

Crime scene and physical evidence awareness training delivered to law enforcement officers in Pakistan

Vienna, 17 February 2010

22 officers from various law enforcement agencies participated in a crime scene and physical evidence awareness course hosted by the Federal Investigation Agency in Islamabad from 8 to 11 February 2010.



The course was opened by Mr Irfan Nadeem Additional Director General (ADG) Headquarters FIA Islamabad. In his opening speech he highly appreciated the conduct of the course through international trainers provided by UNODC and INTERPOL.



The course was organized by UNODC under its Pakistan Border Control Management Project. INTERPOL and the UNODC, through its Laboratory and Scientific Section, jointly delivered this course. The course delivery format included lectures and case studies by the Training College by Pakistani experts.



Based on the end of the course evaluation, the participants demonstrated an increase in their knowledge of good practices in crime scene investigations and the nature and relevance of physical evidence. Due to an active participation of the trainees, the course also improved inter-agency cooperation and mutual understanding.



The course delivered is based on a forensic awareness and crime scene investigations training programme developed by the UNODC and piloted jointly with INTERPOL in Lagos, Nigeria in September 2009. Its development included expert group meetings and contributions of a number of individual experts and international organizations, namely the International Association for Identification (IAI), INTERPOL, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC).



The course was closed by Mr. Zafar Ullah Khan, Director General, who stressed the importance of having international support coming to their 'door-steps' in Pakistan and encourage participants and agencies to make full use of it to enhance their operating capacities. Mr. Jeremy Douglas, UNODC Representative, reiterated UNODC willingness to supporting FIA and other leading Pakistani law enforcement agencies in future with similar and / or more advanced training course as well as through the provision of essential equipment, under a new country programme which will include a project on capacity building of law enforcement agencies in the field of forensics.