countries in East, South-East and South Asia. The Asia-Pacific region continues to account for more than half of global methamphetamine seizures, while regional seizures of drugs in the ecstasy group decreased in 2006.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report provides an overview of developments in the production and trafficking of the main illicit drugs worldwide, with a specific focus on East, South-East and South Asia, and Oceania. The term “Asia-Pacific region” refers to all of these regions collectively. Other countries and regions will be mentioned in the report when their markets substantially impact the global or regional trends.
2. The report addresses the illicit cultivation of coca bush, opium poppy and cannabis, and the production of opiates, cocaine, cannabis herb and cannabis resin. With regard to drug trafficking, the report focuses on seizure statistics for 2005, 2006 and (where available) 2007, and provides an update on trafficking trends in opiates, cannabis, cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants.¹
3. The aim of the report is to assist competent national authorities in their efforts to combat illicit drug production and trafficking more effectively, and to improve the coordination of counter-measures at the subregional and regional levels.
4. The report is based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at the time of writing. Information on the cultivation of illicit drug crops and the production of plant-based drugs has been drawn from the published results of the latest illicit crop monitoring surveys published by UNODC. Unless otherwise indicated, seizure statistics have been based on data provided by Governments to UNODC. The primary sources of information on drug seizures were the replies to the annual reports questionnaire, part III (Illicit supply of drugs). The replies for 2006 were submitted by 126 countries and territories worldwide, of which 18 are in the Asia-Pacific region.
5. Supplementary sources included reports on significant drug seizures, the analysis in the World Drug Report 2008 published by UNODC, and other reports received by UNODC or submitted to the Commission on Narcotics Drugs and its subsidiary bodies.
6. The trafficking trends described in the present report are mainly based on drug seizure data. 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 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, 2005-2006

A. Cannabis

7. 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. However, UNODC estimates that cannabis continues to dominate the world’s illicit drug

¹ Amphetamine-type stimulants, as defined by UNODC, consist of: (a) amphetamines (amphetamine, methamphetamine); (b) ecstasy (methylenedioxyamphetamine (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.

markets in terms of pervasiveness of cultivation, volume of production, and number of consumers.

8. UNODC estimates that cannabis is produced in 172 countries and territories, with the number of cannabis users worldwide in 2006 amounting to almost 166 million, or 3.9 per cent of the global population in the 15-64 age bracket. Oceania is the region with the highest annual prevalence rate for cannabis (14.5 per cent), followed by Africa (8.0 per cent), the Americas (6.9 per cent), Europe (5.3 per cent) and Asia (2.0 per cent).

9. The total area under cannabis cultivation in 2006 is 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 estimates cultivation in this country at 76,400 hectares in 2005, down from 134,000 hectares in 2003. On the other hand, 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 2007⁴. The figure for 2007 is equivalent to 36 per cent of the area under opium poppy cultivation in that country.

10. 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 that 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).

11. It is 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 is 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.

12. In Africa, cannabis herb production in 2006 is 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.

13. Cannabis herb production in Asia is estimated at around 6,700 tons. In South Asia, significant production occurs in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, while Indonesia and Thailand are the most prominent producers in East and South-East Asia.

14. Cannabis resin production is more geographically focused than the production of cannabis herb. In 2006, 39 per cent of global cannabis resin production is estimated to have occurred in Morocco and 32 per cent in Afghanistan. Estimates of global cannabis resin production indicate a decrease to 6,000 tons in 2006, from 6,600 tons in 2005 and 7,500 tons in 2004.

15. The decline in the 2004-2006 period was largely due to lower cannabis resin production in Morocco. However, in 2006 the country with the world's largest

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.

cannabis resin production continued to be Morocco, supplying the illicit markets of Western Europe and North Africa.

16. The countries most frequently cited in the annual reports questionnaire as the origin of cannabis resin were Morocco and the Netherlands. In the Asia-Pacific region, the most frequently cited countries were Nepal and India.

B. Opiates

17. There has been significant growth in the production of opiates in recent years. Globally, the total area under illicit opium poppy cultivation in 2007 was approximately 235,700 hectares, an increase of 17 per cent compared with 2006 (201,000 hectares).⁵ Global illicit opium production in 2007 was estimated at 8,870 tons, an increase of one third over the 2006 production (6,610 tons).

18. In 2007, Afghanistan was the most important opium-producing country, followed by Myanmar. In 2005, 2006 and 2007 illicit opium production became more highly concentrated in Afghanistan, which accounted for 93 per cent of global opium production in 2007, compared with levels of around 40 per cent at the beginning of the 1990s.

19. The annual Afghanistan Opium Survey for 2008 found that the total area under opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan declined to 157,000 hectares in 2008, down 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 followed increases for two consecutive years, which saw cultivation rise by 86 per cent from 2005 (104,000 hectares) to 2007.

20. The total eradication of opium poppy in Afghanistan amounted to 5,480 hectares in 2007, down from 19,047 hectares in 2008. Eradication in Hilmand province was estimated at 1,416 hectares in 2008, down from 4,003 hectares in 2007.

21. 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 tons in 2007 to 7,700 tons in 2008. The average yield increased from 42.5 kilograms per hectare in 2007 to 48.8 kilograms per hectare in 2008 (see Figure I).

22. Increasing amounts of opium have been processed into heroin within Afghanistan's borders in recent years. This is evidenced by reports from the Afghan authorities on the destruction of some 125 rudimentary heroin laboratories in 2004, 188 in 2005 and 269 in 2006. Production of heroin in 2008 is estimated at more than 600 tons.⁶

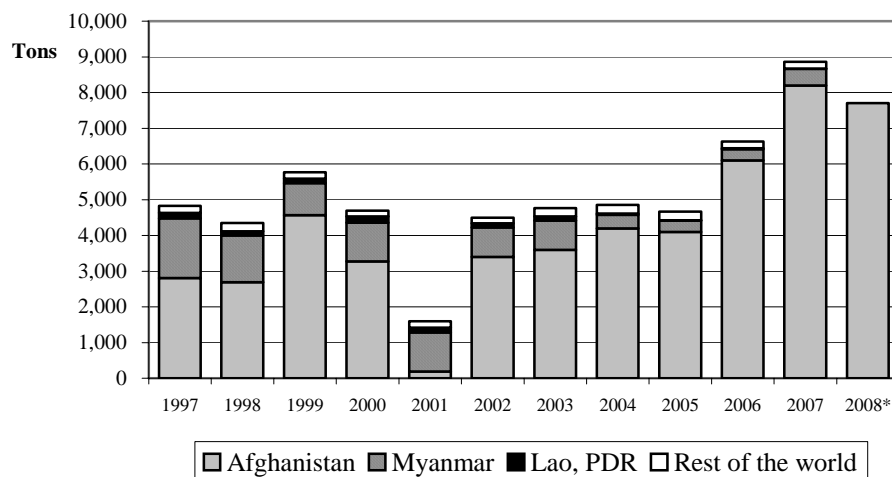
23. In South-East Asia, opium poppy cultivation has traditionally taken place mainly in Myanmar, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand. Cultivation in these countries tends to be on steep hills with poor soil and no irrigation facilities, resulting in lower yields than in Afghanistan. Thailand's crop monitoring system indicates that poppy cultivation in this country has been

⁵ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Afghanistan Opium Survey 2007* (October 2007).

⁶ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Afghanistan Opium Survey 2008, Executive Summary*.

negligible for some years. Eradication data from the Government of Viet Nam indicates that cultivation in this country is also negligible.

Figure I
Global illicit opium production, 1997-2008



* Data for 2008 is available for Afghanistan only

24. In Myanmar, opium cultivation decreased from 130,300 hectares in 1998 to 27,700 hectares in 2007. However, the figure for 2007 represents a 29 per cent increase on that for 2006, following decreases for six consecutive years. Moreover, the average yield increased from 14.6 kilograms per hectare in 2006 to 16.6 kilograms per hectare in 2007, so that the estimated production of opium increased by 46 per cent, from 315 tons to 460 tons.

25. Cultivation in Myanmar is concentrated in the Shan, Kachin and Kayah States. In 2007, opium cultivation only in Shan State amounted to 25,390 hectares (92 per cent of the total in Myanmar), of which 18,000 hectares were in South Shan State. There is evidence that double cropping, irrigation and fertilization are resulting in higher yields in this state than in other parts of the country.

26. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, cultivation decreased from 26,800 hectares in 1998 to 2,500 hectares in 2006, and further in 2007, to 1,500 hectares. The average yield also declined, and the estimated opium production in 2007 was 9.2 tons, down from 20 tons in 2006 (a 54 per cent decrease). Opium cultivation in the Lao People's Democratic Republic is concentrated in the five northernmost provinces.

27. The number of opiate users worldwide in 2006 is estimated at 16.5 million people, of whom more than half (9.3 million) live in Asia. The global annual prevalence rate of 0.4 per cent of the population in the 15-64 age bracket has been stable since the late 1990s. High rates are reported by Iran (2.8 per cent) and Afghanistan (1.4 per cent).

C. Coca

28. In recent years the global cocaine market has shown signs of stability, but significant changes have occurred over the 2006-2007 period. Colombia, Peru and Bolivia remain the main cultivators of coca bush. In 2007, the total area in these three countries estimated to be under coca bush cultivation 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.

29. The increase in coca bush cultivation was mainly due to a 27 per cent increase in Colombia, where the estimated area under cultivation increased from 78,000 hectares in 2006 to 99,000 hectares in 2007. Smaller increases were registered in Peru (from 51,400 hectares to 53,700 hectares, a 4 per cent increase) and Bolivia (from 27,500 hectares to 28,900 hectares, a 5 per cent increase).

30. 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).

31. Although coca cultivation increased, the estimated manufacture of cocaine in 2007 remained essentially unchanged from 2006 levels. This is mainly due to an apparent shift in cultivation from high- to low-yielding areas. The total amount of cocaine manufactured 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.

32. Colombia reported the eradication of 219,939 hectares of coca bush in 2007, of which 66,805 hectares were destroyed manually and 153,134 hectares by means of spraying. Bolivia reported the eradication of 6,269 hectares of coca bush, Peru 12,072 hectares and Ecuador 36 hectares.

33. Governments reported the destruction of 6,390 clandestine coca-processing laboratories in 2006, up from 5,901 in 2005. Over 99 per cent of all clandestine laboratories dismantled in 2006 were in Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, supporting the thesis that virtually the complete cocaine manufacture chain, from coca paste to cocaine base and finally cocaine hydrochloride (HCl), is located close to the cultivation areas in the three countries.

34. There are few reports of laboratories producing cocaine in countries other than Colombia, Peru and Bolivia. The exceptions are Spain (10 laboratories reported in 2006), the United States (4), Chile (2) and South Africa (1). The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China also reported the destruction of five kitchen laboratories producing “crack”.

35. In addition to being the country with the largest cocaine production, in 2006 Colombia also made the largest seizures (99 tons) of potassium permanganate, a precursor chemical necessary for the production of cocaine hydrochloride. Fifteen clandestine laboratories manufacturing this precursor were destroyed in the country. Smaller amounts of potassium permanganate were seized in Peru and Ecuador.

36. An estimated 16 million people, or 0.37 per cent of the global population aged 15-64, used cocaine in 2006. The region of the Americas has the highest estimated prevalence rate (1.74 per cent), followed by Oceania (1.37 per cent), Europe (0.73 per cent), Africa (0.22 per cent) and Asia (0.01 per cent).

III. Trends in illicit drug trafficking

37. Table 1 shows the reported quantities of seized drugs for selected drug types in 2005 and 2006. Total seizures in the Asia-Pacific region 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 this region can be used as an indicator of the relative scale of drug trafficking across different drug types. This indicator points to methamphetamine, ecstasy, heroin and methaqualone as the drugs of most concern in this region. Significant increases in seizure quantities in the Asia-Pacific region were registered in the cases of opium, morphine, cocaine, cannabis resin and methaqualone.

Table 1
Global and regional drug seizures, 2005 and 2006

	2005			2006		
	Regional (Kilograms)	Global (Kilograms)	Percentage	Regional (Kilograms)	Global (Kilograms)	Percentage
Cannabis						
Cannabis herb	213 274	4 667 496	4.6	202 062	5 229 695	3.9
Cannabis resin	4 436	1 269 506	0.3	6 404	1 024 829	0.6
Coca						
Cocaine*	384	743 313	0.1	922	705 357	0.1
Opiates						
Opium**	5 197	342 269	1.5	13 457	383 857	3.5
Morphine	244	32 008	0.8	1 580	46 391	3.4
Heroin	12 827	58 419	22.0	8 189	57 600	14.2
ATS						
Amphetamine	5 349	21 421	25.0	51	19 181	0.3
Methamphetamine	10 767	17 010	63.3	9 975	15 742	63.4
"Ecstasy"	1 895	5 132	36.9	694	4 511	15.4
Depressants						
Methaqualone	472	631	74.8	4 521	5 294	85.4

* Base and salts

** Raw opium and prepared opium

A. Cannabis

1. Cannabis herb

38. Global cannabis herb seizures peaked at 7,152 tons in 2004, dropped by 35 per cent in 2005 (4,674 tons) and increased by 12 per cent in 2006 (5,230 tons), while remaining significantly below the 2004 level.

39. In 2006, the largest cannabis herb seizures worldwide were reported by Mexico (1,893 tons, or 36 per cent of global cannabis herb seizures), the United States (1,139 tons, or 22 per cent of global seizures), South Africa (359 tons, or 7 per cent) and Malawi (272 tons, or 5 per cent).

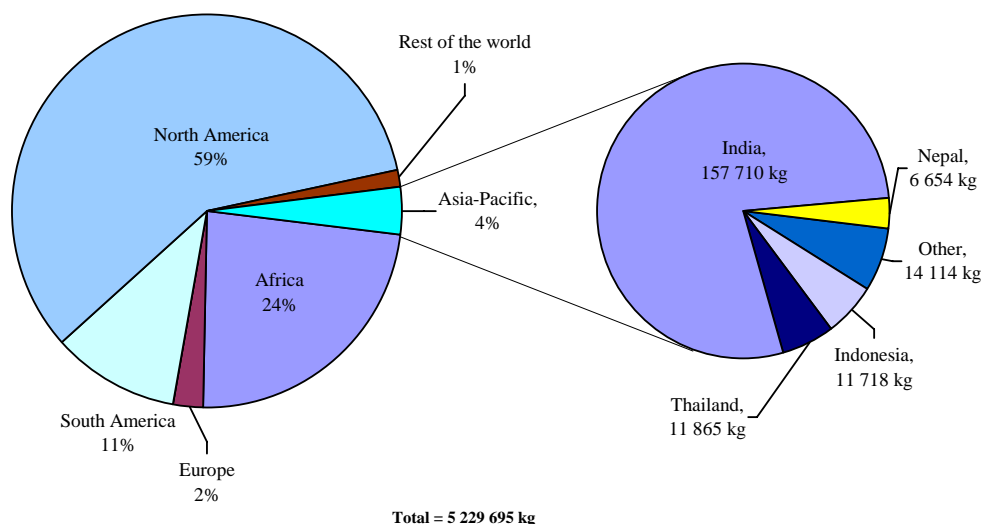
40. Since 1998, the Asia-Pacific region has consistently accounted for less than 5 per cent of global annual cannabis herb interdiction. Seizures in this region increased significantly in 2004, and again in 2005, to 213 tons. In 2006 seizures declined by 5 per cent, to 202 tons, but remained higher than seizures in the entire 1998-2004 period (see Figure II).

41. India has accounted for two thirds of the total cannabis herb seizures in the entire Asia-Pacific region over the period 2000-2006, and for 78 per cent in 2006 in particular. Seizures in this country have increased for three consecutive years, from 80 tons in 2003 to almost double that quantity in 2006 (158 tons). However the increase in 2006 was only marginal (3 per cent up on 2005 levels).

Figure II

Distribution of global and regional cannabis herb seizures in 2006

(kg = kilograms)



42. Thailand registered the second-highest level of cannabis herb interdiction in the Asia-Pacific region in 2006. Cannabis herb seizures in this country dipped to 7.1 tons in 2004 – the lowest since 1998 – but rose back to 12.5 tons in 2005. The figure for 2006 – 11.9 tons – represented a 5 per cent drop compared to 2005 levels, but in 2007 seizures rose again by 30 per cent (15.4 tons).

43. In Indonesia, cannabis herb seizures dropped to 11.7 tons in 2006, approximately half the level in 2005 (22.8 tons). However, the decline was more than reversed in 2007, when seizures amounted to 31.9 tons. Seizures in this country have fluctuated considerably in recent years. They amounted to 14 per cent of the total cannabis herb seizures in the entire Asia-Pacific region over the period 2000-2006, and, in particular., 6 per cent in 2006

44. Nepal reported cannabis herb seizures of 6.7 tons in 2006, and 8.1 tons in 2007 (a 22 per cent increase). Interdiction in Australia dropped for three consecutive years, from 6.0 tons in 2003 to 2.1 tons in 2006 (a 65 per cent decrease over a period of three years). The Philippines reported a decrease in cannabis herb seizures from 4.8 tons in 2005 to 1.2 tons in 2007. The Philippines also reported to the Drug Abuse Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (DAINAP) seizures of 6.2 tons of cannabis herb in 2006.

2. Cannabis resin

45. Global cannabis resin seizures peaked in 2004 (1,471 tons), and decreased by 14 per cent in 2005 (1,270 tons) and again by 20 per cent in 2006 (1,025 tons). Cannabis resin seizures continue to be reported predominantly by countries and

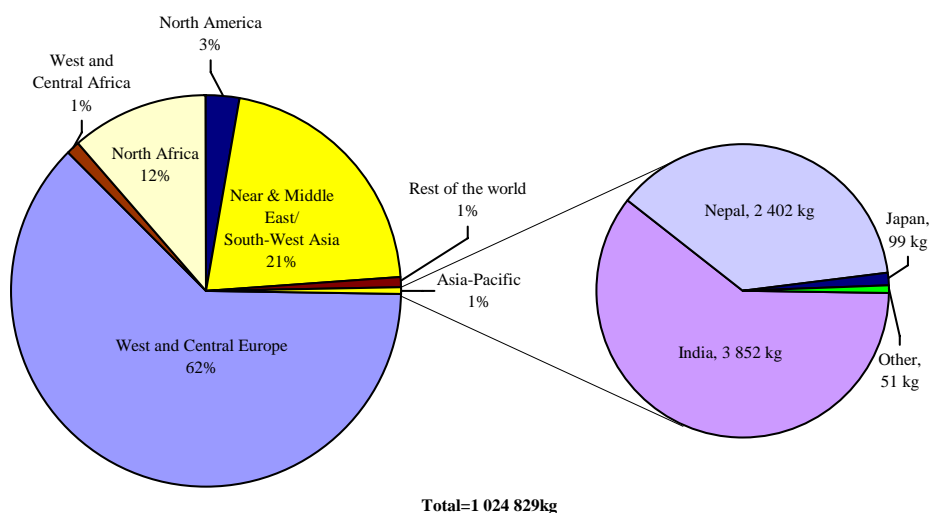
territories in Europe (71 per cent of global seizures in 2005 and 62 per cent in 2006) (see Figure III).

46. In 2006, the largest cannabis resin seizures worldwide were reported by Spain (459 tons, or 45 per cent of global seizures), Pakistan (115 tons, or 11 per cent), Morocco (88 tons, or 9 per cent), France (68 tons, or 7 per cent), Iran (59 tons, or 6 per cent), the United Kingdom (49 tons, or 5 per cent) and Afghanistan (37 tons, or 4 per cent).

Figure III

Distribution of global and regional cannabis resin seizures in 2006

(kg=kilograms)



47. Since 2003, cannabis resin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region have stayed below 1 per cent of the global total (see Figure III). However, seizures in this region went up from 4.4 tons in 2005 to 6.4 tons in 2006. This corresponds to a 44 per cent increase, even as global seizures decreased by 19 per cent over the same period.

48. Since 2003, India has consistently accounted for more than half of cannabis resin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region. Seizures peaked at 4.6 tons in 2004, but declined to 4.0 tons in 2005 (a 14 per cent decrease) and remained essentially stable in 2006 (3.9 tons, a 3 per cent decrease on 2005).

49. Nepal reported seizures of 2.4 tons in 2006, and 2.1 tons in 2007. Seizures in Japan have fallen steadily, from 327 kilograms in 2004 to 99 kilograms in 2006, and further to 56.9 kilograms in 2007.

B. Opiates

50. Trafficking in opiates continued along three major routes, reflecting three major production centres supplying three distinct markets. One route is 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 is 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.

51. The bulk of global opiate seizures takes place in the countries surrounding Afghanistan. UNODC estimates suggest that most opiates leave Afghanistan through Iran, Pakistan and Central Asia. In addition to the first trafficking route mentioned above, originating in Afghanistan, new distribution patterns are developing, whereby Afghanistan is also supplying the market in China via Pakistan and Central Asia, partially offsetting the decline in heroin from Myanmar into China.

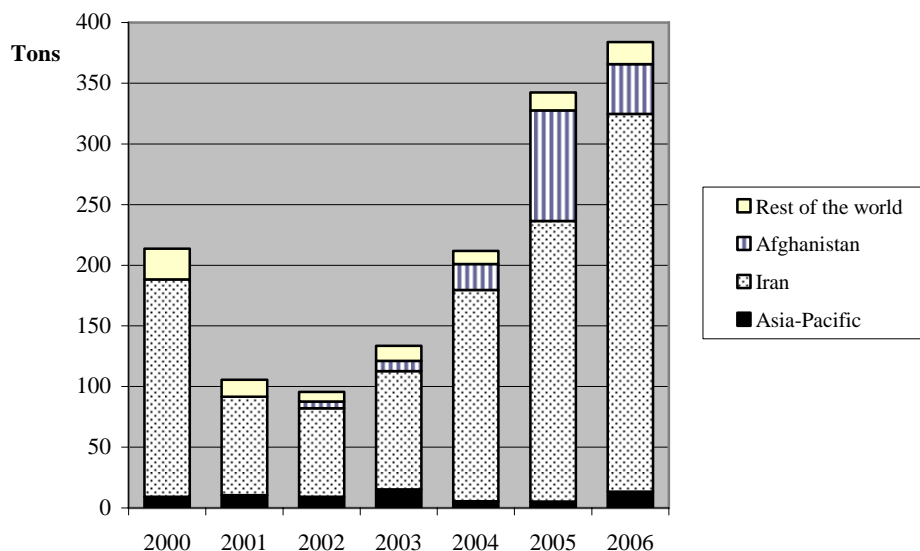
1. Opium

52. Global opium seizures have increased steadily from 96 tons in 2002 to 384 tons in 2006, a four-fold increase over a period of four years. The figure for 2006 represents a 12 per cent increase on a year earlier (342 tons). Opium seizures in 2006 were concentrated in Iran (311 tons) and Afghanistan (41 tons). Since 2004, these two countries together have accounted for more than 90 per cent of global opium seizures, and 92 per cent in 2006 in particular (see Table 2 and Figure IV).

Table 2
Distribution of opium seizures worldwide, 2000-2006
(Kilograms)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Afghanistan			5 582	8 412	21 446	90 990	40 959
Iran	179 053	81 061	72 856	97 575	174 091	231 352	311 306
Asia-Pacific	9 259	10 624	9 273	15 149	5 482	5 197	13 457
Rest of the world	25 180	13 994	7 993	12 343	10 718	14 730	18 135

Figure IV
Distribution of opium seizures worldwide, 2000-2006



53. Since 1996, Iran has accounted for more than two thirds of global opium seizures. Interdiction in Iran has risen for four consecutive years, setting the trend for global interdiction. In fact, seizures increased from 73 tons in 2002 to 311 tons in 2006. The figure for 2006 represents a 35 per cent increase over the level in 2005, and 81 per cent of the global total for 2006.

54. Starting in 2002, opium seizures in Afghanistan rose sharply, from 5.6 tons in 2002 to 91 tons in 2005. However, in contrast with seizures in Iran, seizures in Afghanistan fell to 41 tons in 2006. As a percentage of the global total, Afghanistan's seizures fell from 27 per cent in 2005 to 11 per cent in 2006.

55. Opium seizures in the Asia-Pacific region reached 15 tons in 2003, declined to 5 tons in 2004 and 2005, and rose back to 13 tons in 2006 (3.5 per cent of the global total for that year). The increase in 2006 was mainly due to a spike in interdiction figures for Myanmar, where seizures rose from 900 kilograms in 2005 to 8.4 tons in 2006. In 2007 opium seizures in this country dropped back to 1.3 tons.

56. In 2006 India reported the second-largest opium seizures in the Asia-Pacific region (after Myanmar). The reported seizures of 2.8 tons represent a 41 per cent increase on the level in 2005, and the largest opium seizures for this country since 1998.

57. Seizures in China more than doubled from 2004 (890 kilograms) to 2005 (2.1 tons), but then fell in 2006, to 1.7 tons, and again in 2007, to 1.2 tons. Seizures in Thailand fell from 245 kilograms in 2006 to 140 kilograms in 2007 – levels which are notably lower than the peak level of 2003 (10 tons). Viet Nam reported opium seizures of 63 kilograms in 2007; Viet Nam reported to the Drug Abuse Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (DAINAP) that, in 2006, opium seizures amounted to 184 kilograms.

2. Morphine

58. Global morphine seizures rose from 32 tons in 2005 to 46 tons in 2006, an increase of 45 per cent. This cancelled out the previous declines in 2004 and 2005. Morphine seizures in 2006 were concentrated in Pakistan (33 tons) and Iran (11 tons). Since 2003, these two countries together have accounted for more than 87 per cent of global morphine seizures, and 93 per cent in 2006 in particular. This suggests that important amounts of heroin are produced outside Afghanistan, as morphine does not have a large user base.

59. Morphine seizures in Pakistan increased 15 times from 2001 (1.8 tons) to 2003 (27.8 tons), overtaking seizure quantities in Iran, and since then have accounted for more than half of morphine seizures worldwide (up till 2006). Seizures rose to 33 tons in 2006, from 22 tons in 2005 (a 47 per cent increase). The figure for 2006 represents 70 per cent of the global total. However, Pakistan has reported seizures of 11 tons in 2007, roughly comparable to the level before 2003.

60. From 2003 to 2005, the Asia-Pacific region accounted for less than 1 per cent of global morphine seizures. However, seizures in this region rose from 244 kg in 2005 to 1.6 tons in 2006 (3.4 per cent of the global total for 2006). This increase was mainly due to reported seizures of 1.4 tons in Myanmar, up from 43 kilograms in 2005. In 2007 seizures in Myanmar dropped but remained high, amounting to 1.1 tons.

61. Significant morphine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region were also reported by China. These increased from 149 kg in 2005 to 174 kg in 2006, and fell slightly in 2007, to 166 kg. Seizures in India have fallen for three consecutive years, from 109 kg in 2003 to 36 kg in 2006.

3. Heroin

62. Unlike opium and morphine, global heroin seizures remained essentially stable between 2004 and 2006. Seizures fell from 60.9 tons in 2004 to 58.4 tons in 2005 and again to 57.6 tons in 2006 – a 4 per cent decrease over a period of 2 years.

63. The distribution of global heroin seizures is also less concentrated than those of opium and morphine. In 2006 the largest seizures worldwide were in Iran (10.6 tons) and Turkey (10.3 tons). However, these two countries together only accounted for 36 per cent of global interdiction for 2006. Other large seizures in 2006 were reported by China (5.8 tons), Afghanistan (4.1 tons), Pakistan (2.8 tons), the Russian Federation (2.4 tons) and Tajikistan (2.1 tons).

64. The share of global heroin seizures attributable to the Asia-Pacific region fell from around one fourth in the period 2002-2004 to 14 per cent in 2006. In gross amounts, total heroin seizures for the region fell in 2005, to 12.8 tons (from 15.0 tons in 2004, a 15 per cent decrease), and again in 2006, to 8.2 tons (a further 36 per cent decrease).

65. Since 2002, China has accounted for roughly 70 per cent of annual heroin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region (see Table 3 and Figure V). Heroin seizures in China decreased three years in succession, from 10.8 tons in 2004 to 4.6 tons in 2007. There are indications that Pakistan is increasingly serving as a transit point for heroin trafficked from Afghanistan to China. Pakistani authorities reported 137 seizures of heroin destined for China in 2006, up from 20 in 2005 and 2 in 2004, while Chinese authorities reported 18 seizures involving heroin trafficked into China via Pakistan, up from 8 in 2005 and none in 2004.

Table 3

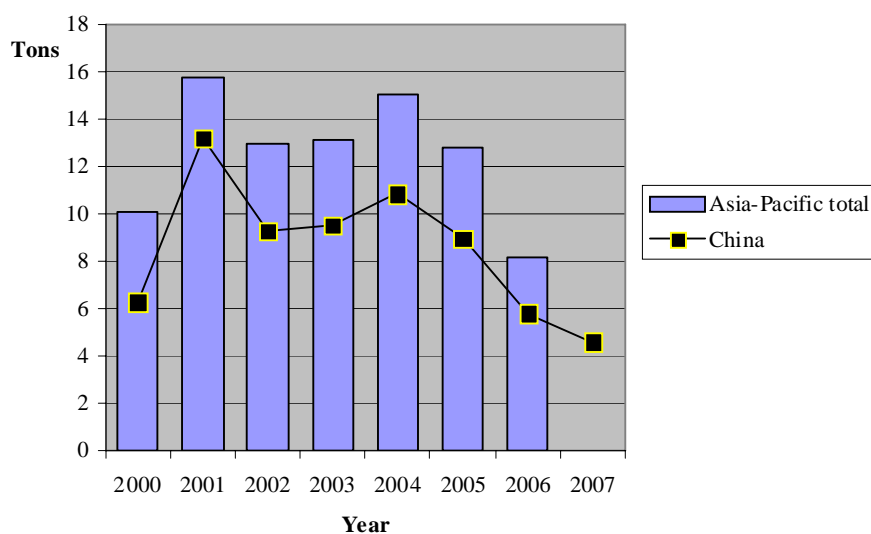
Heroin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, 2000-2007 (Kilograms)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007*
Asia-Pacific total	10 046	15 747	12 972	13 109	15 025	12 827	8 189	
China	6 281	13 200	9 291	9 530	10 836	8 937	5 800	4 593

*Data for 2007 is incomplete at the time of writing

Figure V

Heroin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, 2000-2007



66. Heroin seizures in India have fluctuated around 1 ton since 2001. In contrast with the general trend in the Asia-Pacific region, in 2006, heroin seizures in India rose by 20 per cent, to 1182 kg (from 981 kg in 2005). The figure for 2006 is the highest since 2001, and represents the second-highest level in the Asia-Pacific region in 2006.

67. Apart from China, notable decreases in heroin seizures were registered in Myanmar and Thailand. Seizures in Myanmar amounted to 192 kg in 2006, a quarter of the level in 2005 (811 kg). In 2007 seizures in this country fell further, to 68 kg (one third of the level in 2006). Seizures in Thailand peaked at 951 kg in 2005, fell drastically to 91 kg in 2006, but rose in 2007, to 293 kg. The level in 2007 is still significantly below the levels in the period 2001-2005.

68. In 2006, heroin seizures also dropped in Australia – from 152 kg in 2005 to 67 kg – and Malaysia – from 222 kg in 2005 to 156 kg. However, seizures in Malaysia rose back to 222 kg in 2007. Viet Nam reported heroin seizures of 160 kilograms in 2007; for 2006 Viet Nam reported to DAINAP heroin seizures amounting to 277 kilograms.

69. Improvements in precursor control have contributed to the stabilization of global heroin seizures. The international rescheduling of acetic anhydride, the key precursor for heroin manufacture, from Table II to Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988⁷ has tightened international control. Also, various international cooperation efforts (such as Project Cohesion and Operation Trans-shipment) may have raised awareness in the commercial sector, reducing the readiness of companies to provide huge quantities of acetic anhydride to unknown and suspicious customers.

C. Cocaine

70. Following increases for four consecutive years (2002-2005), in 2006, the global interdiction of cocaine fell to 705 tons, from 743 tons in 2005 (a 5 per cent decrease). While the Americas together accounted for 80 per cent of global seizures, this percentage is the lowest since 1980. The share attributable to Europe increased from 14 to 17 per cent, while reported seizures in Africa exceeded 1 per cent for the first time. Europe and the Americas together continued to account for more than 97 per cent of global seizures.

71. In 2006, the largest cocaine seizures worldwide were reported by Colombia (181.3 tons, or 25.7 per cent of global seizures for that year), the United States of America (147.0 tons, or 20.8 per cent), Spain (49.7 tons, or 7.0 per cent), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (38.9 tons, or 5.5 per cent) and Portugal (34.5 tons, or 4.9 per cent). For the year 2007, Colombia reported seizures of 195.4 tons (an 8 per cent increase over 2006), and the United States reported seizures of 147.8 tons (roughly stable at the 2006 level). Interdiction in Spain and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela fell by 24 and 18 per cent, to 37.8 and 31.8 tons, respectively.

72. The world's main cocaine trafficking routes continue to run from the Andean region, notably Colombia, to the North American market. Mexico is the main transit country of cocaine shipments into North America, but it appears that efforts by Mexican authorities to counter drug trafficking are being effective. Cocaine seizures

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

in Mexico rose from 21.3 tons in 2006 to more than double that amount in 2007 – 48.2 tons - while cocaine seizures by authorities in the United States along the border with Mexico declined by 20 per cent over the first half of 2007 on a year earlier. Mexico also reported that, in 2006 and 2007, 90 per cent of seized cocaine was destined for the United States.

73. The other major market for cocaine is Europe, which is also supplied by production in South America, either directly or via Africa. Based on significant individual drug seizures reported to UNODC with a specified country of origin, 36 per cent (by mass) of cocaine seizures intercepted in Europe in 2006 could be traced back to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, followed by Colombia (17 per cent), the Dominican Republic (5 per cent), Brazil, Ecuador, Argentina and Peru (3 per cent each). The tentative ranking for 2007 starts again with the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (44 per cent), followed by Panama (11 per cent), Colombia (5 per cent), the Dominican Republic (4 per cent) and Peru (4 per cent).

74. Since 1980, the Asia-Pacific region has accounted for less than 0.5 per cent of annual global cocaine seizures. Cocaine seizures in this region were roughly stable at 400 kg in the period 2003-2005, but in 2006 rose to 922 kg, almost three times the level in 2005 (384 kg) and the highest level since 2001. This was mainly due to increases in India, Australia and China (see Table 4 and Figure VI).

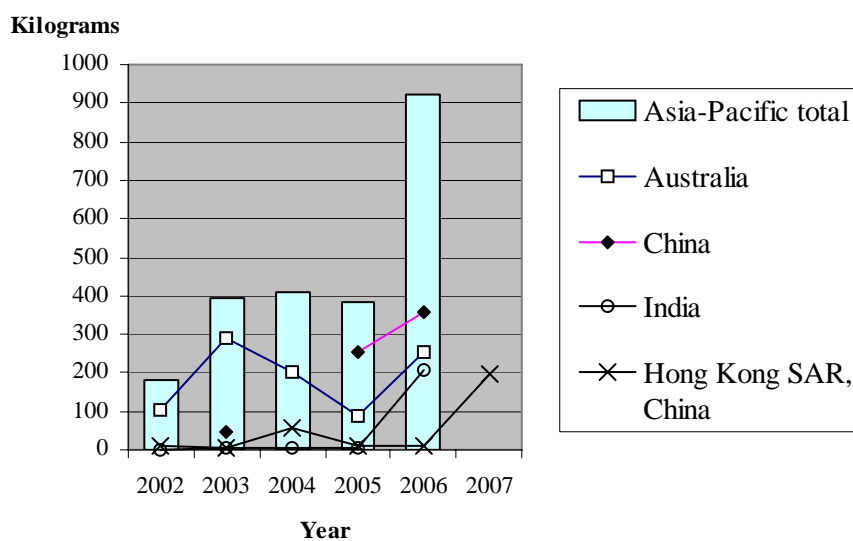
Table 4
Cocaine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, 2002-2007
(Kilograms)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007*
Australia	105.9	288.2	202.0	87.5	251.6	
China		45.0		255.8	358.2 ^a	
Hong Kong SAR, China	8.3	6.6	55.5	11.6	12.6	198.2
India	2.0	3.0	6.0	4.0	206.0	
Asia-Pacific total	179.7	395.5	411.4	383.6	922.4	

^aDAINAP

* Data for 2007 is incomplete at the time of writing

Figure VI
Cocaine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, 2002-2007



75. India reported cocaine seizures amounting to 206 kilograms in 2006. In contrast, India reported 4 kilograms seized in 2005 and an average of 3.4 kilograms over the period 2001-2005. Smuggling of cocaine into India is apparently organized by international drug trafficking syndicates, mostly involving West African traffickers who exchange South American cocaine for South-West Asian heroin destined for illicit markets in Europe or North America. India appears to have become both a destination and a transit point for cocaine trafficking.⁸

76. China reported cocaine seizures amounting to 256 kg in 2005, but no cocaine seizures in the annual report questionnaires for 2006 and 2007. However, China reported to DAINAP cocaine seizures of 359 kg in 2006. Moreover, the Hong Kong SAR of China reported seizures of 198 kg of cocaine in 2007, up from 13 kg in 2007.

77. Cocaine seizures in Australia fell to 88 kg in 2005, from 202 kg in 2004, but rose back to 252 kg in 2006. Data from the Australian Crime Commission⁹, although not directly comparable with these figures, indicates that the increasing trend in cocaine seizures in Australia continued into 2007. Cocaine seizures in New Zealand followed the same pattern in the period 2004-2006, dropping from 18 kg in 2004 to 8 kg in 2005, and then rising to 33 kg in 2007 – the highest ever in this country.

78. Cocaine seizures in Thailand rose to 36 kg in 2006, six times the level in 2006 (6 kg). In 2007 cocaine seizures fell to 19 kg; however this level is still significantly higher than the recent seizure quantities prior to 2006, which averaged 8 kg over the period 2003-2005.

D. Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS)¹⁰

79. The global ATS market continues to show signs of overall stabilization. Measures to curtail the availability of precursors, as well as prevention programmes aimed at raising risk awareness, appear to be meeting with some success. However, it seems that manufacturers are circumventing controls by substituting controlled precursors with those outside international control, such as pharmaceutical preparations, natural ephedra plant extracts, and uncontrolled chemicals.

80. Global production estimates remain largely unchanged since 2000, with a mid-point estimate of 494 tons for the year 2006. Trends indicate that production may be increasing somewhat for the amphetamines group (including amphetamine and methamphetamine) and decreasing for the ecstasy group. Production is concentrated in North America, East and South-East Asia, Europe, Oceania and Southern Africa.

81. In Oceania, production of ATS grew significantly over the period 2001-2003, and appears to have stabilized at these high levels. The estimated annual prevalence rate in Oceania among the population in the 15-64 age bracket is 2.14 per cent in the case of amphetamines, and 3.21 per cent in the case of ecstasy. In contrast, the corresponding global rates are 0.58 and 0.21 per cent respectively. While most ecstasy originates outside Oceania, a significant number of clandestine laboratories

⁸ International Narcotics Control Board, Annual Report 2007.

⁹ Australian Crime Commission, *Illicit Drug Data Report 2006-07*.

¹⁰ For the purposes of ATS seizure statistics, one pill of amphetamine/methamphetamine is assumed to contain 30 milligrams of active ingredient, and one pill of ecstasy is assumed to contain 100 milligrams of active ingredient.

in Oceania producing illicit methamphetamine are dismantled annually (204 in 2005 and 211 in 2006).

82. Significant production of methamphetamine occurs in East and South-East Asia. Although the numbers of seized methamphetamine-producing laboratories are small by comparison with other regions (49 in 2005 and 66 in 2006), these laboratories are often large-scale facilities capable of industrial-scale manufacture. In 2007, larger numbers of laboratory seizures were registered in China, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, as well as the first large-scale manufacture confirmed in Cambodia.¹¹

1. Amphetamine

83. Globally, seizures of amphetamine peaked at 21.4 tons in 2005, and fell to 19.2 tons in 2006 (a 10 per cent decrease). Since 2000, Europe and Asia together have accounted for more than 95 per cent of global annual amphetamine seizures. Over the 2000-2006 period, seizures in Europe roughly doubled (from 2.9 tons in 2000 to 6.3 tons in 2006), but seizures in Asia grew at a much faster rate, from just 91 kilograms in 2000 to 12.8 tons in 2006. Thus the majority of amphetamine seizures has shifted from Europe (33 per cent in 2006, down from 93 per cent in 2000) to Asia (67 per cent in 2006, up from 3 per cent in 2000).

84. In spite of the increase in amphetamine seizures in Asia, in 2006 the Asia-Pacific region (East, South-East and South Asia, and Oceania) accounted for amphetamine seizures amounting to only 51 kg, or 0.3 per cent of the global total. With the single exception of 2005, the share of global seizures attributable to this region has stayed below 3 per cent of the global total. In 2005, seizures amounted to 5.3 tons, or 25.0 per cent of global seizures.

85. The spike in regional amphetamine seizures in 2005 was largely due to seizures of 2.8 metric tons reported by China, the first instance of amphetamine seizures reported by this country. China reported no amphetamine seizures in 2006, and seizures amounting to 50.5 kg in 2007. Although still small in comparison with the level in 2006, this is roughly equal to the total for the entire Asia-Pacific region in 2006.

86. In 2006, the largest level of amphetamine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region was reported by Australia – 30 kg. However, this represented an 82 per cent drop on the level in 2005 – 166 kg. On the other hand, the second-largest seizures in this region, reported by Malaysia (20.6 kg), represented a more than six-fold increase on the level in 2005 (3.3 kg). The sharp rise in amphetamine seizures in this country continued into 2007, with seizures amounting to 98 kg – a further increase of almost five times.

2. Methamphetamine

87. Globally, methamphetamine seizures decreased slightly, from 17.1 metric tons in 2005 to 15.8 metric tons in 2006 (an 8 per cent decrease). Since 2000, the Asia-Pacific region and North America together have accounted for more than 97 per cent of global annual methamphetamine seizures. However, the share attributable to the Asia-Pacific region fell from 98 per cent (35 tons) in 2000 to 63 per cent (10 tons)

¹¹ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Amphetamines and ecstasy, 2008 Global ATS Assessment*.

in 2006, while that attributable to North America rose from 2 per cent (661 kg) in 2000 to 34 per cent (5.4 tons) in 2006.

88. In 2006, the largest methamphetamine seizures worldwide were reported by China (38.6 per cent of global seizures), the United States (28.9 per cent), Indonesia (7.9 per cent), the Philippines (4.9 per cent), Mexico (4.8 per cent), Myanmar (3.7 per cent) and Thailand (3.2 per cent).

89. In 2005 and 2006, China accounted for more than half of methamphetamine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region – 6.8 tons in 2005 and 6.1 tons in 2006. These levels were sustained into 2007, with China reporting amphetamine seizures amounting to 6.1 tons (see Table 5 and Figure VII). Methamphetamine is trafficked into Yunnan province, China, from Myanmar, and on to the Guangxi, Guangdong and Fujian provinces, as well as the Hong Kong SAR of China, for export to Taiwan, Province of China, Japan, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Table 5

Methamphetamine seizures, Asia-Pacific region and worldwide, 2002-2007

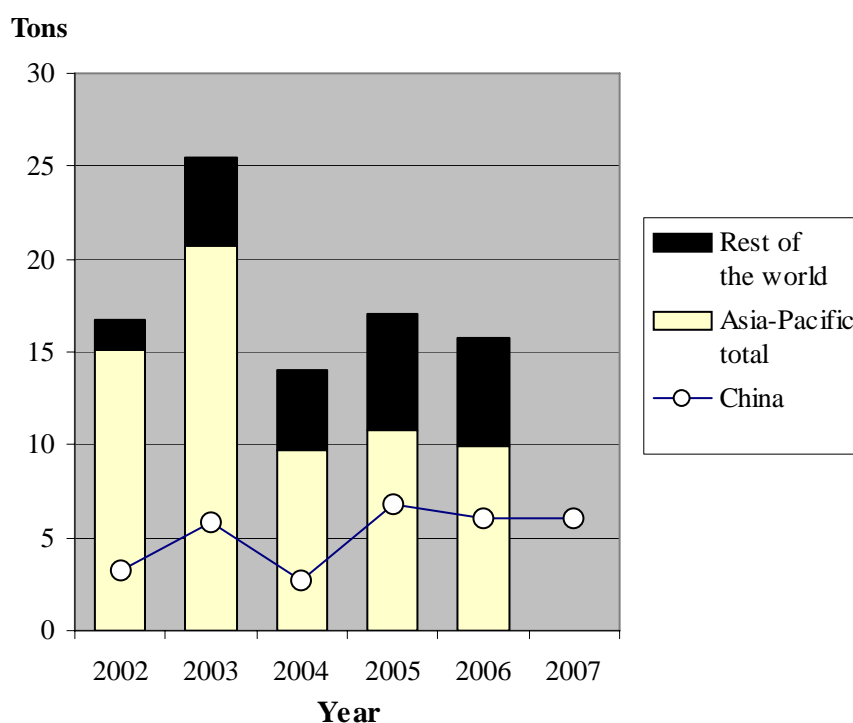
(Kilograms)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007*
China	3 190	5 830	2 746	6 757	6 074	6 092
Asia-Pacific total	15 109	20 766	9 741	10 767	9 975	
Global total	16 771	25 519	14 019	17 010	15 742	

*Data for 2007 is incomplete at the time of writing

Figure VII

Methamphetamine seizures, Asia-Pacific region and worldwide, 2002-2007



90. In Indonesia, methamphetamine seizures amounted to 1.2 tons in 2006, and again in 2007. The figure for 2006 was the second-highest among the countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and represents a remarkable increase over the levels in 2003 and 2004 (23 kg and 28 kg respectively).

91. In the Philippines, methamphetamine seizures reached 3.1 tons in 2003, declined to 104 kg by 2005, rose to 767 kg in 2006 and then fell to 369 kg in 2007. Crystal methamphetamine (“shabu”) continues to be produced, trafficked and consumed in this country. In 2006, four clandestine laboratories and three chemical warehouses were discovered. Preliminary reports indicate that nine laboratories and 13 chemical warehouses were discovered in 2007. Methamphetamine is trafficked from the Philippines to the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, Taiwan, Province of China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Canada.

92. Methamphetamine seizures in Myanmar declined to 155 grams in 2004, but climbed back to 575 kg by 2006. Myanmar reported methamphetamine seizures amounting to 53 kg (tablets and “ice”) in the replies to the annual reports questionnaire for 2007, but it also reported to DAINAP methamphetamine seizures amounting to 667 kg for the same year. It appears that manufacture of methamphetamine is increasing in Myanmar, with eight methamphetamine laboratories detected in 2006. Most manufacture is concentrated in the eastern and northern parts of the Shan state and the Wa region. Methamphetamine from this area is smuggled into neighbouring China and Thailand.

93. Thailand accounted for more than half of methamphetamine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region in 2002. Annual methamphetamine seizures in this country then fell steadily, from 8.6 tons in 2002 to 507 kg in 2006. However, in 2007 seizures rose to 1.3 tons. Methamphetamine is trafficked into Thailand from Myanmar, not only directly but also via the Lao People’s Democratic Republic or Cambodia. Methamphetamine is also trafficked from Thailand to Malaysia, Taiwan, Province of China, the Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam.

94. In 2006, methamphetamine seizures in New Zealand rose by more than six times, from 18 kg in 2005 to 122 kg – the highest ever in New Zealand. On the other hand, methamphetamine seizures in Australia fell steadily from 507 kg in 2003 to 95 kg in 2006. Seizures in Japan more than doubled, from 146 kg in 2006 to 359 kg in 2007.

3. Ecstasy

95. Ecstasy seizures worldwide peaked at 8.2 tons in 2004, and then dropped by 37 per cent in 2005 (5.1 tons) and again by 13 per cent in 2006 (4.5 tons). Europe continues to be the region with the highest ecstasy seizures – 2.2 tons (roughly one half of global seizures) in 2006, slightly more than the level in 2005 (2.1 tons). The Americas accounted for roughly one third of global interdiction in 2006 – seizures rose to 1.6 tons, from 1.1 tons in 2005 (a 36 per cent increase).

96. In 2006, the countries with the highest ecstasy seizures worldwide were the United States (1.14 tons, or 26 per cent of global seizures), the Netherlands (1.08 tons, or 24 per cent), Australia (536 kg, or 12 per cent), Canada (366 kg, or 8 per cent) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (294 kg, or 7 per cent). In 2007, decreases were registered by the United States (1.0 tons) and Canada (108 kilograms).

97. Seizures of ecstasy in the Asia-Pacific region peaked at 2.1 tons in 2004, declined slightly in 2005, to 1.9 tons, and fell sharply in 2006, to 694 kg – a decrease of 63 per cent (see Table 6 and Figure VIII). Since 2001, the Asia-Pacific region has accounted for more than 15 per cent of global “ecstasy” seizures. This percentage breached one third in 2005 (37 per cent), but fell back to 15 per cent in 2006.

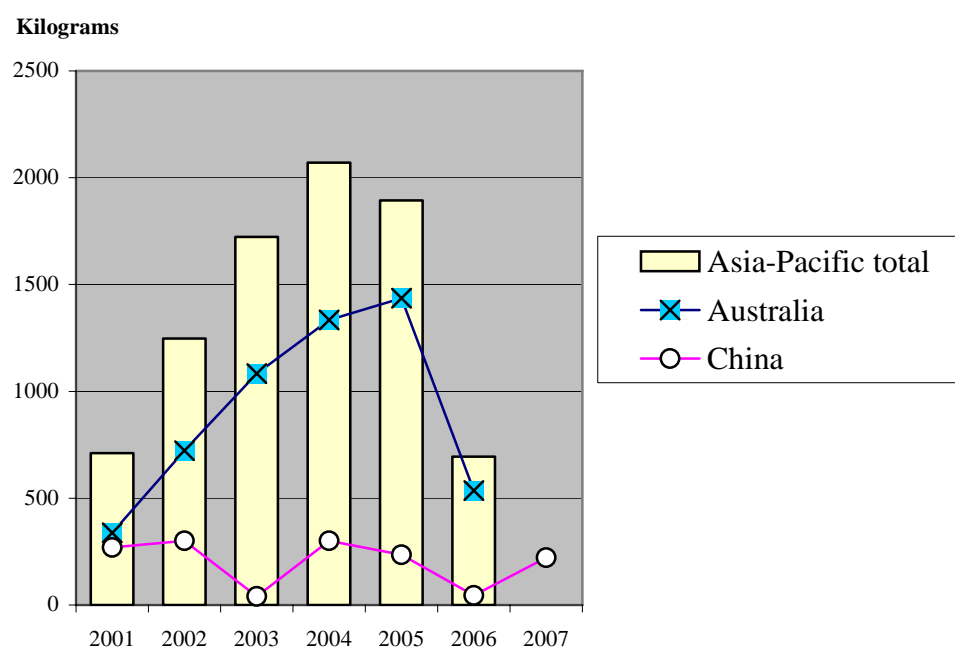
Table 6
Seizures of “ecstasy” in the Asia-Pacific region, 2001-2007

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007*
Australia	338	722	1 084	1 334	1 436	536	
China	270	300 ^a	41	300	234	45	222
Asia-Pacific total	711	1 248	1 723	2 070	1 895	694	

^a Data from the International Criminal Police Organization

* Data for 2007 is incomplete at the time of writing

Figure VIII
Seizures of ecstasy in the Asia-Pacific region, 2001-2007



98. Since 2001, ecstasy seizures in the Asia-Pacific region have become increasingly concentrated in Australia, which, since 2002, has consistently accounted for more than half of annual ecstasy seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, and 77 per cent in 2006 in particular. In 2006, ecstasy seizures in Australia fell to 536 kg, from 1.4 tons in 2005 – a decrease of 63 per cent, in line with the Asia-Pacific total. However, preliminary reports indicate that the figure for 2007 will be much higher, due to a single shipment from Italy of 4.4 tons of ecstasy seized in June 2007.¹² Although MDMA continues to be imported into Australia, there is also evidence of significant domestic illicit manufacture.¹³

¹² United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Amphetamines and ecstasy, 2008 Global ATS*

99. Apart from Australia, China accounted for the highest average annual ecstasy seizures in the Asia-Pacific region over the period 2000-2006. Seizures amounted to 234 kg in 2005, fell to 45 kg in 2006, but rose back to 222 kg in 2007. While a significant proportion of methamphetamine in China is believed to be manufactured in Myanmar, ecstasy found in China continues to originate mainly from Europe (see Table 6 and Figure VIII).

100. Seizures of ecstasy in Indonesia almost doubled in 2006, from 26 kg in 2005 to 48 kg in 2006, and more than trebled in 2007, increasing to 150 kg. In Japan, "ecstasy" seizures increased sharply in 2007, from 20 kg in 2006 to 129 kg, following the same trend as methamphetamine seizures. In 2006, significant levels of ecstasy interdiction in the Asia-Pacific region were also registered by Malaysia (24 kg) and the Hong Kong SAR of China (10 kg). Seizures in the Hong Kong SAR of China fell to 6 kg in 2007.

4. Seizures of precursor chemicals and pharmaceutical preparations used in the illicit manufacture of ATS

101. Global seizures of precursors used to produce ATS end-products declined to their lowest level in 5 years, based on seizure data from the International Narcotics Control Board¹⁴ together with replies to the annual reports questionnaire. In 2006, seizures of ephedrine amounted to 30.2 tons, a decrease of 25 per cent on the level in 2005 (40.3 tons), and seizures of pseudoephedrine amounted to 0.7 tons, down by 12 per cent from 2005 (0.8 tons). Ephedrine and pseudoephedrine are precursors for methamphetamine. Decreases were also noted in the ecstasy precursors 3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone (3,4-MDP-2-P) (from 12,924 to 8,816 litres), piperonal (from 6.2 tons to 107 grams) and safrole (from 5,707 to 39 litres).

102. Although the last report of ATS drug seizures from India refers to 2004, this country reported the identification of 3 ATS laboratories in 2006.¹⁵ A methamphetamine-related extraction laboratory was also discovered in Mumbai in 2007¹⁶. Authorities seized 290 kilograms of pseudoephedrine destined for Australia¹⁷. India is one of the largest exporters of licit ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.

E. Depressants

103. Global seizures of methaqualone fell from 4.8 tons in 2004 to 631 kg in 2005, but rose back to 5.3 tons in 2006. Since 2003, global seizures of methaqualone have become increasingly concentrated in India, which accounted for 85 per cent of global seizures in 2006, compared with 13 per cent in 2003. In 2006, methaqualone seizures in India increased almost ten-fold, from 472 kg in 2005 to 4.5 tons. Since 2003, India has accounted for virtually all methaqualone seizures in the Asia-Pacific region.

Assessment.

¹³ Australian Crime Commission, *Illicit Drug Data Report 2006-07*.

¹⁴ Precursors and chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, 2007 and prior years (New York, 2008).

¹⁵ Incomplete forensic information suggests that these laboratories may have been producing methamphetamine.

¹⁶ United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database, 2006.

¹⁷ *India country report on Trends in Precursor Control*, presented by Dr. Saji Mohan and Vinod Ratti at the 4th International Forum on the Control of Precursors for ATS, Tokyo, Japan, February 2008.

104. Japan reported unusually large seizures of benzodiazepines in 2007, amounting to 402 kg, as well as more than 400,000 tablets. However, in 2007 seizures of benzodiazepines declined to 11,000 tablets.

105. Both Australia and New Zealand reported unusually large seizures of 4-Hydroxybutanoic acid (GHB) in 2006, together accounting for 90 per cent of global GHB seizures, and all GHB seizures in the Asia-Pacific region. These seizures amounted to 202 litres in New Zealand and 141 litres in Australia.
