

This newsletter provides information about key news and events related to UNODC's action and partnerships in the region. The UNODC Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (2012-2015) aims at addressing the illicit trafficking of heroin from Afghanistan and other related challenges, such as organized crime, corruption and drug abuse. Structured along three main pillars - (I) Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime, (II) Enhancement of Integrity and Justice, (III) Prevention, Treatment and Care - this Programme focuses on priority actions identified in cooperation with the Governments in the region and through a dialogue with national, regional and international partners.

For feedback, queries or comments regarding this newsletter, please contact Ms. Ekaterina Kolykhalova (e-mail: ekaterina.kolykhalova@unodc.org) and Mr. Sinisa Durkulic (sinisa.durkulic@unodc.org).



ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING

UNODC conducts a regional training to assist law enforcement officers to identify and interdict cash couriers

23-25 September 2014, Ohrid, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: UNODC's Global Programme against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism conducted a regional SEE training course on monitoring cross-border transportation of cash and bearer negotiable instruments (BNIs). The training provided an opportunity for 19 officers from FIUs, border control, customs, prosecutors and the police from the region to further develop their knowledge in the mechanisms for monitoring cash and BNIs at the border and the procedures for declaration/disclosure of cash and BNIs. The training also considered the international standards on combatting money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism and domestic legislation for cash monitoring, cash seizure process maps, decision making and improving performance and included practical exercises. *For info: Ekaterina Kolykhalova*



DRUG PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE

UNODC and the Lions Club International Foundation launch a pilot "LionsQuest - Skills for adolescence" programme in Serbia

July-September 2014, Belgrade, Serbia: UNODC and Lions Club International Foundation started a new evidence-based prevention programme of Serbia. The programme is school based and is being delivered by teachers. It works on improving the social and life skills of students in order to prevent a variety of risk factors including substance use. The LionsQuest programme was launched in Serbia on 15 July 2014 in Belgrade, which was followed by three workshops in Belgrade in August and September with participation of more than 900 elementary-school students. *For info: Milos Stojanovic*

Regional Seminar "Prevention Strategy and Policy Makers" Promotes Improvement of National Drug Use Prevention Systems

29 September - 02 October 2014, Belgrade, Serbia: The regional seminar was held with participation of national policy makers from the prevention and planning sectors from the SEE region. The objective of the seminar was to promote and support the improvement of the coverage and quality of national systems for drug use prevention in the participating countries, based on the UNODC International Standards on Drug Use Prevention and building on the substantial existing expertise and activities. Prior to the seminar, UNODC held a series of preparatory meetings with the national prevention experts in Podgorica, Belgrade, Skopje and Tirana. *For info: Milos Stojanovic.*



CRIMINAL JUSTICE

UNODC assessment mission on prison-based rehabilitation programmes in Albania

30 June - 4 July 2014, Tirana, Albania: A UNODC expert mission visited Albania to assess and identify the necessary contribution to the successful reintegration of prisoners into society within the programme on social inclusion implemented by the Albania One UN Coherence Fund and supported by the Swiss Development Cooperation. The mission visited six prisons and met with the representatives of the Prison Administration, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth and civil society organizations. *For info: Ela Banaj*

NEWS AND EVENTS

UNODC participates in the Bled Strategic Forum (BSF)

1-2 September 2014, Bled, Slovenia: UNODC participated, for the first time, in the annual BSF meeting. Over the past nine years, BSF, organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia and the Centre for European Perspective, has grown into a successful platform for high-level strategic dialogue among leaders from the private and public sectors on key issues facing Europe and the world in the 21st century. The South Eastern European countries were represented at the Forum at a very high level and discussed, inter alia, topics related to UNODC mandates. *For info: Ekaterina Kolykhalova*

11th Paris Pact Policy Consultative Group Meeting (PCGM) Endorses Key Actions and the Partnership's Agenda

29-30 September 2014, Vienna: The Paris Pact Initiative's annual Policy Consultative Group Meeting was held with participation of 95 delegates from 33 countries and 9 organizations. The partners endorsed key actions determined at the Expert Working Groups, discussed and defined the partnership's work plan and agenda for the second year of Phase IV of the Initiative and were updated on the recent Vienna Declaration-related interventions through the Paris Pact Report 2014, as well as on the work of the UNODC Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe and Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighboring Countries. *For info: Marie-Anne Menier.*

GLOBAL CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME (CCP)**Bosnia and Herzegovina formally joins UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme**

10 July 2014, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina: UNODC and BiH signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on container control, assembling commitments of the UNODC, Ministry of Security, Indirect Taxation Authority and Border Police BiH. The MoU is bringing the global UNODC-WCO Programme to BiH to contribute to country's efforts to fight illicit container trafficking and suppress activities of organized crime groups. Following the signing of the MoU, the Indirect Taxation Authority visited UNODC HQ in Vienna, on 10 September 2014, for consultations on the establishment of a Joint Port Control Unit at the border port / customs point Bijača and the capacity building activities for the future staff of the Unit. *For info: Alen Gagula*

Police operation led by Joint Port Unit in Durres

19 August 2014, Durres, Albania: The Joint Port Control Unit (JPCU), established in Durres under the UNODC-WCO CCP, participated and led a police operation at the ferry terminal of the Durres Port, whereby 332 kg of marijuana were seized. Marijuana was concealed in a double layer of the floor of a truck with Albanian number plates supposedly destined to Italy. The border police and anti-drug officers used intelligence-led selection in this operation which is yet another notable achievement of the JPCU at Durres Port. *For info: Ela Banaj*

UNODC and WCO host a demonstration lesson at the Port of Durres

23 September 2014, Durres, Albania: UNODC hosted a demonstration lesson for 45 law enforcement officers from SEE on cross-border cooperation, whereby UNODC, the JPCU, the Albanian Border Police and the Durres Customs House worked together. The indoor training was followed by the practical exercise at the container terminal. *For info: Ela Banaj*

**ANTI-CORRUPTION****UNODC and UNDP present an Assessment on Judicial Integrity in Kosovo under UNSCR 1244**

3 July 2014, Pristina: UNODC and UNDP presented the findings and recommendations of a March 2014 assessment report to the task force involving all relevant stakeholders from government, independent institutions, civil society, and representatives of international organizations in Kosovo. This report is part of the UNDP Project Support to Anti-Corruption Efforts in Kosovo aimed at enhancing the capacities of the judiciary in Kosovo for investigating and prosecuting internal and external cases of corruption. The project is supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and is implemented in cooperation with UNODC. *For info: Ekaterina Kolykhalova*

UNODC conducts country visits to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the context of reviewing the implementation of UNCAC

1-3 July 2014, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina: UNODC conducted a visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina in the context of reviewing the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in the country (fourth year of the first review cycle on the implementation of the Convention), with Hungary and Portugal as reviewing States parties. UNODC and the experts had meetings with officials from national institutions, both at the state and entities levels, involved in the implementation of anti-corruption measures and policies, as well as with representatives from the civil sector. On **16-18 September 2014**, UNODC conducted a visit to **the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia** with Croatia and Iceland as reviewing States parties. The round-table discussions in the context of this country visit (third year of the first review cycle) were held in **Skopje** with the relevant experts from national institutions and the civil sector. *For info: Ekaterina Kolykhalova*

HUMAN TRAFFICKING**Regional pilot training on trafficking in persons for criminal justice professionals of South Eastern Europe**

24-25 June 2014, Belgrade, Serbia: UNODC and the Judicial Academy of Serbia organized the Regional pilot training. The initiative to develop and pilot the SEE Trafficking in Persons Curriculum is based on the results of the UNODC Regional Conference on criminal justice response to trafficking in persons (Belgrade, October 2012). The aim of the SEE TIP Curriculum is to enhance harmonisation of training and subsequent practical work of criminal justice professionals on trafficking in persons cases in SEE, with a focus on the issues that are identified as important in judicial and training practice of the region. After the regional workshop in Budva, Montenegro, on 27-29 May 2014 which gathered focal points nominated by Judicial Training Institutions from the SEE and supported the concept of development of the SEE TIP Curriculum, training methodology and materials, the training event in Belgrade tested practical implementation and effectiveness of the SEE TIP Curriculum. *For info: Davor Raus*

Helpline in support of victims of crime launched in Albania

16 June 2014, Tirana, Albania: A 24-hour free telephone line, 116 006, was launched for victims of crime. This national helpline offers support and services to victims of crime, primarily victims and potential victims of trafficking, and is supported by UNODC as part of its continued partnership with the Office of the National Coordinator on Human Trafficking Issues. The ultimate goal of the helpline is to curb the number of trafficked women and children in Albania. *For info: Ela Banaj*