



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**Expert working group on improving drug  
statistics and strengthening the Annual Report  
Questionnaire (ARQ)**

**29-31 January 2018**

**Vienna, Austria**



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## Challenges in data on seizures and trafficking

- **Seizures (questions 1-3, ARQ Part 4)**
  - Aggregation of data from multiple law enforcement agencies
  - Aggregation across drug types
  - Attribution, counting rules for number of cases
  - Losses
  - Uncertainty about nature of seized substances
- **Trafficking routes (questions 4-6, ARQ Part 4)**
  - Concepts of departure country, production/manufacturing country, transit and destination
  - Require a significant effort of aggregation of case-specific records
- **Mode of transportation (questions 7-8, ARQ Part 4)**
  - Potential overlap of “mail” with air/sea/land



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## Challenges in price-purity data (questions 15-18, ARQ Part 4)

- **Prices**
  - Purchase units
  - Currency
  - Retail versus wholesale, redundant conversions
  - Intelligence versus data
- **Typical values and common ranges**
  - Ranges too wide, include extreme values
  - Typical value unclear
  - Size of samples
- **Purity data**
  - Representativity
  - Ad hoc concepts (cannabis, opium, tablet content)
  - Purity-adjusted price



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## Challenges data on cultivation, production and manufacture

- **Cultivation and eradication (Questions 32-38, ARQ Part 4)**
  - Relevance: cannabis, opium poppy and coca bush
  - Indoor cultivation: no provision for reporting, unit of measurement
  - Potential overlaps and ambiguities in measurement of eradication
- **Yield and production (Questions 39-43, ARQ Part 4)**
  - Require in-depth studies
  - Information currently available through joint crop monitoring projects
- **Clandestine laboratories (Questions 48-57, ARQ Part 4)**
  - Nomenclature
  - Breakdowns by substance, layout/structure
  - Complex classifications
- **Illicit manufacture (Questions 58-65, ARQ Part 4)**
  - Very specific information: precursor chemicals, raw materials and reagents used, and associated conversion ratios