Inter-governmental discussions on Drug Statistics in 2017

- Presentations made at previous intersessional meetings
- Meeting of the UN Statistical Commission (7-10 March)
- CND 60\textsuperscript{th} session (13-17 March)
- Next at the CND?
### Proposed multi-year programme of work of the Statistical Commission, 2017-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Approximate current frequency</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Demographic and social statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>(a) Demographic statistics/Population and housing censuses</td>
<td>Annual</td>
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<td>(b) Human settlements statistics</td>
<td>5 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>(c) Health statistics</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>(d) Disability statistics, including Washington Group on Disability Statistics</td>
<td>2 years</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>(e) Social statistics</td>
<td>5 years</td>
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<td>(f) Gender statistics</td>
<td>2 years</td>
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<td>(g) Poverty statistics</td>
<td>10 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>(h) Statistics on drugs and drug use</td>
<td>3 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>(i) Crime statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>(j) International migration statistics</td>
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<td>(k) Refugee statistics</td>
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<td>(l) Employment statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>(m) Education statistics</td>
<td>3 years</td>
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<td>(n) Culture statistics</td>
<td>5 years</td>
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<td>(o) Household surveys</td>
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<tr>
<td>(p) Civil registration and vital statistics</td>
<td>2 years</td>
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<td>X</td>
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Statistical Commission
Forty-eighth session
7 - 10 March 2017
Item 3 (i) of the provisional agenda*
Items for discussion and decision: statistics of drugs and drug use

Report of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on a roadmap to improve drug statistics

Note by the Secretariat
Consultative process:

- World Health Organization
- World Customs Organization
- UNAIDS
- EMCDDA, CICAD/OAS

The role of NSOs in drugs data:

- Standardize terminology and accountability practices
- Gather and centralize national data
- Analyse data
- Ensure confidentiality and privacy principles
- Disseminate to stakeholders
Vision for a national statistical system on drugs

**DEMAND-RELATED TOPICS**

**Use/consumption**
- Drug use prevalence
- Quantity consumed by people who use drugs
- Frequency of drug use
  - etc...

**Health consequences**
- Mortality related to drugs
- Morbidity associated to drug use
- Prevalence of drug use disorders
  - etc...

**Response**
- Treatment and care for drug use disorders
- Prevention of drug use
  - etc...

**DRUG LAW OFFENCES**
- Arrests, prosecutions, convictions, imprisonment on drug related crime

**SUPPLY-RELATED TOPICS**

**Supply/availability**
- Illicit cultivation
- Illicit production/manufacture
- Net availability within national borders, exports, imports
  - etc...

**Accessibility/markets**
- Price
- Purity

**Response**
- Impact and implementation of alternative development programmes
  - etc...

**TOPICS RELATED TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF DRUGS**

- Illegal economy related to drug production and trafficking
- Illicit financial flows related to drugs
- Crime attributable to drug use
- Violence and corruption associated with illicit drug supply chain
  - etc...

**STATISTICAL SOURCES**

- Drug use surveys (among general, school and high-risk populations)
- Size estimates of key populations produced by indirect and other estimation methods (e.g. people who inject drugs)
- Treatment records
- Registers of drug-related users, morbidity and mortality
- Records of law enforcement operations
- Records of criminal justice process (arrests, prisons)
- Forensic laboratories
- Remote sensing surveys of areas under illicit crop cultivation
- Rural household surveys in illicit crop cultivation regions
- Early warning systems
- Estimation models based on multiple sources
- Wastewater analysis
- Health authorities records
The priority areas identified in the Roadmap

**Methodological developments**
- Population surveys
- Treatment coverage
- Wastewater analysis
- Drug availability

**Capacity building**
- E-learning modules
- National coordination mechanisms
- Early warning systems

**International data collection and coordination**
- ARQ focal points
- Strengthen synergies
- Drug flows
## Methodological developments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Responses (objectives)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under-reporting of drug use in surveys; paucity of data; lack of standards; resource-intensive nature of traditional methods</td>
<td>Methodological guidelines for drug use population surveys</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paucity of data; resource-intensive nature of traditional surveys for data on drug use</td>
<td>Guidelines on drug use metrics based on wastewater analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clandestine, high-risk nature of drug trafficking; limitations of administrative data in measuring a dark figure; lack of standards</td>
<td>Guidelines for the production of data on drug availability</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of detailed operational definition and agreed estimation methods on treatment provision and people in need of treatment</td>
<td>Guidelines for the production of data on SDG 3.5.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of contextualized information on risk factors and socioeconomic conditions in rural communities affected by illicit crop cultivation</td>
<td>Methodology to monitor the impact of alternative development programmes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerging topics (UNGASS)</td>
<td>New statistical measures</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Capacity building

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Responses (objectives)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Limited reporting capacity</td>
<td>E-learning training modules</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geographical gaps in data availability</td>
<td>Regional and national training on producing, collecting and reporting drug data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of lead national agencies with substantive expertise on drugs and drugs data</td>
<td>Promotion of national coordination mechanisms on drugs data, including national drug observatories</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dynamic and poorly understood nature of emerging substances</td>
<td>Promotion of early warning systems on new psychoactive substances (NPS)</td>
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### International data collection and coordination

<table>
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<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Responses (objectives)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low reporting rate and difficulties in communication with reporting states</td>
<td>Establishment of national focal points on the annual report questionnaire (ARQ)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of harmonization of definitions and data reporting streams, duplication of efforts, reporting fatigue</td>
<td>Strengthening of synergies in the international data collection and capacity-building on drugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interconnectedness of illicit markets and drug situation at national level; clandestine, high-stake nature of illicit drug flows</td>
<td>Standardized methodologies for the estimation of transnational drug flows</td>
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</table>
The UN Statistical Commission

- Reviewed and recognized the statistical merits of the roadmap
- Commended it for the consideration of the CND to ensure harmonization with the policy directions of the CND
- Encouraged collaboration between the Statistical Commission and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs
- Stressed the need for national statistical capacity building
- Invited international and regional organizations, to support Members States in this regard, upon their request.
Invited UNODC, in close cooperation with Member States, to reflect on possibilities to strengthen and streamline its existing data-collection and analysis tools, including improving the quality and effectiveness of the annual report questionnaire, and to report to the Commission on possible ways to enhance these, for consideration by the Commission at its sixty-second session, and invites Member States to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes.
Requested UNODC, in close cooperation…to continue to support Member States, upon request, in strengthening their capacity to develop their reporting mechanisms, including by identifying gaps in the current drug statistics and by exploring possibilities to strengthen existing data collection and analysis tools at the national level;
Putting together CND policy directions with statistical expertise
Who?

- National Experts from drug-related institutions who collect and analyze drug statistics (for example persons who fill out ARQ and/or from national observatories)
- Persons working in National Statistical Offices
- Persons working in International and multi-national organizations responsible for drug related data
- Academics
- Balanced participation of demand and supply and other OC issues

“in close cooperation with Member States and pertinent United Nations entities, intergovernmental and regional organizations and, when appropriate, the scientific community and civil society”
What?

Two main topics: capacity building and ARQ revision

- Priority activities for capacity building (methodological development, training, data collection activities)
- Review the relevance, accuracy and timeliness of the current ARQ
- Examine the UNGASS outcome document in relation to new demand for statistics and explore how to implement them in global data collection

Room document to submit to reconvened CND in December
Requirements?

- Resources
- A meeting room...
- A genuine will to have a technical discussion to achieve a framework that can provide the international community with the best possible information system
Open question for the CND

HOW TO RESPOND TO THE CALL OF THE UN STATISTICAL COMMISSION TO COLLABORATE?
Different options

• No action
• Send a note to acknowledge the request for collaboration and inform about CND events
• Ask the SC to appoint focal points from NSO to work with the CND
• Send to the SC the room document from the expert consultation
• Send a proposed work plan of joint initiatives in the implementation of the roadmap
• Invite the SC to speak at the CND
• ....