

Committee: UNODC

Topic: The Impact of Globalisation on Drug Trafficking Networks

Document Number: ODC1/1

Sponsors: Netherlands, Nigeria, Russia, South Africa, Türkiye, Ukraine, United States of America

Signatories: Algeria, China, Iran, Italy, Mexico, Somalia, Syria, Spain

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Recognizing the undoubtable problem of international drug trafficking and its severe threat to security, public health and development,

Alarmed by the growing powers of international drug trafficking networks,

Acknowledging the importance of addressing the issue from its root, and knowing that the Globalisation of Drug Trafficking also involves illegal mass production,

Concerned by traffickers' exploitation of encrypted communications, cryptocurrencies, and supply chain vulnerabilities,

Urging policies that balance enforcement with human rights protection and sustainable alternatives for drug-producing countries,

Recalling the 1988 United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and relevant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) already in place,

1. *Encourages* the Strengthening of International Cooperation, including:

- a. The creation of a **UNODC-coordinated Global Drug Intelligence Network** to standardize international data sharing and coordinate cross-border operations,
- b. Annual capacity assessments of Member States' drug control strategies to identify resource and policy gaps,
- c. A peer-review mechanism to evaluate compliance and encourage wider ratification of existing drug control conventions, starting with the **1988 UN Drug Convention**,

2. *Calls Upon* the Development of a Centralized Intelligence-Sharing Program:

- a. A **UNODC-operated database** will be created to track drug trafficking routes, in coordination with law enforcement agencies incorporating technologies to better help authorities detect and disrupt illegal activities more efficiently,
 - i. Deploying a neutral, highly trained corps of UNODC officials to process, verify, and act on shared intelligence while preventing corruption,
 - ii. Expanding **Public-Private Partnerships in Cybersecurity** in order to facilitate the collaboration between governments and tech companies, aimed at developing stronger network security infrastructure and digital forensic tools,
 - iii. Creation of a program to provide said officials with an ethical framework and the necessary skills to prevent misuse and ensure transparency,
- b. Expanding the use of European **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** to non-European Member States to avoid the exploitation of vulnerable checkpoints and harmonize enforcement practices,
- c. Counting on the UNODC to coordinate the funding of technological infrastructure and intelligence training as outlined, while encouraging the involvement of multilateral development banks, private donors and regional organizations to ensure sustainable financing and accountability,

3. *Proposing* Policy Enhancements for Border Control Effectiveness:

- a. Deploy specialized, **UNODC-coordinated drones** to monitor and scan areas near national borders for the purpose of detecting and preventing drug trafficking and related crimes, ensuring **operations strictly respect the sovereignty** and privacy of neighboring countries,
- b. Further **develop biometric identification** systems in border control centers, in order to enhance the accuracy and efficiency of identity verification and strengthen efforts against cross-border drug networks; **governments and regulatory bodies will play a pivotal role** in defining cybersecurity standards to ensure data privacy, resilience against cyber warfare, and compliance with international security regulations, including **ISO 27001 and ISO 27002**,
- c. Establish an **INTERPOL initiative**, underway to deploy **specially trained detection dogs** at critical trafficking hubs across major urban centers, in order to bolster drug interdiction capabilities and enhance the operational efficiency of law enforcement agencies, aligning with best practices established by **DEA Europe**,

- d. **Augment AI-driven tracking systems** in border security, in context of strict ethical requirements :
 - i. Ensure that **AI does not operate autonomously** in critical decision-making scenarios,
 - ii. **Anonymize data** and minimize personal information,
- e. **Strengthen military presence** and cooperation in high-risk border regions to support law enforcement in combating drug trafficking networks, while maintaining a **focus on human rights** and proportional response,
- f. **Increase training and salaries for police** and border officials to reduce vulnerability to bribes while **protecting whistleblowers** and investigative journalists who expose corruption,
- g. **Implement strict vetting** and background checks according to the **UNODC database** to prevent criminal infiltration,
- h. UNODC will be the main source in the provision of economical support for the strengthening of border security mentioned above, while the initial funding will be supported by the United States and Russia,

4. *Recommends* the Creation of a Global Rehabilitation Program Under UNODC Oversight:

- a. Targeting medically diagnosed drug users, particularly those incarcerated for drug-related offences, consumption and misuse according to the jurisdiction of every Member State,
- b. Stressing it as a voluntary option and rewarding the implementation in form of necessary funds from the UN Development Agency, to accomplish it.
- c. Which should be supervised and then accepted by each Member State implementing it and furthermore inviting the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to collaborate and provide statistics of the development of drug consumption,
- d. A yearly review studying the impact of the programme will be made on the ground of each Member State implementing it,
 - i. Carried out by the UNODC Statistics and Surveys Section,

5. Option and funding of venipuncture rooms:

- a. The implementation is optional, so a country can freely decide whether to implement it or not,
- b. This rooms will be equipped with,
 - i. Medical equipment such as sterilized needles to make the consumption safe,
 - ii. A sanitary team, with the adequate training will help the people there, if needed,
 - iii. Enough information for a responsible use and for preventing more drug consumption,
- c. The personal information of every patient will be private and used for keeping track of their dose and progress in order to reduce it gradually,
 - i. All the data will be stored at the UNODC, which compromises not to be used for any other purposes,
- d. Those countries implementing it will receive financial help from the UN Development Agency, which would cover 75 percent of the costs of each specific operation,
- e. A yearly review studying the impact of the programme will be made on the ground of each nation implementing it,

Committee: United Nations Committee on Drugs and Crime (**UNODC**)

Topic: The Impact of Globalization on Drug Trafficking Networks

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Sponsors: Argentina, Colombia, Myanmar, México, Perú

Signatories: El Salvador, Algeria, Netherlands, Spain, Iran, Italy, Russia, South Africa, Somalia, Nigeria, Ukraine, Turkey, Syria, United States of America

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Reaffirming the progress achieved by the Alternative Development Program in supporting farmers in their transition process from cultivating coca plants to legal crops.

Acknowledging the contribution of multilateral actors such as UNODC, the European Union, whose long-term involvement in South America has demonstrated that inclusive rural development, land tenure reform, and market access are key to disincentivizing illicit crop cultivation and promoting lawful economic alternatives.

Stressing the complexity of the situation in Myanmar, where illicit opium production remains entrenched due to decades-long armed conflict, weak state presence, and economic marginalization.

Emphasizing that sustainable and peaceful transitions from illegal economies require not only law enforcement but also comprehensive socio-economic support, rural development, public health services, and international cooperation.

Affirming the central role of collaborative public-private partnerships in ensuring the long-term viability of alternative development initiatives, where both Business-to-Business (B2B) and Business-to-Consumer (B2C) mechanisms are vital to connect producers with legal markets.

Highlighting the importance of B2B networks in facilitating large-scale procurement agreements, processing contracts, and international trade routes for goods produced under alternative development programs, thus attracting investors and strengthening economic resilience.

Acknowledging that B2C initiatives — including fair-trade certification, ethical branding, and digital marketplace access — enable direct consumer engagement, increase profit margins for farmers, and raise public awareness in developed countries about the global value of choosing products that support drug-free, development-focused economies.

Recalling that successful models of collaboration between smallholder farmer cooperatives and multinational corporations in the coffee, cacao, and textile sectors have already demonstrated the potential of inclusive market integration to replace illicit incomes and foster community stability.

Recognizing the urgency to replicate and scale these models under the proposed Regional Coalitions for Producer Diversion (RCPD), adapting strategies to the specific regional context, while maintaining a unified and global approach under the leadership of UNODC and in cooperation with relevant multilateral development banks and donor nations.

Operative clauses:

1. *Proposes* the establishment of the Regional Coalition for the Prevention and Detection of Drug Trafficking (RCPD) as a cooperative mechanism operating under the guidance and coordination of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), functioning as a subsidiary initiative within the agency's existing framework, thereby benefiting from the UNODC's expertise, structure, and international legitimacy:
 - a. The RCPD will consist of regional sub-coalitions, each tailored to specific geographical and socio-economic contexts, which will be intergovernmental in nature, allowing member states to collaborate directly while receiving technical, strategic, and financial support from UNODC and other international partners, this hybrid structure ensures efficiency by using existing UNODC infrastructure: Flexibility through regional autonomy and accountability, with regular reporting mechanisms and alignment with UN drug control conventions (Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; Convention on Psychotropic substances, 1971; Control of Chemical Precursors, 1988).
 - b. Proposing RCPD based on common guidelines, stated by UNODC, in order to pursue the same results at worldwide level, but ensuring the contrast of specific and different aims at regional level, these common guidelines are: Supporting major drug-producing countries in transitioning to safe, legal, and sustainable economies.
 - c. Combating international drug trafficking through coordinated global and regional strategies.
 - d. Promoting regional stability, public safety, and inclusive development.
 - e. Emphasizing on the inclusion of a country that is central in drug production, and wants to transition to a safer and legal economy in each regional coalition:
 - i. Suggesting at least 6 coalitions, divided as follows: North America (with Mexico), South America (with Colombia and Peru), Middle East, South-East Asia and Oceania (with Myanmar), North-Africa and South-Africa (with Nigeria), these coalitions should also include drug-producers countries not included in the UNODC committee, like Morocco and Afghanistan;
 - ii. Regional diversity is recognized by the subcommittee, and UNODC will provide some guidelines to be respected at worldwide level, while single coalitions will pursue specific and detailed objectives;

- f. Recommends **developed** and **non-drug-producers countries**, like European ones, should **guarantee** the **stability** and correct functioning of sub-coalition, thanks to the employment of intelligence and economical resources, and also political and training assistance; the definition of developed, non-drug producing countries follows objective criteria based on: High-income classification as per the World Bank Atlas method, Membership in at least one of the following: OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), European Union, G7/G20: Strong institutional capacity measured by governance indices (e.g., World Governance Indicators by the World Bank), Proven ability to provide foreign aid or security assistance in UN or regional operations (regarding Development status), and non-drug producing countries are those that, according to UNODC Annual Reports and Global Illicit Crop Monitoring publications: Do not host significant illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush, or cannabis destined for international trafficking. Are not considered primary producers or exporters of internationally controlled substances (Schedule I and II under the UN Conventions); Are not under UNODC Crop Monitoring Programs as primary targets (e.g., unlike Colombia, Peru, Afghanistan, or Myanmar).
- g. Their help is needed to prevent waves of drugs arriving in the destination countries, and limiting the negative effect of criminal networks, as well as the joint coalition of these countries, on the basis of interests (e.g. if there exists a tangible connection between producing and European-receiving one).
 - I. Urges the establishment of a Rapid Alert Mechanism (RAM) under the supervision of UNODC, aimed at detecting newly emerging drugs — particularly synthetic substances — and identifying associated criminal networks, while ensuring full respect for human rights and privacy protections, through the following safeguards:
 - a. Guaranteeing compliance with international human rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and relevant privacy and anti-discrimination frameworks;
 - b. Preventing the stigmatization or criminalization of vulnerable populations, including small-scale farmers, by focusing efforts on major trafficking operations and ensuring community-based approaches;
 - c. Implementing data protection measures, including the anonymization of early-warning data, secure handling of sensitive information, and restriction of access to authorized personnel only;
 - d. Ensuring transparency and accountability through periodic public reporting and independent oversight by a multidisciplinary UNODC-led committee, with the inclusion of civil society representatives, human rights observers, and legal experts.

2. *Proposes* the creation of a Global Fund for Sustainable Alternatives as a long-term financing mechanism, combined with education and capacity-building programs, to support the reintegration of farmers into legal economic activities and prevent their return to illicit crop cultivation, recognizing that current alternative development projects are often short-term, donor-dependent, and face challenges such as delayed profitability and limited market access.

- a. Monitoring and evaluation systems to measure the success of projects and ensure continuity, based on UNODC's 2022 "Annual Report on Drugs and Crime", which emphasizes the need for "evidence-based approaches to drug policy" and for evaluating the long-term sustainability of alternative development projects, plus a specific committee created within UNODC, to manage in detailed and carefully this complicated topic.
- b. Include private sector partnerships to guarantee market access for legal crops (like coffee, cacao, etc.), with companies such as Starbucks or Nestlé, can secure long-term market access for legal crops like coffee and cacao, also with agreement with firms B2B and B2C-oriented.
 - i. These agreements ensure farmers receive stable income, making the transition from illicit crops more sustainable and enable them to escape from poverty situations that can arise, with the help of other UN agencies like United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD).
- a. Emphasizing on a minimum commitment of 5–10 years for alternative development programs, to ensure sustainability and long-term impact, because:
 - I. Legal crops need time: Crops like coffee or cacao take 2–4 years to start producing profit. So a 1–2 year program does not give farmers enough support to fully switch. (Coca plants can be harvested within 6-12 months after planting, depending on the region and conditions. This fast turnaround makes illegal crops more attractive to farmers in areas where immediate financial returns are needed, particularly in economically vulnerable regions).
 - II. Trust-building with communities: Building trust and changing livelihoods in vulnerable areas requires continuous engagement, which cannot happen in a short project.
 - III. Emergency mechanisms to guarantee a stable income to farmers also in case of unsuccessful crops (e.g. climate change issue, fast-on-set climate shocks, wars, or other related events).