



Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

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**Organized crime aspects of the smuggling of migrants,
including financial investigations and responses targeting
the proceeds of crime**

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Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 7/1, entitled “Strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto”, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime decided that the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants would be a constant element of the Conference, forwarding its reports and recommendations to the Conference.
2. At its first meeting, the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants recommended that States parties may wish to request UNODC to provide technical assistance with regard to investigating links that may exist between the smuggling of migrants and corruption, money-laundering and other forms of transnational organized crime.¹
3. The Working Group also stated that States parties should, where appropriate, ensure that financial investigations take place concurrently, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through such crime, in investigating and prosecuting the smuggling of migrants.²

* CTOC/COP/WG.7/2015/1.

¹ CTOC/COP/WG.7/2012/6.

² Ibid.



4. At its second meeting, the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants identified the topic of “Organized crime aspects of the smuggling of migrants, including financial investigations and responses targeting the proceeds of crime” as a main issue to be considered at future meetings of the Working Group.³

5. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2014/23, entitled “Strengthening international cooperation in addressing the smuggling of migrants”, encouraged Member States to promote the reliable collection of data and research, at the national and, as appropriate, the regional and international levels, on the smuggling of migrants, including on smuggling networks and the involvement of organized crime in countries of origin, transit and destination, and on the possible links that may exist between the smuggling of migrants and other criminal activities.

6. In the same resolution, the Council also encouraged Member States to ensure that, in investigating and prosecuting the smuggling of migrants, the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations is considered, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through that crime, and to consider the smuggling of migrants to be a predicate offence of money-laundering, with regard to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

7. The present background paper was prepared by the Secretariat to aid in the discussions of the working group at its third meeting.

II. Issues for discussion

8. The Working Group may wish to consider the following issues as a basis for its deliberations:

(a) Which types and structures of organized criminal groups are prevalent in smuggling of migrants, and what is their modus operandi?

(b) What are some good practices in investigating and prosecuting organized criminal groups involved in the smuggling of migrants?

(c) What are the challenges and good practices in gathering evidence on the financial or other material benefit element in the investigation and prosecution of migrant smuggling cases?

(d) What can be considered good practices in disrupting organized criminal groups involved in smuggling of migrants with regard to cross-border cooperation?

(e) What are the most effective financial infrastructure, regulatory and supervisory regimes against the laundering of proceeds of crime in the context of migrant smuggling?

(f) What are the challenges in the implementation of cross-border investigations and responses in migrant smuggling cases, in particular targeting the proceeds of crime?

³ CTOC/COP/WG.7/2012/5.

III. Overview of issues and guidance for response

A. Smuggling of migrants as a transnational organized crime

1. Criminalization of the smuggling of migrants

9. Migration is an age-old phenomenon inextricably related to human civilization. The criminal exploitation of migration though and the generation of illicit profits from the facilitation of irregular migration represents a relatively new development. Procuring the irregular entry or residence of migrants in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit has been recognized as a form of transnational organized crime.

10. The Smuggling of Migrants Protocol deals with the growing problem of organized criminal groups who smuggle migrants at profit for the offenders and often at high risk to the migrants. The purpose of the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, as set out in article 2, is preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants, as well as promoting cooperation among States Parties, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants.

11. The Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, in its article 3, defines the offence of smuggling of migrants as procuring the illegal entry of a person into a State party of which that person is not a national or permanent resident, for the purpose of direct or indirect financial or other material benefit. The Smuggling of Migrants Protocol applies where the offences are transnational in nature and involve an organized criminal group.⁴ In the case of smuggling of migrants, without some element of cross-border movement, there would be neither migrants nor smuggling. However, pursuant to the Organized Crime Convention, article 34, smuggling of migrants must be established in domestic law independently of the involvement of an organized criminal group. The Smuggling of Migrants Protocol requirements should be regarded as a minimum standard and domestic measures may be stricter or more severe than those required by the Protocol.

2. Typology of organized crime involvement

12. In spite of increasing attention to smuggling of migrants in recent years, there is still little reliable knowledge on the involvement of organized criminal groups, their structure, size, mobility, actors involved and modus operandi. The migrant smuggling networks diverge in structure, varying from small structures to large transnational networks. The structures of the networks can be organized differently, depending on the route, the countries, the nationality of migrants and smugglers. The functions performed within the network involve individuals responsible for

⁴ The Organized Crime Convention, in its article 2, defines a transnational organized criminal group as a structured group of three or more persons, existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established in accordance with this Convention, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit. Article 3 of the Organized Crime Convention states that for an offence to be transnational, it is committed in more than one State; or in one State but a substantial part of its preparation, planning, direction or control takes place in another State; or in one State but involves an organized criminal group that engages in criminal activities in more than one State; or in one State but has substantial effects in another State.

recruitment, transportation, document forging or obtaining necessary documents, corruption, guiding or illegal border crossing, debt collection and money-laundering, to name just a few. These individuals may be called differently in different regions (e.g. intermediaries, brokers, colonels, stage coordinators, chairmen, agents etc.), and they cooperate with each other if that is in their financial interest.

13. While there is some evidence of the involvement of hierarchically organized mafia-like structures⁵ in smuggling of migrants, reportedly smuggling of migrants is more typically carried out by loosely connected networks of criminals all playing their own particular part in criminal operations. They are specialists in forging documents or providing travel documents; specialists in delivering forged travel documents; specialists in transporting people over weakly guarded border points; specialists in having the right connections to corruptible officials. The specialists can include migrants themselves who use their knowledge of the migrant's life and the local networks on certain stages of their migration to finance completion of their own journey. All these specialists form one very loosely connected network which may ultimately translate into one successful criminal organization.⁶ An increased efficiency in law enforcement and interdiction may lead to more specialization.

14. The key factor that determines the structure of such networks in smuggling of migrants is profit and its maximization. Contacts between criminals of the smuggling network can be compared to business-like relations and it is possible that one criminal may perform his function in several criminal networks. Such networks may be involved in other types of organized crime activities, such as laundering the money generated from the criminal activities but also, for example, trafficking in firearms and drug trafficking.⁷ In addition, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants are interlinked. Sometimes the trafficking in persons route follows the main migrant smuggling paths by land, sea or air, involving the same organized criminal groups. In some cases, the traffickers maintain contact with family members of the smuggled migrant in the origin country and make threats to family members in order to keep the victim compliant. The migrant consequently falls a victim to exploitation along the smuggling route or in the country of destination.⁸

15. Migrants generally seek the assistance of a smuggler when they are convinced that they cannot successfully cross borders without help. More rigorous border control or migration policies in destination countries may have unintended consequences, as they make smuggling networks more lucrative, thereby attracting the attention of other criminal groups or opportunists. Consequently, smuggling networks may become more professional, specialized and develop closer contacts with other criminal networks. At the same time, they may also be willing to take more risks, endangering the lives or safety of the migrants. The networks that are

⁵ UNODC Transnational Organized Crime in West Africa: A Threat Assessment www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tocta/West_Africa_TOCTA_2013_EN.pdf, p. 28.

⁶ UNODC "Issue Paper on organized crime involvement in trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants" www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/FINAL_REPORT_06052010_1.pdf, p. 7.

⁷ Security Council Report June 2015 Monthly Forecast Libya www.securitycouncilreport.org/monthly-forecast/2015-06/libya_19.php.

⁸ UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2014 www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/GLOTIP_2014_full_report.pdf, p.45.

well established and known to the community do not recruit migrants but operate through the word of mouth from successful migrants, thus being proactively approached by intending migrants.⁹ Some smugglers do not perceive themselves as criminals but rather as service providers, aiding migrants in their fundamental right to travel.¹⁰

16. There is a need for refined knowledge of the criminal context in which the smuggling of migrants occurs. Investigation of smuggling of migrant cases often focus on the migrants themselves and not on the smugglers, i.e. the criminals enabling or facilitating the illegal entry. It is often a result of limited resources and time that law enforcement agencies may not be able to pursue smuggling cases to their full extent. As a consequence, smuggling networks continue undeterred. For example, in order to identify the networks behind the smuggling processes, authorities should not stop at the identification of the use of false, stolen or lost documents, as is often the case, but go deeper into the case, investigating how these documents were procured, whether they were reported lost or stolen and what was the issuing authority or official.

B. Financial investigation and responses targeting the proceeds of smuggling of migrants

1. Financial and other material benefit element of the definition of smuggling of migrants

17. Pursuant to article 3 of the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, smuggling of migrants is committed for the purpose of a financial or other material benefit. Such financial or other material benefit is not limited to monetary profit. It may also include any type of financial or non-financial inducement, payment, bribe, reward, advantage, privilege or service, including sexual or other services. In other words, the Protocol definition of smuggling of migrants only applies to those who smuggle others for gain, but not those who procure their own illegal entry or who procure the illegal entry of others for reasons other than gain, such as individuals smuggling family members or charitable organizations assisting in the movement of refugees or asylum-seekers.¹¹

2. Proceeds of smuggling of migrants

18. The Organized Crime Convention, in its article 6, requires the criminalization of the laundering of proceeds of crime. Article 7 of the Organized Crime Convention further obliges States Parties to adopt the measures to combat

⁹ UNODC “Recent trends of human trafficking and migrant smuggling to and from Pakistan” www.unodc.org/documents/pakistan//2013.12.26_Research_Report_HTMS_COPAK_HTMSS_Designed_for_printing.pdf, p. 2.

¹⁰ UNODC “The role of organized crime in the smuggling of migrants from Western Africa to the European Union” www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Report_SOM_West_Africa_EU.pdf, p.55.

¹¹ *Legislative Guides for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto* www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/legislative_guides/Legislative%20guides_Full%20version.pdf, p. 341.

money-laundering, such as to implement comprehensive domestic regulatory and supervisory regimes for banks and non-bank financial institutions and other bodies particularly susceptible to money-laundering. It encourages States to establish a financial intelligence unit and implementing measures to detect and monitor the movement of cash and appropriate negotiable instruments across their borders. It also recommends the development and promotion of global, regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation among judicial, law enforcement and financial regulatory authorities. States parties are also required to include smuggling of migrants as a predicate offence for money-laundering.¹²

19. The financial or other material benefit for smugglers of migrants is often a fee they receive for smuggling services. The value of such a fee depends on the sophistication of the smuggling organization, the type of service provided, and often on the level of safety and guarantee of success. For example, for a higher fee migrants would be provided with higher quality fraudulent documents and travel in better conditions. For a smaller fee, migrants may have no documents and be hidden in vehicles.

20. Smuggling fees can be paid by migrants themselves or their family or friends who may have decided to pool resources to support the migrant. There have been cases where the family is pressured to pay more through holding the migrants as hostages. The main modalities of paying the smuggling fees include: advance payment, payments made throughout the journey, payment upon arrival or a mix of those. There are situations in which migrants become indebted to the smugglers. This places the migrants at increased risk of exploitation and becoming victims of trafficking in persons.

21. There are many types of financial transactions that could be used in smuggling operations, including cash or credit, electronic transfers and informal financial systems. UNODC research on financial flows provides a typology of money transfer mechanisms identified for smuggling of migrants, such as “instant cash-to-cash”, “account-to-cash”, “account-to-account”, “physical transportation” and “mobile phone transactions” mechanism.¹³ According to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Report,¹⁴ while operational models of migrant smuggling are constantly adapting to responses of criminal justice and availability of new technologies, they are reportedly still characterized as primarily using cash transfers.

22. An increasingly important informal financial system, which reportedly plays a significant role in money transfer for smuggling-of-migrants operations, is hawala.

¹² According to the FATF Report on Money Laundering Risks arising from Trafficking in Human Beings and Smuggling of Migrants, the number of suspicious transaction reports relating to smuggling of migrants is relatively low in comparison with other serious predicate offences (Ibid.).

¹³ UNODC Comparative Research on Financial Flows within Asia and Europe www.unodc.org/southeastasiaandpacific/en/2013/09/migrant-smuggling-financial-flow/story.html.

¹⁴ Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Report on Money Laundering Risks arising from Trafficking in Human Beings and Smuggling of Migrants www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/Trafficking%20in%20Human%20Beings%20and%20Smuggling%20of%20Migrants.pdf, p. 39.

Following an increase in long-distance migration and radical improvements in communications technology, hawala networks regained currency.¹⁵

3. Corruption and smuggling of migrants

23. The Organized Crime Convention, articles 8 and 9, require criminalization of corruption and further measures against corruption, including adopting legislative, administrative or other effective measures to promote integrity and to prevent, detect and punish the corruption of public officials.

24. Like migrant smuggling, corruption can assume many different forms and the two types of crime are related in various ways. Corruption, in relation to migrant smuggling, may occur in countries of origin, transit or destination. It may be systemic, institutional or individual. It may occur at various points of a smuggling venture, including the recruitment, transportation, illegal entry or harbouring stages of the process or to facilitate illegal stay. Corruption facilitates the falsification or use of fraudulent travel and identity documents. It even occurs after smugglers or smuggled migrants have been apprehended to facilitate their illegitimate release or to extort more money from smuggled migrants or their relatives. In other instances, corruption supports fraudulent adoption, marriage or employment schemes and various other forms of fraud linked to migrant smuggling.

25. Corruption is also a major obstacle to the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of migrant smuggling. Law enforcement, border protection and immigration control activities can be circumvented or sabotaged with the complicity of corrupt public officials. Corrupt officials, whether border or immigration officials, police, soldiers, employees of port authorities, or staff in embassies and consulates can facilitate migrant smuggling or at least turn a blind eye to it in exchange for a bribe or a share of the criminal proceeds generated.

26. The profits generated by smuggling networks make corruption possible on a larger scale as the profits can be used for bribery and other forms of corruption, to facilitate future operations.

27. Corruption also presents an obstacle to effective international cooperation in fighting migrant smuggling. It undermines any relationship of confidence and mutual trust that is essential for ongoing cooperation across borders, whether in border management, immigration control, criminal investigations or intelligence-sharing.

¹⁵ Hawala is a fairly simple process based on trust, where the payer wishes to transfer money to a payee in another country. He gives the money to a hawala broker in his own city, who then informs a hawala broker in the payee's city that the appropriate amount should be paid to the payee. A commission is charged for the services. The debt owed by the hawala broker in the payer's country to the hawala broker in the payee's country is settled later. The payment has been made without money physically leaving the transmitting country. The reasons for increasing importance of the hawala system are in its cost-effectiveness, safety, efficiency, flexibility, anonymity and non-bureaucratic nature. The hawala system is built on trust as its primary principle. This makes it difficult for law enforcement authorities to trace the funds in the countries of origin or transit of smuggled migrants where the formal financial sector may be underdeveloped or non-operational. UNODC Comparative Research on Financial Flows within Asia and Europe www.unodc.org/southeastasiaandpacific/en/2013/09/migrant-smuggling-financial-flow/story.html.

28. A number of good practices can be identified with the potential to significantly reduce the risk of corruption. The effective response to migrant smuggling requires the implementation of specific institutional measures to prevent and control corruption within every agency involved in immigration control, border protection, consular services, and the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of migrant smuggling cases. This includes adequate criminalization measures to combat both migrant smuggling and corruption. Furthermore, it is important to systematically identify the specific risks of and vulnerabilities to corruption confronting the various law enforcement, immigration control and border protection agencies but also key private sector players and to develop effective and comprehensive risk mitigation strategies.

4. Financial investigation techniques

29. In investigating smuggling of migrants, financial investigations should be carried out on a routine basis, by multidisciplinary teams of trained and specialized professionals, in close coordination with the financial intelligence units. Financial investigations are not only effective in advancing investigations and tracing criminal assets derived from smuggling of migrants, they are also useful in helping investigators identify the networks involved.

30. Financial investigation related to the smuggling of migrants involves the collection, collation and analysis of all information and records available to assist in the prosecution and to deprive the smugglers of the proceeds of crime. As smuggling of migrants per definition is a transnational crime, the financial investigations also require international cooperation, including for purposes of tracing the proceeds of crime in the countries in which the proceeds are usually reinvested and laundered.

31. Many of the techniques used to conduct financial investigations in the migrant smuggling context are similar to techniques used for investigating other criminal offences. Such techniques include, for example, physical surveillance, searches, comparing assets with income or information from different service providers, including mobile phone services, Internet, travel agencies and commercial carriers. Investigators should consider how financial records can prove, in an admissible manner, that the smuggler, directly or indirectly, received a financial or other material benefit. Information obtained through financial data may include identification of income and its sources, identification of suspects and their location, travel bookings, and identification of routes.

32. To conclude, financial investigations are essential to prove the element of financial gain or material benefit in the offence of smuggling of migrants. As the ultimate goal of networks in smuggling of migrants is profit and its maximization, monetary sanctions or seizures and eventual confiscation of criminal proceeds may deter smugglers or reduce their capacity to continue their migrant smuggling activities.

IV. Key tools and recommended resources

Toolkit to Combat Smuggling of Migrants

The UNODC *Toolkit to Combat Smuggling of Migrants* has been designed to assist countries to implement the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. The Toolkit provides guidance, offers promising practices and recommends resources in thematic areas. Tool 7, on law enforcement and prosecutions, offers criminal justice practitioners a basic overview of the considerations relevant to investigating and prosecuting the smuggling of migrants and related crimes. Tools 7.7 and 7.8 introduce financial investigation and seizure of assets and confiscation of proceeds of crime. Available at:

www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/migrant-smuggling/toolkit-to-combat-smuggling-of-migrants.html.

Basic Training Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants

The UNODC *Basic Training Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants* is a practical guide and training tool for criminal justice practitioners around the world. Individual modules are designed to be adapted to the needs of different regions and countries, and can serve as a basis for upgrading or supplementing the training programmes of national training institutes. Module 4 addresses financial investigation. Available at:

www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/migrant-smuggling/electronic-basic-training-manual-on-investigating-and-prosecuting-smuggling-of-migrants.html.

In-depth Training Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants

The UNODC *In-depth Training Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants* builds on the *Basic Training Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants* to promote common understanding of relevant concepts and encourages States parties to adopt a mutually reinforcing approach in their responses to the transnational organized crime of smuggling of migrants. The manual offers a practical approach to the investigation and prosecution of the smuggling of migrants, offering promising practices relevant to all countries of origin, transit and destination, regardless of their legal system. Module 11 addresses financial investigations and prosecutions. Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/In-Depth_Training_Manual_SOM_en_wide_use.pdf.

International Framework for Action to Implement the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol

The *International Framework for Action to Implement the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol* is a technical assistance tool that aims to support effective implementation of the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol. Its purpose is to assist States parties and

non-State actors to identify and address gaps in their response to smuggling of migrants in accordance with international standards.

International instruments, political commitments, guidelines and best practices are drawn upon in order to provide a comprehensive approach to preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants. The *International Framework for Action* contains four tables, addressing prosecution (and investigation), protection (and assistance), prevention, and cooperation (and coordination). Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Framework_for_Action_Smuggling_of_Migrants.pdf.

Legislative Guides for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto

The main purpose of the *Legislative Guides for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto* is to assist States seeking to ratify and implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols. The *Legislative Guides* addresses, inter alia, criminalization and other measures to combat money-laundering and corruption, and other provisions of the Organized Crime Convention. Available at:

www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CTOC/legislative-guide.html#_Full_Version_2.

Assessment Guide to the Criminal Justice Response to the Smuggling of Migrants

The *Assessment Guide to the Criminal Justice Response to the Smuggling of Migrants* is a standardized and cross-referenced set of measures designed to enable government officials in immigration, customs and law enforcement agencies and United Nations agencies, as well as other organizations, industry and individuals, to conduct comprehensive assessments of domestic systems, to identify areas of technical assistance, to assist in the design of interventions that incorporate international standards and norms on the prevention and suppression of the smuggling of migrants, and to assist in training on these issues.

The *Assessment Guide*, in its chapter V, on investigation powers and procedures, dedicates a special section to financial investigation and tracing, seizure, freezing and confiscation of assets. Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/UNODC_2012_Assessment_Guide_to_the_Criminal_Justice_Response_to_the_Smuggling_of_Migrants-EN.pdf.

Issue paper: organized crime involvement in trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants

UNODC, through the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy of the Ghent University in Belgium, carried out a study with the objective to provide insight into what is known on the involvement of organized crime in trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants cases. The purpose of the study was to develop appropriate criminal justice responses to combat trafficking in persons and

smuggling of migrants as forms of organized crime which requires a knowledge-based response. Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/FINAL_REPORT_06052010_1.pdf.

Issue paper: corruption and the smuggling of migrants

UNODC published this issue paper with the aim to assist policymakers and practitioners in preventing and addressing corruption related to migrant smuggling operations. It does not offer a review of all successful practices in the prevention of migrant smuggling as this has already been provided by other UNODC publications. Instead, it focuses more narrowly on the prevention of corruption activities that facilitate migrant smuggling or defeat efforts to respond to it. The issue paper reviews available evidence on the links between corruption and migrant smuggling, including how corruption facilitates migrant smuggling and undermines efforts to control it. It reviews different forms of corruption associated with migrant smuggling, both in the public and private sectors, and offers examples of migrant smuggling cases involving corruption. Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/2013/The_Role_Of_Corruption_in_the_Smuggling_of_Migrants_Issue_Paper_UNODC_2013.pdf.

Role of Organized Crime in the Smuggling of Migrants from West Africa to the European Union

The report was undertaken by UNODC to contribute to a better understanding of the underlying mechanisms and actors involved in smuggling of migrants as a basis for policy reforms in the West African countries concerned. It was aimed primarily at decision makers, law enforcement and judicial officials, but also at a wider audience interested in irregular migration. Available at:

www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/migrant-smuggling/the-role-of-organized-crime-in-the-smuggling-of-migrants-from-west-africa-to-the-european-union.html.

Migrant Smuggling in Asia — Comparative Research on Financial Flows within Asia and Europe

The report summarizes comparative research carried out by the UNODC on financial transactions within migrant smuggling operations from Afghanistan, China, and Viet Nam to Europe in order to better understand the financial aspects of migrant smuggling transactions. The research analyses focuses on specific routes, countries of origin and destination within a particular time frame. Available at:

www.unodc.org/southeastasiaandpacific/en/2013/09/migrant-smuggling-financial-flow/story.html.

Transnational Organized Crime in West Africa: A Threat Assessment

The purpose of the report is to assess the progression and emergence of transnational organized crime affecting the region. It analyses the flows in cocaine,

methamphetamine, smuggling of migrants, firearms trafficking, fraudulent essential medicines and maritime piracy in the region. Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tocta/West_Africa_TOCTA_2013_EN.pdf.

Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2014

The UNODC *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons* sheds light on the role of organized crime in trafficking operations, and presents a first step towards a typology of trafficking cases based on the level of organization of the crime as well as of the economic interests behind it. Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/GLOTIP_2014_full_report.pdf.

Recent Trends of Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling to and from Pakistan

This report was commissioned to better understand the emerging situation in Pakistan related to human trafficking and migrant smuggling by UNODC in Pakistan in collaboration with the Government of Pakistan. The research study was conducted to further understand the human trafficking and migrant smuggling situation in Pakistan by developing profiles of transnational migratory movements to and from Pakistan. It identifies emerging trends and describes the different methods used by traffickers and smugglers. Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/pakistan//2013.12.26_Research_Report_HTMS_COPAK_HTMS_Designed_for_printing.pdf.

Issue paper: combating transnational organized crime committed at sea

The issue paper underscores the common and interlinked emerging crimes at sea, including piracy and armed robbery at sea, migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, organized crime within the fishing industry and oil bunkering; it identifies the applicable maritime laws and regulations and their potential gaps as well as the relevant good practices and challenges in international cooperation at the legal and operational level with respect to crimes at sea; it discusses the problems concerning the investigation and prosecution of crimes at sea, including questions such as where capacity-building is needed. Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/organized-crime/GPTOC/Issue_Paper_-_TOC_at_Sea.pdf.

Transnational Organized Crime in Central America and the Caribbean: A Threat Assessment

The report describes what is known about the mechanics of contraband trafficking — the what, who, how, and how much of illicit flows — and discuss their potential impact on governance and development. Its primary role is diagnostic, but it also explores the implications of these findings for policy. Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Studies/TOC_Central_America_and_the_Caribbean_english.pdf.

Digest of Organized Crime Cases

The purpose of the *Digest of Organized Crime Cases* is to provide policymakers and criminal justice practitioners with an analysis of concrete cases and related good practices. The *Digest* explains all relevant stages of the criminal justice response, including legislation, investigation, prosecution and adjudication, as well as international cooperation. By using illustrative cases, the *Digest* lays out the successes and the difficulties encountered by the practitioners, and so reflects the state-of-the-art in efforts to combat organized crime globally. Available at:

www.unodc.org/documents/organized-crime/EnglishDigest_Final301012_30102012.pdf.

FATF Report — Money Laundering Risks Arising from Trafficking in Human Beings and Smuggling of Migrants

The report covered the money-laundering risks arising from both activities with the objectives to assess the scale of the problem, to identify different trends in trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, to identify the trends in money-laundering from case studies, to inform law enforcement agencies on the money-laundering aspects, to identify red flag indicators to assist financial institutions in detecting money-laundering and reporting suspicious transaction reports, and to increase the possibility of identifying and confiscating the proceeds from human trafficking or the smuggling of migrants. Available at:

www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/trafficking%20in%20human%20beings%20and%20smuggling%20of%20migrants.pdf.
