

Issue I: Use of the Internet for drug-related activities

Recommendation 1

Governments should be encouraged to ensure that their law enforcement agencies are well informed, professionally trained and suitably resourced so as to be effective in the investigation of cyber-related offences and the related use of the Internet for illicit trafficking.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Finland has established a dedicated cybercrime center with the aim to monitor cyber-related offences including illicit trafficking of drugs. Advanced training courses are organized for cybercrime investigators.

Recommendation 2

Governments must work together to overcome the obstacles encountered in undertaking the investigation of cyber-related trafficking offences across multiple jurisdictions and introduce the changes needed in legislation, practices and procedure to expedite information-sharing, enquiries with Internet service providers and the transfer of evidence.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Finland participates to all EMPACT cybercrime related priorities and uses all services provided by Europol cybercrime center.

Recommendation 3

Governments should encourage their law enforcement agencies to develop the specialist skills that will support the investigation of cyber-related offences and lead to successful criminal prosecutions.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Finland has established a dedicated cybercrime center with the aim to monitor cyber-related offences including illicit trafficking of drugs. Advanced training courses are organized for cybercrime investigators including basic knowledge for all law enforcement officers.

Issue II: Alternatives to imprisonment for certain offences as demand reduction strategies that promote public health and public safety

Recommendation 1

Governments are encouraged to make full use of alternatives to imprisonment for people with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system, particularly at the time of their arrest and at the pretrial stage.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Alternative sanctions have been developed for drug users: a reprimand procedure for young users and referral to treatment for problem users. The Prosecutor General has encouraged prosecutors to waive charges for drug users who have sought treatment. (Prosecutor General 2006:1) The guidelines also note that breaking a drug addiction may be difficult and may require several treatment periods differing in content. Accordingly, it is possible to waive charges because of seeking treatment multiple times for the same individual. Seeking treatment must be demonstrated by written proof indicating that the drug user has sought treatment at a treatment institution or has booked a place or an appointment there.

According to the prosecutor guidelines on unlawful use of narcotics, a first offender under the age of 18 must, by default, be given a reprimand; instead of being fined, their charges should be waived. The reprimand session is attended by the young offender himself/herself and his/her parent or guardian, and also representatives of the police, the prosecutor, and the social welfare authorities.

Problem drug users can be referred to treatment as an alternative to sanction. The Prosecutor General has encouraged prosecutors to waive charges for drug users who have sought treatment. Often a problem drug user is suspected of multiple crimes, not only for example of use of narcotics. Therefore charges will not be waived, even if the suspect would be referred to treatment in respect of the use of narcotics.

Recommendation 2

Governments are encouraged to promote and implement institutional mechanisms, including through induction and training programmes, that enable the police to screen, assess and refer appropriate cases to treatment facilities, taking into account their dual role as the first responders and the first criminal justice actors encountered by people with drug use disorders when they come into contact with the criminal justice system.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

See above

Recommendation 3

Governments are encouraged to adopt or amend legislation, policies, and guidelines that allow flexibility when handing down sentences for drug-related offences that take into account the nature and gravity of the offence as well as the personality and background of the offender.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

See previous

Recommendation 4

Governments are encouraged to employ a multidisciplinary approach in providing treatment and rehabilitation as an alternative to conviction or punishment and to promote and develop the capacity for institutional coordination between justice, health, and social services authorities.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

See previous

Recommendation 5

Governments are encouraged to implement measures to increase public awareness of the benefits of using alternatives to imprisonment.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

There are some links on official websites of The Police and Healthcare authorities where information can be found.

Recommendation 6

Governments are encouraged to collect and analyse gender- and age-disaggregated data on the use of alternatives to imprisonment and, if applicable, to undertake periodic evaluation of existing initiatives to provide treatment as an alternative to conviction or punishment for people with drug use disorders.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

All statistics are usually gender- and age-disaggregated especially when it comes whether the perpetrator is a minor or an adult. With gender there is more need of improvement.

Issue III: Mainstreaming gender perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes

Recommendation 1

Governments are encouraged to collect and analyse gender-disaggregated data to obtain more information about the situation and circumstances of women drug users and the various roles women assume in drug-related crime and in organized crime groups with a view to developing and implementing effective and comprehensive policies and programmes.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Statistics take gender into account. Special research has been made on gender perspective.

Recommendation 2

Governments are encouraged to ensure non-discriminatory access to health-care services for women, including in prison, and to develop gender-sensitive prevention, primary care, treatment and reintegration policies and programmes, particularly for pregnant women and women with caretaking responsibilities.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

There is a specialized treatment facility for women – especial emphasis on pregnant women or women with small children

Recommendation 3

Governments are encouraged to ensure close cooperation and collaboration among all relevant national authorities in developing and implementing gender-sensitive drug policies and programmes that take into account the specific needs and circumstances faced by women and girls with regard to the world drug problem.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Gender sensitivity is taken into account in prevention and in treatment.

Issue IV: Money-laundering, illicit financial flows and effective countermeasures

Recommendation 1

In support of the investigation of money-laundering offences and the recovery of the proceeds of crime, Governments are encouraged to enable access by their law enforcement authorities to the information held by their financial intelligence units.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

National FIU and ARO are part of National Bureau of Investigation (Police).

Recommendation 2

Governments are encouraged to ensure that evidence gathered through investigations of money-laundering offences by their financial intelligence units has legal standing in their courts if used in prosecutions brought by other law enforcement agencies.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

National FIU and ARO are part of National Bureau of Investigation (Police). Evidence gathered by FIU has legal standing in the court.

Recommendation 3

Governments are encouraged to make use of the tools available for training and building the capacity of their law enforcement authorities, financial investigators and prosecutors available through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and other training institutions.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

National training has been organized and training provided by Europol and CEPOL has been used.

Recommendation 4

Governments are encouraged to share with UNODC the results of their national money-laundering risk assessments to facilitate a coordinated global response and to strengthen the capacity of competent authorities and financial institutions to thwart attempts at money-laundering.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

This has not been done, but contribution to Europol Organized Crime Threat Assessment has been provided.