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Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

**Current situation with respect to regional and
subregional cooperation****Statistical analysis of drug trafficking trends in Europe
and Worldwide***Summary*

The present report provides an overview of the latest trends in illicit drug production and trafficking worldwide. The statistics and analysis in the report are based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. In respect of seizure statistics, the report focuses on 2008 and 2009. With regard to illicit drug cultivation and production, the report focuses on the period from 2008 to 2010.

Cannabis continues to be the most widely cultivated, produced, trafficked and consumed illicit drug. Global cannabis herb seizures increased significantly in 2009. Europe continued to account for only a small share of the global total, however a considerable increase was reported in Eastern Europe. Global cannabis resin seizures decreased in 2009 while in West and Central Europe, cannabis resin seized also registered some declines.

In 2010, the area under illicit opium poppy cultivation scaled back slightly. Furthermore, owing to the spread of plant disease in major growing areas, total opium production worldwide decreased. Afghanistan continued to account for the bulk of opium production. Though rising at different speeds, global seizures of opium, morphine and heroin all went up in 2009. Contrary to the global trend, seizures of all opiates in Europe dropped.

* UNODC/HONEURO/9/1.



Coca bush cultivation in Colombia, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia declined in 2009, while global cocaine seizures edged upwards. Majority of the cocaine seizures continued to be made in the Americas while proportionally less cocaine was seized in Europe.

Global seizures for both amphetamine and methamphetamine rose in 2009. While seizure increases for amphetamines principally came from Near and Middle East/South-West Asia, that for the latter were mainly found in North America. Europe continued to take up a significant share of global amphetamine seizures. Global “ecstasy” seizures dropped drastically from 2007 and 2008, before edging down even further in 2009. Proportionally less “ecstasy” was seized in Europe. However, a significant portion of non-specified amphetamine-type stimulants seizures within the region highlights the importance of maintaining vigilance over amphetamine-type stimulants.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report provides an overview of developments in the production and trafficking of the main illicit drugs at the global and regional levels. The analysis contained in the report is based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
2. The report addresses illicit cannabis, opium poppy and coca bush cultivation and illicit opium and coca production for the years up to and including 2010. With regard to drug trafficking, the report focuses on seizure statistics for 2008 and 2009 and supplies an update on trafficking trends in cannabis, opiates, cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants.
3. Information on illicit drug crop cultivation and production of plant-based drugs was drawn from the latest illicit crop-monitoring surveys published by UNODC. The primary sources of information on drug trafficking were the replies to the annual reports questionnaire (ARQ), part III (illicit supply of drugs), submitted by Governments for 2009 and previous years.
4. At the time of preparation of the present report, 103 Member States had submitted their replies to the ARQ, part III, for 2009. Among these, 43 Member States were from the European region. Other supplementary sources of information included reports on significant drug seizures, the latest World Drug Report published by UNODC and other reports received by UNODC or submitted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies. The seizure data reflects information available to UNODC as of 11th April 2011.
5. In general, statistics on drug seizures offer valid, indirect indicators of trafficking trends. However, they should be treated with caution, as they also reflect different reporting practices and may vary with the level and effectiveness of law enforcement capacities.

II. Global trends in illicit drug crop cultivation and the production of plant-based drugs, 2008-2010

A. Cannabis

6. In terms of cultivation, production and consumption, the cannabis market is the largest illicit drug market. Unfortunately, information on its cultivation and production is fragmented. Total cannabis herb production was estimated to range from 13,300 to 66,100 metric tons (mt) in 2008 and total cannabis resin production was estimated to range from 2,200-9,900 mt. Total area under outdoor cannabis cultivation was estimated at 200,000-641,800 hectares (ha).¹ The large range of these estimates is an indication of the difficulty involved in accurately gauging cannabis production. Contrary to other illicit plant-based crops, cannabis lends itself to diverse cultivation methods, making a precise estimate of its cultivation difficult.

¹ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *World Drug Report 2009*.

7. In view of the above uncertainty and the lack of information in many cannabis-cultivating countries, the trend analysis presented here focuses on the latest information received by UNODC (principally ARQ responses).

8. With regard to cannabis herb, seizure statistics suggested that cannabis herb originating in the Netherlands, South Africa, Albania, Jamaica and Paraguay accounted for about 25 per cent of the market from 2002 to 2007.² In terms of production, latest available data showed that in 2008, 21,500 mt and 16,500 mt was produced in Mexico and Paraguay respectively. Another 3,149-7,349 mt was produced in the United States of America, 1,831 mt in the Plurinational State of Bolivia and some 323-766 mt in the Netherlands.³

9. For cannabis resin, the picture is clearer and the geographical focus of its production was Afghanistan and Morocco. In Afghanistan, the first cannabis survey jointly conducted by UNODC and the Afghan Ministry of Counter Narcotics estimated a cultivated area of 10,000 to 24,000 ha in 2009. Meanwhile, total cannabis resin production was estimated to range between 1,500 and 3,500 mt. Owing to its relatively high resin yield (145 kg/ha, 4 times higher than that in Morocco), Afghanistan would be the major producer of cannabis resin in the world.

10. The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) reported that significant illicit production of cannabis resin continues to take place in Morocco. Even though the land used for cannabis plant cultivation was reported to have decreased from 134,000 ha in 2003 to 56,000 ha in 2009 and cannabis resin production dropped from 3,070 tons to 820 tons, data from European countries showed that large quantities of Moroccan cannabis resin continued to be smuggled into Europe.⁴

11. In addition to outdoor cultivation, there was also an increasing trend toward indoor cannabis cultivation. In 2010, UNODC found evidence of indoor cultivation for commercial purpose in 29 countries, concentrated in the temperate zones of the world: North America, West, North and Central Europe and Oceania.⁵

B. Opium

12. The significant growth in the production of opiates, which started in 2006, was driven mainly by increases in Afghanistan. Global illicit opium production has exhibited a decreasing trend since 2007/2008. The total area under illicit opium poppy cultivation worldwide in 2010 was approximately 195,677 ha, an increase of 5.2 per cent over 2009 (185,935 ha), owing to slight increases in Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. In the same year, total production dropped to an estimated 4,860 tons, down by 38 per cent when compared with 2009 (7,853 tons). While illicit poppy cultivation in Afghanistan stayed the same between 2009 and 2010, a severe plant disease which affected opium fields in the major growing provinces caused a sharp decline in its production in 2010. Illicit opium production in Afghanistan dropped from 6,900 mt in 2009 to 3,600 mt in 2010 (see figure I).

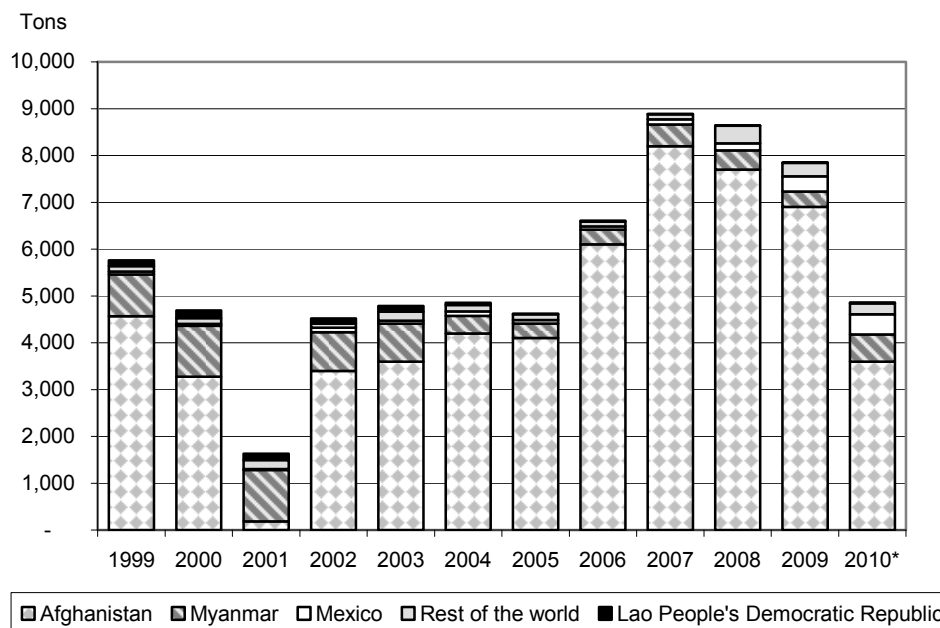
² As shown in the reported seizures in the Annual Reports Questionnaire.

³ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *World Drug Report 2010*.

⁴ International Narcotics Control Board, *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board 2010*.

⁵ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *World Drug Report 2010*.

Figure I
Global illicit opium production, 1999-2010



* Data for 2010 available for some countries only.

13. From 2006 onwards, global illicit opium production became more concentrated in Afghanistan, accounting for over 90 per cent of worldwide production. In Myanmar opium production took up another 4.8 per cent, followed by Mexico (1.6 per cent). In 2009 owing to the severe crop disease, production in Afghanistan dropped to around 88 per cent of the world total. Meanwhile, opium production in Mexico took up a greater share (about 5 per cent), followed by Myanmar (around 4 per cent).

14. The annual Afghanistan Opium Survey for 2010 concluded that the total area under opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan remained the same at 123,000 ha in 2010. The stable situation halted a declining trend in cultivation that began in 2007. Although poppy cultivation trends at the national levels did not change, regional changes did emerge. In the north-eastern region, there was an alarming increase of 97 per cent, from 557 ha in 2009 to 1,100 ha in 2010. Owing to tough resistance from anti-government forces, proper eradication did not take place in Nangarhar province, pushing up the cultivation therein by 145 per cent.

15. Ninety-eight per cent of cultivation took place in nine provinces in the southern and western region of Afghanistan, including the most insecure provinces. Helmand remains the single largest opium-cultivating province, taking up about 53 per cent of opium production in Afghanistan. In 2010, 14 provinces were affected by poppy growing and 20 remained poppy-free, the same as that in 2009.

16. While the total area under cultivation remained stable, actual production of opium in Afghanistan decreased by 48 per cent, from 6,900 tons in 2009 to 3,600 tons in 2010. The average opium yield dropped from 56.1 kg per ha in 2009 to

29.2 kg per ha in 2010. The reduction was a further impact of spreading crop diseases in major growing areas that affected opium plants at a late stage of development.

17. In South-East Asia, the major part of opium poppy cultivation took place in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Thailand. Together they amounted to a total area of 41,389 ha in 2010. The exhibited trend in opium cultivation in these three countries between 1998 and 2006 has been decreasing, reaching approximately 24,157 ha in 2006. Since then, however, overall cultivation in the region has increased, particularly those in Myanmar. As a region, the total area of opium poppy cultivation in 2010 was almost twice as that in 2006.

18. In Myanmar, opium cultivation followed a generally increasing trend: from 31,700 ha in 2009 to 38,100 ha in 2010. Shan State accounts for 92 per cent of opium production, and most of the increase in total cultivation took place in North Shan and South Shan. The majority of opium poppy cultivation outside of Shan State took place in Kachin State. Opium production in Myanmar in 2010 was estimated at 580 tons, higher than that in 2009 (330 tons). The increased cultivation together with a higher yield had led to an increase in production.

19. While opium production in South-East Asia was declining in global totals over recent years, the portion coming from the Americas grew. Specifically, opium production in Mexico recorded a significant increase, rising from 149 tons in 2007 to 425 tons in 2009, thereby pushing up the share of opium production in the Americas from 1.7 per cent to 5.4 per cent.

C. Coca

20. The global cocaine market demonstrated some declines during 2008 and 2009. While coca bush cultivation remained concentrated in Colombia, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, total cultivation area dropped from 181,600 ha in 2007 to 167,600 ha in 2008, before edging further down to 158,800 ha in 2009 (a decrease of 5 per cent over the previous year). This was about the same level of cultivation as from 2003 to 2006.

21. Recent decreases in total coca cultivation were mainly attributable to reduction in Colombia, though it remained the country with the largest area under coca cultivation. In 2008 and 2009, coca cultivation in Colombia accounted for 48 and 43 per cent of the global total respectively. Cultivation in Colombia was estimated at 68,000 ha in 2009, down by 16 per cent when compared with 2008. On the other hand, cultivation in Peru went up from 56,100 ha in 2008 to 59,900 ha in 2009, an increase of 7 per cent.

22. Owing to the review of conversion factors from coca leaves to cocaine, global cocaine production in 2009 was estimated as a range (842-1,111 mt). Despite the uncertainty over the estimates, the total cocaine production trend between 2008 (845 mt) and 2009 remained largely stable.⁶

23. In 2009, 80 per cent of the coca fields in Colombia were found in 4 regions: the Pacific (25,167 ha), Central (16,127 ha), Meta-Guaviare (12,618 ha) and

⁶ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *World Drug Report 2010*.

Putumayo-Caquetá (9,076 ha). Major coca bush reduction were found in the Putumayo-Caquetá (-4,885 ha) and Pacific (-4,750 ha) regions.⁷

24. Coca cultivation in Peru in 2009 was 59,900 ha, 21,200 ha more than in 1999, when coca cultivation was at its lowest level in the last two decades. In Peru, the regions with the largest area under coca bush cultivation continued to be Alto Huallaga (17,497 ha), Apurímac-Ene (17,486 ha), and La Convención-Lares (13,174 ha). On the contrary, significant increases were found in Otros lugares (from 8,421 ha in 2008 to 11,769 ha in 2009). Most of the increase took place in smaller growing regions like Aguaytía, Inambari-Tambopata and Palcazú-Pichís-Pachitea.⁸

25. Coca cultivation in the Plurinational State of Bolivia in 2009 remained largely the same as that in 2008, with only a slight increase of 1 per cent, from 30,500 ha to 30,900 ha. Production remained concentrated in La Paz, which accounted for roughly two-thirds of the coca cultivation.

26. For 2008, UNODC received 9,730 reports of the destruction of clandestine coca-processing laboratories, slightly higher than that in 2007. As with previous years, almost all of the dismantled clandestine laboratories were found in the three coca cultivating countries — Colombia, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, showing that cocaine production continued to take place near the cultivation areas.

27. The latest available data showed that the number of clandestine coca-processing laboratories detected between 2009 and 2010 continued to stay roughly the same as that in 2008.

III. Trends in illicit drug trafficking

A. Cannabis

28. Table 1 shows the reported quantities of seized drugs for major drug types in 2008 and 2009. Seizures attributable to countries and territories in Europe are expressed both in gross amounts and as a percentage of the global total for the corresponding drug type. Generally speaking, the share of global seizures attributable to Europe can be used as an indicator of the relative scale of drug trafficking across different drug types. This indicator points to (i) cannabis resin, (ii) heroin, and (iii) amphetamine as the drug types of most concern in the region. In 2009, around half of global cannabis resin, and about one third of global seizures of heroin and amphetamine, were attributable to Europe.

29. Taking up less than 10 per cent of the global seizures in 2009, “ecstasy” seizures in Europe accounted for about a quarter of the world total in 2008. This, together with a relatively high proportion of non-specified ATS seizures in 2009 (75 per cent), suggested that “ecstasy” may still warrant attention for the region.

⁷ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Colombia – Coca Cultivation Survey 2009*.

⁸ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *World Drug Report 2010*.

Table 1
Global and Europe drug seizures, 2008 and 2009

Drug type	2008			2009		
	Europe (kilograms)	Global (kilograms)	Percentage	Europe (kilograms)	Global (kilograms)	Percentage
Cannabis						
Cannabis herb	178,345	6,621,380	2.7%	162,424	7,896,394	2.1%
Cannabis resin	937,027	1,647,590	56.9%	603,559	1,241,483	48.6%
Coca						
Cocaine ¹	62,676	722,699	8.7%	54,819	729,075	7.5%
Opiates						
Opium ²	1,324	646,219	0.2%	1,367	652,997	0.2%
Morphine	117	17,265	0.7%	34	23,723	0.1%
Heroin	29,206	73,706	39.6%	28,555	75,788	37.7%
ATS						
Amphetamine	8,455	23,080	36.6%	8,713	26,060	33.4%
Methamphetamine	322	21,343	1.5%	687	31,002	2.2%
“Ecstasy” ³	1,008	3,926	25.7%	248	3,494	7.1%
Non-specified	2	3,730	0.1%	216	288	75.0%

¹ Cocaine base and cocaine salts.

² Raw opium and prepared opium.

³ Including MDMA, MDA, MDE/MDEA.

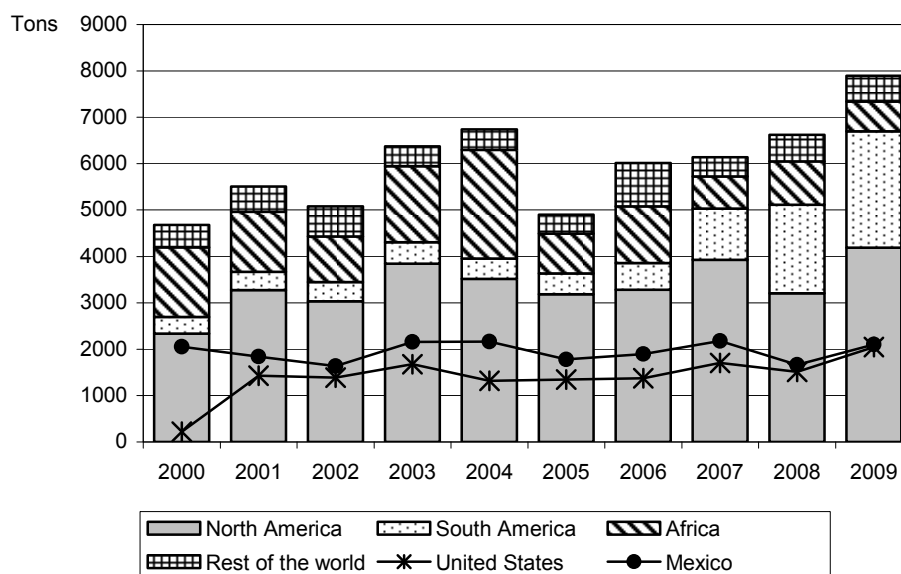
30. Cannabis derivatives remained the most widely trafficked drugs worldwide.⁹ In Europe, cannabis herb was the most frequently seized drug in 2009, followed by cannabis resin. On the other hand, cannabis herb continued to be the most frequently seized drug in the Americas, Africa and Oceania.

1. Cannabis herb

31. Global cannabis herb seizures have increased gradually since 2005 (see figure II). Total seizures for 2009 amounted to 7,896 tons, 19.3 per cent higher than that in 2008 (6,621 tons). North America, South America and Africa took up about 53 per cent, 32 per cent and 8 per cent of the world total respectively. Thus, the Americas continued to account for the bulk of cannabis herb seizures. Meanwhile, the proportion attributable to Europe stayed between 2 and 3 per cent for the seventh consecutive year.

⁹ Specifically cannabis herb, cannabis resin and cannabis oil.

Figure II
Breakdown of global cannabis herb seizures, 2000-2009



32. With the exception of 2008, North America constituted more than half of global cannabis herb seizures between 2001 and 2009. Seizures in this region rose by 31 per cent in 2009, from 3,205 tons to 4,189 tons. The increment was mainly driven by notable increases in the United States of America (539 tons) and Mexico (447 tons). Growing dominance of the two countries in global cannabis herb seizures can be traced back a few years earlier. From 2001 onwards, the largest and second largest national annual cannabis herb seizures have been reported by Mexico and the United States of America, respectively.

33. Although increases in North America contributed the most to the global totals between 2008 and 2009, a considerable share was attributed to South America. Cannabis herb seizures went up from 1,907 tons to 2,509 tons, an increase of about 32 per cent. Within the region, significant rises in reported seizures in the Plurinational State of Bolivia (825 tons) more than offset the considerable reduction in Paraguay (124 tons), Brazil (56 tons) and Colombia (46 tons).

34. In Europe, the relatively small amount of cannabis herb seizures has declined in spite of the global trend. Between 2008 and 2009, cannabis herb seized within the region decreased from 178 tons to 162 tons, largely because of greater drop in West and Central Europe.

35. Latest available information indicated that cannabis herb seized in West and Central Europe declined from 111 tons in 2008 to 65 tons in 2009. On the contrary, cannabis herb seizures in Eastern Europe jumped from 29.3 tons to 49.6 tons, the largest subregional increases within Europe. Concurrently, those seized in South-Eastern Europe also rose from 38.5 tons to 47.8 tons.

36. Among all European countries, the greatest amount of cannabis herb seizures for 2009 were found in Turkey (42 tons), the Russian Federation (33 tons) and the

United Kingdom (18 tons). Compared with 2008, the Russian Federation replaced the Netherlands and became one of the top three European countries with the largest amount of annual cannabis herb seizures.

37. On top of the increase in the Russian Federation, the rise in Ukraine (from 3.7 tons to 15.3 tons) was also the impetus for the significant growth in cannabis herb seizure in Eastern Europe. Similarly, additions from Turkey (from 31.2 tons to 41.9 tons) and other South-Eastern European countries outweighed the reduction in Bulgaria and Romania, pushing up the total cannabis herb seized in South-Eastern Europe.

38. As for West and Central Europe, the overall drop in the region was principally caused by substantial reduction in the Netherlands (36.4 tons) and the United Kingdom.

2. Cannabis resin

39. After reaching its highest level of 1,648 tons in 2008, global seizures of cannabis resin scaled back to 1,241 tons in 2009, more or less the same as that in 2007. However, when compared with 2007, regional distribution of cannabis resin seizures registered a few major changes (see figure III).

40. Although West and Central Europe continued to be the subregion with the highest cannabis resin seizures, it took up less than half of the global total in 2009 (48 per cent). Recording an increase of 155 tons, Africa accounted for almost 26 per cent of the overall aggregate, followed by Near and Middle East/South-West Asia (24 per cent).

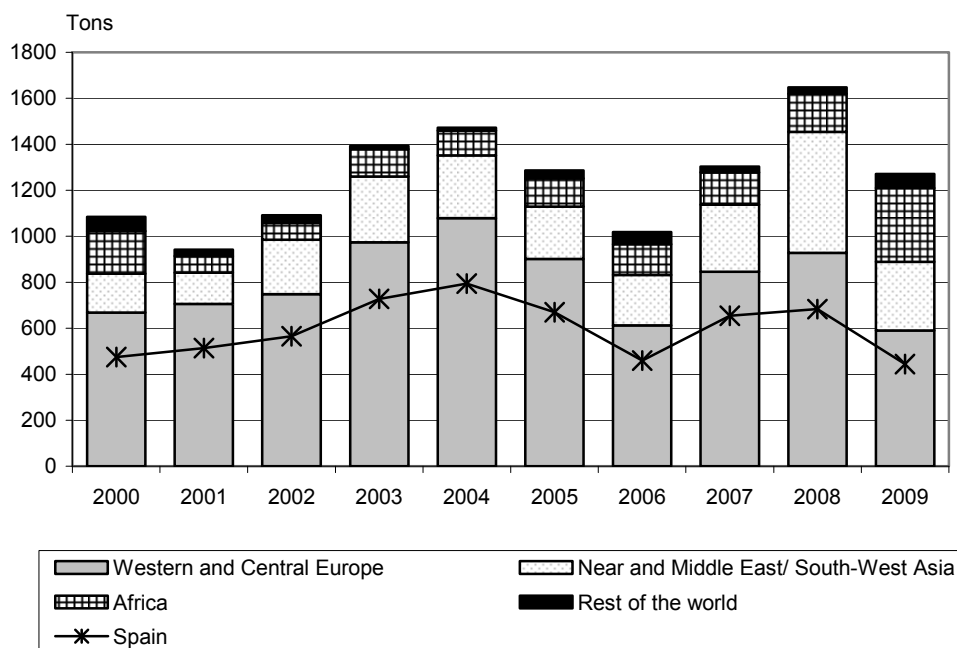
41. In 2007, the respective shares of West and Central Europe, Africa and Near and Middle East/South-West Asia were at about 65 per cent, 11 per cent and 22 per cent respectively. Comparing the two sets of figures, a growing share of Africa and a declining portion of West and Central Europe is in evidence.

42. Significant increases in Africa were mainly concentrated in the North — Morocco, Algeria and Sudan. Total cannabis resin seized in these countries jumped from 153 tons in 2008 to 279 tons in 2009, an increase of 83 per cent. Meanwhile, considerable increases were also found in Zambia — from almost negligible to 27 tons.

43. Moving in the same direction as the global total, cannabis resin seizures in Near and Middle East/South-West Asia dropped. Significant reductions were reported by Afghanistan, Yemen and Saudi Arabia. In particular, cannabis resin seizures in Afghanistan dropped from 271 tons in 2008 to 10.5 tons in 2009.

44. The regional trend within Europe remained similar to previous years, the subregion West and Central Europe continued to dominate total cannabis resin seizures. Although cannabis resin seized have dropped from 927 tons in 2008 to 590 tons in 2009 (a reduction of 36 per cent), it accounted for more than 95 per cent of the cannabis resin seizures in Europe in 2009. On the other hand, cannabis resin seized in South-Eastern Europe and Eastern Europe only constituted a share of 1.6 per cent and 0.7 per cent respectively.

Figure III
Breakdown of global cannabis resin seizures, 2000-2009



45. Over the past few years, cannabis resin seizures in West and Central Europe have been concentrated in a few countries. In 2009, 75 per cent of its total seizure came from Spain, followed by France (9.5 per cent), Portugal (3.9 per cent), Italy (3.3 per cent), Belgium (3.2 per cent) and the United Kingdom (2.2 per cent).

46. Most of these countries experienced substantial declines in cannabis resin seizures for 2009. In particular, in Spain seizures decreased from 683 tons in 2008 to 445 tons in 2009, a reduction of 35 per cent. Meanwhile, France and Portugal also reported declines of 21 per cent and 62 per cent respectively. Cannabis resin seizures in Portugal dropped from 61 tons to 23 tons. Concurrently, reduction in Italy (from 34 tons to 19 tons) and the United Kingdom were also impressive.

47. Contrary to most of the declines observed in West and Central Europe, seizures of cannabis resin in Belgium rose from 1.5 tons in 2008 to 18.7 tons in 2009. Slight increases were also recorded for South-Eastern Europe and Eastern Europe. For the former, cannabis resin seizures increased from 7,954 kg in 2008 to 9,706 kg in 2009.

B. Opiates

48. Among the 15.4 million opiate users in 2008, the majority of them are heroin users (11.3 million).¹⁰ As a result, trafficking of heroin is of greatest concern. According to UNODC's estimates, about 40 per cent of Afghanistan's heroin is

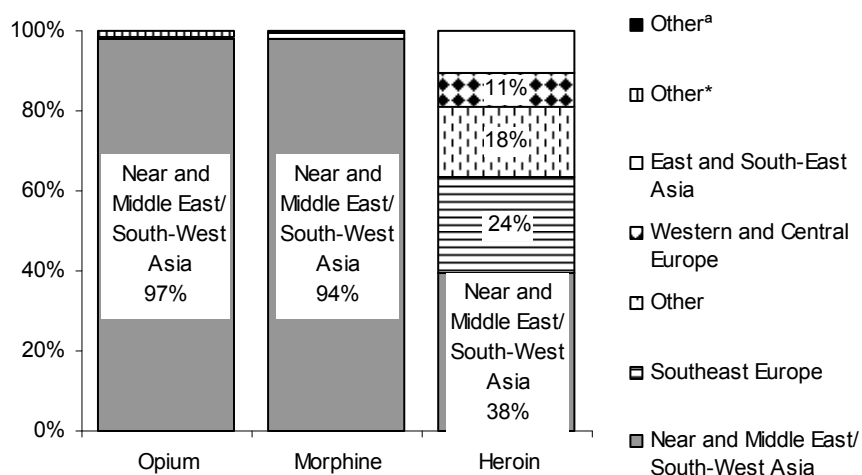
¹⁰ Estimates from United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Addiction, Crime and Insurgency, The Transnational Threat of Afghan Opium*.

trafficked to Pakistan, one of the main transit countries for heroin destined for the Islamic Republic of Iran, India, Africa, Europe and other major markets. Another 30 per cent and 25 per cent enters the Islamic Republic of Iran and Central Asian countries respectively.¹¹

49. As shown in figure IV, the bulk of global opium and morphine seizures were found in countries surrounding Afghanistan, while heroin seizures are less concentrated geographically. Taking up a negligible share of global opium and morphine seizures, heroin seized in Europe continued to take up more than one third of the global heroin seizures in 2009.

Figure IV

Proportions of opiate seizures by region, 2009
(Percentage)



^a Including Western and Central Europe, and South-East Europe.

* Including Western and Central Europe, South-East Europe and East and South-East Asia.

1. Opium

50. Global opium seizures continued to increase from 646 tons in 2008 to 653 tons in 2009. The Islamic Republic of Iran accounted for over 85 per cent of the global opium seizures in both years, rising from 561 tons in 2008 to 580 tons in 2009 (see figure V).

51. Contrary to the global trend, total seizures of opium in Europe edged down from 1,445 kg in 2007 to 1,324 kg in 2008, before climbing up again to 1,367 kg in 2009. As a share of the global total, opium seized in Europe decreased from 0.3 per cent in 2007 to 0.2 per cent in 2008, remaining roughly the same in 2009.

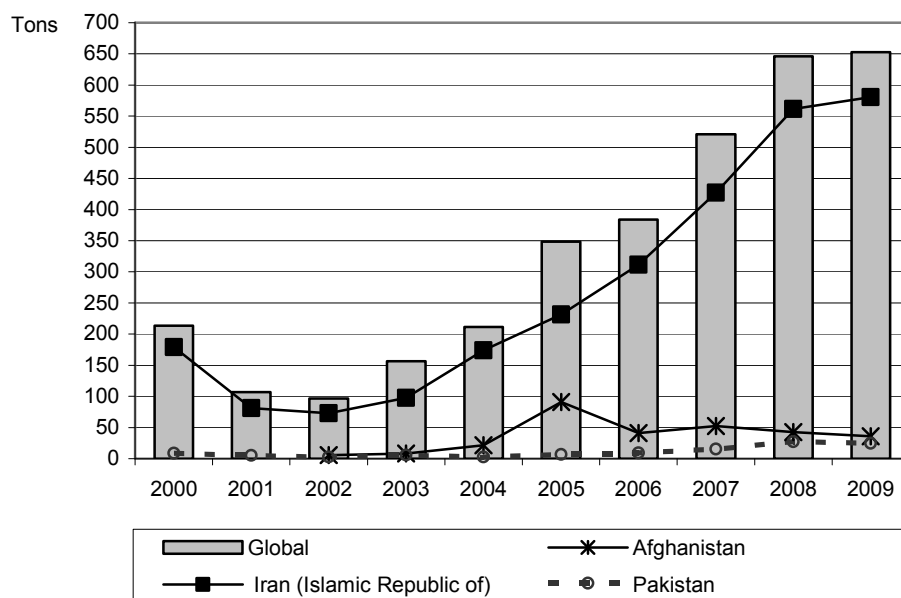
52. The majority of opium seizures in Europe were made in Turkey (52 per cent in 2009). Against the backdrop of the slight increase within the region, opium seized in Turkey increased from 556 kg in 2008 to 711 kg in 2009, a 28 per cent rise. Meanwhile, opium seized in the Russian Federation dropped from 439 kg to 310 kg.

¹¹ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Addiction, Crime and Insurgency, The Transnational Threat of Afghan Opium*.

53. In 2009, more significant increases were also found in Poland and Ukraine (55 kg and 41 kg respectively). Apart from Sweden, which saw a reduction of 74 kg in 2009, most other European countries only had slight diminution in opium seizures.

Figure V

Principal opium interdiction worldwide, 2000-2009



2. Morphine

54. Global morphine seizures went up from 17 tons in 2008 to 24 tons in 2009, a rise of 34 per cent. Morphine seizures in the Islamic Republic of Iran, however, augmented at an even faster rate (80 per cent), and took up an increasing share among the global total (52 and 68 per cent in 2008 and 2009 respectively). In absolute terms, 7.2 tons more morphine was seized within the country between 2008 and 2009.

55. Similar to the situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, morphine seizures in Afghanistan also increased dramatically from 479 kg in 2008 to 5,167 kg in 2009. Its share in the global total thus jumped from 2.8 per cent to 21.8 per cent. On the contrary, significant reduction was found in Pakistan. Between 2008 and 2009, total morphine seized in Pakistan reduced by 5,364 kg, shrinking its share from 42 to around 8 per cent.

56. Accounting for only 0.14 per cent of the global total in 2009, morphine seizures in Europe was at its 10-year low of 34 kg. Compared with 2008, there was a reduction of 84 kg. This was mainly attributable to the considerably smaller amounts reported by Turkey and Spain (71 and 11 kg respectively). Slight increases were found in Poland and Switzerland, but their magnitude was too small to affect the regional total.

3. Heroin

57. Global heroin seizures went up even further between 2007 and 2009, rising from 64 tons to 76 tons. While regional distribution of heroin seizures remained more or less the same, greater increases were recently found in East and South-East Asia. From 2008 to 2009, total heroin seized within the region increased by 2,501 kg, even larger than that of the global aggregate (2,082 kg).

58. Between 2008 and 2009, some of the more significant increases in heroin seizures were found in the Islamic Republic of Iran (increased by 1,797 kg), China (an increase of 1,506 kg), Myanmar (went up by 988 kg) and Turkey (increased by 944 kg). Together these increases more than offset considerable declines in Kazakhstan (907 kg), Uzbekistan (717 kg) and Tajikistan (504 kg).

59. From 2007 onwards, heroin seized in Near Middle East/ South-West Asia has equated to more than one third of the global heroin seizures. In 2009, this share rose to almost 40 per cent, and so became the region with the greatest amount of heroin seizures. This is followed by Europe (approximately 38 per cent) and East and South-East Asia (10 per cent). North America accounted for another 3.8 per percent.

60. Within Europe, the subregion South-Eastern Europe had the largest share of heroin seizures (63.3 per cent in 2009). Heroin seized in West and Central Europe; and Eastern Europe accounted for the remaining 25.6 and 11.1 per cent respectively. While global heroin seizures edged up further in 2009, heroin seized in Europe scaled back slightly. Driven by considerable reduction in Eastern Europe and West and Central Europe, total seizures dropped from 29.2 tons in 2008 to 28.6 tons in 2009 (see figure VI).

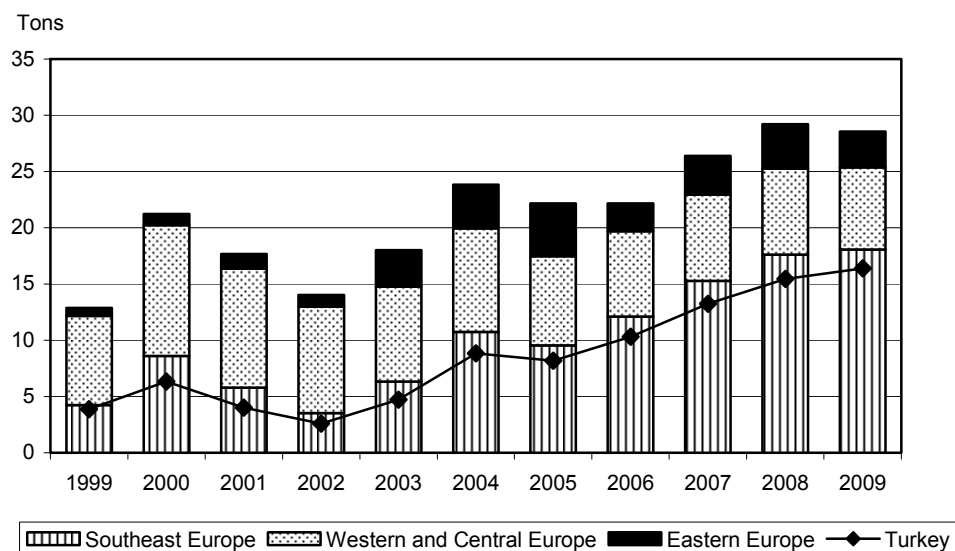
61. With the exception of Belarus, declines in heroin seizures were found in most Eastern European countries. Between 2008 and 2009, the Russian Federation (3,152 kg in 2009), Ukraine (16.6 kg) and the Republic of Moldova (0.05kg) all experienced a reduction of heroin seizures of about 200 to 300 kg.

62. Unlike the decreasing trend shared by most Eastern European countries, heroin seized among various Western and Central European countries demonstrated a mixed pattern. Total seizures of heroin within the subregion declined from 7,647 kg in 2008 to 7,315 tons in 2009 (a reduction of 332 tons), driven principally by reduced reports from Spain (247 tons), the Netherlands (207 tons) and Italy (175 tons). On the other hand, heroin seizures increased in Germany (256 tons) and Belgium (212 tons), without affecting the subregional total.

63. Though not the biggest heroin market within Europe, the subregion South-West Europe has had the greatest amount of heroin seizures since 2004. From 2006 onwards, total heroin seized within the subregion accounted for more than half of the heroin seizures in Europe. Contrary to the slight reduction of the regional aggregate, total heroin seizures in South-West Europe rose from 17.6 tons in 2008 to 18.1 tons in 2009. Its respective share in Europe therefore also went up slightly, from 60 per cent to 63 percent.

64. Within South-Eastern Europe, the greatest addition came from Turkey. Between 2004 and 2009, heroin seized within the country almost doubled — from 8,847 kg to 16,391 kg. From 2008 to 2009, there was an increase of 944 kg, much greater than the reduction in Romania and Serbia (300 and 208 kg respectively).

Figure VI
Breakdown of heroin seizures in Europe, 1999-2009



C. Cocaine

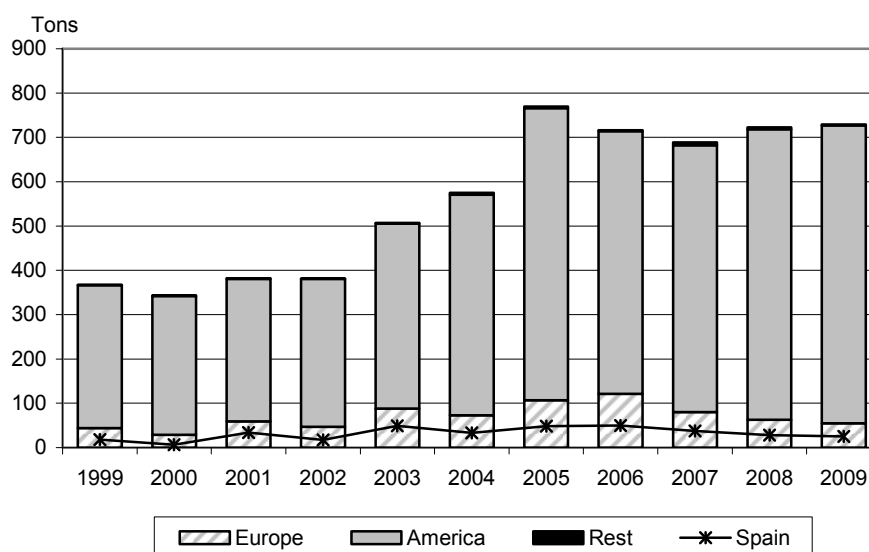
65. In 2009, global cocaine seizures increased to 729 tons, from 723 tons in 2008, reaching its second highest level over the period 1999-2009. The bulk of the cocaine seizures continued to be made in the Americas confirming its relative and growing recent dominance. On the contrary, proportionally less cocaine was seized in Europe between 2008 and 2009 (see figure VII).

66. A falling cocaine market in the United States is reflected in cocaine seizures exhibiting a similar declining trend. After reaching its peak of 200 tons in 2005, cocaine seizures in the United States of America dropped to 108 tons in 2009. On the contrary, cocaine seized in South America went up from 418 tons in 2008 to 442 tons in 2009, its highest level between the periods 1999-2009.

67. Increases in cocaine seizures in South America were found in a number of countries: Ecuador, Brazil and Uruguay. In particular, a considerable increase was recorded in Ecuador in 2009 (36.8 tons). Yet, Colombia still took up the majority of the cocaine seizure within the region (38 per cent), followed by Ecuador (10 per cent), Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (4 per cent) and the Plurinational State of Bolivia (4 per cent).

68. In contrast to the slight increases in global cocaine seizures, cocaine seized in Europe dropped from 63 tons in 2008 to 55 tons in 2009, pushing down its relative share in global cocaine seized from 8.7 per cent to 7.5 per cent. Less cocaine was seized in the subregion West and Central Europe. Experiencing a slight reduction of 9.3 tons between 2008 and 2009, its share within Europe dropped from 99.5 per cent to 96.4 per cent. At the same time, significant increases in Romania pushed up the portion of South-Eastern Europe from 0.3 per cent to 3.0 per cent.

Figure VII
Breakdown of cocaine seizures worldwide, 1999-2009
 (Kilograms)



69. The largest reports of cocaine seizures from West and Central European countries in 2009 continued to be found in Spain (25 tons, equivalent to more than 40 per cent of the subregion total), in spite of a considerable drop in reported seizures from the region. The greatest decline came from France (a reduction of 37 per cent), followed by Portugal and the Netherlands. Increases were found in Belgium, Germany and Greece.

70. Based on the latest official data published by the United Kingdom Government, cocaine seized within England and Wales experienced a slight reduction. Between the financial year 2008/09 and 2009/10, it dropped from 2,916 kg to 2,642 kg,¹² moving in the same direction as the subregional and regional total.

D. Amphetamine-type stimulants^{13, 14}

1. Amphetamine

71. Between 2007 and 2009, global seizures of amphetamine experienced a further increase from 23.8 tons to 26 tons. Major increases were reported from the Near and

¹² *Seizures of Drugs in England and Wales 2009/10*, Home Office, Statistical Bulletin, ISSN 1759-7005.

¹³ Amphetamine-type stimulants, as defined by UNODC, consist of: (a) amphetamines (amphetamine, methamphetamine); (b) "ecstasy" (methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)) and related substances such as methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA) (the "ecstasy"-group substances); and (c) a number of other synthetic stimulants such as methcathinone, phentermine and fenetylline.

¹⁴ For the purposes of ATS seizure statistics, one tablet is assumed to contain 30 milligrams of psychoactive ingredient, except for "ecstasy" tablets, which are assumed to contain 100 milligrams of psychoactive ingredient.

Middle East/South-West Asia. Amphetamine seized in this region recorded an increase of 2.9 tons between 2008 and 2009, constituting about 98 per cent of the change in global total.¹⁵

72. While the majority of the amphetamine seized within the Near and Middle East/South-West Asia was reported by Saudi Arabia (over three quarters), the greatest increase was found in the Islamic Republic of Iran (891 kg). Additionally, considerable increases in Saudi Arabia (577 kg), Yemen (452 kg) and Jordan (448 kg) also helped to push up the regional total.

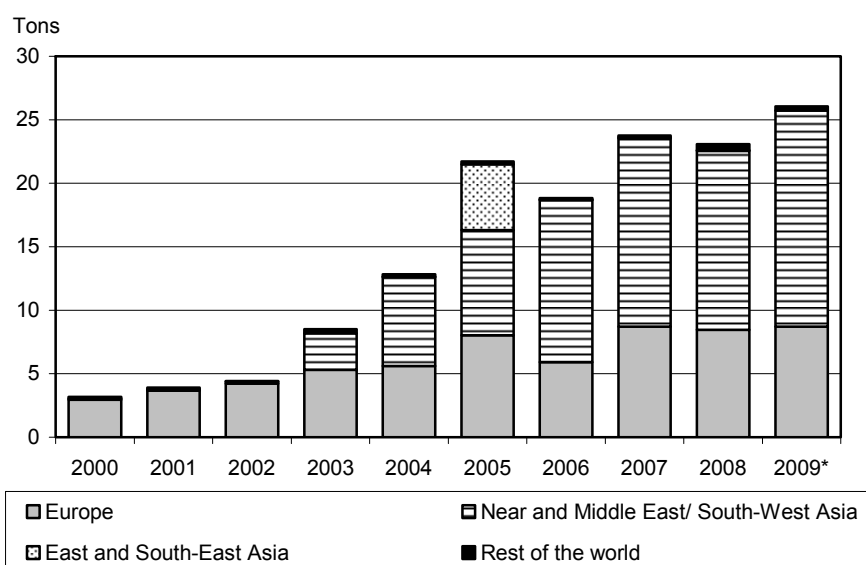
73. In line with the global total, amphetamine seizures in Europe also increased slightly. Total seizures edged up from 8,455 kg in 2008 to 8,713 kg in 2009. The major impetus of growth came from South-Eastern Europe. Constituting only 5.6 per cent of the total amphetamine seizure in Europe in 2008, total seizures within South-Eastern Europe went up from 473 kg to 880 kg in 2009, pushing up its regional share to 10.1 per cent. Considerable increment was found in Turkey and Bulgaria.

74. Within Europe, the greatest amount of amphetamine seizures was found in West and Central Europe (89 per cent of the amphetamine seizures in Europe in 2009). Contrary to the regional trend, amphetamine seized in West and Central Europe experienced a drop, edging down from 7,910 kg in 2008 to 7,779 kg in 2009.

75. Situation in Eastern Europe remained more or less stable between 2008 and 2009, with the greatest amount of amphetamine seizures found in the Russian Federation. Yet, when compared with the amount of seizures in other countries, amphetamine seized within this subregion remained negligible.

¹⁵ At the time of the preparation of the report, the regional figures for East and South-East Asia are still not available. Given the considerable importance of the region, caution should be paid when interpreting the 2009 seizure figure.

Figure VIII
Breakdown of amphetamine seizures worldwide, 2000-2009
 (Ton equivalent)



2. Methamphetamine

76. Global methamphetamine seizures increased from 21.3 tons in 2008 to 31.0 tons in 2009, a considerable rise of 45 per cent. Across all regions, the greatest regions of growth were reported from North America and East and South-East Asia.

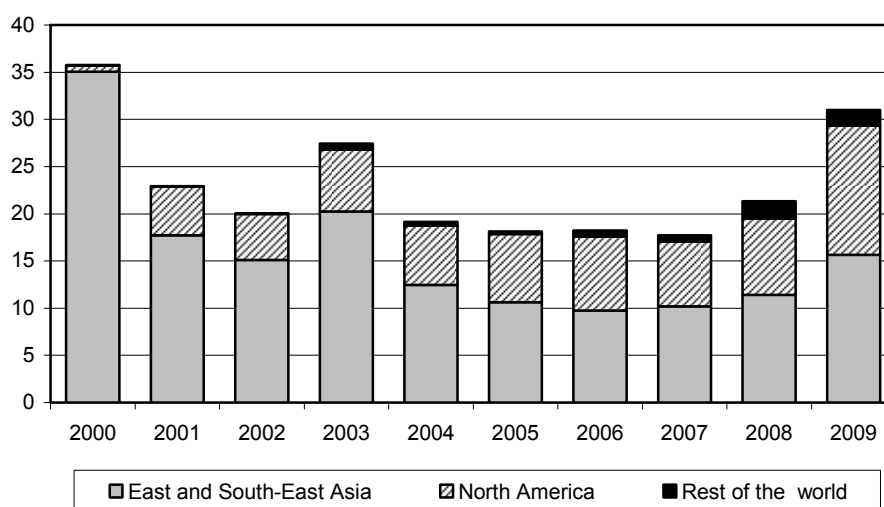
77. While methamphetamine seizures continued to be concentrated in East and South-East Asia and North America in 2009, the amount seized in the two regions has experienced significant change between 2000 and 2009 (see figure IX). The former accounted for about 98 per cent and the latter 2 per cent of the global total in 2000, the respective shares for the two regions was at 50 per cent and 44 per cent in 2009.

78. In the region of East and South-East Asia, China continued to be the country reporting the greatest amount of methamphetamine seizures for 2009 (6,623 kg). This is followed by Myanmar (3,396 kg), Thailand (2,627 kg) and Malaysia (1,163 kg). Notable increases were found in Myanmar and Malaysia between 2007 and 2009.

79. In North America, although the greatest amount of methamphetamine seizures was found in the United States, there was a sizeable increase in Mexico recently. Methamphetamine seized in Mexico increased substantially from 341 kg in 2008 to 6,077 kg in 2009. The regional share of Mexico thus went up accordingly and reached 44 per cent in 2009, much closer to the 55 per cent taken up by the United States of America.

80. In the same vein as the global trend, methamphetamine seizures in Europe also went up, from 322 kg in 2008 to 687 kg in 2009. Major increases were found in Norway (128 kg), Turkey (104 kg), Sweden (89 kg) and Lithuania (57 kg).

Figure IX
Breakdown of methamphetamine seizures worldwide, 2000-2009
 (Ton equivalent)



3. “Ecstasy”-type substances

81. Global “ecstasy” seizures dropped severely from a recent high of 9.5 tons in 2007 to 3.9 tons in 2008, before edging even further down to 3.5 tons in 2009. Contrary to the global trend and most of the regional trend, “ecstasy” seizures in the United States increased, up from 2,039 kg in 2008 to 2,717 kg in 2009. Concurrently, a significant reduction was observed in Europe (760 kg) and East and South-East Asia (123 kg).

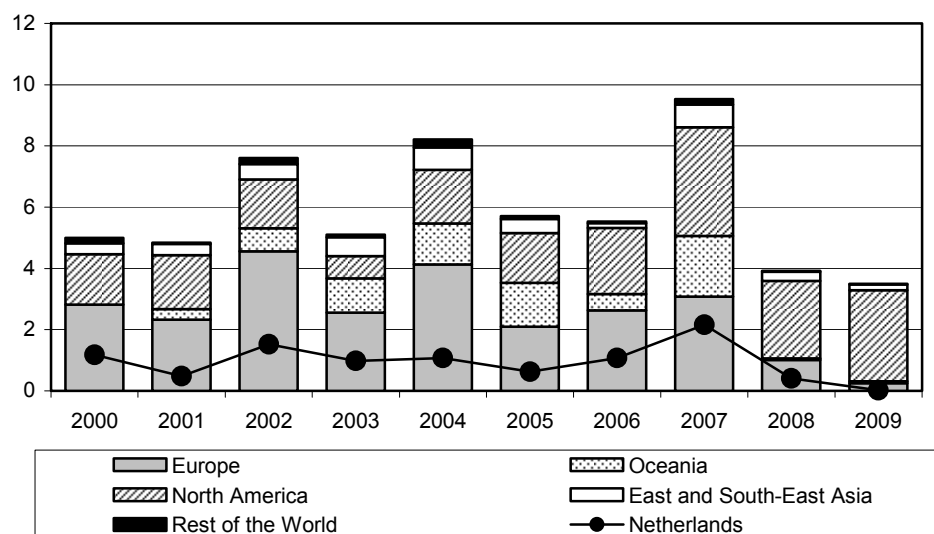
82. In 2009, “ecstasy” seized in North America constituted about 85 per cent of the global total, followed by Europe (7.1 per cent) and East and South-East Asia (5.2 per cent). This is in stark contrast to the regional distribution in 2000: Europe (56.4 per cent), North America (33.0 per cent) and East and South-East Asia (7.2 per cent) (see figure X).

83. A majority of the “ecstasy” seizures within Europe came from the subregion West and Central Europe. Between 2007 and 2009, “ecstasy” seized in West and Central Europe experienced a significant diminution, down from 2,909 kg to 170 kg. The greatest reduction came from the Netherlands (2,141 kg). Some declines were also recorded for France, the United Kingdom and Belgium.

84. According to the Statistical Bulletin, *Seizures of Drugs in England and Wales, 2009/10*, “ecstasy”-type seizures registered the largest reduction rate among all drug types. For the financial year 2009/10, total seizures of “ecstasy” dropped from 547,000 doses (2008/09) to 171,000 doses, down by 69 per cent on a year-to-year basis.

85. Outside West and Central Europe, the greatest amount of “ecstasy” seized within Europe was reported by Turkey (43 kg in 2009), Bulgaria (24 kg) and Russian Federation (7 kg). Apart from Bulgaria, seizures of “ecstasy” in the other two countries reduced considerably between 2007 and 2009.

Figure X
Breakdown of “ecstasy” seizures worldwide, 2000-2009
 (Ton equivalent)



4. Precursor chemicals and pharmaceutical preparations used in the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants

86. In 2008, 45 amphetamine laboratories and 53 “ecstasy”-group laboratories were reported.¹⁶ While the majority of the former were reported throughout Europe, a significant reduction in Europe was recorded for the latter. Previously dominated by West and Central Europe, the manufacture of “ecstasy”-group substances is now reported in other parts of the world — East and South-East Asia, North America, Oceania and Latin America.

87. According to the International Narcotics Control Board, 23 countries reported a total of 41.9 tons of raw ephedrine seizures for 2010, with China accounting for more than 65 per cent of the reported total. Furthermore, 15 countries reported seizing ephedrine in the form of pharmaceutical preparations. Meanwhile, the total quantity of raw pseudoephedrine seized amounted to 7.2 tons. Twelve countries reported seizing pseudoephedrine-containing pharmaceutical preparations, amounting to a total weight of 1,075 kg.

88. The Board also noted that for 2010, the discrepancy between the size and frequency of methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) seizures and those of the precursors required in its manufacture continued. Australia and the Netherlands were the only countries reported seizures of 3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone in limited volumes. Authorities of several European countries,¹⁷ on the other hand, notified seizures of piperonal in the form of “ecstasy”-like tablets.

¹⁶ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *World Drug Report 2010*.

¹⁷ Including Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy and Portugal.