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Twenty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa

Addis Ababa, 16-20 September 2013
Item 4 of the provisional agenda**
Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa

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I. Introduction

- 1. The Twenty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Africa, held in Addis Ababa, from 5-9 September 2011, adopted a set of recommendations following the consideration by working groups of the issues indicated below.
- 2. In accordance with established practice, the report of the Twenty-first Meeting was forwarded to the Governments represented at the session. A questionnaire on the implementation of the recommendations adopted at that Meeting was dispatched to Governments on 17 May 2013, with a deadline for replies set to 15 July 2013.
- 3. The present report was prepared on the basis of information provided to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) by Governments in reply to that questionnaire. As of 29 July 2013, replies had been received from the Governments of Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Kenya, Morocco, Namibia, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Togo.

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^{*} Arabic, English and French are the working languages of the subsidiary body.

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^{***} This document has not been edited.

II. Responses from Member States to Questionnaire

Issue 1: Controlled delivery operations

Recommendation 1

- 4. It was recommended that Governments should re-examine their policies and procedures regarding controlled delivery to ensure that measures are in place to ensure that they are compliant with their obligations under the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (the 1988 Convention).
- 5. Algeria indicated that no action had been taken in this regard.
- 6. Benin had ratified the 1988 Convention, and controlled delivery was regulated in Benin by Act No. 97-025 of 18 July 1997 on drug and precursor control.
- 7. Cameroon reported that information mechanisms between administrative bodies responsible for legislation and law enforcement have been strengthened, in particular by retraining staff and mobilizing new resources to make information on controlled deliveries available in real time.
- 8. Côte d'Ivoire reported that while its legislation (Act No. 88-686 of July 1988) established prior to the 1988 Convention did not provide for controlled delivery, since that country was party to the Convention, controlled delivery procedures may be carried out on its territory. Measures are currently being developed to ensure that the law provides for controlled delivery.
- 9. The Arab Republic of Egypt ratified the 1988 Convention in 1990, emphasizing its commitment to all the articles of the Convention. The Egyptian drug control agency has resolved several important cases by using the method of controlled delivery, after taking all the necessary legal and administrative measures.
- 10. Kenya has law providing for international assistance is contained in the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Control Act No. 4 of 1994. The Act in Part IV, section 59, provides for International Assistance on Drug Investigation & Procedures. Kenya has also ratified the protocol in combating illicit drug trafficking in East African Region (Article 4, subs section 2 (h).
- 11. Morocco reported that in accordance with domestic legislation and the provisions of the 1988 United Nations Convention, it had carried out several controlled delivery operations in recent years, in particular with European countries. Those operations made it possible to dismantle a number of criminal networks dedicated to international drug trafficking.
- 12. Namibia's policies and procedures regarding controlled deliveries are in place and operations with neighbouring countries were undertaken successfully.
- 13. Sierra Leone reported that Section 35 and Part VI of the National Drugs Control Act (2008) of Sierra Leone make provision for controlled delivery and mutual assistance compliant with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.

- 14. In Sudan, controlled delivery operations were used a great deal at the level of internal operations between the different cities of Sudan. However, there was no information on the application of controlled delivery operations between States.
- 15. Togo reported that Act No. 98-008 of 18 March 1998 on drug control in Togo included relevant provisions regarding controlled delivery operations, in particular articles 130, 131 and 132.

- 16. It was recommended that Governments that do not have in place legislation to support the undertaking of controlled delivery operations are encouraged to establish legal frameworks and to provide the necessary equipment, resources and training to staff to ensure that such operations can be carried out effectively.
- 17. In Algeria, training sessions for detection agents were planned.
- 18. The Government of Benin has established provisions regarding controlled delivery operations in article 122 of Act No. 97-025 of 18 July 1997 on drug and precursor control.
- 19. Cameroon had a law pertaining to the control of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors, article 120 of which covers controlled delivery operations. Nevertheless, pursuant to this recommendation, the capacity of staff and law enforcement agencies has been strengthened, to the extent permitted by available resources. Meetings have also been arranged between the administrative bodies involved in order to exchange experiences and harmonize practices.
- 20. In Côte d'Ivoire, the relevant legislation was being revised in order to bring it in line with the 1988 Convention. The necessary equipment, resources and training would be provided subsequently.
- 21. In the light of Egypt's signing and ratification of the 1988 Convention, its provisions became part of national legislation enabling controlled delivery operations after the appropriate procedures by the office of the prosecutor-general. As regards technical support, the Egyptian Government has taken care to provide all the human and material resources and training necessary for law enforcement workers.
- 22. Kenya has a legal framework to support controlled delivery operations Part IV of the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Control Act No. 4 of 1994.
- 23. In Morocco, appropriate procedures have been put in place to ensure the successful execution of such operations. Training programmes continued to be established in this area.
- 24. Namibia was in the process of introducing its new bill on combating the abuse of drugs for the second time to the National Assembly and the support for undertaking controlled deliveries was captured under Section 3, Sub Section 6, of the bill.
- 25. In Sierra Leone, legislation supporting controlled delivery operations was in place.

- 26. Sudan had begun to develop legal frameworks to amend the Sudanese Law on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1994. Training aids and resources were provided and Sudanese officials were looking out for external training opportunities for their staff in the field of controlled delivery.
- 27. Togo has a law on drug control that includes relevant provisions regarding controlled delivery operations.

- 28. It was recommended that, in order to expedite the authorization of requests to undertake controlled deliveries, Governments should be encouraged to include controlled delivery procedures in bilateral agreements concluded with neighbouring States and trade partners.
- 29. Benin has ratified the 1988 Convention, but it has not concluded any bilateral agreements with neighbouring States.
- 30. Burkina Faso reported that there had not been any bilateral agreements in this area between Burkina Faso and other countries since 2011.
- 31. In Cameroon, the matter was discussed by Heads of State of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community at the last summit on the Gulf of Guinea held in Yaoundé, in Cameroon. The matter was also discussed by the Central Africa Inter-State Pesticides Committee. Working on a shared principle, steps have been taken in order to better implement this recommendation.
- 32. Côte d'Ivoire had not been provided for controlled delivery procedures in agreements with neighbouring States and trade partners; however, since almost all of the States are party to the 1988 Convention, collaboration is possible if the need arises
- 33. Egypt has concluded bilateral and multilateral treaties in the field of drug control with neighbouring States.
- 34. Kenya has ratified the protocol on combating illicit drug trafficking in East African Region and was in line with the implementation action as per the Plan of Action.
- 35. In Morocco, controlled delivery operations form the basis of bilateral cooperation in the fight against drugs. Those operations were included in bilateral agreements that have recently been concluded with neighbouring countries.
- 36. Namibia had in place bilateral agreements with neighbouring countries regarding controlled deliveries.
- 37. Sierra Leone reported that establishment of the Transnational Organized Crime Units (TCUs) in West Africa was a stepping stone towards this goal. Exchange visits between Sierra Leone and Liberia have taken place; other visits to follow with the aim of including controlled delivery procedures in our bilateral agreements and operational plans.
- 38. Sudan reported that it was determined to implement everything relating to the execution of controlled delivery operations; however, the Sudanese authorities had received no requests to authorize them.

39. While Togo had not signed any bilateral agreements on controlled deliveries, it was party to mutual legal assistance conventions (Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (Convention A/P1/7/92) of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)), which allow controlled delivery operations to be undertaken within the West African subregion.

Recommendation 4

- 40. It was recommended that Governments of countries in Africa should be encouraged to create a reference manual of contact points to support controlled deliveries.
- 41. In response to this recommendation, Cameroon had identified contact points to support controlled deliveries; a specific organization has been established to ensure that such activities are carried out smoothly; and ways in which to formalize such procedures and the drafting of a reference manual relating to them are currently being considered.
- 42. Egypt had taken appropriate measures in this regard.
- 43. While Kenya had not taken specific action under this recommendation, the Government had ratified the protocol on combating illicit drug trafficking in East African Region and is in line with the implementation action as per the Plan of Action.
- 44. In Namibia contact points were in place through INTERPOL and Regional Bodies.
- 45. Sierra Leone had taken no specific action following this recommendation but was fully prepared to furnish particulars of contact points immediately information is requested for such a reference manual.
- 46. Sudan planned to start preparing such a manual before the end of this year.

Issue 2: Being proactive in operations to counter drug trafficking

Recommendation 5

- 47. It was recommended that Governments should support their law enforcement authorities in developing new and innovative ways to gain lawful access to reliable information for analysis on the activities of those engaged in drug trafficking, so as to reduce the impact and harm caused by those illegal activities and increase the risks of engaging in criminal operations.
- 48. In Algeria, the amendment of the criminal procedure code in 2006 has enabled the following provisions pertaining to new investigative techniques to be introduced: the interception of communications and audio and image recordings Infiltration. Furthermore, Algeria has already implemented the I-24/7 system.
- 49. Benin reported that such arrangements are now in place with regard to (a) the Joint Container Control Unit, and (b) the Joint Airport Interdiction Task Force, which are equipped to access sensitive information relating to cross-border criminal networks; (c) it remains to equip the specialized maritime and land border units in order to put an end to the dangerous activities of such networks.

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- 50. In Burkina Faso, the law enforcement authorities have received training in investigation and detection techniques and have access to intelligence enabling them to monitor trafficking and carry out seizures.
- 51. Cameroon informed that lawful access to information was a matter of concern for the authorities. There have been an increasing number of exchanges and workshops organized between those involved. In response to this recommendation, steps have been taken to strengthen the capacity of staff and agencies in terms of innovative techniques and methods of detection and access to information.
- 52. There was an INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB) in Côte d'Ivoire, but there was no mechanism for information-sharing between the different law enforcement agencies, nor between the NCB and those agencies, such as might make it possible to monitor and reduce the high level of activity of persons involved in drug trafficking.
- 53. In Egypt, this was done through the exchange of information about the activities of major players and smugglers of narcotic drugs with all neighbouring countries and other countries. A number of important cases have been broken; most recently 20 tons of hashish were seized in Italian territorial waters.
- 54. Through the National Technical Committee in Kenya, there was sharing of information form the various agencies to facilitate effective drug control. A draft National Drug Abuse Control Policy was awaiting approval.
- 55. In this regard, Morocco reported new investigative techniques; access to operational intelligence; and strengthened inter-agency coordination.
- 56. The Namibian Government and private agencies nationally and internationally were involved to obtain lawful success to information for analysing of drug trafficking.
- 57. In Sierra Leone, the Integrated Intelligence Group was established to source and share information/intelligence under the National Security and Central Intelligence Act (2002) of Sierra Leone and was functioning.
- 58. Sudan's relations with the corresponding agencies in some neighbouring countries have been documented; for example, Sudan had excellent relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the Arab Republic of Egypt.
- 59. Togolese laws provide for innovative procedures to allow lawful access to information. These laws include: the monitoring of communications and tapping of telephone calls provided for by article 133 of Act No. 98-008 of 18 March 1998 on drug control in Togo. Special money-laundering investigation procedures for the lifting of bank and professional secrecy through a mechanism for reporting suspicious transactions.

60. It was also recommended that Governments are encouraged to promote a multi-agency approach led by law enforcement, working with key partners in the private sector, to develop operational intelligence on which effective action can be taken against drug trafficking and related forms of organized crime.

- 61. In Benin such an approach was promoted, although no mechanisms were in place to enable private sector to collaborate with specialized State units on specialist strategic matters relating to State security.
- 62. Burkina Faso reported that the National Anti-Drug Committee was open to civil society through non-governmental organizations and associations, which worked in close collaboration.
- 63. The participation of Cameroon in the Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP), which aims to install intelligence units in the country's airports to transmit information in real time, contributes to the implementation of this recommendation.
- 64. In the Côte d'Ivoire, at present, the private sector was not officially involved in combating drug trafficking and related forms of organized crime. Such a mechanism remained to be developed and implemented.
- 65. In Egypt, this was done through coordination between the national agencies concerned with the problem, in addition to the Egyptian drug control agency, by receiving and examining reports, verifying their seriousness, and working to arrest those undertaking such illicit activities.
- 66. Kenya reported that NACADA has included the participation of civil society organization in policy and legislation development, i.e. development of the National Drug Policy.
- 67. In Morocco, cooperation with the private sector has been strengthened, particularly with regard to combating the diversion of dual-use substances. An inter-institutional approach had been developed with all partners by implementing communication and awareness-raising policies and establishing a climate of mutual trust and responsibility.
- 68. Namibia reported that authorities worked with key partners in the private sector to develop and source intelligence to take action against drug traffickers.
- 69. The Transnational Organized Crime Unit in Sierra Leone looking at organized crime including drug trafficking was a multi-agency strategy to fight TOC through its principle of intelligence-led operations.
- 70. In Sudan, a drug control network including various organizations and sectors of society working in the control field has been operating.
- 71. Togo reported that Act No. 98-008 on drug control, Act No. 2007-016 on countering money-laundering in Togo and Act No. 2009-022 of 7 September 2009 on countering the financing of terrorism created a form of partnership with the private sector involving the provision of operational information. Under the terms of those Acts, banking institutions provided, for example, information on all suspicious transactions either voluntarily or at the request of the law enforcement authorities. Airlines, real estate companies, currency exchange bureaux and many other private institutions are obliged to grant the law enforcement authorities access to data concerning their clients.

- 72. It was recommended that Governments should be encouraged to establish an inter-agency response for container control at national ports and container terminals through the establishment of units specialized in reviewing, selecting and searching suspicious containers.
- 73. Such a unit exists in Benin and functions with the support of UNODC.
- 74. Burkina Faso pointed out that it had no maritime frontiers.
- 75. Cameroon reported that provisions had been established in response to this recommendation. Container control in ports took place on several levels; it was an important activity carried out by the customs service in collaboration with the police and the gendarmerie. Specialized units comprising law enforcement and security personnel responsible for routine control have been deployed. Written reports document the successful implementation of this recommendation.
- 76. Côte d'Ivoire advised that its law enforcement agencies had outposts at the Port of Abidjan, but the officers did not have access to the boats or containers.
- 77. In Egypt, this was done in coordination between anti-drug agencies and the customs authorities in ports and at entry points by using the latest technical equipment for the inspection of suspicious containers. The possibility was being discussed of Egypt's accession to the world Container Control Programme, which was launched by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in collaboration with the World Customs Organization.
- 78. Kenya Revenue Authority has established a unit called Mombasa Anti-smuggling Team that specializes in search of containers for Narcotics. Furthermore, the team is supported by the K9 unit and a targeting Unit based at both the Headquarters in Nairobi and in Mombasa (Risk Analysis Unit).
- 79. Morocco reported that intelligence on suspicious containers has been exchanged with other partners. Joint units have been created for ports and airports; new detection technology is being used (scanners).
- 80. The establishment of such a subdivision in Namibia was already in place but not yet operational, due to training and logistic needs.
- 81. Sierra Leone's TOCU was coordinating inter-agency cooperation and response by engaging the National Revenue Authority (Customs), Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone Ports Authority, Sierra Leone Maritime Wing, Sierra Leone Police Marine, as well as national intelligence units, to review, select and search suspicious containers at the Quay though specialized training is required.
- 82. Sudan has established a drug control department in the General Directorate of Customs. Staff have been trained and the necessary detectors provided in ports and airports. Coordination and information exchange with the Customs Directorate are excellent.
- 83. Togo had installed a joint container control unit at the Autonomous Port of Lomé in February 2011. The unit comprises customs officers, police officers and gendarmes and is directly attached to the Central Office to Combat Drug Trafficking and Money-Laundering. The unit worked in partnership with the operators of the port platform (Maritime Transport, Shipping Maintenance and Transit Company).

Issue 3: Precursor control — Africa's developing challenge

Recommendation 8

- 84. It was recommended that Governments should ensure that there is coordination between their national authorities responsible for the control of precursor chemicals, in order to prevent the diversion of such chemicals for use in the illicit manufacture of drugs.
- 85. Algeria has a mechanism for authorizing the import of chemical precursors for medical or scientific purposes through the executive decree of 30 July 2007. This regulation brings together the Ministry of Health, Population and Hospital Reform, the Ministry of Energy and Mines, and the three anti-drug agencies (Customs, the civil police and the National Gendarmerie) to enable effective control of the movement of chemical substances that could be diverted or used in the manufacture of illicit drugs.
- 86. In Benin, collaboration between the units involved is being strengthened and should be reinforced through improved infrastructure (General Delegation of the Interministerial Committee to Combat the Abuse of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (CILAS); Central Office to Combat Illicit Traffic in Drugs and Precursors (OCERTID); Directorate of Pharmacies, Medicines and Diagnostic Exploration (DPMED); National Laboratory of Narcotic Drugs and Toxicology (LNST)).
- 87. Cameroon reported that coordinated prevention of trafficking in and diversion of precursor chemicals was now a priority for the services responsible for medicines, pharmacies and laboratories under the Ministry of Health. Enhanced exchange between those services and the agencies in charge of law enforcement and legislation is a key component of the action plans that have been drafted.
- 88. Côte d'Ivoire authorities at the Directorate of Pharmacy and Medications issued work permits in collaboration with the customs authorities. There is a bi-monthly exchange arrangement between the Directorate of Pharmacy and Medications and the customs authorities.
- 89. In Egypt this is done in coordination between anti-drug agencies and the customs authorities in ports and at entry points by using the latest technical equipment for the inspection of suspicious containers. The possibility was now being discussed of Egypt's accession to the world Container Control Programme, which was launched by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in collaboration with the World Customs Organization.
- 90. The Kenyan Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Chapter 244, establishes the Pharmacy and Poisons Board under the Ministry of Health. The Board regulates handling of medicines, chemicals and poisons. The Board works in collaboration with the Anti Narcotics Police, Kenya Revenue Authority and the National Authority for the Campaign against Alcohol and Drug Abuse.
- 91. Aware of the dangers of the diversion of such products, Morocco respects international provisions in this area; the movement of such products is rigorously controlled, up to their end use. Coordination has been strengthened between the different entities involved.

- 92. A subdivision was established in Namibia for these purposes and will be registered with the PEN programme of UNODC to monitor and control precursor chemicals in the near future with other national authorities.
- 93. In Sierra Leone effective control ensured through cooperation among the National Revenue Authority (Customs), Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone Ports Authority, under the TOCU.
- 94. There is full coordination in Sudan between the national authorities responsible for control, which include: the Sudanese Standards Organization, the General Directorate of Customs, the Ministry of Health, and the National Council for Drugs and Toxins. They hold regular meetings to coordinate work.
- 95. In Togo, the national authorities responsible for precursor control work in collaboration with one another. In order for the provisions of articles 82 and 87 of the Drug Control Act (Act No. 98-008 of 18 March 1998) to be implemented, inspections and the reporting of offences are provided for. Such inspections and reporting activities, provided for by articles 90, 91 and 92 of the Act, are jointly performed by pharmacy inspectors from the Ministry of Health and judicial police officers from the drug law enforcement authorities.

- 96. It was recommended that Governments should be encouraged to invoke article 12, paragraph 10 (a), of the 1988 Convention to receive pre-export notifications on substances under international control.
- 97. Algeria has expressed a wish to register with the PEN Online electronic exchange system established by the International Narcotics Control Board, which provides a framework and mechanism for receiving advance notification of the export of substances under international control.
- 98. In Benin, such actions were carried out in accordance with the 1988 Convention under the supervision of the Directorate of Pharmacies, Medicines and Diagnostic Exploration. Collaboration with the General Delegation of the Interministerial Committee to Combat the Abuse of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and the Central Office to Combat Illicit Traffic in Drugs and Precursors needs to be strengthened.
- 99. Cameroon was a State Party to the 1988 Convention, national legislation covers this issue and the agencies concerned have been strengthened in response to this recommendation. In addition, the participation of Cameroon in the Pre-Export Notification (PEN) Online system contributes to the implementation of this recommendation.
- 100. Côte d'Ivoire reported that in order for an industrial or commercial company to be able to import or export internationally controlled substances, it must first obtain a licence issued by the Government, in accordance with the 1988 Convention. Then, for the actual importation or exportation, it requires an official permit.
- 101. Egypt received pre-export notifications on material subject to international control and conducted the necessary investigations and examination in relation to those shipments in coordination with national agencies concerned.

- 102. Kenya reported that from discussions with the International Narcotics Control Board in June 2013, relevant partners have embraced the need to invoke Article 12. The Pharmacy and Poisons Board had already initiated the process and filled the relevant forms.
- 103. Morocco reported that it had taken such action, as had Namibia as per recommendation 8.
- 104. Sierra Leone reported that country contacts (Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone) for Pre-export Notifications on substances under international control forwarded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Sierra Leone) in June 2013 for onward submission to the United Nations International Narcotics Control Board through the country's Permanent Representative at the United Nations.
- 105. Sudan had registered with PEN Online and had begun to form a coordinating body, which will become an international trade control system.
- 106. Article 82 of Act No. 98-008 on drug control in Togo extends the provisions regarding licences for the importation and exportation of psychotropic substances to apply to precursor chemicals. Accordingly, the Ministry of Health, which has the competence to determine the quantities of psychotropic substances that are to be imported, is notified in advance by the exporting countries. However, such notifications often arrive very late, sometimes weeks or months after the importer has received the substances under control.

- 107. It was recommended that Governments should be encouraged to register with Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) to monitor licit trade in precursor chemicals under international control, so as to prevent their diversion into illicit channels.
- 108. Algeria was in the process of registering with the chemical products pre-export notification exchange system (PEN Online).
- 109. In Benin, the Directorate of Pharmacies, Medicines and Diagnostic Exploration regularly attends to this.
- 110. The registration of Cameroon with the PEN Online system in response to this recommendation was indicated by the formal designation of focal points in the agencies concerned.
- 111. Côte d'Ivoire reported that request for access to the PEN Online system was submitted last March, and a subscription to the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS) for the control of cross-border trade was also taken out.
- 112. In Egypt, this was done through the Central Administration of Pharmaceutical Affairs in the Ministry of Health, which is the agency responsible for coordination with the anti-drug agency whereby there is cooperation and coordination in this particular area to prevent the diversion of precursor chemicals from legitimate commerce to the illicit market and illegal channels.
- 113. Kenya reported that the Pharmacy and Poisons Board had registered for the programme. Plans were underway on a policy to support information sharing.

- 114. Morocco already has access to the electronic Pre-Export Notification system (PEN Online).
- 115. Namibia had taken action as per recommendation 8.
- 116. In Sierra Leone, country contacts for PEN forwarded to Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Sierra Leone) for attention of the United Nations INCB. Awaiting confirmation from the United Nations that Sierra Leone is part of the PEN system to enable Sierra Leone to register online.
- 117. Sudan had registered with PEN Online. It now receives and deals with notifications.
- 118. Togo reported that it had been unable to gain access to the PEN Online system to monitor chemical products under international control.

III. Conclusions

- 119. Most Governments that returned the questionnaire had taken measures to implement the recommendations on controlled delivery operations. In a number of countries, measures such as training for officers were planned and/or continuing. In some cases additional resources or external assistance would be needed. While some countries had concluded bilateral agreements with neighbouring States and trade partners to expedite requests for controlled delivery operations, other had not and were relying on the 1988 Convention or other mutual legal assistance conventions or regional arrangements.
- 120. Regarding proactive operations to counter drug trafficking, most countries had adequate arrangements for gaining lawful access to information for analysis on the activities of drug traffickers. In some cases, legislation had been amended to permit this and new investigative procedures had been introduced. Some countries were taking measures to strengthen the capacity of staff and agencies. One country reported an absence of any mechanism to allow information sharing between different law enforcement agencies. The majority of Governments responding indicated that they were promoting a multi-agency approach led by law enforcement working with key partners in the private sector, although one country reported that such a mechanism remained to be developed. Regarding an inter-agency response for container control, most responding Governments reported that such a unit existed. The support of UNODC and the UNODC/WCO world container control programme were noted. One country had established a subdivision for this purpose but it was not yet operational.
- 121. Regarding precursor control, all responding Governments advised that there was coordination between their relevant national authorities. One country had established a subdivision for these purposes which would be registered with the pre-export notification online system (PEN) programme in the near future. Regarding pre-export notification of controlled substances, most countries outlined their provisions for such notifications. The majority of responding countries participated in Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN) system and several were in the process of registering for it. One country had been unable to gain access to PEN.