

66th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Agenda item 4: Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions

- (b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

- (d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters

Statement by:

Dennis Thatchaichawalit

Director, Division for Management

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

14 March 2023

Mr. Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

In 2022, UNODC continued to implement its Strategy 2021–2025 during compounding crises related to consequences of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, climate change and the environment, as well as new and protracted conflicts. Progress has been made in turning internal strategies and action plans focusing on enabling efficiencies into actions and deliverables. Important steps to realign and consolidate the work of the strategy's thematic areas, streamline programmes within those thematic areas, and to direct more resources to field operations have been taken. Further, new strategic documents such as the Strategic Vision for Latin America and the Caribbean or the Afghanistan Strategic Stability Grid have been developed in close alignment with the UNODC Strategy. Results by thematic area are presented in the report of the Executive Director on Activities of the UNODC available to the Commissions as document E/CN.7/2023/2-E/CN.15/2023/2 and in the upcoming 2022 Results-based Report on the Implementation of the UNODC Strategy, to be presented to Member States in June.

In 2022, programme delivery reached \$334.5 million, an increase of \$36.7 million (12 per cent) compared to 2021. Field Office network implementation totalled \$257.4 million (77 per cent of total 2022 implementation).

The increase in programme delivery resulted in higher programme support cost income earned in 2022 (\$37.5 million).

The general-purpose fund income reached \$4.6 million, a mere 1.2% of the total income of UNODC.

At the request of the Commissions and taking into account the UNODC Strategy for 2021-2025, UNODC will continue to engage with Member States on the review of its funding model. UNODC will also ensure that growth is accompanied by sustained delivery capacity and the availability of resources to bolster unfunded mandates (i.e., gender).

Mr. Chair,

Let me now turn to agenda item (d).

UNODC continues to promote gender parity and geographical diversity amongst its staff. Efforts to sustain gender parity, which was precisely at 50% in February 2023, require ongoing dedication, particularly in maintaining parity and further enhancing female representation in P-4 and higher positions, as well as in UNODC field offices.

Consistent efforts towards equitable geographic representation, which includes strengthened outreach, remains a crucial activity in improving workforce diversity.

Additionally, ensuring a healthy workforce amidst the challenges posed by the global pandemic and beyond remains a top priority, along with reinforcing a victim-centered approach and enabling managers to play a more active role in upholding the Organization's zero tolerance policy against discrimination, harassment (including sexual harassment), abuse of authority, and promoting an enabling working environment.

We thank you for your time and stand ready to respond to your comments and questions.