Welcome to the first issue of UNHQ in Review. We are delighted to launch this quarterly newsletter to provide the latest updates on recent and upcoming events and activities at UNHQ in New York, as well as the work of the UNODC New York Liaison Office (UNODC NYLO).

UNHQ in Review is intended to be a public document – please feel free to share widely with your counterparts.

This first issue reflects on the final quarter of 2021, a period which marked the end of a very busy year for UNODC NYLO. In October, the Office co-hosted an event with the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, highlighting human rights-based responses to human trafficking in the context of terrorism and conflict. In November, the General Assembly appraised the Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, marking the culmination of a busy year of counter-trafficking work at UNHQ. In December, the Office co-sponsored an event launching the Stable Seas Report on ‘Pirates of the Gulf of Guinea’, while also marking the 2021 Anti-Corruption Day. These, and additional, events are outlined in more detail in this newsletter.

So, we hope you enjoy this inaugural issue of the UNHQ in Review and look forward to your continued partnership and engagement with our work in the year ahead.

Delphine Schantz
Representative
UNODC New York Liaison Office
RECENT EVENTS IN FOCUS

LAUNCH OF THE STABLE SEAS REPORT ON ‘PIRATES OF THE GULF OF GUINEA: A COST ANALYSIS FOR COASTAL STATES’

On 7 December 2021, UNODC’s Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP) and NYLO co-sponsored an event with the Permanent Missions of Ghana, Norway, and of Nigeria, launching the Stable Seas Report on piracy • ‘Pirates of the Gulf of Guinea: A Cost Analysis for Coastal States’. The Report highlights the significant challenges and costs that countries surrounding the Gulf of Guinea face due to piracy.

Discussion surrounding the Report led to calls for enhanced capacity-building efforts and collaboration to assist affected countries to address piracy and to implement effective measures against transnational organized crimes at sea. Read more here.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPRAISES THE UN GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

A high-level meeting of the General Assembly held on 22-23 November 2021 provided an opportunity for delegates to appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons and turn attention to addressing enduring and emerging gaps and challenges.

The 2021 event, which happens every four years, highlighted the importance of engaging with, and learning from, victims and survivors of human trafficking, with a programme in which victim engagement was central. Member States adopted a Political Declaration, following several months of intergovernmental negotiations and stressed the importance of taking strong, concerted action on a global scale to end the crime of trafficking in persons. Read more here.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

- **YOUR RIGHT, YOUR ROLE: SAY NO TO CORRUPTION** • UNODC NEW YORK OFFICE MARKS THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY

- **CREATING PATHWAYS FOR EDUCATION FOR VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS - SIDE EVENT IN THE MARGINS OF THE HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS**
FIRST SESSION OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE

Through its resolution 74/247, the General Assembly decided to establish an open-ended ad hoc intergovernmental committee of experts, representative of all regions, to elaborate a comprehensive international convention on countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes. The first session of the Ad Hoc Committee was originally scheduled to take place at UNHQ in New York from 17 to 28 January 2022, but was postponed by GA decision 76/552 due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation. It will now take place from 28 February to 11 March, with an organizational session on 24 February. Further information is available here.

CONSULTATIONS ON OUR COMMON AGENDA: 10 FEB - 8 MARCH

The President of the General Assembly is currently convening informal thematic consultations on the UN Secretary-General’s Report on “Our Common Agenda”. The consultations consist of plenary meetings and informal debates on day 1, followed by ‘fire side chat’ panel discussions on day 2 with senior UN officials in the morning, and external stakeholders in the afternoon. The schedule is as follows:
- 1st thematic cluster (10 - 11 February: accelerating and scaling up the SDGs, leaving no one behind)
- 2nd thematic cluster (14 - 15 February: accelerating the SDGs through sustainable financing and building trust)
- 3rd thematic cluster (21 - 22 February: frameworks for a peaceful world - promoting peace, international law and digital cooperation)
- 4th thematic cluster (3 - 4 March: protecting our planet and being prepared for the future)
- 5th thematic cluster (7 - 8 March: enhancing international cooperation)

The thematic consultations are all being webcast on UNWebTV.

53RD STATISTICAL COMMISSION: 1 – 4 MARCH

The theme for the 53rd session of the Statistical Commission is “Better Data, Better Lives”. The Statistical Commission will discuss, inter alia, crime and criminal justice statistics including the statistical framework for measuring gender-related killings of women and girls, and the conceptual framework for the statistical measurement of illicit financial flows. The provisional agenda is available here, with all other relevant documents for the session available here.

66TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN: 14 - 25 MARCH

The Commission on the Status of Women will hold its annual two-week session from 14-25 March, at this stage in a hybrid format (formal meetings with limited in-person attendance with the option of pre-recorded statements, and fully virtual interactive dialogues). This year, the priority theme is achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes. The theme in review will be women’s economic empowerment in the changing world of work. The programme of work is available here.

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AND COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The 65th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs will be held in Vienna from 14 - 18 March 2022. Further information is available here.

The 31st Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice will be held in Vienna from 16 - 20 May 2022. Further information is available here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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