

24 June 2011

Original: English

---

**Twenty-first Meeting of the Heads of National  
Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa**

Addis Ababa, 5-9 September 2011

Item 3 of the provisional agenda\*

**Current situation with respect to regional and subregional  
cooperation in countering drug trafficking****Statistics on drug trafficking trends in Africa  
and Worldwide****Report of the Secretariat***Summary*

The present report provides an overview of the current trends in illicit drug production and trafficking in Africa and worldwide, based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The report provides information on illicit drug cultivation and production for 2009 and 2010 and statistics on drug seizures for 2009, and where available, 2010.

Cannabis continued to be the most widely cultivated drug worldwide. Afghanistan and Morocco were major producers of cannabis resin. Most of the cannabis resin production in North Africa is for consumption in Europe. Among all types of drugs, in absolute terms, the largest seizures were reported for cannabis herb, followed by cannabis resin. However, Africa's share in global cannabis herb seizures only amounted to 11 per cent, while its cannabis resin seizures accounted for a quarter of the global total.

Following a declining trend since 2008, opium production further decreased in 2010. Global opiate seizures, however, continued to increase. Seizures in Africa remained low, with relatively more heroin seizures than other parts of the world. Seizures of heroin were highest in Southern Africa and North Africa.

---

\* UNODC/HONLAF/21/1.



Continuing to be concentrated in Colombia, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, coca bush cultivation had a slight reduction in 2010. Although it has been adversely affected by cocaine trafficking from South America to Europe in recent years, the amounts of cocaine trafficked through Africa seems to have abated in 2009. Cocaine seized therein only took up a negligible share of the global total.

The manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) appears to be emerging in some African countries, with production chiefly intended for local consumption. The paucity of ATS seizure data, however, makes it difficult to characterize the regional trend. Among different types of ATS, in absolute terms, the largest seizures reported were methamphetamine, followed by amphetamine. Seizures of the former were mostly found in South Africa, that of the latter mainly came from Zambia.

## Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction .....	4
II. Global trends in illicit drug crop cultivation and the production of plant-based drugs .....	4
A. Cannabis .....	4
B. Opium .....	5
C. Coca .....	7
D. Amphetamine-type stimulants .....	8
III. Trends in illicit drug trafficking .....	9
A. Cannabis .....	9
B. Opiates .....	13
C. Cocaine .....	15
D. Amphetamine-type stimulants and other synthetic psychotropic substances .....	17
Table	
Global and Africa Drug Seizures, 2008 and 2009 .....	9
Figures	
I. Global Illicit Opium Production, 1999-2010 .....	7
II. Global Illicit Coca Cultivation, 1999-2010 .....	8
III. Breakdown of Global Cannabis Herb Seizures, 1999-2009 .....	10
IV. Cannabis Herb Seizures in Africa, 1999-2009 .....	11
V. Breakdown of Global Cannabis Resin Seizures, 1999-2009 .....	12
VI. Cannabis Resin Seizures in Morocco, North Africa and Africa, 1999-2009 .....	12
VII. Opiates Seizures, 1999-2009 .....	13
VIII. Opiates Seizures in Africa, 1999-2009 .....	14
IX. Heroin Seizures in Africa, 1999-2009 .....	15
X. Cocaine Seizures in Africa, 1999-2009 .....	16
XI. Global Seizures of ATS, 1999-2009 .....	17
XII. Global Seizures of Methaqualone, 1999-2009 .....	18

## **I. Introduction**

1. The present report provides an overview of the developments in the production and trafficking of the main illicit drugs in Africa and worldwide. Analysis is based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
2. The report addresses the illicit cultivation of cannabis, opium poppy and coca bush and the illicit production of cannabis derivatives, opium and cocaine for the years up to and including 2010. As for drug trafficking, the report focuses on seizure statistics for 2009 and, where available, 2010 and provides an update on trafficking trends for cannabis derivatives, opiates, cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS).<sup>1</sup>
3. The aim of the report is to support national governments in the combat of illicit drug production and trafficking and to improve the coordination of countermeasures at the regional and subregional levels.
4. Information on illicit drug crop cultivation and the production of plant-based drugs has been drawn from the latest illicit crop monitoring surveys published by UNODC. The primary source of information on drug trafficking were the replies to part III (illicit supply of drugs) of the Annual Reports Questionnaire (ARQ) submitted by Governments. Replies to the ARQ for 2009 were submitted by 103 Member States, including 13 African States.<sup>2</sup> At the end of May 2010, 6 replies to the ARQ for 2010 have been received, including one from Africa. Supplementary sources of information included reports on significant drug seizures and official government reports.
5. Although drug seizure statistics offer valid, indirect indicators of trafficking trends, they also reflect different reporting practices and are dependent on the effectiveness of law enforcement capacities. As a result, caution should be paid when interpreting these figures.

## **II. Global trends in illicit drug crop cultivation and the production of plant-based drugs**

### **A. Cannabis**

6. Since cannabis plant lends itself to different cultivation methods, precise estimation of its cultivation and production is difficult. Nonetheless, latest UNODC

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> These African States include: Algeria, Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

estimates suggest that cannabis continues to be the most widely cultivated, trafficked and consumed drug in the world.<sup>3</sup>

7. Produced mainly for domestic or regional markets, the cultivation of cannabis herb is widely dispersed. This, together with the lack of comprehensive data, renders an exact estimation of its latest cultivation level difficult. The most recent UNODC estimates suggest a production range of 13,300 to 66,100 metric tons (mt) in 2008.<sup>4</sup> Also, its relatively stable seizure trend points towards a stable level of production.

8. In the Americas, the increase of eradicated cannabis plants in the United States indicates a rising amount of cannabis herb production, while reports suggest a higher level of cannabis cultivation in Mexico. This may be a result of shifting law enforcement focus in Mexico from reduction of illicit crop cultivation, to public security tasks.

9. Although outdoor cultivation of cannabis herb can be found worldwide, its indoor cultivation is largely limited to the developed countries of North America, Europe and Oceania.

10. Compared with cannabis herb, cannabis resin is cultivated in a smaller number of countries and trafficked over longer distances. The major source countries identified by the consumer markets include: Afghanistan, Morocco, Lebanon and Nepal/India.

11. For cannabis resin cultivation in Afghanistan, preliminary results from the Afghanistan cannabis survey indicate a cultivation range of 9,000 to 29,000 hectares (ha) in 2010, roughly the same as that in 2009 (10,000-24,000 ha). As a result, cannabis resin production in 2010 was also estimated at 1,200-3,700 mt, similar to that in 2009 (1,500-3,500 mt).

12. Within the African region, illicit drug production has primarily focused on cannabis. While cannabis herb is produced all over the continent, cannabis resin is mainly produced in Morocco.

## B. Opium

13. Total area under illicit opium poppy cultivation increased from 185,935 ha in 2009 to 195,677 ha in 2010, an increase of about 5 per cent (see Figure I). Though Afghanistan continued to account for the bulk of the cultivation (about 63 per cent), the recent increase mainly came from Myanmar (from 31,700 to 38,100 ha).

14. In Myanmar, opium cultivation in Shan State (eastern part of the country) accounted for 92 per cent of its national cultivation. An increase was recently recorded in North Shan and South Shan. The majority of opium poppy cultivation outside Shan State was found in Kachin State.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>3</sup> UNODC, *World Drug Report 2011* (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.11.XI.10).

<sup>4</sup> UNODC, *World Drug Report 2009* (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.09.XI.12).

<sup>5</sup> UNODC, *South-East Asia Opium Survey 2010 — Lao PDR, Myanmar*, December 2010.

15. The Annual Afghanistan Opium Survey concluded that the total area under opium poppy cultivation in 2010 remained the same as that in 2009 (123,000 ha).<sup>6</sup> The stable situation halted a declining cultivation trend that began in 2007. Although cultivation at the national level remained constant, regional changes did emerge. An increase of 97 per cent (from 557 ha in 2009 to 1,100 ha in 2010) was found in the North-eastern region. Because of tough resistance from anti-government forces, proper eradication did not take place in Nangarhar province

16. Despite the increase in overall opium poppy cultivation, global illicit opium production continued to trend downwards, from 7,853 mt in 2009 to 4,860 mt in 2010. The reduction was principally driven by lower plant yield in Afghanistan — a severe plant disease which affected opium fields in the major growing provinces caused a sharp decline in its production in 2010.<sup>7</sup> Illicit opium production therein dropped from 6,900 mt in 2009 to 3,600 mt in 2010.

17. Opium production in Myanmar in 2010 was estimated at 580 mt, higher than that in 2009 (330 mt). The increased cultivation together with a higher yield led to an increase in production

18. Between 2002 and 2007, opium production became increasingly concentrated in Afghanistan and its share in global opium production increased from 75 per cent to 92 per cent. In 2010, opium production in Afghanistan accounted for 74 per cent of the global total, followed by Myanmar (12 per cent). Although data for 2010 production in Mexico is not yet available, its share in global opium production registered slight increases over the recent past, from 1 per cent in 2002 to 5 per cent in 2009.

19. Latest assessments made by UNODC<sup>8</sup> indicate that overall cultivation in Afghanistan is expected to decrease slightly in 2011. However, the current high price of opium may lead to an increase in opium cultivation in some of its northern provinces, leading to a reduction in the number of poppy free provinces.

20. For the African region, small-scale opium production is limited to countries in North Africa — mainly Egypt, which often reports the largest eradication of opium poppy within the region.

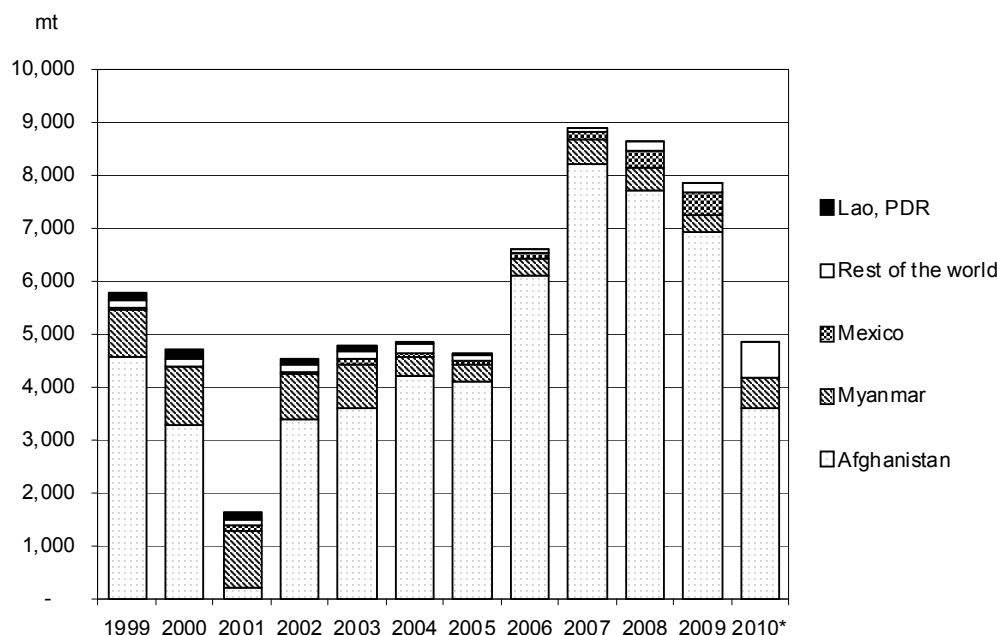
---

<sup>6</sup> UNODC, *Afghanistan Opium Survey 2010*, December 2010.

<sup>7</sup> The average opium yield in Afghanistan dropped from 56.1 kg per ha in 2009 to 29.2 kg per ha in 2010 — *Afghanistan Opium Survey 2010*.

<sup>8</sup> UNODC, *Afghanistan Opium Survey 2011, Winter Rapid Assessment all regions, Phases 1 and 2*, April 2011.

Figure I  
Global Illicit Opium Production, 1999-2010



\* Data for 2010 are available for some countries only.

### C. Coca

21. The 2010 estimates for global coca cultivation are based on 2010 figures for Colombia and Peru and 2009 figure for the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

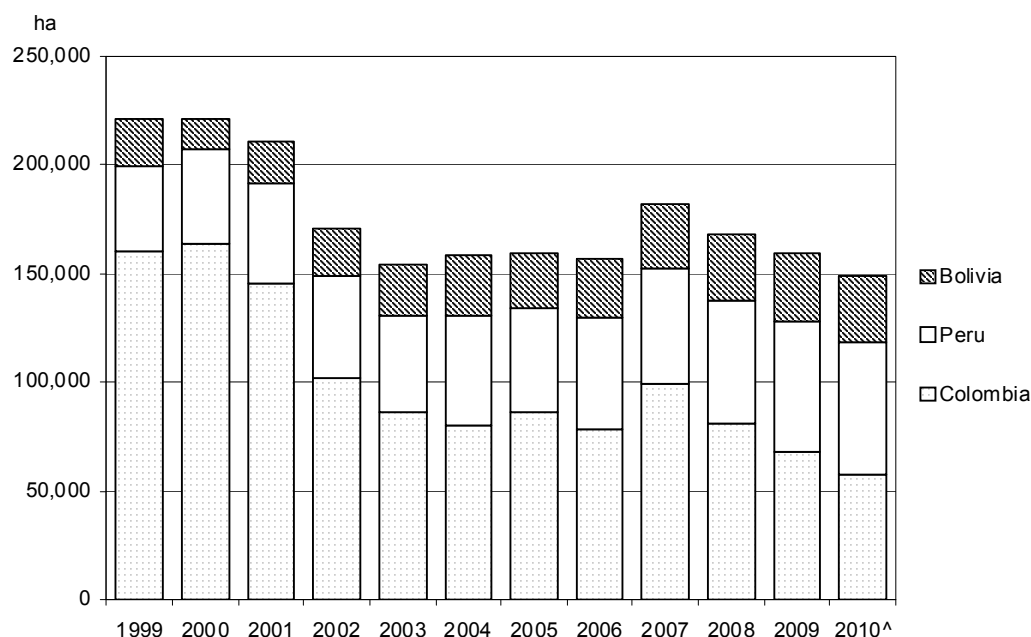
22. Total coca cultivation dropped from 158,800 ha in 2009 to 149,100 ha in 2010, a reduction of 6 per cent (see Figure II). This is driven by noticeable decrease in cultivation in Colombia. Since 2007, the significant reduction in Colombia had been the major source of diminution in global coca cultivation.

23. In 2010, the area under coca cultivation in Colombia diminished from 68,000 ha to 57,000 ha. All major growing regions recorded reduction, but the Pacific region remained the largest coca cultivation region (42 per cent of the coca cultivation in Colombia). The Central and Meta-Guaviare regions in Colombia took up another 25 per cent and 14 per cent respectively.

24. In Peru, the area under coca cultivation amounted to 61,200 ha in 2010, largely the same as that in 2009 (59,900 ha). Noticeable increases were registered in the Apurímac-Ene region, making it the largest growing region in Peru (32 per cent).

25. Owing to the ongoing review of conversion factors, point estimates for cocaine production in 2009 and 2010 are not available. Instead, cocaine production for these two years were estimated as ranges: 842-1,111 mt for 2009 and 786-1,054 mt for 2010.

Figure II  
Global Illicit Coca Cultivation, 1999-2010



<sup>^</sup> 2010 data for Bolivia is not yet available and thus 2009 data has been used.

#### D. Amphetamine-type stimulants

26. Unlike opium poppy and coca plant, the manufacture of ATS is not limited to particular geographical locations and ATS laboratories tend to be located close to the consumption markets. Meanwhile, precursors and other chemicals required for the manufacture of ATS are trafficked across regions.

27. In 2009, the seizure of about 10,600 ATS-related laboratories were reported — a higher number than that in 2008 (8,400 laboratories). Among all types of ATS, methamphetamine continues to be the most widely manufactured ATS. The number of its laboratories increased significantly, up from 8,300 in 2008 to 10,200 in 2009.

28. Although the manufacture of ATS has been more concentrated in the Americas and East and South-East Asia, its production has also appeared in some African countries like South Africa and Egypt. Such production, however, tended to remain at low levels and was intended for the domestic market only.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup> For a more detailed review of the global manufacture of ATS, please refer to *World Drug Report 2011*.



### III. Trends in illicit drug trafficking

29. The table below shows the reported quantities of seized drugs for selected drug types in 2008 and 2009. Seizures attributable to countries and territories in Africa are expressed both in terms of total weight and as a percentage of the global total for the corresponding drug type. In terms of the proportion of global seizures that took place in African countries, the most prominent drug types were: (i) methaqualone, (ii) cannabis resin and (iii) cannabis herb.

Table 1  
**Global and Africa Drug Seizures, 2008 and 2009**

Drug type	2008			2009		
	Africa	Global	Percentage	Africa	Global	Percentage
	(kilograms)	(kilograms)		(kilograms)	(kilograms)	
<b>Cannabis</b>						
Cannabis herb	936,084	5,510,065	17.0%	639,769	6,021,927	10.6%
Cannabis resin	165,455	1,647,590	10.0%	320,600	1,261,293	25.4%
<b>Coca</b>						
Cocaine <sup>1</sup>	2,551	722,698	0.4%	948	731,472	0.1%
<b>Opiates</b>						
Opium <sup>2</sup>	67	646,219	0.0%	57	653,009	0.0%
Morphine	-	17,265	0.0%	1	23,710	0.0%
Heroin	311	73,706	0.4%	515	75,995	0.7%
<b>ATS</b>						
Amphetamine	44	23,080	0.2%	50	24,805	0.2%
Methamphetamine	-	21,357	0.0%	37	30,982	0.1%
"Ecstasy" <sup>3</sup>	0	3,926	0.0%	0	3,884	0.0%
Non-specified	3,434	3,730	92.1%	11	290	3.8%
<b>Depressants</b>						
Methaqualone	1,586	3,968	40.0%	828	833	99.4%

<sup>1</sup> Cocaine base and cocaine salts.

<sup>2</sup> Raw opium and prepared opium.

<sup>3</sup> Methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA), 3,4-methylenedioxyethylamphetamine (MDEA) and methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA).

#### A. Cannabis

##### 1. Cannabis herb

30. Global cannabis herb seizures went up from 5,510 mt in 2008 to 6,022 mt in 2009, an increase of 9 per cent (see Figure III). The majority of the increases came from North America. In particular, significantly more cannabis herb was seized in the United States (an increase of 539 mt) and Mexico (an increase of 447 mt). On the other hand, noticeable reduction was recorded for Africa (a reduction of 296 mt) and South America (a reduction of 198 mt).

31. North America also took up the largest share of global cannabis herb seizures (70 per cent). This is followed by Africa (11 per cent), South America (10 per cent), Asia (6 per cent) and Europe (3 per cent).

32. Against the global trend, the amount of cannabis herb seized in Africa declined from 936 mt in 2008 to 640 mt in 2009, its lowest level since 2000. A substantial reduction was recorded in West and Central Africa — from 390 mt to 121 mt. Nigeria recorded the most prominent drop (from 336 mt to 115 mt).

33. Despite considerable fluctuation over the past few years, seizures of cannabis herb in Africa generally followed a decreasing trend since 2004 (see Figure IV). In addition, these seizures tend to be concentrated in a small number of countries. Between 2000 and 2009, cannabis herb seized in seven African countries (Egypt, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania) alone accounted for about 90 per cent of the annual total of Africa.

34. Within Africa, most of the cannabis herb seizures came from reports in Northern Africa (45 per cent of the seizures in Africa), while another 27 per cent and 19 per cent were found in Southern Africa; and West and Central Africa respectively. The subregional distribution within the continent, however, has undergone changes over the last 10 years — with a much bigger share of Northern Africa and a shrinking share of Southern Africa.

35. Among the aforementioned countries, Morocco continued to seize large amount of “kif” (selected parts of herb cannabis which can be further processed into cannabis resin) in 2009 (223 mt). A substantial reduction, however, was recorded for Malawi (a reduction of 24 mt), Egypt (a drop of 19 mt) and the United Republic of Tanzania (a reduction of 14 mt).

Figure III

**Breakdown of Global Cannabis Herb Seizures, 1999-2009**

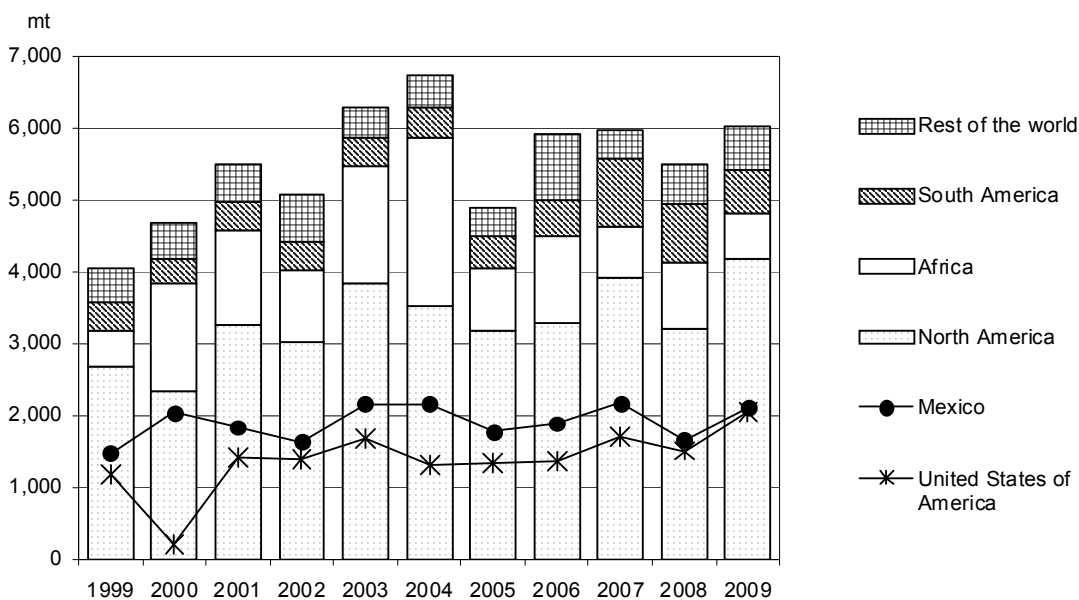
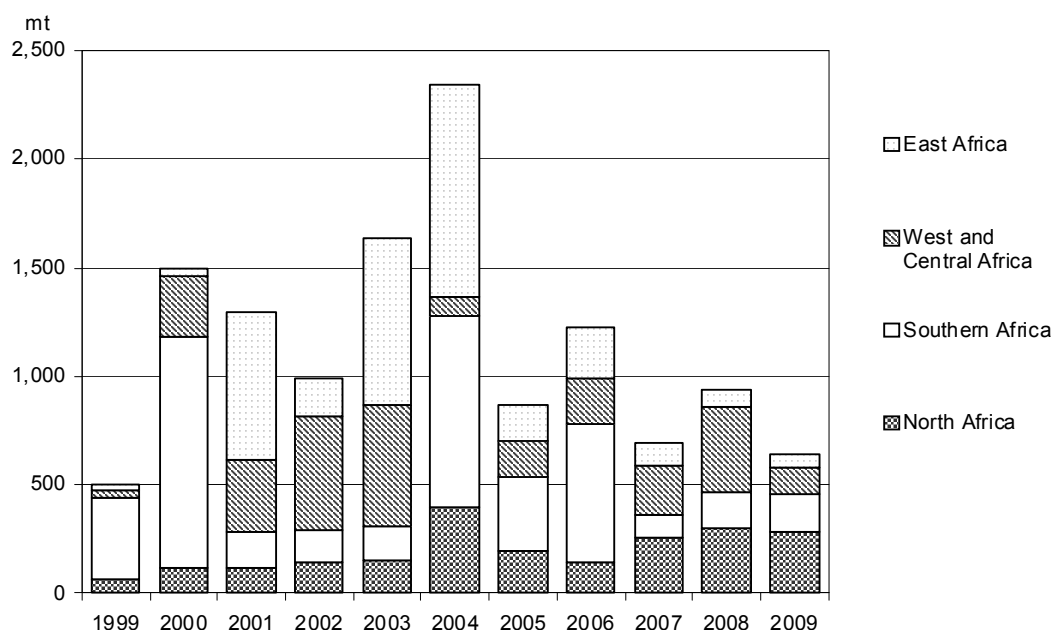


Figure IV  
Cannabis Herb Seizures in Africa, 1999-2009



## 2. Cannabis resin

36. Global cannabis resin seizures dropped from 1,648 mt in 2008 to 1,261 mt in 2009, a reduction of 23 per cent (see Figure V). The drop was mainly driven by significant decreases in West and Central Europe and Near and Middle East/South-West Asia.

37. The exceptionally high level of cannabis resin seizures in 2008 was partly due to large seizures in the Near and Middle East/South-West Asia.<sup>10</sup> Amounting to 230 mt in 2010, cannabis resin seized in the region was much less than that in 2009 (527 mt).

38. Despite a considerable decline in the amount of cannabis resin seized (from 683 mt in 2008 to 445 mt in 2009), Spain continued to have the greatest annual cannabis resin seizures. Most of it originated in Morocco.

39. Although it continued to account for a significant share of global cannabis resin seizures (48 per cent in 2009), the portion attributable to West and Central Europe shrank over the past few years. Meanwhile, proportionally more cannabis resin seizures had been seized in North Africa. Its share rose from 7 per cent in 2004 to 23 per cent in 2009, marking an important shift in seizures away from the consumer market (West and Central Europe) to the source region for cannabis resin.

40. Around 90 per cent of the cannabis resin seized in Africa between 1999 and 2009 was found in North Africa (with the exception of the year 2000). Though

<sup>10</sup> An extraordinarily large seizure of 236.8 mt was made by Afghan authorities in Kandahar province in June 2008.

Morocco continued to account for the bulk of the cannabis resin seizures in North Africa, the share of Algeria increased from 8 per cent in 2006 to 26 per cent in 2009. The share of Morocco dropped from 72 per cent to 64 per cent in the same period.

Figure V  
Breakdown of Global Cannabis Resin Seizures, 1999-2009

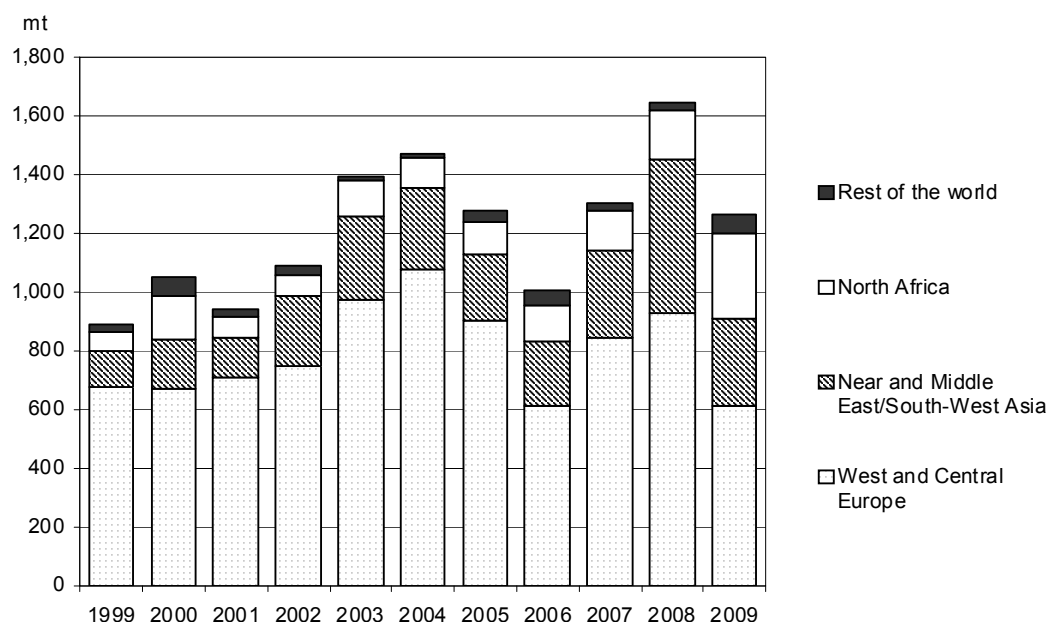
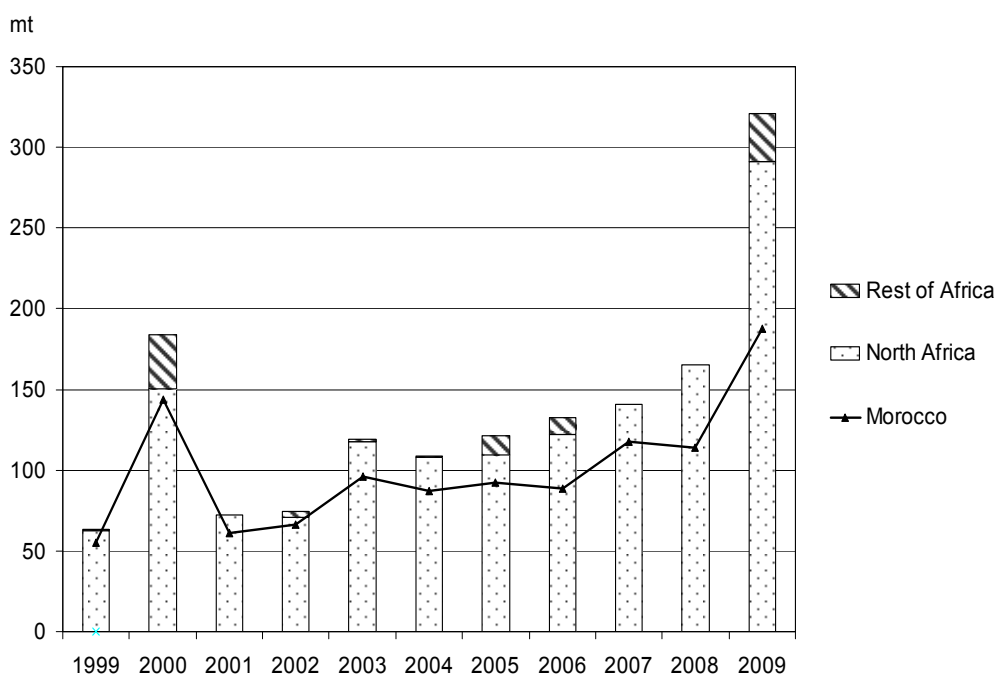


Figure VI  
Cannabis Resin Seizures in Morocco, North Africa and Africa, 1999-2009



## B. Opiates

41. Amounting to 753 mt in 2009, global seizures of opiates followed an increasing trend since 2002. As in previous years, the largest amount of opiates were seized in Turkey and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Seizures of opium and morphine continued to be more concentrated in Afghanistan and its neighbouring countries, while that of heroin remained dispersed.

42. In 2009, opiates seized in Africa took up a negligible portion of the global total. Across all types of opiates, heroin seizures constituted a much greater share of the opiates seized in Africa while opium seizures accounted for the majority of global opiate seizures.

Figure VII  
Opiates Seizures, 1999-2009

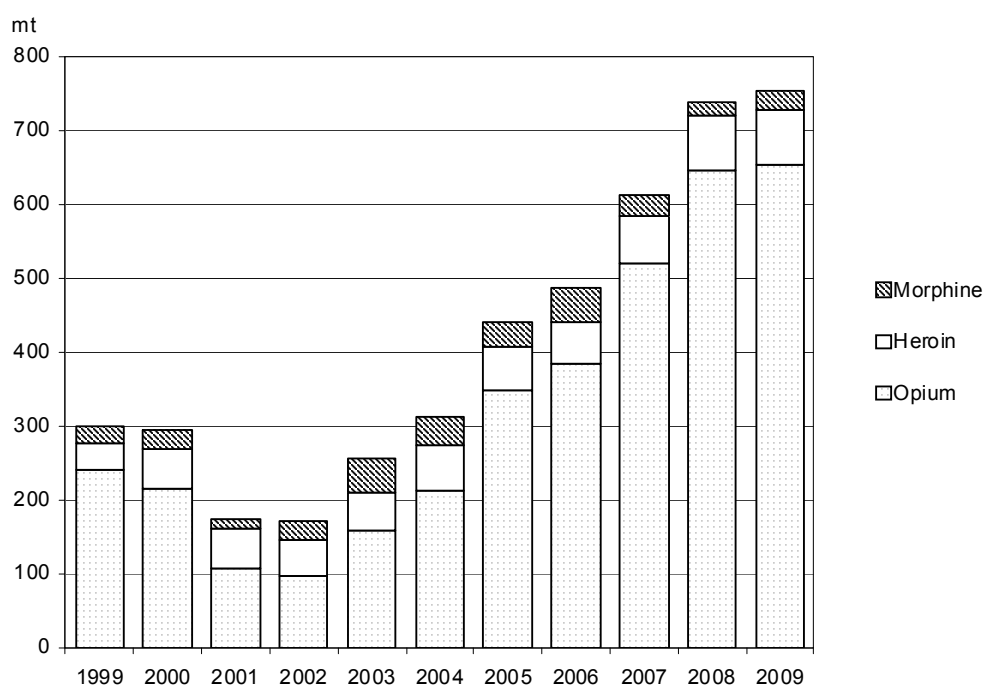
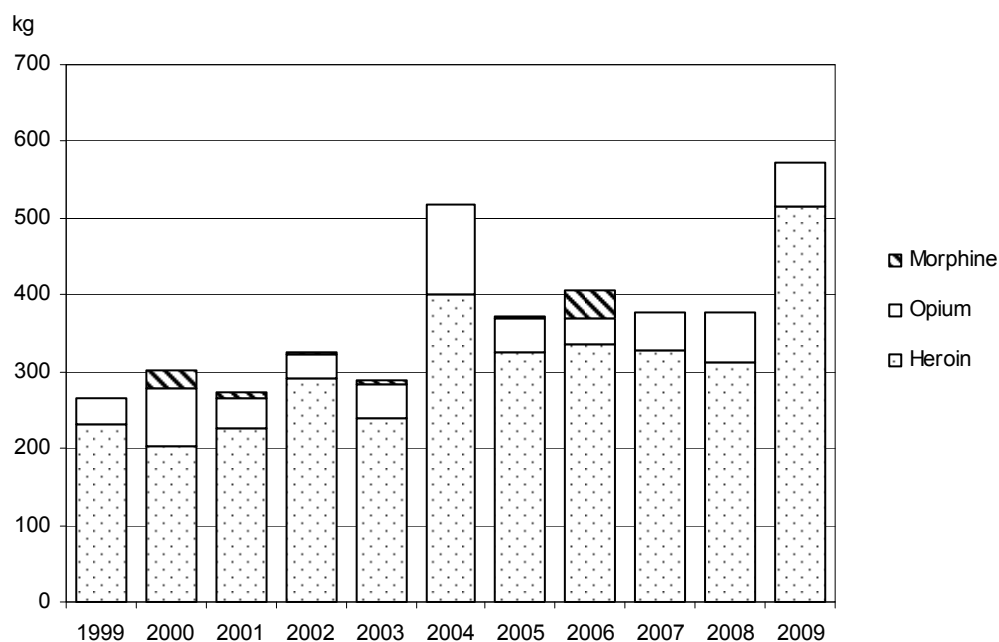


Figure VIII  
**Opiates Seizures in Africa, 1999-2009**



### 1. Opium

43. Global opium seizures rose from 646 mt in 2008 to 653 mt in 2009, mainly because of substantial increases in the Islamic Republic of Iran. On the contrary, a significant reduction was registered for Myanmar and Pakistan. For 2009, opium seized in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan accounted for 98 per cent of the global total.

44. Opium seized in Africa continued to take up an insignificant part of global opium seizures (0.01 per cent in 2009 or 67 kg). Almost all of them were carried out in Egypt.

### 2. Heroin

45. Similar to the case of opium, the global amount of heroin seized in 2009 went up slightly, from 74 mt to 76 mt. Greater increases were found in the Islamic Republic of Iran, China and Myanmar. Although geographically speaking, heroin seizures are more dispersed than opium seizures, heroin seized in five countries alone (the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan, China and Pakistan) made up 98 per cent of the global total.

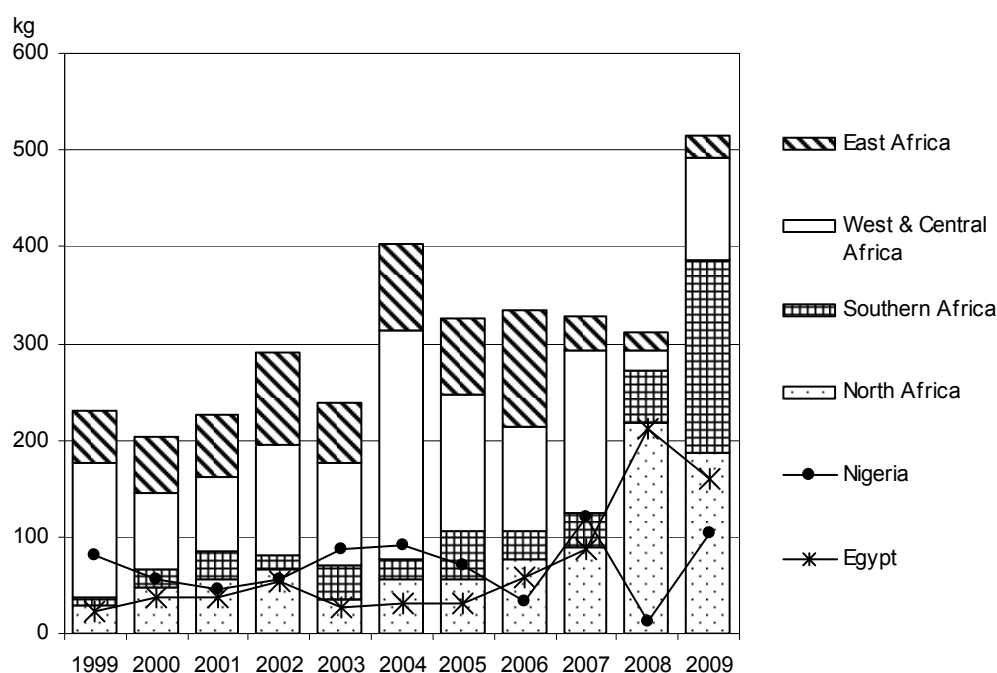
46. Heroin seizures in Africa rose sharply in 2009, from 311 kg to 515 kg. This is mainly attributed to considerable rise in South Africa — from 41 kg to 198 kg. Significant growth was also registered for Nigeria (from 12 kg to 104 kg). Reports from some governments suggest that Nigeria may serve as a transit point for limited

quantities of heroin trafficking from South-West Asia to other consumer markets.<sup>11</sup> On the other hand, its own assessment suggested that 50 per cent of the heroin trafficked within the territory was intended for the United States, with another 40 per cent and 10 per cent for Europe and China respectively.<sup>12</sup>

47. Within Africa, there is a declining share of heroin seizures in East Africa and an increasing share from Southern Africa. While the share of heroin seizures in East Africa dropped from 24 per cent in 1999 to 4 per cent in 2009, that of Southern Africa increased from 4 per cent to 39 per cent.

48. The majority of the heroin trafficked into Africa came from Afghanistan and Pakistan, with the remaining part from the United Arab Emirates, India and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Heroin trafficked into Africa is mainly used for local consumption.

Figure IX  
Heroin Seizures in Africa, 1999-2009



## C. Cocaine

49. Total cocaine seizures edged up to 731 mt in 2009, with much bigger increases reported from some South American (Ecuador and Brazil) and Central American countries (Costa Rica and Guatemala).

50. Cocaine seized in South America amounted to 442 mt in 2009 and constituted around 60 per cent of the global total. On the other hand, cocaine seizures in

<sup>11</sup> Pakistan, the United States and Australia — UNODC, *World Drug Report 2011*, June 2011.

<sup>12</sup> UNODC, *World Drug Report 2011*, June 2011.

North America and West and Central Europe experienced a sizeable reduction. For 2009, cocaine seized in North America amounted to 18 per cent of the global total, followed by Central America (12 per cent) and Europe (8 per cent). Seizures in Africa continued to account for a negligible share of global cocaine seizures (0.1 per cent).

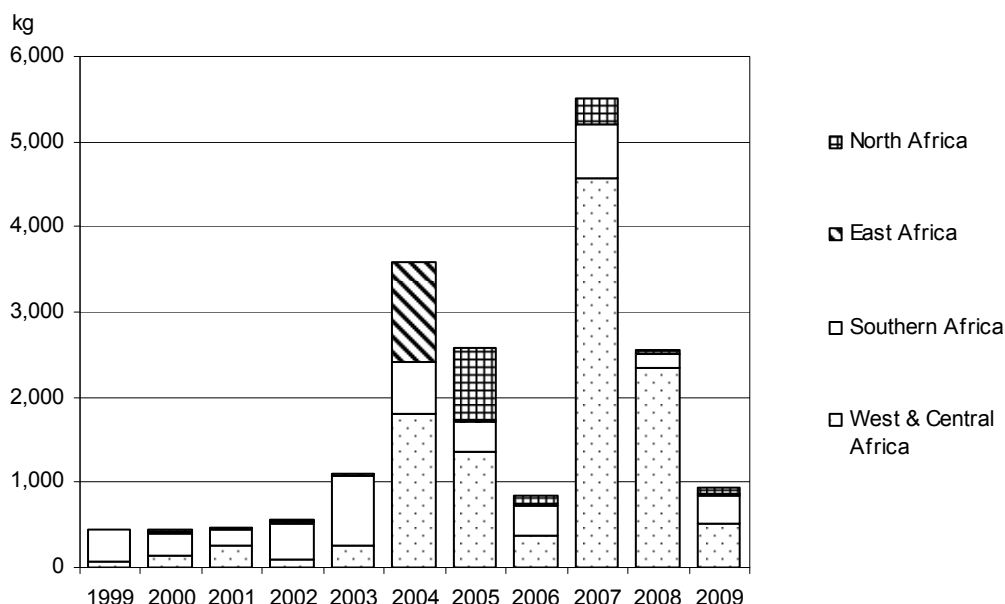
51. After reaching its peak of 5.5 mt in 2007, cocaine seizures in Africa dropped to 2.6 mt in 2008 and then further to less than 1 mt in 2009. This declining trend, together with seizure data from other regions, point to a decreasing trend of cocaine trafficking from South America to Europe via West Africa.

52. As in previous years, the majority of the cocaine seized was found in West and Central Africa (54 per cent in 2009). This is followed by Southern Africa (36 per cent) and North Africa (9 per cent).

53. The recent drop in cocaine seizures in Africa was primarily driven by a significant reduction in West and Central Africa. Cocaine seized within the subregion declined from 2,348 kg in 2008 to 512 kg in 2009. Specially, that in Togo dropped from 393 kg to 34 kg. The emergence of new trafficking routes and methods may be one of the major contributors towards the drop in cocaine seizures in these countries.

54. In contrast to the declining trend in West and Central Africa, cocaine seizures in Southern Africa rose in 2009. Cocaine seized within the subregion went up from 162 kg in 2008 to 338 kg in 2009, owing to larger seizures in South Africa and Angola. According to its own assessment, 60 per cent of the cocaine trafficked in South Africa was destined for its domestic market and the remaining part for Europe. Angolan authorities suggested that cocaine trafficked within its territories usually came from Brazil via South Africa, Namibia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Figure X  
Cocaine Seizures in Africa, 1999-2009





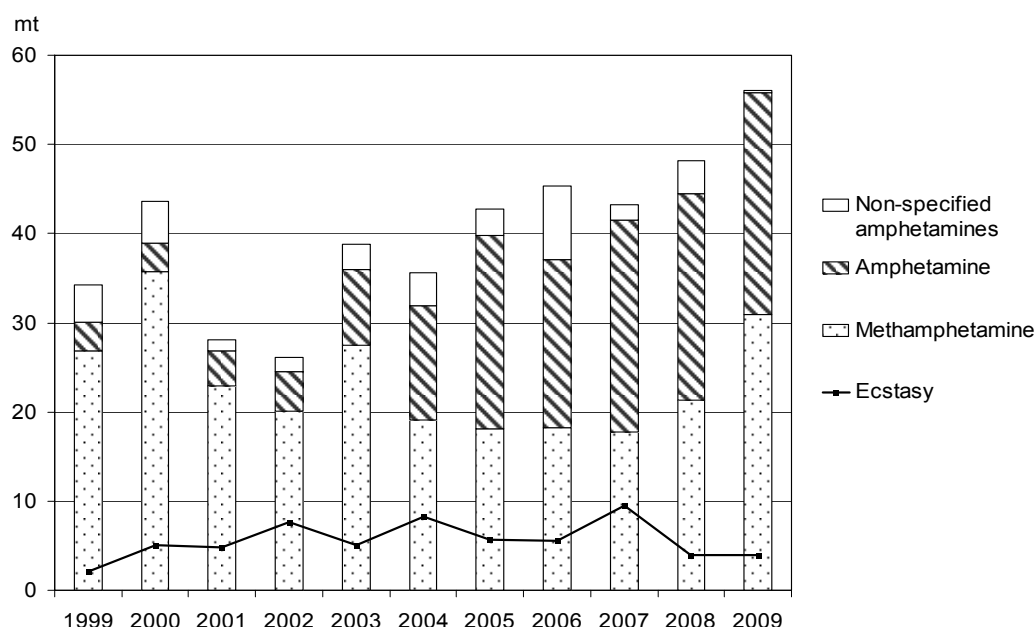
## D. Amphetamine-type stimulants and other synthetic psychotropic substances

55. Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) can be broadly classified into two types: (i) the amphetamines group (which includes amphetamine, methamphetamine and non-specified amphetamines) and (ii) the “ecstasy” group. Driven by a greater amount of methamphetamine seizures, global seizure of the amphetamines group rose significantly in 2009, up from 48 mt to 56 mt. Total methamphetamine and amphetamine seizures reached 31 mt and 25 mt respectively. Meanwhile, global seizures of substances within the “ecstasy” group amounted to 3.9 mt in 2009, at a comparable level to that in 2008.

56. Unlike seizure data of plant-based drugs, the collection of quality ATS seizure data relies heavily upon the proper identification and classification of seized controlled substances. This issue presents particular challenges to a number of African countries, where the lack of laboratory services makes it difficult to investigate the nature of seized substances.

Figure XI

### Global Seizures of ATS, 1999-2009



57. Global amphetamine seizures increased sharply in 2005, largely because of reports in the Near Middle East/South-West Asia and West and Central Europe. Global amphetamine seizures edged up from 23 mt in 2008 to 25 mt in 2009, with seizures reported in the two regions constituting 69 per cent and 26 per cent of the global total respectively. The majority of the increases were found in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Saudi Arabia.

58. Total amounts of methamphetamine seized in 2009 increased from 21 mt in 2008 to 31 mt in 2009, with significantly more seizures in North America

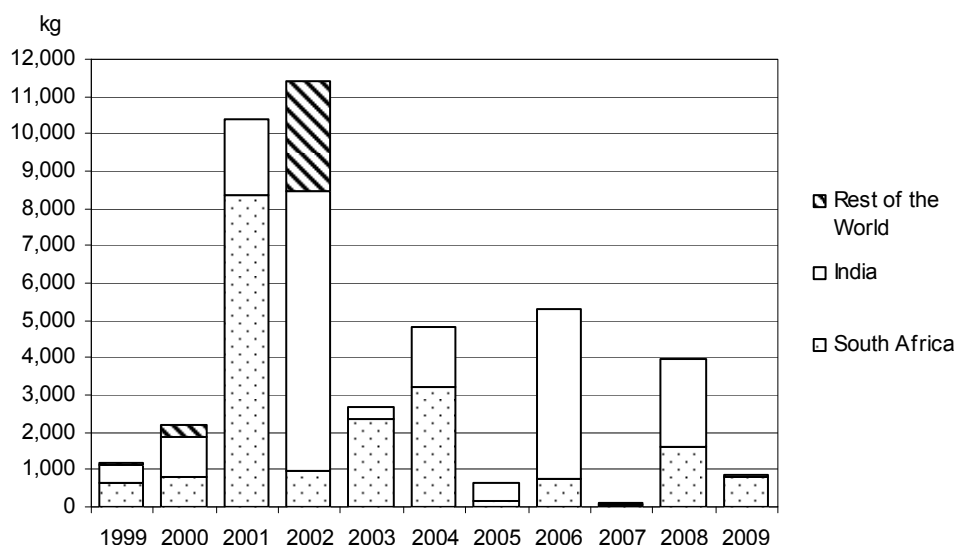
(Mexico in particular); and East and South-East Asia. Although the majority of methamphetamine continued to be seized in East and South-East Asia (51 per cent of the global total), an increasing portion was also found in North America (44 per cent of global methamphetamine seizures).

59. Significantly less non-specified amphetamine was seized in 2009 than in 2008. Total seizures fell from 3,730 kg to 290 kg. There was a major reduction reported from Burkina Faso — from 3,403 kg in 2008 to none in 2009.<sup>13</sup> On the other hand, only a slight reduction was reported for the seizures of “ecstasy” (from 3,926 kg in 2008 to 3,884 kg in 2009). Greater reduction was found in Canada and Indonesia while noticeable increase was recorded in the United States of America.

60. The amount of amphetamine seized in Africa edged up in 2009, from 44 kg to 50 kg. Almost all of these seizures were found in Zambia. Similarly, methamphetamine seizures in Africa also recorded a slight increase (from 13 kg in 2007 to 37 kg in 2009). For 2009, all methamphetamine seized in Africa came from South Africa. On the other hand, seizures of non-specified amphetamine recorded a huge drop, down from 3,434 kg in 2008 to 11 kg in 2009.

61. Despite a substantial reduction in the total quantities of methaqualone seized, seizures in Africa accounted for the bulk of the global methaqualone seizures in 2009. Global methaqualone seizures reduced drastically, from 3,968 kg in 2008 down to 833 kg in 2009. Almost all seizures were reported in South Africa (828 kg). The significant decline in global seizures was mainly driven by a huge reduction in India, from over 2,000 kg in 2008 to only 5 kg in 2009. As in previous years, a low amount of methaqualone was seized in other parts of the world.

Figure XII  
Global Seizures of Methaqualone, 1999-2009



<sup>13</sup> Caution must be paid, however, in interpreting these figures as Burkina Faso's replies to 2009 ARQ was not yet available.