

Executive Director of The UNODC , Mr. Antonio Maria Costa's visit to India



Mr. Antonio Maria Costa, the Executive Director of The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime will be visiting India for three days beginning 23rd May 06.

During his visit he will be meeting with Ministers and senior officials of different Ministries, to get a first hand impression of the drugs and crime situation in India. He will also explore the possibilities of strengthening and deepening the ongoing joint initiatives. Mr. Costa will have the opportunity of visiting a few of the project sites in Delhi and Kolkatta.

Mr. Costa is also the Director General of UN Office at Vienna,

He took up his duties with the UN Office at Vienna on 7 May 2002.

Mr. Costa was previously serving as the Secretary-General of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London where he was responsible for political issues, institutional affairs, corporate governance and questions relating to shareholders.

Between 1987 and 1992, he served in various capacities at the Commission of the European Union, rising to the post of Director-General for Economics and Finance.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Costa served as an economist in the United Nations Department of International Economics and Social Affairs between 1969 and 1983, and eventually became Head of Unit. He was subsequently appointed Under-Secretary-General (Special Counsellor) at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris where he served until 1987. He was a member of the OECD Working Group for the liberalization of capital flows and the control of financial transactions, as well as Alternate Member of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)/World Bank Interim Committee and of the G-10 Group for the coordination of economic policy, public governance and international monetary affairs.

Mr. Costa was born on 16 June 1941 in Italy. He holds a degree in political science from the University of Turin, and a Ph.D in economics from the University of California at Berkeley. He served as visiting Professor in various universities in Europe and the United States.

Mr. Costa is married with three children.