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UNODC in West and Central Asia. Newsletter Quarterly

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This Newsletter provides information about key UNODC actions, events and partnerships in the region of West and Central Asia

(Afghanistan, (I.R. of) Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan).

The UNODC strategy for West and Central Asia maximizes synergies with existing programmes in the region, primarily the Country Partnership Programme for (I.R. of) Iran, the Country Programmes for Afghanistan and Pakistan, the Programme for Central Asia and the Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries. This approach enables an integrated and concerted “one-UNODC” response in West and Central Asia focusing on Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice and Legal Cooperation, and Social and Health Aspects, and therefore supports national and regional efforts deployed for international peace, stability and development. UNODC is also promoting the drug control and cooperation platform set-up through the Inter-Regional Drug Control Approach and ensures effective linkages with other UNODC Regional Programmes operating in regions affected by Afghan opiates traffic including the trafficking of precursors, notably along the Balkan, Northern and Southern routes.

SPECIAL MESSAGE

LET US RESOLVE TO PUT PEACE FIRST

“From solidarity and compassion in our daily lives, to dialogue and respect across political divides... From ceasefires on the battlefield, to compromise at the negotiating table to reach political solutions...

Peace must be our goal and our guide.

All that we strive for as a human family - dignity and hope, progress and prosperity - depends on peace.

But peace depends on us.

I appeal to you all to join me in committing to peace, today and every day.

Let us make 2017 a year for peace”.



United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres
1 January 2017



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COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR PAKISTAN 2016-2019

1 December 2016, Vienna. The UNODC and Government of Pakistan signed a 70 Mil USD Country Programme. The signing took place between the Deputy Executive Director Mr. Aldo Lale-Demoz and the Federal Secretary, Narcotics Control Division of Pakistan Mr. Ajaz Ali Khan. The Country Programme is a result of a strong partnership between UNODC and the Government of Pakistan and it was developed in close consultation with the provincial and national stakeholders and focuses on the priority areas highlighted by the Government of Pakistan.

The overall aim of the programme is to enhance the skills and knowledge of law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in overcoming the multi-facet threats posed by transnational organized crime and to foster greater cooperation amongst neighboring countries to effectively address the common challenges in the following areas: (1) Illicit trafficking and border management; (2) Criminal justice system and legal reforms; (3) Drug demand reduction, prevention and treatment.

The Country Programme has a cross-cutting component on Research and Analysis and eLearning which aims

to promote modern methods of training including Computer Based Training (CBT) while strengthening the research and analysis practices for developing policies and guidelines which contribute to improving the Rule of Law, Governance and Public health.

The strategic goals of the Country Programme are in line with the Government of Pakistan's Vision 2025 and complement the objectives for meeting various targets of the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON AFGHANISTAN

13 December 2016. A new report on situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security was presented by Secretary-General on 13 December 2016. This report provides an update on the activities of the United Nations in country, including significant humanitarian, development, human rights efforts, as well as a summary of key political and security developments and regional and international events relating to Afghanistan.

The commitments from the Brussels Conference provide the resources and possibility for essential reforms, including in the areas of poverty reduction, governance, the rule of law and elections, and human rights. The Government of Afghanistan continued to pursue its anti-corruption agenda, including the investigation and prosecution of major corruption cases and the strengthening of the regulatory and legal framework. Further efforts to address the workplace conditions for women employees and strengthen the legal framework against harassment were made. Together with national institutions and civil society, UNAMA conducted public awareness campaigns and training on women's rights across the country.

However, the security situation further deteriorated with intensifying armed clashes between the Afghan se-

curity forces and the Taliban. Overall, the number of armed clashes between January and October 2016 increased by 22 per cent over 2015. The humanitarian situation became ever more fragile, with rapidly increasing numbers of new conflict-induced internal displacements exacerbated by the surge of more than 600 Tsd returning refugees and undocumented Afghans from Pakistan.

UNODC Executive Director Yury Fedotov told the United Nations Security Council on 19 December that UNODC will continue to work over the long term with partners, including the Afghan government, to counter illicit drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism in Afghanistan, in West and Central Asia, as well as along the main drug trafficking routes to the rest of the world.





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LAW ENFORCEMENT

Forensic Services of Kyrgyzstan upgraded

KYRGYZSTAN

2 February 2017, Bishkek. The newly-constructed building for the State Forensics Centre under the Ministry of Justice, established with UNODC's support, was officially inaugurated. The Centre is the main provider of forensic services in the Kyrgyz Republic, handling 80% of all cases requiring forensic evidence. UNODC provides expert advice to develop skills of forensic experts and to establish a quality management system for forensic examinations. UNODC support is geared towards the implementation of the 2015-2018 strategic development plan for the State Forensics Centre and the plan of action to obtain international accreditation for forensic services in line with ISO 17025 standards, "Modernization of forensic services is a key priority of our Government", said Oleg Pankratov, the Kyrgyz Vice Prime Minister. "Our main goal is to strengthen both the quality of expertise and management capacity at the State Forensic Service. Our constructive partnership with UNODC has enabled us to promote the application of best practice and appropri-

ate standards for forensic science within the criminal justice system in our country," Mr. Pankratov added. The construction cost approximately \$685,000" and was possible thanks to the US State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs.



12th Senior Officials Meeting of the Triangular Initiative

IRAN, AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN

3 February 2017, Vienna. Drug Control Headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime convened a technical meeting of the Triangular Initiative, following the Paris Pact Policy Consultative Group Meeting (1-2 February, Vienna). The event comprised participants from the Counter Narcotics Police, Border and Customs guards, and the Permanent Liaison Officers of the Joint Planning Cell from Afghanistan, I.R. of Iran, and Pakistan.

The 12th meeting of senior officials was held in Vienna at the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran aimed at reviewing successes, challenges and further prospects of the trilateral cooperation. It provided an opportunity to reiterate countries' commitments in strengthening drug control and transnational organized crime cooperation and to reaffirm the importance of the Triangular Initiative states' close and continued collaboration.

Discussions were held on controlled delivery operations, border management, customs and operational cooperation, Container Control Programme, Border Liaison Offices, as well as intelligence sharing, including Joint Planning Cell (JPC) and CARICC cooperation under

a Memorandum of Understanding.

The meeting resulted in adoption of the Triangular Initiative Roadmap 2017-2018, which includes operational targets of the TI for the coming year and more operational targeted intelligence let operations with increased frequency. Next senior officials (13th) and Ministerial (8th) Meetings of the Triangular Initiative are to be held in the second half of 2017, possibly in Afghanistan.





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Drugs & Precursors Identification Training

PAKISTAN

8 December 2016, Karachi. A three day training course on Drugs and Precursors Identification was organised by the UNODC Country Office in Pakistan in Karachi. The course was one of many examples of the comprehensive assistance provided under the project, 'Strengthening Border Security Against Illicit Drug Trafficking and Related Transnational Organised Crime' (2016-2019), which was signed by the Government of Japan and UNODC in March 2016.

The objective of this training was to strengthen the capacities of field officers from Pakistan Customs, the Excise and Taxation Department, Sindh Police and the Anti-Narcotics Force, in addition to identifying and interdicting drugs and precursors trafficking. The participants were also briefed on the overall drug situation in the region, with a special emphasis on the diversion of precursor chemicals.

Col Sajid Aslam, UNODC law enforcement trainer, explained different aspects of drugs trafficking and its interdiction through a series of class room lectures and presentations. The training also involved computer based e-learning modules, which were held at the Directorate General of Training and Research Customs. The modules were primarily focused on drugs and precursors identification, the interdiction of precursors and clandestine laboratories, and the use of drug test kits. The trainees reported that it was extremely informative and user friendly.

In total, seventeen officials from the Sindh Police Force, Excise and Taxation Department, Pakistan Customs and the Anti Narcotics Force attended the training course. The participants brought a wealth of experience from their respective fields, which contributed towards the richness and delivery of the training, thereby making it increasingly practical and innovative.

In her closing remarks, Ms Anila Rahim, Programme Officer of Precursors emphasised the importance of inter-agency cooperation in order to tackle the issue of drug and precursors trafficking. This achievement was made possible by the generous support of the Government of Japan.



Practical training for the Kyrgyz Customs Officers

KYRGYZSTAN

2 December 2016, Bishkek. Two weeks practical training for 15 Kyrgyz Custom officers was conducted at Customs Office "Alamedin-Jeleznodorjnyi" in Bishkek within the UNODC-World Customs Organisation Container Control Programme. WCO, Polish and Georgian Customs experts facilitated the training including practical cases on identification of high-risk shipments by profiling of documents.

Opening the workshop, Mr. Shamil Berdaliev, Deputy Chairman of the State Custom Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic emphasized the importance of strengthening the capacity of customs officers for being able to respond to modern challenges.

The Container Control Programme (CCP) Regional Segment for Central Asia and Azerbaijan is funded by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and

Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) and the Export Control and Related Border Security (EXBS) Program as well as the Government of Japan.





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Intelligence as a tool of effective investigation

KAZAKHSTAN

1 December 2016, United Kingdom. The UNODC Regional office for Central Asia in partnership with the National Crime Agency of the United Kingdom (NCA) organized a study visit to the UK for customs officers of Kazakhstan to familiarize them with the best practices in the area of border intelligence and investigation at the seaports Felixstowe and the Dover (Kent). The event was hosted and funded by the NCA. The Kazakh delegation was represented by the members of Port Control Unit at the seaport "Morport" in Aktau, which was recently established under the UNODC-WCO Global Container Programme, and experts from State revenues Committee of the Ministry of Finance of Kazakhstan.

The Kazakh customs officials learned about successful practice of identification and inspection of high risks cargoes, prevention of containers use for illicit purposes and became familiar with the modern methods of concealments of drugs and other prohibited goods transported to and from the UK. Besides, experienced border force specialists demonstrated advanced technical and other means of container's search and inspection.

The study visit provided participants with enhanced

understanding of principles and mechanisms of cooperative work between customs and law enforcement agencies, importance of intelligence as a tool of effective investigation, advanced skills and knowledge to detect and combat organized crime at the border, as well as profile the high risks containers.

The donors for the CCP Regional Segment are the U.S. Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, the Export Control and Related Border Security Program as well as the Government of Japan.



Pakistan-Afghanistan Integrated Border Management Workshop

PAKISTAN

28-30 November 2016, United Arab Emirates. The 6th Pakistan-Afghanistan Integrated Border Management Workshop was facilitated by the UNODC Country Office Pakistan from 28 to 30 November 2016. Supported by the Government of Japan, the event strengthened the close partnership between the Governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan, under the framework of the UNODC-sponsored Triangular Initiative.

This technical interaction was attended by officials from Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior and Narcotics Control, Federal Board of Revenue, Federally Administered Tribal Areas Secretariat in Peshawar, Frontier Corps of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, Anti Narcotics Force, Pakistan Customs, National Database and Registration Authority, Civil Administration of Chaman, and the Pakistan Coast Guard. The Afghan delegation comprised officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Afghan Border Police, Counter Narcotics Police of Afghanistan and Afghan Customs.

Comprehensive discussions were held between the regional counterparts over a period of three days, culminating in the development of draft recommendations for consideration by leading decision-makers. The thematic areas included capacity-building through the provision of operational equipment and joint training, risk-profiling, infor-

mation-sharing at strategic and tactical levels, simultaneous interdiction operations, and backtracking investigations. Pakistan offered to enhance Afghanistan's technical expertise through joint specialised training courses and connectivity to its Customs Electronic Data Interface. Additionally, the two delegations concurred on the necessity to organise this workshop on a regular basis in order to assess the progress made in implementing the recommendations adopted.

Addressing the problems posed by illicit drug production and trafficking, human trafficking and migrant smuggling, and the smuggling of contraband remains a responsibility shared by the international community.





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Forensic Document Examination Training

PAKISTAN

29 November 2016, Lahore. As part of its ongoing assistance programme in Pakistan, UNODC Country Office in Pakistan organised a forensic document examination training session focusing on travel documents. This session was designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of frontline immigration officers from Multan, Faisalabad, Sialkot and Lahore airports.

In recent years the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has reported an increase in migrant smuggling attempts from Pakistan. The smugglers facilitate illegal passage by providing altered and forged travel documents including passports, resident cards and visas from various countries.

The immigration officers participating in the session benefited from the practical knowledge of professional trainers from the high commissions of South Africa, Canada and Kenya, in addition to the embassies of Poland and Bulgaria. The trainers imparted their expertise in identifying forged and fraudulently altered documents to the participants.

Mr Sajid Akram Chaudhry, FIA Deputy Director of Immigration and Anti Human Smuggling, speaking on behalf of Dr Usman Anwar, FIA Director (Punjab), thanked the UNODC for promptly organising this training session at the FIA's request. He also highlighted the importance of training in document identification and expressed appreciation for the UNODC's ongoing assistance in combating human trafficking and migrant smuggling from Pakistan.



Conference on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling

PAKISTAN

24 November 2016, Islamabad. UNODC in collaboration with the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) of Pakistan has arranged the first-ever public private conference on human trafficking and migrant smuggling. It was organised with the growing influx of irregular migration from Pakistan in mind, and forms a part of the UNODC's continued support for the Government of Pakistan in addressing these and related challenges.

A number of senior government officials, law enforcement officers, members of civil society, multinational organisations, NGOs, media and other UN agencies attended the conference in order to share their organisational perspectives on how to develop common solutions in the struggle to combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

The conference was opened with remarks from the UNODC's Pakistan Country Representative, Mr Cesar Guedes who emphasised the need for immediate attention from the private sector to assist multilateral efforts in meeting the challenge of human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

Many participants expressed support for regular dialogue between private and public partners in order to facilitate the informal exchange of information and experiences in combating this criminal enterprise. In addition,

the participants encouraged private organisations to assist government institutions in raising awareness and they urged the FIA to publish more in-depth information related to the subject on its website so that it may be more easily accessible to both private actors and the public at large.

The conference itself was made possible by financial support from the Government of Australia's Department of Immigration and Border Protection, in addition to the US State Department.





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New Port Control Units opened in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan

CENTRAL ASIA

14 November 2016, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan. Three new Port Control Units (PCUs) were opened in Dusanbe-2 and Nizhniy Pyanj dry ports in Tajikistan and Aktau seaport in Kazakhstan under the "UNODC-World Customs Organization Global Container Control Programme - Regional Segment for Central Asia and Azerbaijan". Opening of these PCUs marked logical culmination of two years the UNODC-Governments of Tajikistan's and Kazakhstan's efforts and partnership. Tajikistan has joined Container Control Programme in March 2014, Kazakhstan in July 2014. Since then, both countries participated in all stages of capacity building measures provided by the Programme including theoretical, practical and advanced training, regional meetings, study tours and exercises aimed to information exchange. The PCUs were renovated and equipped with the computers, ContainerComm secure communication tool, search and detection equipment as well as Hazmat360ID chemical detectors.

During the opening ceremony in Tajikistan Mr. Azim Khaidar Tursunzoda, Deputy Head of the Customs Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan mentioned that CCP strengthen regional cooperation among Customs and other law enforcement agencies in the region.

Senior government officials from the Customs Service, the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the State Revenues Committee of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kazakhstan as well as representatives of the U.S. Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs and the Export Control and Related Border Security, attended the event.

The CCP Regional Segment for Central Asia and Azerbaijan is funded by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs and the Export Control and Related Border Security Program.



Intelligence analysis training held in CARICC

KAZAKHSTAN

October 2016, Almaty. Intelligence analysis training for the law enforcement analysts of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Russia and Uzbekistan held in October in Almaty. Criminal intelligence collection and information management capacities, established mechanisms for exchange, receipt and dissemination of information between the drug control agencies was in the focus of the training course organized jointly by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), UNODC and Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC). This course emphasized the utilization of analytical tools, enhanced strategic interaction between the analytical and operational units/departments of the law enforcement agencies.

Mr. Charlie Barnes, DEA Intelligence analysts, emphasized the importance of the intelligence and strategic analysis and shared DEA experience on "Introduction to the Intelligence analysis", "Open Source Information Analysis" and Critical thinking.

Practical part of the training was facilitated by the national experts whom were trained by the UNODC, focusing on the intelligence and strategic analysis, as well as software use. Participants were also updated on CARICC capacity and possible assistance they can get from it.





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UNODC enhances operational capacities of the Anti Narcotics Force

PAKISTAN

December 2016, Islamabad. The UNODC Country Office in Pakistan and Anti Narcotics Force, have successfully opened a new check-post in Sost, along the Sino-Pakistani border. Supported by the Governments of Japan, Denmark, the United Kingdom and Canada, this is one of the key achievements under COPAK's ongoing work under the Pakistan Country Programme.

This capacity-building initiative aims to enhance the ANF's operational capacities astride the main trade route with China, as well as the various drug trafficking routes emanating from Afghanistan and crossing into Pakistan. It includes the establishment and operationalisation of the ANF's police stations in Dalbandin, Panjgur, Turbat, Gwadar and Hub, and check posts in Chaman and Sost (Gilgit-Baltistan). The police stations and check posts will include offices, operation rooms, living accommodations and necessary power backup through installation of 6.5 Kilovolt-amps solar panels.

These new ANF police stations are envisaged to be completed by January 2018, and will improve Pakistan's counter-narcotics and border management capabilities,

with the aim of facilitating trade and interdicting unwanted flows. Addressing counter-narcotics through an inter-agency approach, these new ANF police stations and check posts will form part of a larger inter-agency communication network between the ANF and other law enforcement agencies (for example, the Frontier Corps, Pakistan Customs, Federal Investigation Agency and civil administration).



Drug Burning Ceremony

PAKISTAN

15 December 2016, Islamabad. The UNODC and ANF of Pakistan organised the 2016 Drug Burning Ceremony of 51 tonnes of illicit narcotics, including heroin and cocaine, in Islamabad. The proceedings were initiated by the Director General of the ANF, Major General Nasir Dilawar Shah, who expressed in his speech strong appreciation for the significance of UNODC assistance to the ANF and the impact it has made in the Force's ability to seize illicit narcotics and dismantle trafficking organisations. The ANF was able to seize narcotics worth 239 mil USD, in raids targeting traffickers at various airports in 2016.

The UNODC Country Representative for Pakistan, Mr. Cesar Guedes, also highlighted the important role played by the UNODC in establishing a coordinated and comprehensive response to the interrelated issues of narcotics trafficking and transnational organised crime. The organisation provides comprehensive technical, financial and expert assistance to partner governments, in order to assist their domestic counter-narcotics endeavours. These goals consist of three primary functions: research, guidance and support for governments in adopting and

implementing various UN conventions, treaties and protocols.

Mr. Guedes expressed strong appreciation for the efforts of the Government of Pakistan and its law enforcement agencies, particularly the ANF, for making concerted and highly commendable efforts in interdicting and seizing large amounts of illicit narcotics destined for Pakistan and international markets.





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Strengthening Border Management and Interdiction Capacities of Afghan Police

AFGHANISTAN

November 2016. UNODC Iran coordinated and organized training for 15 Counter Narcotics officers from various provinces of Afghanistan. This training workshop was the second of three workshops agreed upon between Iranian and Italian side at basic, intermediate and advanced levels. The event was run by Iranian and Italian law enforcement instructors. The overall objective was to train middle ranked Afghan police officers who were active in counter narcotics measures on the modules identified through needs assessment conducted by both Iranian and Italian side in several meetings with their Afghan counterpart.

Throughout the training the Afghan senior police officers were introduced to general police structure of both Iran and Italy and were trained on several different modules including identification of hidden concealments, use of technology in identification and dismantling of criminal groups, joint operations and control delivery operations.

To further familiarize participants with available exper-

tise in Iran and reflect the amount of support provided by Forensic labs to the police work, the participants had the opportunity to visit some of the equipment including x-ray and scanners during daily work at the Imam Khomeini International Airport (IKIA) at entry point as well as the I.R. of Iran Anti Narcotic Police specialized laboratories. This event was held thanks to the close cooperation of the Re-



CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Sixth Expert Forum on Criminal Justice for Central Asia

UZBEKISTAN

17-18 November 2016, Tashkent. The Sixth expert forum on criminal justice for Central Asia has brought together leading experts and policy makers to discuss the latest reforms, trends and initiatives in the criminal justice sector in the countries of Central Asia. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes and its partners Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the OSCE and Penal Reform International continue to engage in promoting exchange of experiences and expertise in strengthening the rule of law and providing assistance to promote more effective, humane and fair criminal justice systems.

Participants of the Expert Forum emphasized the essential characteristics of a criminal justice system in a democratic society, including fairness, efficiency and adherence to human rights standards. In addition, side events provided an opportunity to highlight key issues, including countering institutional incentives for torture and judicial ethics organized respectively by Penal Reform International and the International Commission of Jurists.

As the UNODC Regional Representative for Central Asia, Ms. Ashita Mittal emphasized: "This forum is an excellent example of our joint work in promoting international standards in crime prevention and criminal justice. We all agree that 'reform of the criminal procedure

legislation' is an important entry point and a prerequisite for the establishment of a democratically accountable criminal justice system that protects human rights."

"Conclusions and recommendations of national and foreign experts and guests of the today's event will serve as a basis for further improvement of criminal justice systems as well as strengthen the independence of the judiciary in Uzbekistan and other countries of the Central-Asian region", said Shayunus Gaziev, Chairperson of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Expert Forum is a leading regional platform in Central Asia for expert discussions on criminal justice reforms, human rights, and the harmonization of national legislation with the international standards in line with UNODC commitments.





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UNITED AGAINST CORRUPTION

PAKISTAN



9 December 2016, Islamabad. Pakistan observed the International Anti-Corruption Day with a ceremony that was organized by the National Accountability Bureau and hosted at the Presidency Palace in Islamabad. Officials from various fields, including dignitaries from the Government of Pakistan, members of the international community, diplomats, civil society representatives, judiciary officials and media representatives.

H.E. the President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Mr. Mamnoon Hussain, presided over the conference and delivered a keynote address. This was followed by the inauguration of a colouring book containing anti-corruption slogans, which was designed for secondary school students, and a commemorative postage stamp.

During the ceremony, Mr. Cesar Guedes, Representative UNODC, delivered a statement from the Secretary General

of the United Nations, Mr Ban Ki-moon, highlighting the importance of combating the scourge of corruption in line with the 2030 agenda on sustainable development.

Additional activities included a national "selfie" campaign launched by UNODC COPAK to spread the message: 'United against corruption for peace development and security' through social media including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



UZBEKISTAN

December 2016. In 2016, UNODC Senior Legal Adviser, in her capacity of the monitoring team member, participated in a return mission to Uzbekistan to present the 3rd monitoring round report and discuss priorities for future action. The 3rd monitoring round report on Uzbekistan was adopted at plenary meeting of the Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) under the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan on 9 October 2015. The report analyses progress made by Uzbekistan in carrying out anti-corruption reforms and implementing recommendations received

under the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan since the Joint 1st and 2nd rounds of monitoring. The report also analyses recent developments and provides new recommendations in three areas: anti-corruption policy and institutions, criminalization of corruption and prevention of corruption. The report was presented - at three separate meetings - to around 250 Uzbek officials representing 16 various ministries (including deputy ministers) and academia as well as the UN and other international organizations and journalists. The report was well received by authorities and the international community.

TURKMENISTAN

9 December 2016, Ashgabat. UNODC Programme Office in Turkmenistan organized a meeting on the occasion of the International Anti-Corruption Day for representatives of the United Nations agencies. Event took place at the UN building in Ashgabat. UNODC Programme Office team made a presentation on negative effects of corruption on justice, democracy, prosperity and development of the country as well as on achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. UNODC team conducted also a learning session on corruption for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Youth Volunteers. They actively participated in the session, and posted

photos in social networks with hashtag #UnitedAgainstCorruption.





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HEALTH AND LIVELIHOOD

2016 Afghanistan Synthetic Drugs Assessment

AFGHANISTAN

January 2017, Kabul. In 2016, the UNODC Global Synthetic Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) Programme conducted an assessment of the synthetic drug situation in Afghanistan, with support from the Government of Canada.

There are strong indications from drug treatment centres in Afghanistan that methamphetamine use is establishing itself among opiate users, which are already one of the most vulnerable parts of Afghan society. Methamphetamine is not only increasingly being seized by law enforcement in Afghanistan but there is also evidence of manufacturing facilities in the Western part of the country. The phenomenon of synthetic drugs cannot be understood by focussing on Afghanistan alone.

This report therefore situates the dynamics of synthetic drugs in the country within the wider context of South-Western and Central Asia in order to provide a more complete picture of the synthetic drug situation in Afghanistan. While this report is limited in scope and can only present a first assessment of the synthetic drug situation in Afghanistan, its findings are highly relevant for a more

nuanced understanding of the drug situation in the country, both with regard to drug treatment and law enforcement.

A range of potential areas for response are outlined in the report, which may be considered by national and international stakeholders.

Afghanistan Synthetic Drugs Situation Assessment

UNODC Global SMART Programme

January 2017

Rolling out training for Law Enforcement on HIV s for people who inject drugs in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan

CENTRAL ASIA

November 2016, Almaty. UNODC continues its work on raising awareness of law enforcement officials, in particular, police officers, on their role in public health, including HIV prevention, treatment and care, and creating partnerships with civil society organizations providing services to key populations, such as people living with HIV and injecting drug users. In Kazakhstan, in accordance with the plan on adaptation of UNODC Training Manual for law enforcement officials on HIV services for people who inject drugs to the national context and its integration into the curricula of law enforcement educational establishments, the trainings have been rolled out to the national level. In 2016, UNODC conducted the training for the instructors of the Training Centres of the Ministry of Interior of Kazakhstan, police officers from the provincial counternarcotics departments and representatives of civil society organizations in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior, Interagency Counternarcotics Training Centre of the Almaty Academy of MOI RK, the Kazakhstan Union of People Living with HIV and the Republic AIDS Centre. The trainees developed the plan on development of partnership and cooperation between

police and NGO that can be considered as a first step towards developing police referral schemes, and updated the plan on UNODC Training Manual adaptation and integration into the curriculum of law enforcement academies and institutions.



Participants of training workshop in Dushanbe supporting the World AIDS Day campaign Hands up for HIV Prevention, 30 November 2016