

22 September 2009

Original: English

---

**Thirty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug  
Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific**

Denpasar, Indonesia, 6-9 October 2009

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. This overview is based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and focuses on data for 2006, 2007 and, where available, 2008.

Cannabis derivatives remained the most widely trafficked drugs worldwide, accounting for approximately one half of global seizure cases. India registered a marked decrease in cannabis herb seizures, although they remained the highest in the Asia-Pacific region. An increasing trend in cannabis herb seizures was to be observed in several other countries in the region. Seizures of cannabis resin in the Asia-Pacific region were increasingly concentrated in India and Nepal.

Global illicit cultivation of opium poppy continued to be dominated by cultivation in Afghanistan. The area under cultivation in Myanmar remained stable in 2008, and significantly lower than the levels registered prior to 2005. In 2007, seizures of opium in the Asia-Pacific region were limited by comparison with the global total, but seizures of morphine in Myanmar remained high by comparison with the levels prior to 2006. Seizures of heroin continued to decline, driven mainly by decreases in the seizures reported by China.

---

\* UNODC/HONLAP/33/1.

\*\* This document has not been edited.



In 2008, coca bush cultivation remained concentrated in Colombia, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. The area under coca bush cultivation fell significantly in Colombia, which nevertheless continued to account for approximately one half of global cultivation. After significant increases over the period 2002-2005, in 2007 global cocaine seizures remained essentially stable for the second consecutive year. The Asia-Pacific region continued to account for a very small proportion of global seizures, although the increased level of 2006 was essentially sustained into 2007.

The global market for amphetamine-type stimulants was the most dynamic, with the Asia-Pacific region continuing to account for more than half of the global methamphetamine seizures. The subregion of East and South-East Asia in particular was central to methamphetamine manufacture and trafficking. Significant increases in “ecstasy” seizures were registered at the global and regional levels.

## Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction . . . . .	4
A. Purpose . . . . .	4
B. Sources of information . . . . .	4
C. Data limitations . . . . .	5
II. Global trends in illicit drug crop cultivation and the production of plant-based drugs, 2007 . . . . .	5
A. Cannabis . . . . .	5
B. Opium . . . . .	6
C. Coca . . . . .	8
III. Trends in illicit drug trafficking . . . . .	10
A. Cannabis . . . . .	10
B. Opiates . . . . .	14
C. Cocaine . . . . .	18
D. Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) . . . . .	20
Table	
Global and regional drug seizures, 2006 and 2007 . . . . .	10
Figures	
I. Illicit opium production in Afghanistan, Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 1997-2008 . . . . .	7
II. Coca bush cultivation in Colombia, Peru and Bolivia (Plurinational State of), 1997-2008 . . . . .	8
III. Distribution of cannabis herb seizures, 2007 . . . . .	11
IV. Distribution of cannabis resin seizures, 2007 . . . . .	13
V. Breakdown of opium seizures worldwide, 2000-2007 . . . . .	15
VI. Heroin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, 2000-2008 . . . . .	16
VII. Cocaine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, 2000-2007 . . . . .	19
VIII. Breakdown of methamphetamine seizures worldwide, 2000-2007 . . . . .	21
IX. Breakdown of "ecstasy" seizures worldwide, 2000-2007 . . . . .	25

## 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” is used to refer 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.

### A. Purpose

2. The statistics and analysis in the report are based on the latest complete information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Chapter II of the report addresses the illicit production of cannabis, opiates and cocaine, and chapter III contains an update on seizure statistics for cannabis, opiates, cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS).<sup>1</sup> The analysis of trends focuses on data for 2007, compared with data for 2006, and, where available, with data for 2008.

3. The aim of this overview of trends is to assist national authorities in their efforts to combat illicit drug production and trafficking more effectively and to improve coordination of their action at the subregional and regional levels.

### B. Sources of information

4. Information on the cultivation of illicit drug crops and the production of plant-based drugs has been drawn mainly from the latest illicit crop monitoring surveys published by UNODC. The primary sources of information on seizure statistics and drug trafficking were the replies to the annual reports questionnaire, part III (Illicit supply of drugs), for 2007 and previous years (and, where available, for 2008) submitted by Governments. Replies to the annual reports questionnaire, part III, for 2007 were submitted by 116 Member States, including 20 in the Asia-Pacific region,<sup>2</sup> and two territories, including one in the Asia-Pacific region.<sup>3</sup> A secondary source was data submitted by Governments to the Drug Abuse Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (DAINAP) and made available by the UNODC Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends (SMART) Programme. Other supplementary sources of information included reports on significant individual drug seizures and official Government reports (some of which are published electronically).

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.

<sup>3</sup> Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China.

### C. Data limitations

5. 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, 2007

### A. Cannabis

6. Unlike illicit crops such as coca leaf and opium poppy, cannabis lends itself to diverse cultivation methods and it is easily grown in varied environments. This makes assessing the extent of its cultivation and production difficult. However, UNODC estimates that cannabis continues to dominate the world's illicit drug markets in terms of the pervasiveness of cultivation, volume of production and number of consumers.

7. The most recent cannabis survey conducted by UNODC in Morocco took place in 2005.<sup>4</sup> The total area under cannabis cultivation in that country was estimated at 72,500 hectares (ha) in 2005, down from 134,000 ha in 2003. Morocco continued to estimate the area under cannabis cultivation at that level in 2006 and 2007, but reported a reduction in 2008 to an estimated area of 60,000 ha, as well as the eradication of 4,377 ha.

8. In Afghanistan, the area under cannabis cultivation increased from 30,000 ha in 2005<sup>5</sup> to 50,000 ha in 2006 and 70,000 ha in 2007.<sup>6</sup> The figure for 2007 was equivalent to 36 per cent of the area under opium poppy cultivation in that country during that year. At the end of 2008, UNODC performed a baseline study on cannabis cultivation in Afghanistan and identified 20 out of 34 provinces with substantial cannabis cultivation.

9. It is believed that cultivation of cannabis and production of cannabis herb and cannabis resin occurs in numerous countries worldwide, including the Asia-Pacific region. In their replies to the annual reports questionnaire (part III) for 2007, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand and Sri Lanka all reported that some or all of the cannabis herb or cannabis resin present in their markets originated in their own territory.

10. Sri Lanka estimated the area under cannabis cultivation on its territory in 2007 at 500 ha. Eradication of cannabis cultivation in 2007 was reported by India (280 ha), Indonesia (242 ha), Nepal (212 ha), Bangladesh (4 ha) and Viet Nam (0.7 ha). The Philippines also reported that an unspecified area under cannabis cultivation was destroyed by means of burning and manual destruction.

---

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Morocco: Cannabis Survey 2005, Executive Summary* (January 2007).

<sup>5</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Afghanistan: Opium Survey 2006* (November 2006).

<sup>6</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Afghanistan: Opium Survey 2007* (October 2007).

11. Seizures of cannabis plant<sup>7</sup> in 2007 were reported by the Philippines (255 tons), Indonesia (187 tons), Sri Lanka (37 tons), New Zealand (13 tons), Australia (5.8 tons), Bangladesh (2.7 tons), Thailand (2.1 tons), Republic of Korea (425 kg), Japan (277 kg), the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China (154 kg), Cambodia (150 kg),<sup>8</sup> Malaysia (4 kg) and Mongolia (3 kg). Australia also reported that, over the financial year 2006/07, over half of cannabis detections involved seeds. These were predominantly small quantities intended for home cultivation, but larger quantities were detected as well, including four seizures of cannabis seeds made in the first half of 2007, ranging from 1 kilogram (kg) to 12 kg.

## B. Opium

12. There was significant growth in the production of opiates over the period 2001-2008, driven mainly by production in Afghanistan. Reports from various sources indicated that illicit cultivation of opium poppy occurred, to a limited extent, in numerous countries worldwide, including some for which survey data was not available, although it continued to be dominated by Afghanistan.

13. The total area under opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan declined from 193,000 ha in 2007 to 157,000 ha in 2008 (a decrease of 19 per cent).<sup>9</sup> The decrease was attributed to successful counter-narcotics efforts in the northern and eastern provinces, as well as to unfavourable weather conditions leading to crop failure. The decline followed increases for two consecutive years, which saw cultivation rise by 86 per cent between 2005 and 2007. The level in 2008 was thus still significantly higher than those registered throughout the period 2002-2005 (see figure I).

14. The number of poppy-free provinces<sup>8</sup> in Afghanistan increased from 13 in 2007 to 18 in 2008. Notably, the province of Nangarhar became poppy-free. Opium poppy cultivation was concentrated in seven provinces in the south and west of Afghanistan, namely Helmand, Farah, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Nimroz, Zabul and Daykundi. The area under opium poppy cultivation in Helmand alone amounted to 103,590 ha in 2008, essentially sustaining the level in 2007 (102,770 ha) and corresponding to two thirds of the total in Afghanistan in 2008.

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

16. In South-East Asia, opium poppy cultivation has 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

---

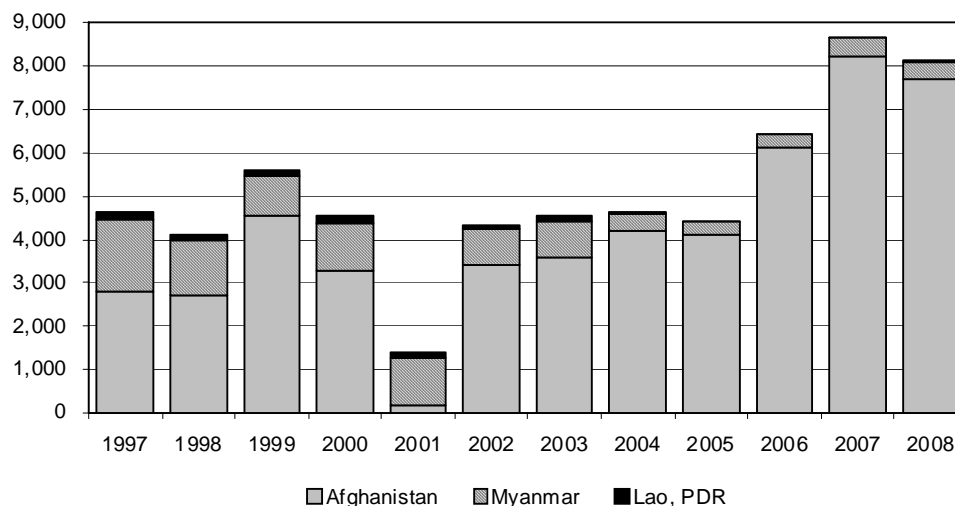
<sup>7</sup> Seizures of cannabis plant may be reported to UNODC by mass or by number of plants. Aggregate quantities are expressed by mass. For the purposes of the aggregation, one plant is assumed to have a mass of 0.1 kg.

<sup>8</sup> DAINAP.

<sup>9</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Afghanistan: Opium Survey 2008* (November 2008).

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 that country is also negligible.

Figure I  
**Illicit opium production in Afghanistan, Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 1997-2008**  
 (Tons)



17. In Myanmar, opium cultivation followed a generally downward trend from 1996 (163,000 ha) to 2006 (21,500 ha), but increased significantly in 2007, to 27,700 ha, and essentially sustained this level in 2008, amounting to 28,500 ha. In Myanmar cultivation took place in the Shan, Kachin and Kayah States, in particular South Shan State, where double cropping, irrigation and fertilization resulted 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).

18. 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.

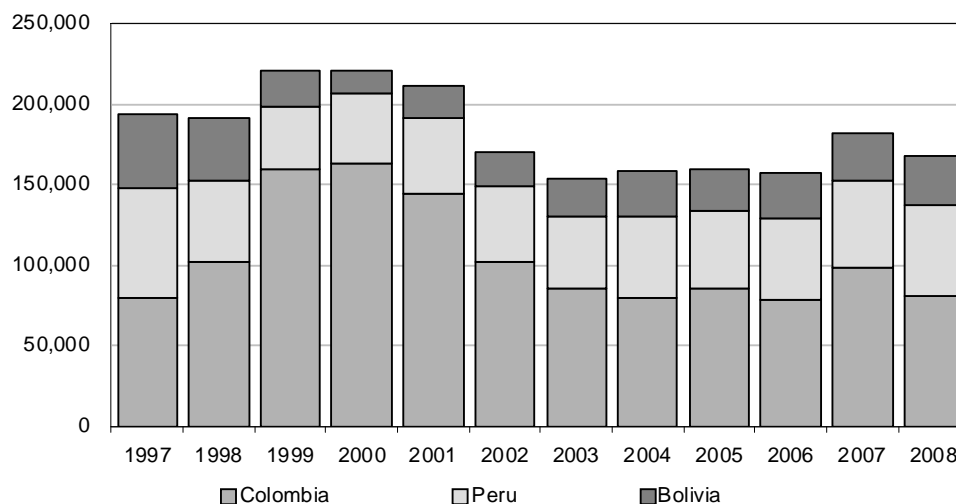
19. In India, eradication of opium poppy cultivation rose from 247 ha in 2006 to 8,000 ha in 2007. India reported that, in 2007, illicit cultivation took place in remote and inaccessible areas, most prominently in West Bengal. India also reported that licit cultivation of opium poppy took place, under the supervision of the Central Bureau of Narcotics, in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. Since fields were scattered and not fenced, some diversion of opium to illicit channels could not be ruled out. India also detected one heroin laboratory in 2007.

In 2008, eradication of opium poppy cultivation in India fell to 631 ha.<sup>10</sup> Seizures of acetic anhydride in India rose sharply in 2008, from 236 kg in 2007 to 2.8 tons.<sup>10</sup>

### C. Coca

20. In 2008, coca bush cultivation remained concentrated in Colombia, Peru and Bolivia (Plurinational State of). Between 2007 and 2008, the total area under coca bush cultivation in these three countries fell by 8 per cent, from 181,600 ha in 2007 to 167,600 ha in 2008, while the estimated manufacture of cocaine fell more markedly, from 994 tons in 2007 to 845 tons in 2008. The decline was due to significant decreases in Colombia, which nevertheless accounted for approximately one half of global cultivation of coca bush and potential manufacture of cocaine (see figure II).

Figure II  
**Coca bush cultivation in Colombia, Peru and Bolivia (Plurinational State of), 1997-2008**  
(Hectares)



21. The trend in cultivation of coca bush and manufacture of cocaine was most dynamic in Colombia, where the area under coca bush cultivation fell from 99,000 ha to 81,000 ha. A breakdown by region shows that the largest area under cultivation in 2008 was the Pacific region, where fresh coca leaf yield was thought to be low, followed by the Central region. In 2008, cultivation in the regions of Meta-Guaviare, Putumayo-Caquetá and Orinoco fell significantly below the levels in 2006 and 2007. The fresh coca leaf production estimates for Meta-Guaviare and, to a lesser extent, Putumayo-Caquetá were also impacted by new information on coca leaf yield in these two regions. Estimates for manufacture of cocaine in Colombia fell markedly, from 600 tons in 2007 to 430 tons in 2008.

<sup>10</sup> Narcotics Control Bureau, India. *National Drug Enforcement statistics (Provisional) as on 31/03/2009*.

22. In Peru, cultivation of coca bush increased gradually over the period 2005-2008, amounting to 56,100 ha<sup>11</sup> in 2008, the highest level since 1997. The regions with the largest areas under coca bush cultivation continued to be Alto Huallaga, Apurímac-Ene and La Convención-Lares, which together accounted for 85 per cent of cultivation in 2008. The highest yields continued to be registered in Apurímac-Ene, which accounted for one half of the production of coca leaf. The estimated production of cocaine in Peru amounted to 302 tons in 2008, up from 290 tons in 2007.

23. The area under coca bush cultivation also continued to increase in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, rising from 28,900 ha in 2007 to 30,500 ha in 2008. The total of 30,500 ha included 12,000 ha permitted by Law 1008<sup>12</sup> for traditional uses. The increase in the area under cultivation was due to growth in two main areas: the Yungas of La Paz and the Tropics of Cochabamba. Potential manufacture of cocaine in the Plurinational State of Bolivia in 2008 was estimated at 113 tons, up from 104 tons in 2007.

24. In Colombia, the total area of eradicated coca bush remained largely unchanged, amounting to 229,611 ha in 2008 (and 219,939 ha in 2007). However, an increased portion of this total (96,115 ha in 2008, up from 66,805 ha in 2007) was destroyed manually, with the remainder being eradicated by means of spraying. In Peru the eradication of coca bush fell to 10,143 ha<sup>13</sup> in 2008, from 12,072 ha in 2007. This may be partly due to the fact that eradication in 2008 was exclusively achieved through forced eradication operations,<sup>14</sup> in contrast to 2007, when voluntary eradication schemes contributed to 1,016 ha of the total. Eradication also fell in the Plurinational State of Bolivia (5,484 ha in 2008, down from 6,269 ha in 2007).

25. In 2007, more than 7,200 clandestine laboratories processing coca or coca derivatives were detected worldwide.<sup>15</sup> Such laboratories continued to be concentrated in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia and Peru. The Plurinational State of Bolivia and Peru also destroyed large numbers of coca maceration pits. Small numbers of laboratories were also reported by Spain (18 laboratories), Chile (5), the United States of America (3), Ecuador (1), Mexico (1) and South Africa (1).

<sup>11</sup> This is the area estimated in the Peru coca cultivation survey for 2008, conducted jointly by the Government of Peru and UNODC. See *Perú. Monitoreo de Cultivos de Coca*, June 2009 (UNODC). In its replies to the annual reports questionnaire for 2008, Peru reported a net area under cultivation (after eradication) of 43,556.88 ha, and the eradication of 10,091.26 ha.

<sup>12</sup> Ley del Régimen de la Coca y Sustancias Controladas, 1988.

<sup>13</sup> As reported to UNODC and published in "*Monitoreo de Cultivos de Coca en el Perú*", June 2009 (UNODC). In its replies to the annual reports questionnaire for 2008, Peru reported the eradication of 11,056.2 ha in 2007 and 10,091.26 ha in 2008. The figure for 2007 corresponds to forced eradication only, while the figure for 2008 is less than the corresponding published figure for 2008 by 0.5 per cent.

<sup>14</sup> UNODC, *Perú: Monitoreo de Cultivos de Coca*, June 2009.

<sup>15</sup> This includes laboratories manufacturing coca paste, coca base, cocaine hydrochloride and crack cocaine.

### III. Trends in illicit drug trafficking

26. The table below shows the reported quantities of seized drugs for selected drug types in 2006 and 2007. Seizures attributable to countries and territories 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 terms of the proportions of global seizures, in the Asia-Pacific region amphetamine-type stimulants and opiates were the most prominent among the four major classes of illicit drugs. In 2007, the Asia-Pacific region accounted for more than one half of global methamphetamine seizures, approximately one third of global “ecstasy” seizures, and 11 per cent of global heroin seizures. Seizures of “ecstasy” in the Asia-Pacific region increased sharply, partly due to a very large seizure made in Australia.

Table  
Global and regional drug seizures, 2006 and 2007

Drug type	2006			2007		
	Asia-Pacific (kilograms)	Global (kilograms)	Percentage	Asia-Pacific (kilograms)	Global (kilograms)	Percentage
<b>Cannabis</b>						
Cannabis herb	202,062	5,247,257	3.9%	181,882	5,605,244	3.2%
Cannabis resin	6,404	1,003,453	0.6%	7,403	1,297,753	0.6%
<b>Coca</b>						
Cocaine <sup>a</sup>	922	692,529	0.1%	882	710,056	0.1%
<b>Opiates</b>						
Opium <sup>b</sup>	13,457	383,857	3.5%	4,931	508,735	1.0%
Morphine	1,580	46,391	3.4%	1,329	27,366	4.9%
Heroin	8,189	56,871	14.4%	6,934	64,921	10.7%
<b>ATS</b>						
Amphetamine	51	18,766	0.3%	125	23,634	0.5%
Methamphetamine	9,975	18,824	53.0%	10,420	18,211	57.2%
“Ecstasy” <sup>c</sup>	694	4,897	14.2%	2,709	7,948	34.1%
Non-specified	3,323	8,248	40.3%	643	1,802	35.7%

<sup>a</sup> Cocaine base and cocaine salts.

<sup>b</sup> Raw opium and prepared opium.

<sup>c</sup> Methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA), 3,4-methylenedioxyethylamphetamine (MDEA), methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA).

#### A. Cannabis

27. Cannabis derivatives remained the most widely trafficked drugs worldwide, accounting for approximately one half of global seizure cases. Of 143 countries and territories for which UNODC had collated records of positive drug seizures in 2007, 132 had seized cannabis derivatives.<sup>16</sup> In 2007, cannabis herb continued to be the

<sup>16</sup> Specifically cannabis herb, cannabis resin and cannabis oil.

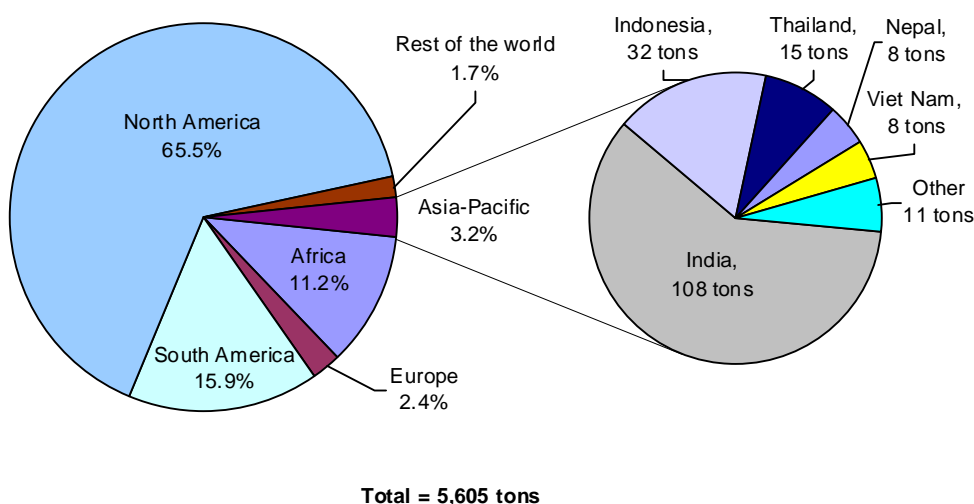
most frequently seized drug in Africa, the Americas and Oceania, while cannabis resin was the most frequently seized drug in Europe, followed by cannabis herb.

### 1. Cannabis herb

28. Global cannabis herb seizures increased gradually over the period 2005-2007, while staying significantly below the peak levels of 2004. The global total for 2007 amounted to 5,605 tons, essentially stable at the level in 2006 (5,247 tons). In 2007, seizures were increasingly concentrated in the Americas. Most of the remaining seizures continued to be accounted for by African countries (see figure III).

Figure III

#### Distribution of cannabis herb seizures, 2007



29. The Asia-Pacific region consistently accounted for less than 5 per cent of global annual cannabis herb seizures from 1998 onwards and for 3.2 per cent in 2007 in particular. Between 2006 and 2007, seizures fell from 202 tons to 182 tons. The decline was mainly due to a significant decrease in the contribution of India, but this was partially offset by increases in several other countries, notably Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam.

30. In India, seizures of cannabis herb fell by almost one third, from 158 tons,<sup>17</sup> in 2006 to 108 tons in 2007, even as seizures of cannabis resin in the same country rose by more than one third. Nevertheless, India continued to account for the largest seizures in the Asia-Pacific region in 2007 (see figure III). Apart from India itself, India identified Nepal as a source country for cannabis herb, as well as cannabis resin, in 2007. In 2008, seizures of cannabis herb remained essentially stable, amounting to 102 tons.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Narcotics Control Bureau, India. *National Drug Enforcement statistics (Provisional) as on 31/03/2009*. However, in its reply to the annual reports questionnaire for 2007, India reported slightly smaller seizures, amounting to 154 tons.

31. In Indonesia, seizures of cannabis herb rose markedly in 2007, from 12 tons in 2006 to 32 tons, and, according to data submitted by Indonesia to DAINAP, even more sharply in 2008, to 140 tons. This quantity may signal a significant development, as it is comparable to those registered in India, where, for five consecutive years up till 2007, annual cannabis herb seizures had amounted to more than three times the level in any other country in the Asia-Pacific region.

32. Seizures of cannabis herb also rose in Thailand, from 11.9 tons in 2006 to 15.4 tons in 2007 and 18.8 tons in 2008. Thailand identified the Lao People's Democratic Republic as the only source country for cannabis herb trafficked into its territory in 2007 and again in 2008.

33. In 2007, seizures of cannabis herb in Viet Nam rose to record levels, from 645 kg<sup>18</sup> in 2006 to 8 tons – more than twice the highest level recorded previously in this country. In Nepal, seizures rose from 6.7 tons in 2006 to 8.1 tons in 2007. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, seizures rose sharply between 2006 and 2007, from 292 kg<sup>19</sup> in 2006 to 2.3 tons in 2007, but fell back to 805 kg<sup>19</sup> in 2008. The only other country in the Asia-Pacific region to report cannabis herb seizures in excess of 2 tons in 2007 was Australia, where seizures amounted to 2.4 tons (up from 2.1 tons in 2006).

34. Given the relative ubiquity of cannabis cultivation, local demand for cannabis herb tended to be met by production occurring in relative proximity to consumption. As a result, trafficking routes were generally more localized in comparison with those used to traffic other illicit drugs, and were frequently circumscribed within a specific region. In spite of this, in Governments' replies to the annual reports questionnaires for 2007, Canada was cited as a point of origin for cannabis herb by two countries in the Asia-Pacific region, namely Japan and the Republic of Korea. Canada reported that Asian organized crime groups and outlaw motorcycle gangs were predominant in the trade of cannabis herb in Canada.

## 2. Cannabis resin

35. Following decreases for two consecutive years, in 2007 global seizures of cannabis resin rose by 29 per cent, from 1,003 tons in 2006 to 1,298 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 IV). Between 2006 and 2007, total seizures rose in all of these three subregions, but the largest increase was registered in the West and Central Europe.

36. In 2007, the largest national cannabis resin seizures worldwide were registered in Spain (654 tons), Morocco (118 tons), Pakistan (110 tons), Iran (90 tons), Afghanistan (84 tons), Belgium (59 tons), Portugal (43 tons) and France (34 tons). These eight countries collectively accounted for 92 per cent of global cannabis resin seizures in 2007. Several sources<sup>20</sup> referred to a single record seizure of 236.8 tons of cannabis resin seized by Afghan authorities in 2008.

37. From 1996 onwards, the subregion of West and Central Europe consistently accounted for more than half of annual global cannabis resin seizures. In 2007,

---

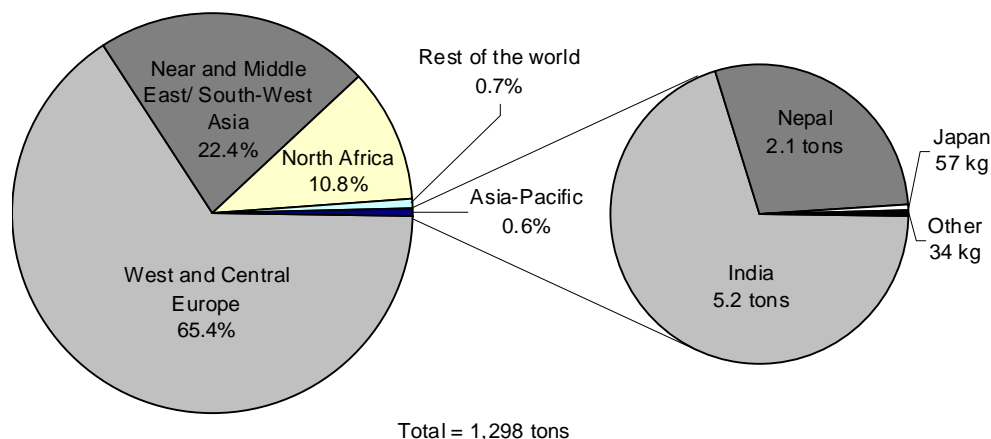
<sup>18</sup> DAINAP.

<sup>19</sup> DAINAP.

<sup>20</sup> These included a UNODC press release, issued on 12 June 2008.

seizures in this subregion rose by more than one third, from 610 tons in 2006 to 849 tons. Over the period of 1998-2007, Spain in particular consistently reported the largest annual cannabis resin seizures worldwide. It is thought that cannabis resin continued to be trafficked into Spain from Morocco. In 2008, seizures of cannabis resin sustained the high levels of 2007 both in Spain, reaching 683 tons, and in Morocco, amounting to 114 tons.

Figure IV  
**Distribution of cannabis resin seizures, 2007**  
(kg = kilograms)



38. For the fifth consecutive year, seizures of cannabis resin in the Asia-Pacific region represented less than 1 per cent of the global total. However, in gross amounts, seizures rose for the second consecutive year, amounting to 7.4 tons in 2007, an increase of 16 per cent over the level in 2006.

39. The increase between 2006 and 2007 was driven mainly by the contribution of India, which, for the fifth consecutive year, accounted for more than 60 per cent of cannabis resin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region. Seizures in this country rose from 3.9 tons in 2006 to 5.2 tons in 2007 (of which 1.2 tons were seized in a single consignment), but fell back to 4.0 tons<sup>21</sup> in 2008. Apart from itself, India identified Nepal as the source for some of the cannabis resin trafficked on its territory in 2007, and the United States and Canada as destination countries. India was cited as a country of origin for cannabis resin by Belgium, the Hong Kong SAR of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

40. As in 2006, in 2007 the second highest level of cannabis resin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region was reported by Nepal. Seizures in this country fell slightly, from 2.4 tons in 2006 to 2.1 tons in 2007. Apart from India and Nepal itself, Nepal was cited as a country of origin for cannabis resin in 2007 by Austria and Thailand.

41. In Japan, seizures of cannabis resin fell for the third consecutive year in 2007, amounting to 57 kg – less than one fifth the peak level registered in 2004 (328 kg). On the other hand, seizures of cannabis resin rose sharply in the Hong Kong SAR of

<sup>21</sup> Narcotics Control Bureau, India. *National Drug Enforcement statistics (Provisional) as on 31/03/2009*.

China – from 3 kg in 2006 to 30 kg in 2007, the highest level since 1997. Seizures in Thailand, which averaged 37 kg over the period 2002-2006, fell to 1 kg in 2007, but rose back to 30 kg in 2008. The only other country in the Asia-Pacific region to register cannabis resin seizures in 2007 in excess of 1 kg was New Zealand, which reported seizures of 1.5 kg.

## **B. Opiates**

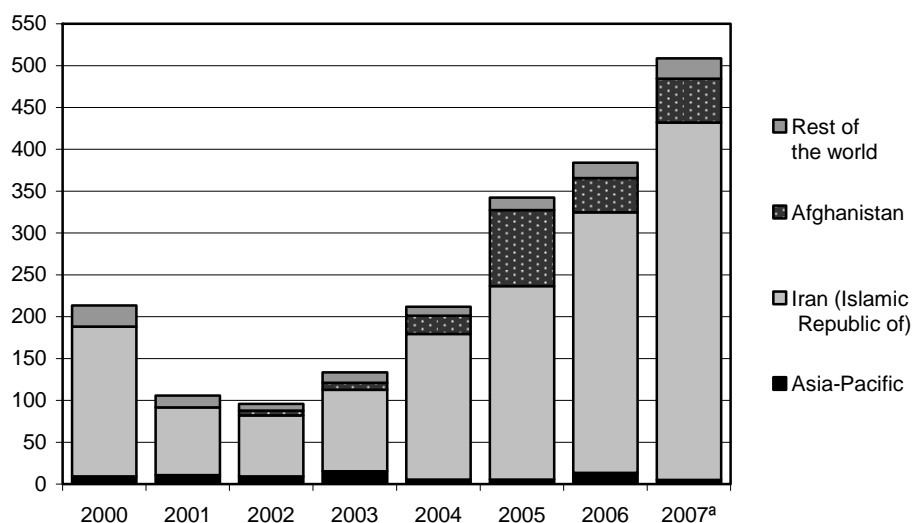
42. Trafficking in opiates continued along three major routes, reflecting three major production centres supplying three distinct markets. One route went from Afghanistan, the world's largest opium producer, to neighbouring countries of South, South-West and Central Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Europe. A second route went 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 supplied the consumer market of North America from Latin America and Mexico.

43. In 2007, global opium and morphine seizures continued to take place predominantly in the countries surrounding Afghanistan. Heroin seizures were less geographically concentrated. UNODC estimates suggested that most opiates leave Afghanistan through Iran, Pakistan and Central Asia. In addition to the first trafficking route mentioned above, originating in Afghanistan, distribution patterns were developing whereby Afghanistan was also supplying the market in China via Pakistan and Central Asia, partially offsetting the decline in heroin from Myanmar into China.

### **1. Opium**

44. Global opium seizures rose steadily from 96 tons in 2002 to 509 tons in 2007, a fivefold increase over a period of five years. This is equivalent to a consistent 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. Since 2004, these two countries together have accounted for more than 90 per cent of annual global seizures (see figure V).

Figure V  
**Breakdown of opium seizures worldwide, 2000-2007**  
 (Tons)



<sup>a</sup> Data for Afghanistan for 2007 are from the UNODC Country Office in Afghanistan.

45. The Asia-Pacific region registered low levels of opium seizures in 2004, 2005 and 2007 (by comparison with other years), but also accounted for a significantly higher level in 2006, mainly due to seizures reported by Myanmar. Between 2006 and 2007, opium seizures in the Asia-Pacific region fell by almost two thirds, from 13.5 tons to 4.9 tons – the lowest level from 1980 onwards, representing 1 per cent of the global total for 2007.

46. Throughout the period 1999-2007, annual opium seizures in Myanmar remained below 2 tons, with the single exception of 2006, when seizures amounted to 8.5 tons. In 2007, opium seizures in this country fell back to 1.3 tons, and, according to data submitted by Myanmar to DAINAP, rose slightly in 2008, to 1.5 tons.

47. In India, opium seizures fell in 2007, from 2.8 tons in 2006 to 2.2 tons in 2007, and again in 2008, to 1.2 tons.<sup>22</sup> In 2007, opium seizures also fell in China, amounting to 1.2 tons (down from 1.7 tons in 2006). For 2008, China reported to DAINAP seizures of 1.4 tons. The only other countries in the Asia-Pacific region to register opium seizures in excess of 50 kg in 2007 were Thailand (140 kg, rising to 268 kg in 2008) and Viet Nam (63 kg, falling to 19 kg in 2008).<sup>23</sup>

## 2. Morphine

48. 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),

<sup>22</sup> Narcotics Control Bureau, India. *National Drug Enforcement statistics (Provisional) as on 31/03/2009*.

<sup>23</sup> DAINAP.

respectively, and these two countries together accounted for more than three quarters of global annual morphine seizures. The decline in global morphine seizures in 2007 was mainly due to a sharp drop in seizures reported by Pakistan.

49. The Asia-Pacific region accounted for 5 per cent of global seizures of morphine in 2007; the total for this region fell to 1.3 tons, from 1.6 tons in 2006. The decline was mainly due to the contribution of Myanmar, which continued to account for more than four fifths of morphine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region. Morphine seizures in Myanmar registered record levels in 2006, amounting to 1.4 tons. In 2007 seizures in Myanmar dropped but remained high, amounting to 1.1 tons (morphine seizures in this country had never exceeded 400 kg prior to 2006).

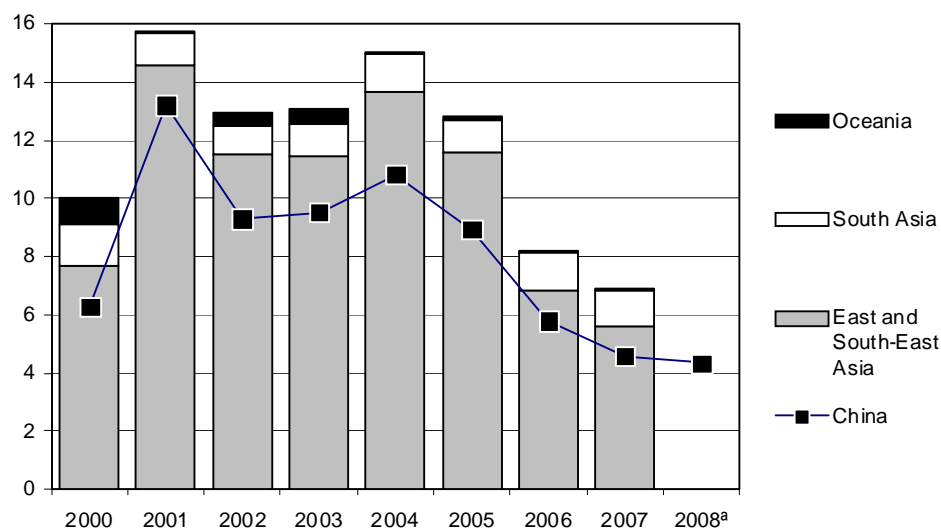
### 3. Heroin

50. Following two years in which global heroin seizures remained stable, between 2006 and 2007 the quantity of heroin seized globally rose by 14 per cent, from 56.9 tons to 64.9 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, Eastern Europe and North America, while a significant decline was registered in the subregion of East and South-East Asia.

51. In 2007, heroin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region fell for the third consecutive year, amounting to 6.9 tons, or 11 per cent of the global total. While seizures in South Asia and Oceania remained stable, the decline in the Asia-Pacific total was mainly due to the contribution of the subregion of East and South-East Asia, in particular China (see figure VI).

Figure VI

#### Heroin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, 2000-2008 (Tons)



<sup>a</sup> Data for 2008 were incomplete at the time of preparation of the present report.

52. Over the period 2000-2007, China consistently accounted for more than 60 per cent of heroin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, and set the trend for the Asia-Pacific total (see figure VI). Between 2004 and 2007, seizures in this country fell steadily, amounting to 4.6 tons in 2007 – less than half the peak level of 2004 (10.8 tons), and the lowest in this country since 1996. According to data submitted by China to DAINAP, the low level was sustained into 2008, with seizures amounting to 4.3 tons. China also reported that 12 clandestine heroin laboratories were detected in 2006, and eight such laboratories in 2007.

53. The World Customs Organization reported<sup>24</sup> that among heroin seizure cases recorded in the Customs Enforcement Network database, in 2008 China was the destination for at least three shipments from each of Ethiopia, the Hong Kong SAR of China, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates and Thailand. The Hong Kong SAR of China was also identified as a prominent point of trans-shipment, serving mainly as a point of entry into China.

54. In Thailand, heroin seizures remained relatively small by comparison with the levels prior to 2006, falling from 293 kg in 2007 to 199 kg in 2008. In contrast, heroin seizures in Thailand averaged 655 kg over the period 2001-2005. Thailand reported that 90 per cent of heroin trafficked into its territory in 2008 originated in Myanmar, and 10 per cent in Afghanistan. Thailand also cited Cambodia, India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Malaysia as transit points for heroin trafficked into its territory, and estimated that 60 per cent of the heroin trafficked out of Thailand was intended for Taiwan Province of China. Based on heroin seizure cases recorded in the Customs Enforcement Network database, the World Customs Organization also identified Thailand as a major transit point for heroin trafficking.<sup>24</sup>

55. According to data submitted by Malaysia to DAINAP, heroin seizures in Malaysia rose from 243 kg in 2007 to 297 kg in 2008 – the highest level since 1989. Malaysia was also cited with increased frequency as the intended destination among significant individual heroin seizures reported by Pakistan. Up till 2006, Malaysia had been mentioned as a country of destination in only 1 per cent or less of the cases in which the destination was identified as a country other than Pakistan itself, but this proportion climbed to 9 per cent in 2007 and 22 per cent in 2008.

56. Heroin seizures in Viet Nam registered a significant decrease, falling from 277 kg<sup>25</sup> in 2006 to 160 kg in 2007. The latter level was essentially sustained into 2008, with seizures amounting to 156 kg,<sup>25</sup> the lowest in this country since 2002.

57. India continued to report the second highest heroin seizures in the Asia-Pacific region. Heroin seizures in this country have fluctuated around 1 ton since 2001, remaining stable at 1.2 tons in 2007 and falling to 999 kg in 2008.<sup>26</sup> The World Customs Organization reported that among heroin seizure cases recorded in the Customs Enforcement Network database, in 2008 significant numbers of consignments were routed into India from Pakistan, and out of India to various countries, notably Bangladesh.<sup>24</sup> Bangladesh, which reported heroin seizures

<sup>24</sup> World Customs Organization Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific, *Analysis Report 2009.1*.

<sup>25</sup> DAINAP.

<sup>26</sup> Narcotics Control Bureau, India. *National Drug Enforcement statistics (Provisional) as on 31/03/2009*.

amounting to 29 kg in 2008, estimated that India was the source for 80 per cent of the heroin trafficked into its territory in 2008, with Pakistan accounting for the remaining 20 per cent.

58. Australia reported heroin seizures amounting to 65 kg in 2007, essentially stable at the level in 2006 (67 kg). According to the Australian Crime Commission, trends in heroin purity, arrests and seizures indicated a relatively stable heroin market in Australia. South-East Asia remained the primary embarkation point for heroin detections at the Australian border.<sup>27</sup> However, there were indications of an increasing prominence of South-West Asia as a source region for heroin seized in Australia. The total quantity of heroin seized over the financial year 2007/08 fell by 21 per cent, by comparison with the financial year 2006/07. Australia also detected nine clandestine “homebake heroin” laboratories (in which codeine-based medications are diverted to heroin manufacture) in 2006-2007, and five such laboratories in 2007-2008.

### C. Cocaine

59. After a significant expansion over the period 2002-2005, global cocaine seizures remained essentially stable for the second consecutive year. Cocaine seizures amounted to 710 tons in 2007, compared with 693 tons in 2006. The vast majority of cocaine seizures continued to be made in the Americas and in Europe. The global interception rate<sup>28</sup> for cocaine in 2007 was estimated by UNODC at 41 per cent.<sup>29</sup>

60. 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.

61. European countries, in particular those 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 11 per cent of the global total. Nevertheless, total seizures of cocaine in Europe fell by 35 per cent in 2007, from 121 tons in 2006 to 79 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 (73 tons). With the exception of the Netherlands, the six European countries reporting the largest cocaine seizures in 2006 registered significant decreases in 2007.

---

<sup>27</sup> Australian Crime Commission, *Illicit Drug Data Report 2007-08*.

<sup>28</sup> That is, the ratio of the quantity of cocaine seized globally to the quantity manufactured globally.

<sup>29</sup> UNODC, *World Drug Report 2009*. This computation is based on an estimated global cocaine manufacture of 994 tons and total seizures of 710 tons, adjusted by an average purity of 58 per cent (derived from countries' replies to the annual reports questionnaire).

62. Since 1980, the Asia-Pacific region has consistently accounted for less than 1 per cent of annual global cocaine seizures. Cocaine seizures in this region were roughly stable at 400 kg in the period 2003-2005, but rose to 922 kg in 2006, and essentially sustained this increased level in 2007 (882kg). The increases were mainly due to unusually large levels reported by India in 2006 and the Hong Kong SAR of China in 2007, as well as increases registered by Australia in 2006 and again in 2007 (see figure VII).

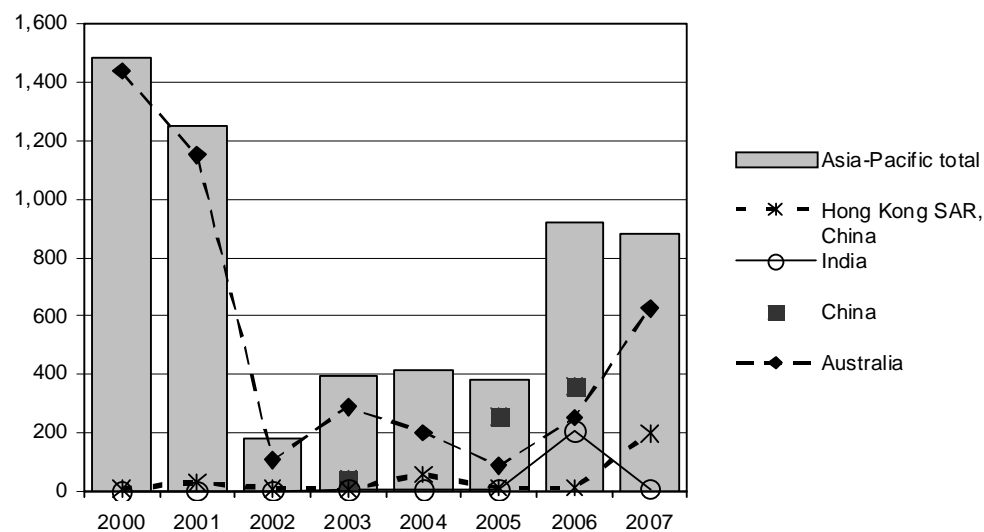
63. India reported cocaine seizures amounting to 206 kg in 2006. In contrast, reported cocaine seizures in India amounted to only 8 kg in 2007 and 12 kg<sup>30</sup> in 2008, and averaged 3.4 kg over the period 2001-2005. In its reply to the annual reports questionnaire for 2007, India also reported an increase in the activities of West African drug syndicates. These may be smuggling South American cocaine into India, possibly in exchange for South-West Asian heroin destined for illicit markets in Europe or North America.

64. The Hong Kong SAR of China reported seizures of 198 kg of cocaine in 2007, up from 13 kg in 2006. 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, in 2008, cocaine was found in Jiangsu, China, in an express mail parcel originating in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.<sup>31</sup>

Figure VII

**Cocaine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, 2000-2007**

(Kilograms)



<sup>30</sup> Narcotics Control Bureau, India. *National Drug Enforcement statistics (Provisional) as on 31/03/2009*.

<sup>31</sup> International Narcotics Control Board, *Annual Report 2008*.

65. Cocaine seizures in Australia rose from 88 kg in 2005 to 252 kg in 2006 and 626 kg in 2007. Data from the Australian Crime Commission, although not directly comparable with these figures, suggest that the increasing trend in Australia was sustained into 2008.<sup>32</sup> In the financial year 2007/08, the number of cocaine seizures in Australia was the highest on record, while the number of detections of cocaine at the Australian border increased by 71 per cent by comparison with the financial year 2006/07.

66. Cocaine seizures in New Zealand reached record levels in 2006 – 33 kg – but amounted to less than 1 kg in 2007 and 2008. Cocaine seizures in Thailand rose to record levels in 2006 (36 kg), but subsequently fell to 18 kg in 2007 and 13 kg in 2008. In Japan, cocaine seizures rose for the second consecutive year, from 10 kg in 2006 to 19 kg in 2007, while remaining significantly below the peak level registered in 2004 (86 kg).

## **D. Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS)**

67. The global market for amphetamine-type stimulants was arguably the most dynamic among the four major classes of illicit drugs. Significant increases were registered in global seizures of amphetamine and of “ecstasy”-group substances, and organized crime groups increased the size and sophistication of manufacturing operations. Illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants emerged in several countries with little or no previous history of reported manufacture.

### **1. Amphetamine**

68. After appearing to stabilize in 2006, global seizures of amphetamine reached record levels, amounting to 23.6 tons<sup>33</sup> 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 in 2007, reaching 14.8 tons – mostly in the form of counterfeit Captagon tablets – corresponding to 63 per cent of the global total. On the other hand, seizures of amphetamine in the Asia-Pacific region were limited, amounting to 125 kg in 2007, and remaining below 1 per cent of the global total.

### **2. Methamphetamine**

69. The region encompassing Cambodia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam and bordering provinces of south China (often referred to as the “Greater Mekong Subregion”) is central to methamphetamine manufacture, trafficking and use. Following intensified law enforcement measures in Thailand, trafficking patterns have shifted to neighbouring countries, including Cambodia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Viet Nam.

---

<sup>32</sup> Australian Crime Commission, *Illicit Drug Data Report 2007-08*.

<sup>33</sup> Amphetamine-type stimulants are seized in various forms, including liquid and tablet form, and may be reported to UNODC by mass, volume, number of tablets or other units. In specific cases seizure amounts may be reproduced as reported by countries, but aggregate quantities are expressed by mass. For the purposes of the aggregation, one tablet is assumed to contain 30 mg of active ingredient, with the exception of “ecstasy” tablets, which are assumed to contain 100 mg of active ingredient. Moreover, one litre of liquid is assumed to correspond to one kilogram.

70. Apart from trafficking within the Greater Mekong Subregion, trafficking routes have been identified from Myanmar to Bangladesh and India, from the Hong Kong SAR of China to Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States, and from East and South-East Asia into the Islamic Republic of Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.<sup>34</sup>

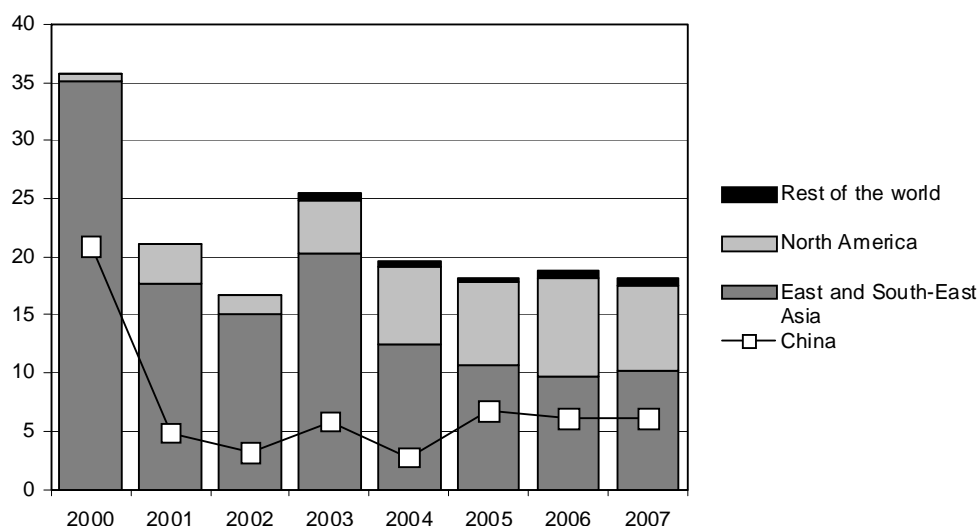
71. In 2007, global seizures of methamphetamine remained stable for the third consecutive year, amounting to 18.2 tons. Methamphetamine seizures continued to be concentrated in East and South-East Asia and in North America (see figure VIII). In 2007, total methamphetamine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region remained essentially stable, amounting to 10.4 tons and continuing to account for more than half of global methamphetamine seizures.

72. In 2006 and again in 2007, the subregion of East and South-East Asia accounted for 98 per cent of methamphetamine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region. Seizures in China were the largest worldwide in 2007, amounting to 6.1 tons, and continuing to account for approximately one third of the global total. According to data submitted by China to DAINAP, in 2008 5.5 tons of crystalline methamphetamine and 6.3 million methamphetamine tablets were seized in China.

Figure VIII

**Breakdown of methamphetamine seizures worldwide, 2000-2007**

(Tons)



73. According to Chinese authorities,<sup>35</sup> large amounts of amphetamine-type stimulants were entering Yunnan province through the border with Myanmar. Seizures of amphetamine-type stimulants from Europe and South America were also increasing. China reported 456 arrests of foreign nationals for trafficking of amphetamine-type stimulants in 2007; of these, 397 involved nationals of Myanmar.

<sup>34</sup> UNODC, *World Drug Report 2009*.

<sup>35</sup> China National Narcotics Control Commission. Quoted in country presentation by China, Global SMART Programme Meeting for East Asia, 29-31 July 2009, Bangkok, Thailand.

74. In 2007, the second highest level of methamphetamine seizures in the Asia-Pacific region was registered by Thailand, where seizures more than doubled, amounting to 1.3 tons, and rose further in 2008, to almost 2 tons. Thailand identified Myanmar as the origin of methamphetamine trafficked into Thailand in 2007 and 2008, and Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic as transit countries. While methamphetamine tablets were intended almost exclusively for Thailand itself, 90 per cent of crystalline methamphetamine ("ice") was intended for Malaysia.

75. According to Thai authorities, crystalline methamphetamine was trafficked together with heroin by heroin trafficking syndicates.<sup>36</sup> In July 2008, a "kitchen" laboratory manufacturing crystalline methamphetamine was seized in Patumthani province. The World Customs Organization reported that in 2008 Thailand was the most frequent destination country in the Asia-Pacific region among methamphetamine seizure cases recorded in the Customs Enforcement Network database. In particular, 157 seizures were made on the route from the Lao People's Democratic Republic to Thailand.<sup>37</sup>

76. In 2007, methamphetamine seizures in Indonesia sustained the high level reached in 2006 – 1.2 tons. This quantity represented more than four times the level ever registered prior to 2006. According to Indonesian authorities,<sup>38</sup> Indonesia, formerly a transit point and a destination in the trafficking of illicit drugs, had acquired a role in the production of amphetamine-type stimulants, some of which were also trafficked outside Indonesia.<sup>39</sup> This was supported by the detection of 23 laboratories<sup>40</sup> manufacturing amphetamine-type stimulants in 2007. In 2008, seizures of crystalline methamphetamine only amounted to 694 kg.<sup>41</sup> Preliminary data suggest that the increased number of laboratories manufacturing amphetamine-type stimulants was sustained into 2008 and 2009.

77. Seizures of methamphetamine in Myanmar remained essentially stable, amounting to 575 kg in 2006 and 524 kg<sup>42</sup> in 2007. Moreover, five machines for manufacturing methamphetamine were seized in 2007. Myanmar also reported that the essential precursors for methamphetamine manufacture were not produced locally, and that these precursors were known to be produced in neighbouring

---

<sup>36</sup> Office of the Narcotics Control Board, Thailand. Quoted in *ATS situation of Thailand*, country presentation by Thailand, Global SMART Programme Meeting for East Asia, 29-31 July 2009, Bangkok, Thailand.

<sup>37</sup> World Customs Organization Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific, *Analysis Report 2009.1*.

<sup>38</sup> Country presentation by Indonesia, Global SMART Programme Meeting for East Asia, 29-31 July 2009, Bangkok, Thailand.

<sup>39</sup> Indonesian National Police, Directorate IV/ Narcotics and Organized Crime. *Drug crimes situation in Indonesia*, presentation at 18th Anti Drug Liaison Officials' Meeting for International Cooperation (ADLOMICO), Busan, Korea, 24-26 September 2008.

<sup>40</sup> As reported by Indonesia to DAINAP. In its reply to the annual reports questionnaire for 2007, Indonesia reported 10 laboratories manufacturing "ecstasy" and 3 manufacturing "shabu" (crystalline methamphetamine).

<sup>41</sup> DAINAP.

<sup>42</sup> Apart from seizures of methamphetamine tablets reported in the reply to the annual reports questionnaire for 2007 from Myanmar, this also includes seizures of 471 kg of methamphetamine powder and 3.44 kg of crystalline methamphetamine, as submitted by Myanmar to DAINAP.

countries and illegally trafficked into Myanmar. According to data submitted by Myanmar to DAINAP, in the transition from 2007 to 2008, the amount of seized ephedrine increased from 530 kg to 751 kg, while the majority of methamphetamine seizures (by quantity, not by number of cases) shifted from methamphetamine powder (471 kg in 2007, falling to 4 kg in 2008) to methamphetamine tablets (1.7 million in 2007, rising to 37.7 million in 2008).

78. In the Philippines, seizures of methamphetamine rose from 369 kg in 2007 to 856 kg in 2008. The Philippines also reported 10 clandestine laboratories manufacturing methamphetamine in 2008, and a concurrent steep increase in the price of methamphetamine hydrochloride. According to data published by the International Narcotics Control Board,<sup>43</sup> seizures of ephedrine in the Philippines fell steadily over the period 2003-2007, from 5 tons in 2003 to 35 kg in 2007.

79. In Japan, methamphetamine seizures rose from 146 kg in 2006 to 359 kg in 2007. Japan estimated that almost two thirds of the methamphetamine trafficked into its territory originated in Canada, and one third in China.

80. In Canada, seizures of methamphetamine amounted to 1.5 tons in 2007. In contrast, over the period 2000-2006, methamphetamine seizures in this country averaged 41 kg, and never exceeded 60 kg. Canada reported that, in 2007, organized crime groups with links to Asia showed increased interests in the methamphetamine trade, notably in their capabilities to manufacture and export significant quantities, especially to the Asia-Pacific region. Moreover, Indo-Canadian organized crime groups had been actively involved in the smuggling of methamphetamine precursors, notably ephedrine, from India to Canada. In India, seizures of ephedrine rose sharply in 2008, from 395 kg in 2007 to 38 tons.<sup>44</sup>

81. According to data submitted by Malaysia to DAINAP, an increase in methamphetamine seizures was observed in Malaysia. In 2007, 69 kg of crystalline methamphetamine, as well as 122,000 methamphetamine pills, were seized in Malaysia; in 2008, seizures amounted to 357 kg of methamphetamine powder, 679 litres of liquid methamphetamine and 281 thousands methamphetamine pills. Several sources also referred to an extraordinarily large seizure – 978 kg – of crystalline methamphetamine made in Malaysia in May 2009.<sup>45</sup>

82. Australia reported seizures of methamphetamine amounting to 95 kg in 2006, and 134 kg in 2007. According to the Australian Crime Commission, the Australian market for amphetamine-type stimulants other than MDMA (and including methamphetamine) appeared to be predominantly supplied by domestic production.<sup>46</sup> This was supported by continued attempts at large-scale domestic diversion of precursors, and continued large-scale precursor detections at the border and the large number of clandestine laboratory detections. Nonetheless, Australian Customs and Border Protection continued to detect importations at the border. In the financial year 2006/07, 249 clandestine laboratories manufacturing

---

<sup>43</sup> International Narcotics Control Board, *Precursors and chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, 2008*.

<sup>44</sup> Narcotics Control Bureau, India. *National Drug Enforcement statistics (Provisional) as on 31/03/2009*.

<sup>45</sup> These included the Malaysian National News Agency and the Prime Minister's Office of Malaysia.

<sup>46</sup> Australian Crime Commission, *Illicit Drug Data Report 2007-08*. June 2009.

amphetamine-type stimulants (excluding MDMA) were detected in Australia, and 260 in 2007-2008.<sup>47</sup>

83. In New Zealand, a decreasing trend was to be observed both in methamphetamine seizures and in the number of detected clandestine methamphetamine laboratories. Seizures of methamphetamine fell from 122 kg in 2006 to 39 kg in 2007 and 15 kg in 2008, while the number of methamphetamine laboratories fell from 211 in 2006 to 190 in 2007 and 133 in 2008.

### 3. "Ecstasy"

84. In 2007 global seizures of "ecstasy"-type substances rose by 62 per cent, from 4.9 tons in 2006 to 7.9 tons. Seizures continued to be concentrated in Europe, Oceania, North America and East and South-East Asia, all of which registered significant increases in the transition from 2006 to 2007 (see figure IX). Total seizures in the Asia-Pacific region increased almost fourfold, from 694 kg in 2006 to 2.7 tons in 2007. The increase was mainly due to the contribution of Australia, but also to smaller increases in China, Indonesia, Japan and Malaysia.

85. Australia continued to account for virtually all reported seizures of "ecstasy" in Oceania, and more than 70 per cent of seizures in the Asia-Pacific region. In 2007, seizures of "ecstasy" in this country reached record levels, amounting to 1.97 tons. This quantity includes a single record seizure of approximately 15 million tablets.<sup>48</sup> Although data for 2008 were not available, data published by the Australian Crime Commission,<sup>49, 50</sup> showed that, in the transition from the 2006/07 to the 2007/08 financial years, the number of seizure cases of amphetamine-type stimulants and the number of arrests for provision of amphetamine-type stimulants both remained essentially stable.<sup>51</sup>

86. Although MDMA continued to be imported into Australia, there was continued evidence of significant illicit manufacture of MDMA in Australia. This included seizures of precursor chemicals as well as clandestine laboratories manufacturing MDMA. Although the number of detections of such laboratories fell from 19 in the financial year 2006/07 to 11 in 2007/08, law enforcement reporting indicated a tendency towards larger ATS clandestine laboratories.

---

<sup>47</sup> These figures include laboratories extracting precursors used for the manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants.

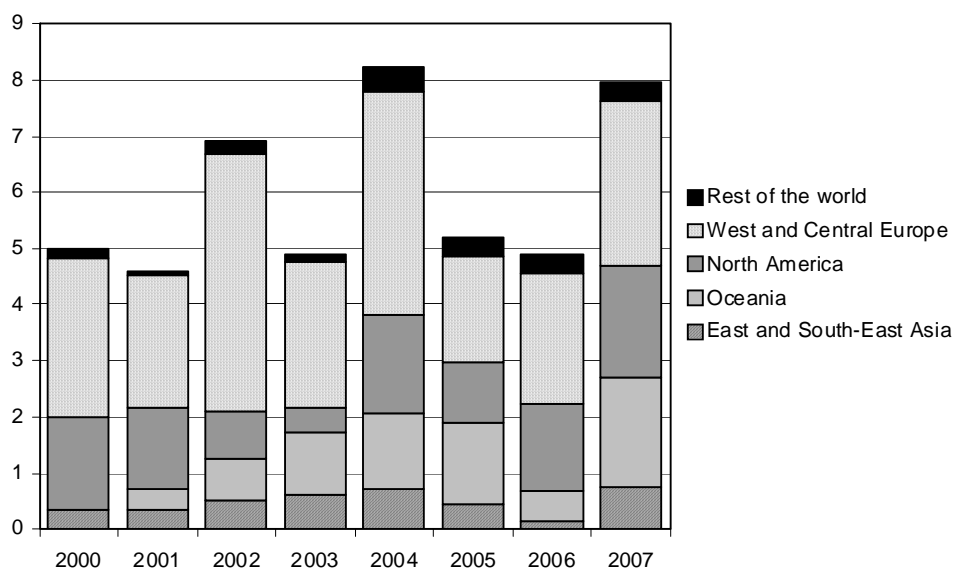
<sup>48</sup> This was reported by the Australian Crime Commission in *Illicit Drug Data Report 2006-07, Revised Edition*. This seizure, which was part of a year-long controlled delivery operation, was also confirmed separately to UNODC by the Australian Federal Police. In the reply to the annual reports questionnaire for 2007, Australia reported seizures amounting to 470 kg.

<sup>49</sup> Australian Crime Commission, *Illicit Drug Data Report 2006-07, Revised Edition*. March 2009.

<sup>50</sup> Australian Crime Commission, *Illicit Drug Data Report 2007-08*. June 2009.

<sup>51</sup> The total quantity of seized "ecstasy" fell sharply. However, this was due to the extremely large single seizure registered in June 2007.

Figure IX  
**Breakdown of “ecstasy” seizures worldwide, 2000-2007**  
 (Tons)



87. China reported seizures of 2.2 million “ecstasy” tablets in 2007, more than four times the level in 2006 (454,000 tablets). According to data submitted by China to DAINAP, “ecstasy” seizures in 2008 fell back to 1.1 million tablets and pills.

88. Starting in 2005, China has reported significant seizures of ketamine.<sup>52</sup> In the transition from 2006 to 2007, ketamine seizures in China increased sharply, from 1.8 tons to 10.5 tons, while the number of detected clandestine ketamine laboratories rose from 17 to 44. According to data submitted by China to DAINAP, in 2008 seizures amounted to 5.3 tons.

89. The Hong Kong SAR of China reported that seizures of ketamine amounted to 99 kg in 2007, and that, in contrast with previous years, ketamine was entering its territory from mainland China. Of 3,655 arrests for drug trafficking made by the Hong Kong SAR of China in 2007, 1,268 involved trafficking in ketamine.

<sup>52</sup> Ketamine, which can be used as a hallucinogen, is not currently under international control. While it is not an amphetamine-type stimulant, it is increasingly encountered in illicit ATS markets, either through its presence alongside other club drugs, or as an active ingredient in what is sold on illicit markets as “ecstasy”.

90. In 2007, a sharp increase in “ecstasy” seizures was also registered in Indonesia, from 48 kg<sup>53</sup> in 2006 to 151 kg in 2007 – the highest ever registered in this country. Among 23 ATS clandestine laboratories detected in Indonesia in 2007, 16 were manufacturing “ecstasy”.<sup>54</sup> According to data submitted by Indonesia to DAINAP, 1.0 million “ecstasy” tablets were seized in Indonesia in 2008.

91. In 2007, seizures of “ecstasy” also reached record levels in Malaysia and Japan. According to data submitted by Malaysia to DAINAP, in 2007 seizures of “ecstasy” rose sharply, from 24 kg in 2006 to 183 kg in 2007. However, in 2008, seizures of “ecstasy” in Malaysia fell back to 17 kg. In Japan, seizures rose from 20 kg in 2006 to 129 kg in 2007. As in the case of methamphetamine, estimated that almost two thirds of the “ecstasy” trafficked into its territory in 2007 originated in Canada.

---

---

<sup>53</sup> Thirty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, 11-14 November 2008. Country report by Indonesia.

<sup>54</sup> As reported by Indonesia to DAINAP. In its reply to the annual reports questionnaire for 2007, Indonesia reported 10 laboratories manufacturing “ecstasy” and 3 manufacturing “shabu” (crystalline methamphetamine).