

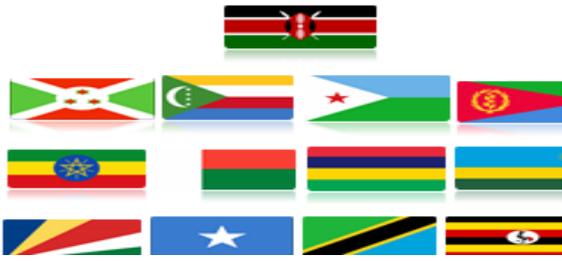


UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Quarterly Newsletter from the Regional Office for Eastern Africa

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As the guardian of crime prevention and criminal justice standards and norms, the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its related Protocols, the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), as well as the various international instruments on drug control and counter-terrorism, UNODC has unique expertise in addressing illicit trafficking and organized crime, as well as their linkages to corruption and terrorism. Through its Regional Office in Eastern Africa, UNODC has developed extensive knowledge of the drug and crime situation in the region, and has strong cooperation links with relevant national authorities and partner organizations.

Inter-Regional Conference Addressing and Countering the Drug Problem: “Sharing of Best Practices Between the Americas, Africa and Asia”

27 November- 1 December 2017



On Monday 27th November, UNODC and the Government of Kenya welcomed Member States representatives from Africa, Latin America and West Asia in Nairobi to jointly examine challenges and lessons learned in countering the world drug problem. The first of its kind in the region, the Inter-Regional Conference Addressing and Countering the Drug Problem offers a platform for dialogue and sharing regional experience between different parts of the world affected by the trafficking and use of illicit drugs.

Organized in support of the UNODC Regional Programme for Promoting the Rule of Law and Human Security in Eastern Africa (2016-2021), the conference aims to contribute to improved responses at national and regional levels by fostering international cooperation and promoting a balanced approach addressing both the supply of illicit drugs, and the health and social consequences of drug use.

“It is opportune that this Conference is taking place, at a time when Countries around the world are at cross-roads in combatting drug trafficking and the associated problems” Hon. Dr. Fred Matiang’i, Kenyan Cabinet Secretary for Interior and Coordination of National Government said during the opening of the conference, “We acknowledge the undisputable nexus between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime such as terrorism, money-laundering and human & firearms trafficking which complicates the fight against the drug problem. I therefore trust that this conference will provide solutions to these challenges” he further stated. In turn, Mr. Jose Vila del Castillo, UNODC Regional Representative for Eastern Africa said “we have to work together to counter not only the threat of drug trafficking at sea and on land, but also to identify, investigate and confiscate the billions of Dollars associated with this crime”. The conference provided opportunities for delegates from 24 countries to present their national experience and discuss concrete steps towards an effective drug response encompassing law enforcement and international cooperation; criminal justice and anti-corruption; as well as health and social development. It concluded with a Ministerial Segment on World AIDS Day, Friday, 1 December 2017.

“It is of comfort to know that there is a light at the end of the tunnel as we have learnt from other countries especially those in the Americas. There are positive steps that have been taken in an effort to deal with this menace from a national, regional and international perspective. From the outcome document of the Conference, it is evident that there are several steps that need to be taken based on the best practices to address this problem” Honorabile Professor Githu Muigai, Kenyan Attorney General stated during the Ministerial segment of the Meeting where the outcome document of the conference was presented. The document provides several recommendations identified to better address the drug problem within the context of the *UNODC Regional Programme for Eastern Africa (2016-2021)* and with the objective to enhance regional cooperation and coordination to address both the supply and demand side of illicit narcotic drugs. Moreover, on Friday 1st December 2017, an overview of the 2017 outputs of the 2016- 2021 Regional Programme "Promoting the Rule of Law and Human Security" was provided by UNODC at the Steering Committee Meeting in attendance of Eastern African Ministers and Ambassadors.

The trafficking of illicit drugs in Eastern Africa is inextricably linked to transnational organized crime and corruption, posing a significant threat to regional security, stability and public health. In the context of the Regional Programme, UNODC works closely with Member States in the region to promote regional cooperation and strengthen capacities to address both drug supply and demand towards a balanced and public-health oriented approach to drug control. Safeguarding the fundamental human right to health is a key priority for UNODC in promoting a balanced approach to drug control, in line with the international community’s resolve emerging from the 2016 Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the World Drug Problem, and Goal 3 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Regional: Countering TIP/SOM



High Level Regional Meeting on Witness Protection

From 25 to 26 September 2017, ROEA along with the Government of Ethiopia and in cooperation with the Better Migration Management (BMM) Programme, hosted a 2-day regional meeting with the goal of promoting the development of a witness protection programme in Ethiopia. Held at the Economic Commission for Africa Conference Centre in Addis Ababa and within the framework of the *UNODC Regional Programme for Eastern Africa (2016-2021)* and *UNODC National Integrated Programme for Ethiopia (2013-2017)*, the event brought together experts from the South African Office of Witness Protection, the Rwanda Witness Protection Unit and the Central Protection Service of Italy as well as representatives from Ethiopia, Sudan, Djibouti and Somalia.

The meeting was opened by Teka Gebrekidan, Deputy Federal Attorney General of Ethiopia, together with Johan Kruger, ROEA Head of Transnational Organized Crime, Illicit Trafficking and Terrorism Programmes and Josh Friedman, BMM Regional Coordinator for Ethiopia and Djibouti at GIZ Ethiopia. During his opening remarks, Mr. Gebrekidan thanked UNODC for hosting the meeting and supporting the Government of Ethiopia in strengthening its criminal justice system. According to Mr Gebrekidan, the meeting would greatly assist the Federal Attorney General in operationalising the existing legislation on witness protection.

The event aimed to strengthen cooperation and partnership between the Ethiopian Attorney General and counterparts in Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa and Italy, and to exchange knowledge, best practices and awareness about witness protection in the region. Moreover, the meeting contributed to the implementation of the BMM programme – to which UNODC is an implementing partner – by identifying priorities and technical assistance needs in of beneficiary countries with regards to witness protection in the context of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.

Tanzania: Wildlife & Forest Crime (WLFC)



Launch and Roll out of Tanzania Rapid Reference Guide for Investigators & Prosecutors of WLFC

On Wednesday 28th June, a media event was held in Dar es Salaam at the official launch of the Tanzania RRG for Investigators and prosecutors, and opening ceremony for the inaugural training workshop.

Guest of Honour at the launch was Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania. Also in attendance were the Minister of Natural resources & Tourism, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, UN Resident Coordinator and the Director of Public Prosecutions. Invited guests included the Inspector General of police and the Heads of Wildlife Agencies. UN Resident Coordinator Mr Alvaro Rodriguez told the audience, “Despite the best efforts of the authorities in Tanzania, seizures of illegally trafficked wildlife products originating from this country continue to be made in other parts of the world. These instances provide a clear indication that more remains to be done to prevent the exploitation of Tanzania’s flora and fauna, and to bring those behind it to justice.” He added that the Rapid Reference Guide would “strengthen the hands of investigators and prosecutors of wildlife and forest crimes” to help them to build and present stronger, more watertight cases in bringing offenders to justice.

Since the launch a total of 226 investigators and prosecutors have received training in the application of the Guide in a series of 9 out of a total of 17 workshops planned for 2017.

The training materials were designed and produced by UNODC and the workshops are being delivered in cooperation with USAID PROTECT Programme, the PAMS Foundation, the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) and World Wildlife Fund.

Somalia: Police Reform

First Session of Somali Police Force (SPF) Basic Recruit Curriculum (BRC) Training of Trainers (ToT) Workshop



From 7th to 24th September, 2017, UNODC in conjunction with the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), SPF and European Union Capacity Building Mission (EUCAP) in Somalia conducted the first Training of Trainers (To) session based on the Basic Recruit Curriculum (BRC). The TT was the first of its kind to be conducted in General Kahiye Police Academy in Mogadishu, Somalia. It was conducted by two trainers from UNODC and a single trainer from AMISOM. The Trainees; 14 in number were drawn from the six federal member states of Somalia. The second and final ToT session is scheduled for 14th to 26th October 2017.

The Federal State of Somalia is currently undergoing a rigorous reform of its entire governing structure aimed at effectively implementing the 2010 provisional Constitution and fully establishing the federal system. In pursuit of these reforms, the Somali Police Force (SPF) has been recognized as an important actor in establishing order in the country particularly in the Federal Member States. UNODC is committed to support SPF in the implementation of the rule of law reforms which will ensure effective systems within their law enforcement authorities and enhance police integrity. In this endeavor, UNODC actively participated in the development of a Basic Recruit Curriculum (BRC) for the SPF from January to August 2017. The curriculum is designed to provide initial training for individuals wishing to join the SPF law enforcement. The curriculum was developed by a team of professionals headed by a UNODC law enforcement consultant. It includes 41 BRC training modules, trainers manual and the implementation plan. These modules were approved by the Police Professional Development Board (PPDB) in August 2017 and were translated by UNODC into Somali language.

Kenya : Treatment & Care of Drug Use Disorders



Doors open to Kwale's First MAT Clinic with UNODC's support

Kwale, 02 October 2017- The Governor of Kwale H.E Salim Mvurya inaugurated the first clinic for medically assisted treatment (MAT) in the County. Surrounded by the county team, representatives from NASCOP, USAID, UNODC, civil society organisation, clients and family members, he unveiled a plaque to commemorate the event with distinguished guests.

UNODC Regional Office for Eastern Africa has officially handed over the medically assisted therapy (MAT) clinic in Kwale to the County Government. The clinic, which is now part of Kombani Health Centre, has started registering male and female clients who inject drugs as their first clients on this historic day. It is 4th clinic on the Kenyan Coast to be handed over to counties by UNODC. The facilities and the technical support provided is included in the context of a comprehensive national programme aimed at curbing the HIV epidemic among people who use drugs in Kenya - an effort getting Kenya closer to meeting zero new infection by 2030.

The inauguration of the new clinic was made possible through the financial support of United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and technical support of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

The event was marked by many addresses, all having hope and dignity as a central message. Specifically, the attendees heard from clients enrolled in the programme in other counties - human stories that resonated with those just enrolled on that day.

Speaking during the inauguration ceremony, H.E. Mvurya appreciated the partner organisations for their efforts aimed at encouraging some of the county's most vulnerable residents to engage in gainful activities. His message was one focused on youth and invaluable resources in the county, and he stated that "This treatment and programme will enable our youth to re-join the community".

Kenya & Zanzibar: Countering Corruption



Public Outreach Programme in Changamwe and Likoni on the consequences of corruption and radicalization

ROEA's countering Corruption pillar has since June 2017 supported in the implementation of an INL-supported pilot Project, 'Countering Corruption through Anti-Corruption in Eastern Africa'. The Project is being piloted in 6 policing communities in Kenya (Nairobi and Mombasa) and Zanzibar. In this regard, UNODC supported a two-day Outreach Programme in the Changamwe and Likoni communities of Mombasa on 4-5 December 2017. The Programme was aimed at educating members of the public on the consequences of corruption and radicalization, as well as raise awareness on the existing reporting mechanisms should the public have complaints on corruption against the police.

The Outreach Programme involved marching in a procession with stop-overs and speeches. The procession was graced by two bands - the Administration Police Service Band based in Nairobi and Shimo La Tewa Borstal Institute Band based in Mombasa. The National Police Service, the Internal Affairs Unit, the Independent Policing Oversight Authority, civil society and UNODC team were among the representatives that participated in the Programme. A large numbers of the public were drawn to the seven (7) stop-over meetings, where short educative sessions were held which were followed by question and answer sessions. Members of the public who participated were rewarded with merchandise that had anti-corruption messages, including caps and hand bands.

This Programme was unique as it was the first time that the police, media and community got together within these communities to condemn corruption and discuss issues of radicalization. Subsequent to this, UNODC had undertaken various initiatives in the implementation of this Project, including the establishment of Working Committees in the 6 policing communities, which represent various interest groups including youth, women, media, religious and business communities. These Committees are chaired by the Station Commanders of the two respective Police Stations.

Kenya: HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care in Prisons

UNODC partners with Kenya Prison Service to address continuity of care in prisons



UNODC, in partnership with the Kenya Prison Service, held a workshop to address continuity of care as it relates to key HIV prevention and treatment services. Forty prison officials from all over Kenya, prison headquarters, as well as local CSO partners, gathered to discuss the complexity, challenges and best practices in ensuring people in prisons, including those who use and inject drugs, continue to have uninterrupted access to services they started in the community and to ensure linkages are made upon release. In this meeting, participants discussed the state of implementation of the 15 globally recommended HIV prevention, treatment care and support interventions in prison settings - While Kenya strives to achieve the highest standard of care in the community and in prison in line with its constitution, some of the suggested interventions stimulated lively discussions related to the implementation modality in the context of a resource-limited system and national policy framework.

With collaboration of Mombasa County, attendees also visited the Medically Assisted Treatment Clinic in Kisumu. The visit was organized in the context of MAT continuity of care - a services already existing for only those having started in the community prior to incarceration. Almost seven prisoners are ferried from the prison to the MAT clinic.

Understanding and appreciating the value of the treatment for people in prisons, KPS officials in Shimo La Tewa Prisons have been instrumental in ensuring continuity of care for those who need it. The meeting also focused on the needs of women in prison settings - a population with a significantly higher HIV prevalence than their male counterparts and with specific needs relating to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support. Again, service gap identification led to the identification of areas requiring greater efforts to maintain standards. The meeting, a first of its kind in UNODC's latest regional programme was a promise of future work and support on policy and procedure development in the fields of continuity of care in the field of HIV as it relates to (1) Drug dependence treatment, including medically assisted treatment, (2) HIV treatment, care and support, and (3) Prevention, diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis.

Eastern & Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean: WLFC

European Union (EU) invests 30M Euros to Counter the Illegal killing and Trafficking of Wildlife in Southern, Eastern Africa and the Indian Ocean



From left to right: *UNODC Regional Coordinator for the Container Control Programme and the Wildlife and Forest Crime Programme, Mr. Javier Montano, Secretary General of CITES Mr. John Scanlon, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Mr. Karmenu Vella, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Water and Natural Resources Professor Judi Wakhungu, Director-General of UNON, Ms. Sahle-Work Zewde, and CMS representative, Laura Cerasi.*

As part of a 30m Euro intervention, the EU signed a 17.2m Euro agreement with three UN institutions working jointly to reduce the illegal killing of wildlife and the trafficking of wildlife products throughout Eastern and Southern Africa, as well as the Indian Ocean. Within this funding, 6.5 m Euro are allocated to UNODC for enhancing preventive, investigative, and prosecutorial measures against wildlife crime building on the work of UNODC Global Programme for Combatting Wildlife and Forest Crime, as well as the UNODC/WCO Container Control Programme (CCP).

After signing the agreement at the United Nations Headquarters in Africa, Mr. Stefano A. Dejak, the European Union Ambassador to Kenya said "illegal killing and trafficking of wildlife now runs into billions of dollars. To combat it, we need find new ways to work together more effectively. This new initiative brings together the European Union and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and the Convention on Migratory Species. The aim is to build on our various strengths and experiences in protecting wildlife across borders."

The Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), Ms. Sahle-Work Zewde, said "as we move rapidly towards 2030 - providing technical assistance to Member States as they strive to achieve the bold targets of the sustainable development goals is a challenge of scale. Goal 15 is no exception and the European Union, with its generous financial contribution, is helping ensure that the children of Africa will be able to witness the magnificent diversity its land has to offer."

UNODC's Regional Coordinator for the Container Control Programme and the Wildlife and Forest Crime programme, Mr. Javier Montano, said "the comprehensive approach of this programme, will certainly go a long way in bringing systemic change as well as enhancing the criminal justice responses and enforcement measures to combat wildlife crime in the regions".

Kenya: Criminal Justice- Police Reform

Final Project Retreat

UNODC and the National Police Service held the final project meeting in order to take stock of the Project since its inception.

The UNODC Police Reform Programme has been in operation since 2012 and has been supporting the reform of the Kenya National Police services- with direct support to the three policing institutions- these being the National Police Service (NPS), the National Police Service Commission and the Independent Policing Oversight Authority.

The meeting was held in Naivasha Kongoni Lodge and was attended by members of the NPS Reform Directorates. The meeting was most interesting as it provided a platform for candid discussions on the initiatives that UNODC has supported, including the success stories and the challenges faced in implementing some activities.

The meeting also provided a platform for the Reform Directorates to discuss the way forward for the coming years following the completion of this phase of UNODC support- which has been the largest contribution to the Service *vis-à-vis* reforms.



For further information or queries, please do not hesitate to contact:

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