With the partnership and the support of European Union
Establishment of real-time operational communication between international airports in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean

Vienna
November 2014

Valentin Chirica
Aircop Project Coordinator (Africa)
Partner Organizations

INTERPOL
I-24/7: Global Police Communications System

World Customs Organization
CENcomm: Customs Enforcement Network communication system
Funded by The European Union

EU Cocaine Route Programme
Interdiction of illicit flows (AIRCOP, SEACOP, PRELAC)

Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace
Drug trafficking – a proceed of organized crime

Travellers

Crops

Products

Transport

Market

Money
Project Objectives

➢ Build drug-interdiction capacities at international airports in Africa, Latin America and The Caribbean
AIRCOP I  
Jan 2010 → June 2014  
EUR 2,601,795  
Cabo Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, Togo, Sénégal

AIRCOP II  
Jan 2011 → June 2015  
EUR 2,893,702  
Argentina, Benin, Cameroon, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Kenya, Panama, Ethiopia and Guinea-Bissau. South Africa (associate country)

AIRCOP III  
Jan 2014 → December 2016  
EUR 3,000,000  
Mozambique, Niger, Peru and El Salvador. Brazil and Morocco (associate countries)
Production and distribution of Cocaine

- **Colombia**: 51% production around 845 tonnes
- **Peru**: 36%
- **Bolivia**: 13%

**Exported:** 660 tonnes

**To Europe:**
- 40-45% (130-165 tons)
- 20-25% (100-130 tons)

**To North America:**
- 260-300 tons

**To South America:**
- 15-20% (30-100 tons)

**To Africa:**
- 5-15% (100-130 tons via Africa to Europe)
Methamphetamine way from Africa

1.5 tones of methamphetamines exported every year from Africa.

Source: UNODC, ROSEN 2017
Around 220 kg of heroine are seized every year in Africa.
Creating a JAITF – institutional phase

• Letter of invitation (UNODC)
• Letter of interest (Beneficiary Country)
• Letter of Agreement (UNODC – Beneficiary Country)
• Interagency MOU or Presidential Decree (Beneficiary Country with UNODC support)
• MOU between the JAITF and Airlines
Creating a JAITF – operational phase

- Training
- Mentoring
- Immersion
- Equipment and detection tools
- Exchange of operational information
- Exchange of best practices
- Cooperation with Intel community (Liaison Officers)
Joint Airport Interdiction Task Force Legal Authority

Authorities’ exclusive areas

Customs

Immigration

Police

Joint area
- tasks and competences JAITF

**Intelligence team**

- Contact with airlines – passengers list
- Contact point for LEA & NCB
- Risk analysis – risk indicators
- Communication

**Operational team**

- Detection and interception
- Searching
- First findings & report

Competency over people, freight and postal
JAITF – a dynamic approach in terms of deployment and risk assessment
WORKING METHODOLOGY

Advanced Information (if available)

Risk based selection of flights
Risk based selection of passengers
Analysis of travel Documents
Interview
Non-verbal observation
Concealment methods
Information sharing flow

investigations

1

source region

goods

facilities

courier

2

smuggling route

CEN-database

B

via

from

to

3

destination region

distribution

dismantling

consumption

courier

joint database-concept (Pompidou Group):

total overview of criminal chain
(from production source to consumer market)

database = analysis-tool (strategic / tactical / operational)
## Passenger processing flow

### PRE SELECTION - Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I</th>
<th>observation</th>
<th>Disembarking</th>
<th>Visual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>observation</td>
<td>Transfer from the plane to the primary inspection lane</td>
<td>Visual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>observation</td>
<td>Border control</td>
<td>Visual, verbal, documentary, itinerary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>documents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>person</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>observation</td>
<td>Luggage recovery</td>
<td>Visual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>observation</td>
<td>Customs control</td>
<td>Visual, verbal, documentary, luggage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>luggage documents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>person</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aircop CENComm
### Interpol I24/7

**Person**
- Name: ANGELES (MARTING)
- Forename(s): ANTONIO
- Date of Birth: 1966-06-20
- Place of Birth: SAO PAULO
- Country of Birth: Brazil
- Sex: Male
- Father's identity: ANTONIO, ANGELES
- Mother's identity: MARTIN, ANGELES
- Identity confirmed: Yes

**Identity Document(s)**
- Document No.: 5263493
- Document Type: IDENTITY_CARD
- Country of Issue: Spain
- Date of Issue: 1984-09-03

**Nationalities**
- Nationality: Spain

**Interpol person's status**
- Status: WANTED

**ICIS - Interpol Criminal Information System**
- File Nr.: 1993/9056
- Issuing office - Reference: FORM NR 1 ANGELES MARTIN
- Issuing office - Title: NCB
- Issuing office - Name: Madrid
- File last update: 2003-02-06
- Recorded until: 2008-02
ST Form

OUR REF:
YOUR REF:

ROUTING:
- Urgent
- Routine
- Flash

RESTRICTIONS:
- No restriction
- Restricted to: name of the country(ies)

SUBJECT: (type of drug seized or investigation on type of drug trafficking...)

1. Date of seizure:
2. Place of seizure:
3. Description of drug - weight and type:

Express / Courier Mail
- Sender:
- Receiver:

4. Persons involved:
- Surname
- Forename(s)
- Date and place of birth
- Nationality
- Son/daughter of
- Gender
- Alias(es)
- Address
- Occupation
- Criminal record

- ID document

Attach a file: Fingerprints / photo
Indicators

- General appearance
- Behavioural / Non-verbal
- Verbal
- Documentary (passport, airline ticket)
- Itinerary
- Luggage
Analysis of the passenger list (PNR).

- List of passengers on a flight
  - Flight number
- Date of flight
- Actual departure time
- Place of origin
- Passengers accepted
- Scheduled departure time
- Estimated time of arrival
- Duration of flight
- Aircraft type
- Aircraft classes
- Aircraft registration number
- Aircraft position Remote or finger
- Estimated boarding time
## Analysis of the passenger list (PNR)

### Passenger Arriving from Previous Flight
- I. Passenger arriving from previous flight
- 0. In transit and continuing flight

### Intermediate Closure, Removal of Load Sheet

### Initial Boarding Closure

### Final Closure, Boarding Completed

### Class Type, Affects Ticket Price

### Seat Reservation by Reserved Ticket

### Flight Duration

### Baggage and Quantity

### Passenger Name

### Boarding Pass Collection Order

### Designated Plane Seat Number

### Destination

### Boarded Passenger

### Indicates a Message
Concealment methods

- Concealed internally by swallowing drugs packaged in latex, plastic, or other wrapping
- Concealed externally on the body, such as taped to the skin
- Concealed within clothes being worn
- Contained within a luggage bag, wrapped but unconcealed
- Concealed within an item such as ceramic being carried in a bag
- Concealed within secret compartments, bag lining, and bag handles
- An additional concealment method is to move the drugs in liquid form, in which case they are in bottles
- Solid compacted cocaine.
Detection technology – x Ray
More the substance is dense and organic, more the image is dark orange
Detection technology – IonScans and Trace detectors
Regular Ion Scan
Study case no. 1: controlled delivery

- Initiated by French Customs and Judiciary Police in April 2013 on a mail submission (parcel)
- Grenada (Caribbean) and Benin involved
- 324 g of cocaine seized in the targeted parcel
- The recipient of Nigerian nationality, the sender and three other accomplices were arrested
- Even if the quantity is small, a Nigerian organized crime network was dismantled
- The Aircop JAIFT at Cotonou Airport was a key element in ensuring the success of this joint operation
Study case no. 2: corruption attempt

- In 2012, a Pilipino traveller went every day to Lome Airport for two weeks to sympathise with Customs and Police officers including from JAITF, offering gifts and meals.
- A seizure of 7 kg methamphetamines was performed on this passengers when boarding an outbound flight.
- The narcotics were dissimulated in suitcase false bottom.
- Our officers are trained to detect this kind of behaviour.
Methamphetamine false bottom (Togo JAITF)
Study case no. 3: internal carrier

- Nigerian national arrested in Lagos in March 2014 coming from Brazil via Lome
- Combination risk assessment and detection technology used
- 150 pellets of 10 g each
- Increasing trend in using this dangerous method of dissimulation
- Impact on medical system
- Possible lethal consequence (if one pellet explodes = overdose)
Ingested cocaine seized in Lagos
Study case no. 4: cooperation between JAITFs

- 4 Nigerian Nationals coming from Sao Paolo to Cotonou through Lome
- Insufficient time to intercept in Lome (tight stopover)
- Risk Assessment shared with the JAITF in Cotonou via CENComm
- 48 kg of cocaine seized
Cocaine seized by Benin JAITF
Study case no. 5: proactive investigation

• In February 2014, a Nigerian national coming from Islamabad arrested for drug trafficking in Ghana, targeted through PNR analysis
• Subsequent PNR analysis revealed two additional Nigerians coming the following day, displaying the same indicators
• All three suspects arrested and 3.5 kg of heroin seized
## Results of AIRCOP Task Forces 2011-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Quantity/kg</th>
<th>Arrests</th>
<th>Seizures</th>
<th>Estimated value Eur</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
<td>553.19</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>45,339,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannabis</td>
<td>315.53</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>3,950,435</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heroin</td>
<td>74.80</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4,873,968</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td>190.70</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>8,224,891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counterfeited</td>
<td>1,397.00</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>medicines</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elephant ivory</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Dollar</td>
<td>96,500</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>73,243</td>
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<tr>
<td>Counterfeit USD</td>
<td>240,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>182,160</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>293</strong></td>
<td><strong>252</strong></td>
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</table>
## Results of AIRCOP Task Forces 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Quantity/kg</th>
<th>Arrests</th>
<th>Seizures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
<td>430.86</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>109</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cannabis</td>
<td>211.1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heroine</td>
<td>70.99</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td>73.23</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ephedrine</td>
<td>3.03</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phenacetin</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elephant ivory</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Dollar</td>
<td>96,500</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results of AIRCOP Task Forces 2011-2014
Results of Cocair Joint Operations with WCO

COCAIR 1  December 2008  13 seizures
(train the trainer session in Ouagadougou – cascade training in 4 countries)

COCAIR 2  April 2010  22 seizures
(train the trainer session in Ouagadougou – cascade training in 6 countries)

COCAIR 3  Novembre 2011  44 seizures
(train the trainer session in Brazzaville – cascade training in 9 countries)

COCAIR 4  October 2013  98 seizures
(train the trainer session in Libreville – cascade training in more than 10 countries)
Cocaine seizure concealed as bleaching powder – Benin JAITF
2.5 kg of Cocaine in purse handles – Senegal JAITF
11 kg of Cocaine concealed in sandals heals – Nigeria JAITF
1.4 kg of methamphetamines concealed in a laptop – Benin JAITF
Cocaine concealed in braids, seized by Benin JAITF
47 kg of Cannabis seized by Togo JAITF
2.024 kg of Cocaine concealed in the covers of four books – Cabo Verde JAITF
Various cocaine seizures made by Cabo Verde JAITF, including a body pack
449 kg of Ivory - Nigeria
395 kg of shark fin destined to Hong Kong, seized by Senegal JAITF
Boeing 747 seized by Cote d’Ivoire JAITF during “Ailes Africaines” Joint Operation
26,870 euros seized by Cabo Verde JAITF during Cocair IV Joint Operation
Challenges

• Political instability and insecurity/sustainability
• Limited coordination at all levels
• Strong inter-institutional rivalry (Police and Customs) and lack of exposure to interagency work
• Virtually absent cross-border information sharing in the control of drug trafficking and related money laundering
• Corruption
• Lack of capacity in interdicting/investigating illicit drugs
• Lack of political will
• Law ratio of condemnations
• Airlines/airport commercial priorities vs border enforcement priorities
Steps taken

- Use regional coordination mechanisms (ECOWAS, CAPCO)
- Improve coordination with partners to eliminate duplication
- Strengthen donor cooperation and coordination
- Engage existent networks, programmes and initiatives in each country to reach out to decision making level
- Advocate complementarity between Police and Customs
- Engage EU law enforcement experts to deliver capacity building and mentoring
- Strengthen investigative and prosecution skills and engage Judiciary
- Adopt selection procedures for the recruitment of JAITF officers, including background checks and polygraph
- Implement real time communication systems
- Ensure a balanced approach between enforcement and facilitation based on risk assessment techniques
Achievements

• Strong national ownership, ensuring sustainability.
• South-South cooperation on illicit trafficking at airports.
• Source, transit and destination countries linked through a real-time communication system.
• Increased number of couriers arrested and volume of narcotics seized.
• Large amount of operational information accumulated for strategic analysis.
• A tradition for inter-institutional and cross-border communication and cooperation created.
• Operational implementation rate: 98.75% (AIRCOP I)
Perspectives

- **Integrated security approach**
  - Further horizontal and vertical integration of JAITF, in coordination with airport security and as much as possible with prosecutor's office / Judicial Police.

- **International and regional dimension**
  - Foster cooperation at a national, a regional and on an international level: source, transit and destination countries.
  - Further alignment with the ECOWAS Regional Action plan & the Dakar Initiative.
  - Enhance synergy with other UNODC programs such as Container Control Programme (CCP), WACI or Sahel, as well other EU funded initiatives, such as Ameripol EU, Seacop and Gafisud, to eliminate duplication and ensure sound management of public funds.

- **New high risk countries to join Aircop**
  - Invite new high risk countries to join the project with the purpose to efficiently secure the region: Mauritania, Chad, Burkina Faso, Tanzania, Angola, Gabon, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Botswana, Congo, Gabon. The former three countries may be the object of synergy with Sahel programme.

- **Strategically involving the associate countries**
  - Revisit the concept of associate country to make it more attractive.
Perspectives (cont)

- Develop public-private partnership
- Increase public/private partnerships and collaboration between (inter)national institutions and private sector organizations (airline companies, airport authorities, and civil aviation authorities).

- Training the Task Forces on Crime Prevention
- Address internal conspiracies.
- Promote pro-active investigation aimed at intervention before crimes are committed (crime pattern analysis, general profile analysis, crime control method analysis and risk assessment analysis).

- Training the Task Forces in specialist areas
- Enhance investigative skills and techniques in specialist areas (couriers, cargo, private aviation), including the quality of reports.
The way forward

- **Strengthen donor cooperation and coordination** *(Involvement of the EU Delegations in all project countries)*
- **Strengthen cooperation with our partners** *(capacity building and operational collaboration with Police and Customs in Canada, UK, Spain, Portugal, France, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, Netherlands, Israel and South Africa)*
- **Enhance internal collaboration** – with UNODC offices, such as:
  - UNOV
  - UNODC – ROPAN: Latin America and the Caribbean region
  - UNODC – ROSA: South Africa & Mozambique
  - UNODC – ROEA: Kenya & Ethiopia
  - UNODC – COCOL: Colombia
  - UNODC – ROBRA: Brazil and Argentina
  - UNODC – CONIG: Nigeria
- **Initiate Aircop IV**: expansion of the project towards eastern, northern and southern regions of Africa to counter the bounce-back effect (3.5 M Euro) and address heroin component
Funding requirements

- Project is financed 87% by European Union
- EUR 390,424 missing (13%)
- EUR 3,500,000 for Aircop IV
- Any amount of EUR 200,000 can bring a new country into Aircop (establish a new JAITF)
THANK YOU