



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
30 December 2010

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Fifty-fourth session

Vienna, 21-25 March 2011

Items 3 and 6 (a) and (c) of the provisional agenda*

Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: demand reduction and related measures; countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Twentieth session

Vienna, 11-15 April 2011

Item 3 of the provisional agenda**

Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions

Support for the development and implementation of the regional programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Report of the Executive Director

Summary

In 2009 and 2010, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime developed regional programmes for East Asia and the Pacific, East Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, South-Eastern Europe, West Africa and the Arab States. In the first half of 2011, regional programmes will follow for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries and Southern Africa. The present report provides an update on the implementation of the programmes, including challenges encountered and recommendations. The report has been prepared pursuant to Economic and Social

* E/CN.7/2011/1.

** E/CN.15/2011/1.



Council resolutions 2010/17 and 2010/21 and General Assembly resolution 65/227. The sections on East Africa, West Africa, Afghanistan and neighbouring countries, and Central America and the Caribbean also contain reporting pursuant to Commission on Narcotics Drugs resolutions 52/3, 52/4, 53/5 and 53/14.

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction	4
Impact of an integrated programme approach on the field programme	4
II. Regional programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	5
A. Regional programme for East Asia and the Pacific	5
B. Regional programme for East Africa	7
C. Regional programme for South-Eastern Europe	10
D. Regional programme for Central America and the Caribbean	12
E. Regional programme for the Arab States	15
F. Regional programme for West Africa	16
G. Regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries	19
H. Regional programme for Southern Africa	21
III. Way forward, lessons learned and ensuring sustainability	22
Challenges	22

I. Introduction

1. In 2009 and 2010, significant advances were made in the development of integrated United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) regional programmes in East Asia and the Pacific, East Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, South-Eastern Europe, West Africa and the Arab States. Programmes for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries and for Southern Africa are to be launched in 2011.

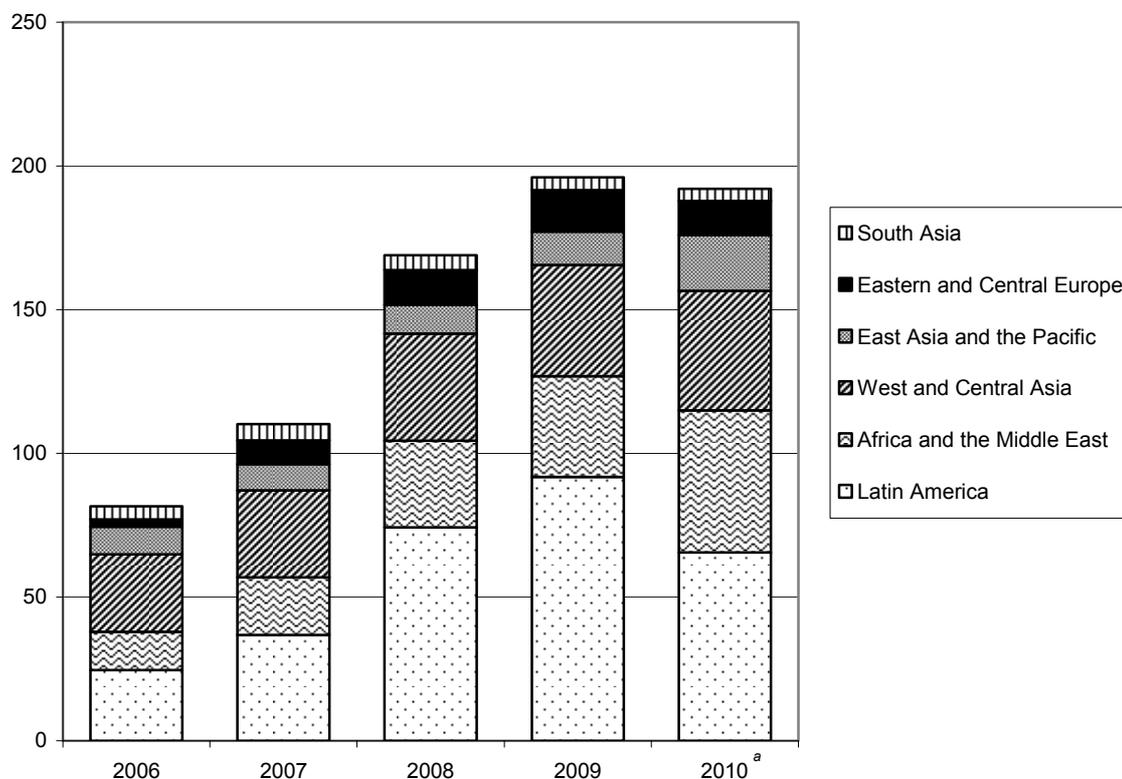
2. The regional programmes capture the diverse and interconnected nature of UNODC work at the field level and maximize its added value in addressing cross-border challenges. Their approach is aimed at ensuring: (a) full ownership by partner countries through alignment with regional and national policies and priorities; (b) an integrated framework for transferring expertise; (c) a move from a project-based approach to a programme approach; and (d) close cooperation with other United Nations entities and multilateral partners. Within the framework of the regional programmes, several comprehensive integrated country programmes have also been developed.

Impact of an integrated programme approach on the field programme

3. The geographic scope and programme portfolio of the Office have grown significantly over the past year, reflecting progress made in establishing regional and country programmes as the vehicle for UNODC delivery in the field.

4. Today UNODC is present in over 60 countries. In terms of geographical coverage, its activities extend to over 150 countries, and its presence in post-conflict States has also expanded. Regional offices are responsible for field programmes across a given region and constitute the core infrastructure of its field network, together with programme offices that report to a regional office. Country offices are responsible for the UNODC field programme in specific countries. Topic-specific work is carried out by UNODC advisers, who report to the regional or country office in their location. The field presence enables UNODC to partner more effectively with Member States in gathering information, identifying priorities and designing strategies and programmatic responses.

Figure I
Total annual allocation by region
 (Millions of United States dollars)



^a Figures up to November 2010.

II. Regional programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

5. The present report provides an overview of the progress made by each regional programme. A summary of the current status of funding of the regional programmes is presented in section III below.

A. Regional programme for East Asia and the Pacific

1. Development and launch

6. The 2009-2012 regional programme for East Asia and the Pacific started officially on 1 January 2009, following its presentation to partner Governments, donors and implementation partners in Bangkok in November 2008.

7. The regional programme is aligned with regional or subregional priorities, as UNODC closely coordinates its work with relevant mechanisms and organizations, including the memorandum of understanding on drug control in the Greater Mekong

subregion, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs process and the memorandum of understanding on strengthening cooperation between UNODC and ASEAN, as well as the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. In particular, UNODC is actively engaged in the alignment of the regional programme with the priorities of the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime. At the local level, UNODC assists countries, such as Indonesia, upon their request, through the development of national programmes.

2. Progress in implementation

8. The regional programme combines interventions at the normative level with technical assistance at the operational level. Some programme components have a regional dimension focusing on international cooperation, while others are aimed at strengthening the effectiveness of national authorities. Most activities under the regional programme currently take place in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Palau, the Philippines, Thailand, Tonga and Viet Nam.

9. In 2009 and 2010, the regional programme reported achievements in the areas of illicit trafficking and smuggling, governance, criminal justice, drug demand reduction, HIV/AIDS and sustainable livelihoods. For example, UNODC supported the establishment of additional border liaison offices in the region and the expansion of their mandate in Cambodia and Thailand to include smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and economic crimes. Various capacity-building measures were successfully implemented, including training for law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges and support for institutions engaged in countering corruption (Thailand) and money-laundering and terrorism (Viet Nam, Pacific islands). The regional programme enhanced mechanisms to share information on drug trends (Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends programme) and promoted regional cooperation between judges and prosecutors and in the areas of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. It also improved drug treatment services in Cambodia, Myanmar and Viet Nam (international network of drug dependence treatment and rehabilitation resource centres Treatnet II) and established new livelihood opportunities for opium-producing communities in Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

3. Partnership with the United Nations system

10. UNODC is an active member of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) Asia-Pacific and the related peer support group and participates in the monitoring of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) mechanism. At the country level, UNODC engages with other parts of the United Nations system to address specific aspects of the regional programme. Current examples include the development of a joint United Nations country team proposal for a community-based drug treatment programme. In Viet Nam, UNODC is actively engaged in preparing and implementing the new "One UN" programme.

4. Funding

11. The overall value of the regional programme for the period 2009-2012 was \$91 million in November 2010, approximately 32 per cent of which had been previously mobilized.

12. Adjustments to the programme budget reduced some overly ambitious components, excluded others that were unlikely to mobilize resources and shifted some activities beyond 2012. As a result, the programme budget for 2009-2014 currently amounts to \$116 million. The amount of spent, collected and/or pledged resources amounts to \$67 million, representing 58 per cent of the budget. The donors to the regional programme include Australia, Cambodia, Canada, China, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Viet Nam, the European Commission, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and the Khmer HIV/AIDS NGO Alliance, a non-governmental organization.

B. Regional programme for East Africa

1. Development and launch

13. In November 2009, the Governments of countries in East Africa endorsed the regional programme for 2009-2012 at a regional ministerial conference in Nairobi. The conference followed a regional expert consultation, organized by UNODC in cooperation with the Government of Kenya in February 2009, on the content of the draft programme, with participants from all countries of the region. The consultation enabled countries to assess needs, set priorities, establish the basis of the programme and the type and scope of assistance by UNODC. The challenges in the region have continued to evolve, most notably with the development of maritime piracy, and UNODC has sought to ensure that its programme activities continue to meet the most pressing needs of Member States.

2. Progress in implementation

14. UNODC expanded its technical assistance to the region. A core team of experts has been established in the UNODC regional office in Nairobi, covering the three subprogrammes described below. The development of national integrated programmes is also under way in Ethiopia and Somalia.

Subprogramme I. Countering illicit trafficking, organized crime and terrorism

15. In 2009, UNODC launched a major regional initiative to counter maritime piracy in the Indian Ocean. UNODC assists Kenya and Seychelles in prosecuting pirates, and in January 2010 extended its work to Somalia, focusing on prison and law reform and training of prosecutors. While concentrating on improving capacity for piracy trials, investments in training, modernization of court and prison infrastructure and the promotion of improved practices also benefit the criminal justice system as a whole.

16. Since 2010, UNODC assists the Government of Burundi in capacity-building to counter and prevent trafficking in persons. A UNODC/International Organization for Migration (IOM) joint initiative is about to start in Rwanda. In coordination with the Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization, UNODC works towards setting up transnational organized crime units, starting with a first regional workshop in November 2010.

17. With mentoring, legal advice and technical assistance from UNODC, Kenya revised witness protection legislation in April 2010, creating an autonomous witness protection agency. Technical assistance programmes in witness protection are being developed for Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, the former in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Uganda Law Reform Commission, while an assessment on Mauritius is planned for the first quarter of 2011.

18. UNODC has supported the Ethiopian law enforcement authorities in improving their drug interdiction and investigation techniques since 2007. Better cooperation between customs, police and immigration authorities resulted in increased seizures at Addis Ababa international airport. Building on the success of the airport project, the authorities trained courier services and post-office staff, resulting in further seizures. Seizure data indicate that foiled cocaine-trafficking attempts now outnumber those involving heroin. Increasing cannabis cultivation and seizures have raised concern among the Ethiopian authorities. UNODC will undertake a rapid assessment to determine the scale and scope of the problem.

19. UNODC held several capacity-building events on international cooperation in combating terrorism and countering its financing and related money-laundering for officials of Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. UNODC also advised Djibouti, Kenya and Uganda on legislative amendments. UNODC is consulting with Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and subregional partner organizations, such as the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the Indian Ocean Commission and the East African Community, to develop programmes to improve international cooperation in combating terrorism.

Subprogramme II. Fighting corruption and promoting justice and integrity

20. UNODC developed a reform programme for Kenya in order to address the challenges faced by the criminal justice sector by (a) assisting the Government in implementing the 2010 Constitution and in operationalizing policy priorities and strategies and (b) supporting long-term institutional capacity development objectives. UNODC supported the Kenyan National Task Team on Police Reform in drawing up a report, on the basis of which the Kenyan Police Reform Implementation Committee requested technical advice from UNODC to review the police reform legislation and develop an implementation programme.

21. UNODC assists the Kenyan Government in reforming its police and ensuring efficient law enforcement based on integrity and the rule of law through expert advice. Its programme proposal calls for the development of a performance management system, enhanced accountability and integrity of the police, introduction of codes of conduct and enhancement of professional skills and knowledge.

22. In coordination with the United Nations Population Fund and the German Agency for Technical Cooperation, UNODC is currently providing assistance to the Kenyan Task Force on the Implementation of the Sexual Offences Act. In cooperation with the Department of Social Development of South Africa, centres for victims of gender-based violence in Kenya are also planned.

23. After the publication of a comprehensive assessment in 2010, UNODC supported prison reform in Uganda, training senior-level prison staff and providing legal advice on the revision of regulations in accordance with Ugandan law, international human rights law and United Nations standards and norms. In 2011, UNODC intends to work on alternatives to imprisonment in selected countries of the region.

Subprogramme III. Improving health and human development

24. UNODC continued its capacity-building programme to improve drug-dependence treatment services at the global level. Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Seychelles, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania participated in the Treatnet train-the-trainers project. Countries are now receiving grants to roll out national training and improve treatment and care services.

25. In the area of HIV prevention among injecting drug users and in prison settings, UNODC provided training and advice to governmental and non-governmental partners. As a result, service providers in Kenya, Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles and the United Republic of Tanzania have gained skills for outreach work. Further, prisoners in several countries now receive HIV prevention services. UNODC support for research and analysis has contributed to a better understanding of the dynamics of HIV among injecting drug users and prison inmates.

3. Partnership with other parts of the United Nations system

26. UNODC actively participated in the United Nations country teams for Somalia and for Kenya and in the UNDAF in Kenya. In Kenya, UNODC was chosen by the United Nations joint team on AIDS to lead the work on HIV prevention and care for most-at-risk populations. UNODC also partners with the joint team on AIDS in Kenya, Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles and Somalia and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS regional support team for Eastern and Southern Africa.

4. Funding

27. By October 2010, donor funding for the regional programme had reached some \$20.9 million for the period 2009-2010, against the total budget of \$41.2 million (2009-2012).

C. Regional programme for South-Eastern Europe

1. Development and launch

28. The regional programme for South-Eastern Europe was developed during the course of 2008 with partner countries, to respond in a coordinated way to the evolving threats in the region.

29. The priority areas of the regional programme, as identified by the partner Governments of the countries in South-Eastern Europe, are organized crime and terrorism; justice and integrity; and drug-abuse prevention and treatment and HIV treatment and care. The programme aims to provide technical assistance to national agencies and authorities to tackle organized crime and illicit trafficking, improve justice systems and combat corruption, and prevent and treat drug abuse and the spread of HIV/AIDS.

30. The programme places special emphasis on improving regional cooperation and establishing strategic partnerships with relevant international institutions. In March 2009, representatives of the partner countries signed a joint statement at the high-level regional conference in Belgrade endorsing the regional programme.

2. Progress in implementation

Subprogramme I. Organized crime and terrorism, legislative assistance and capacity-building

31. Subprogramme I has carried out the following activities: review of national legislation and aligning it with international organized crime and anti-corruption conventions; improving professional skills and operational effectiveness of the judicial, prosecutorial and law enforcement authorities; and enhancing knowledge of justice and home affairs institutions regarding compliance with international and European Union acquis, standards and best practices.

32. In the areas of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, work has focused on enhancing knowledge and the adoption of appropriate legal frameworks, especially with regard to the facilitation of joint investigations and admissibility of evidence; finalization of international cooperation guidelines, and strengthening cooperation through regular regional meetings and exchange of information on good practices, and provision of training for criminal justice practitioners.

33. In the field of criminal intelligence analysis and financial investigations, regional cooperation is being enhanced through regional events at six-monthly intervals to promote professionalism and mutual understanding among practitioners. Assessment missions were conducted to assess capacity in criminal intelligence analysis and the capacity of law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units.

34. In money-laundering, financing of terrorism and asset forfeiture, technical assistance was provided to harmonize national legislation with international standards on disclosure, conflict of interest, illicit enrichment and asset recovery, facilitate the establishment of a regional network of institutions to enhance cooperation in criminal investigations and maximize the use of mutual legal assistance tools in asset recovery cases.

35. Regional container control assessment missions were conducted to enhance the capability of border control and law enforcement agencies in identifying and inspecting high-risk freight containers, and training and equipment were provided to improve cross-border cooperation and information exchange, as well as the professional skills of border protection law enforcement officers in Albania in respect of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, under Social Council resolution 1244 (1999), and the sea border with Italy. Assessment missions were conducted to forensic laboratories in countries of South-Eastern Europe to identify needs to ensure compliance with standard operational procedures, and the outcomes were shared with practitioners at a regional seminar.

Subprogramme II. Justice and integrity

36. Support was provided to increase the use of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for mutual legal assistance for asset recovery in corruption cases and for the first regional corruption survey conducted in cooperation with national statistical institutes. A regional needs assessment and analysis of juvenile justice legislation and of prison conditions and the status of implementation of alternatives to imprisonment were done. In consultation with the United Nations Children's Fund, a regional juvenile justice programme was developed to establish specialized juvenile units within the existing courts and prosecutorial and law enforcement authorities and for the exchange of best practices on the implementation of alternative, non-custodial and diversionary measures.

Subprogramme III. Drug-abuse prevention and treatment and HIV treatment and care

37. Activities under subprogramme III included: promoting the use of effective drug-abuse prevention training, as well as training for prison personnel on handling prisoners suffering from drug addiction; development of a regional model for multidisciplinary drug-dependence treatment services; training professionals in applying evidence-based practices (in Albania and Serbia); and improved coordination among institutions at the national and regional levels aimed at exchanging best practices.

3. Partnership with other parts of the United Nations system

38. The regional programme contributed to the United Nations country teams in the region, in particular playing an active role in developing the UNDAF programme for the period 2011-2015 for Serbia and by participating in the development of the "One UN" programme for the period 2012-2016 in Albania. The United Nations Kosovo team requested UNODC to participate in the common development plan.

39. In May 2009, UNODC signed a memorandum of understanding with the Regional Cooperation Council. Regional partners in criminal justice and transnational organized crime include the South-East European Cooperative Initiative Regional Centre for Combating Trans-Border Crime, in which UNODC obtained observer status in June 2010.

40. UNODC is also liaising with regional organizations promoting cooperation between police and prosecutors, such as the Southeast Europe Police Chiefs

Association, the Southeast European Prosecutors Advisory Group and the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative. Regular consultations are also undertaken with IOM for issues related to migration and trafficking in persons. Good working relations have been established with the Council of Europe, a major implementing partner.

4. Funding

41. Contributors to the programme include Germany (\$4.08 million), Sweden (\$150,000) and France (\$205,807), as well as Belgium, the Czech Republic, Ireland, Italy, Norway and Switzerland. European Union funds are allocated annually at the national level through the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance, in which project priorities in compliance with the *acquis communautaire* are identified. In most cases, procedures do not allow applications from United Nations agencies.

42. Despite the successful launch, sufficient funds for the full implementation of activities were not generated as expected. Drawing on the expertise developed and guidance received from partner countries, UNODC has streamlined the original programme portfolio and prioritized actions focusing on organized crime and illicit trafficking in the biennium 2011-2012. Starting in 2011, the streamlined programme will be managed directly from headquarters.

D. Regional programme for Central America and the Caribbean

1. Development and launch

43. The regional programme for Central America is the result of in-depth consultations supported by States of the region. A regional experts meeting in San José (5-6 February 2009) focused on priorities for action in Central America for the period 2009-2011, with the participation of seven Central American countries, the Dominican Republic and the Central American Integration System (SICA).

44. The programme to support the plan of action and the security strategy for Central America and Mexico was adopted at the ministerial conference in Managua, on 23 and 24 June 2009, by the seven member States of SICA, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Mexico. It is intended to complement the Central America and Mexico security strategy action plan. The final declaration of the ministerial meeting also endorsed the creation of centres of excellence in the region.

45. Representatives of the Member States at the ministerial conference also presented their national priorities and requested UNODC to provide state-of-the-art advisory services and technical assistance in order to design and implement answers to the problems of drug trafficking and related transnational organized crime.

2. Progress in implementation

46. The Santo Domingo Pact and Managua Mechanism constitute an interregional initiative (Central America and the Caribbean) aimed at enhancing policy coordination in the field of drug trafficking and organized crime. The objectives are to (a) facilitate the coordination of regional and national policies in the field of organized crime and drug trafficking, (b) develop a capacity for analysis of organized crime and drug trafficking trends, (c) ensure an exchange of information

among partners in the mechanism and avoid duplication, (d) assist in implementing the Organized Crime Convention, the Convention against Corruption and the three drug conventions, and (e) implement effective anti-organized crime policies.

47. Since its launch, UNODC has been working closely with SICA, the Caribbean Community and the Implementation Agency for Crime and Security, as well as the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States. Expert group meetings were held in June 2010 for Central America and December 2010 for the Caribbean, which resulted in concrete recommendations on countering organized crime. In parallel, the Office started the deployment of a network of strategic analysts, three of whom have been recruited, in El Salvador, Guatemala and Panama. One of their main tasks will be to collaborate in the preparation of a regional transnational organized crime threat assessment. Regional training events were organized to facilitate the implementation of organized crime policies in El Salvador (drug trafficking and gangs, and prevention and treatment of drug abuse) and Panama (international legal cooperation in criminal matters).

Subprogramme I. Organized crime

48. In 2010, the Central American network of prosecutors was launched in order to support the development of a structured communication and exchange among specialized prosecutors on organized crime-related cases.

49. The Container Control Programme activities in Panama grew and achieved measurable results, including the seizure of 378 kg of cocaine in January 2010 in a container loaded in Valencia, Spain, as a direct result of international collaboration, and in February 2010 the confiscation of 177 kg of cocaine in a shipment originating in Venezuela destined for the Islamic Republic of Iran via Barcelona. Costa Rica is joining the programme, and negotiations with Guatemala and Nicaragua are under way. In June 2010, a regional centre of excellence on maritime security was launched with the support of Panama.

50. The UNODC regional initiative against trafficking in persons was praised as a model by the Central American conference of public ministries and other international actors. Among its outcomes, a group of Central American public prosecutors and police officials has been established to better investigate and prosecute offences of trafficking in persons. National training has been provided to public prosecutors in the field of trafficking in persons in Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama.

Subprogramme II. Corruption, integrity, criminal justice

51. A regional anti-corruption initiative was launched in Central America in the last quarter of 2010. Panama agreed to finance a regional anti-corruption academy for Central America and the Caribbean, as well as a regional anti-corruption mentor who will provide advisory services to the Governments of Panama and other countries of the region. UNODC also led the development of an accountability and transparency mechanism in the field of water and sanitation in Nicaragua, as part of a United Nations-system joint initiative.

52. Under the prison reform component, a programme was launched in Panama in June 2010 to tackle alternatives to imprisonment and prison overcrowding, for which the Government agreed to fund (in the amount of \$1.2 million) the evaluation

and possible expansion of the electronic bracelet pilot initiative in the country. A prison system technical assessment was also finalized in El Salvador in 2010.

53. The Office has supported the Government of Panama in the transitional phase of implementation of an accusatory criminal justice system. UNODC finalized a programme of reinsertion of ex-gang members into society. Some 180 youth at risk and gang members were trained in professional activities and reintegrated in society. In El Salvador, the Office started an innovative project on the transformation of abandoned train stations into creative centres where youth from five communities highly affected by crime can take part in cultural activities and receive professional training.

Subprogramme III. Improving health and human development

54. In the context of the regional initiative to establish a treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration network in Central America, the Office aims to facilitate professional exchange and networking among practitioners working in drug abuse treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration centres in Central America. A “modular addiction information system” has been created and has become a model for cooperation with the Organization of American States. The database meets the national and international requirements for storage and onward transmission of information in the areas of epidemiology, health, family, work, legal matters, psychiatry, prisons and forensics of clinical patients with any type of addiction in the Central American region.

55. In the field of HIV/AIDS in prison settings, all Central American countries have completed an assessment of the HIV situation in prisons, and Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Guatemala have organized national consultations for the design of national policies. The Central American and Dominican Republic network on HIV in prisons is also working with the Office on the organization of a campaign for zero new HIV infections in prisons in Central America, to start by the end of 2010. The regional HIV adviser is also involved in new United Nations initiatives on prevalence and the creation of dedicated services on HIV in prisons in Nicaragua and Honduras as well as on human rights and diversity in Costa Rica.

3. Partnership with other parts of the United Nations system

56. UNODC contributes to the United Nations country teams in Central America and participates in Millennium Development Goal projects in Honduras, Panama and Nicaragua. In Guatemala, UNODC is also working within the United Nations system on the development of a joint application to the Peacebuilding Fund in 2011. UNODC has also taken an active role in the UNDAF process in El Salvador and Panama.

57. UNODC was also active in the regional fair on security organized by UNDP in Panama, which brought together representatives of all United Nations agencies, regional organizations and Governments in October 2010.

4. Funding

58. The financial value of the regional programme for Central America 2010-2012 was estimated at \$34 million. As of November 2010, UNODC had secured \$8.5 million, and an additional \$1.5 million should be secured shortly. While the

UNODC presence in the region had earlier been limited, it was able to build up its profile in 2010 and mobilize increasing resources. Main donors to the programme are Canada, France, Luxembourg, Panama, Spain, Sweden and the United States. The Government of Panama has been pivotal in providing state-of-the-art, fully equipped premises for the regional programme office and centre of excellence on maritime security and has played a growing role in the funding of national and regional initiatives.

E. Regional programme for the Arab States

1. Development and launch

59. Throughout 2010, UNODC has worked in partnership with the League of Arab States and many of its members — Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine to develop a regional programme on drug control, crime prevention and criminal justice reform for the period 2011-2015 in the Arab States, a Political Declaration (the Cairo Declaration) and terms of reference for a regional programme steering and follow-up committee that would guide UNODC cooperation with the Arab States.

60. The regional programme is composed of the following three subprogrammes: (a) countering illicit trafficking, organized crime and terrorism; (b) promoting integrity and building justice; and (c) drug-abuse prevention and health.

61. The regional programme, the Cairo Declaration and the terms of reference were finalized at a regional expert meeting held in Cairo from 27 to 29 April 2010, under the auspices of the League of Arab States and in partnership with the Government of Egypt, with the participation of government experts from other States of the region. The three documents were endorsed by the Council of the League of Arab States and launched by the Secretary-General of the League and the Executive Director of UNODC on 8 December 2010.

2. Progress in implementation

62. National integrated programmes are under development, focusing initially on the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Yemen, as requested by the States of the region. A national expert meeting took place in Yemen on 29 November 2010, and a similar event will take place in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in 2011 to review and finalize the draft national programmes in consultation with relevant national counterparts and other stakeholders. An expanded programme of activities is being developed for Southern Sudan, and the possibility of establishing a national integrated programme in Lebanon is being explored. A national integrated programme will be developed for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, building on the portfolio of activities in the country. Other country programmes, in the framework of the regional programme, may be developed as needed.

63. Two subregional offices were established to effectively implement the regional programme, one for the Maghreb countries, hosted by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and one for the Gulf States, hosted by the United Arab Emirates.

3. Partnership with the United Nations system

64. UNODC contributes to the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) regional teams and the United Nations country teams through UNDAF; it currently participates in the UNDAF processes in Egypt, Lebanon, Yemen and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and aims to expand its participation in the region. This will facilitate joint programming with United Nations agencies and support the formulation of joint strategies to promote the rule of law and health. UNODC is actively involved in United Nations country teams on HIV/AIDS and criminal justice.

4. Funding

65. The regional programme budget is \$100 million, with \$35 million already pledged and/or collected. The programme and the national integrated programmes are being presented to donors at the regional and national levels through tailored donor workshops to ensure dialogue with partners during the stages of programme development, implementation and evaluation. UNODC coordinates the regional programme with relevant partners, including the European Union. Opportunities for establishing cost-sharing agreements with and expanding financial contributions from Governments of the region, the private sector and regional and international funds are being explored.

F. Regional programme for West Africa

1. Development and launch

66. In December 2008, West African Heads of State and Government endorsed the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Regional Action Plan to Address the Growing Problem of Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa for the period 2008-2011 and the Political Declaration on the Prevention of Drug Abuse, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime in West Africa.

67. In the Political Declaration, UNODC was urged to strengthen its assistance to the ECOWAS Commission and ECOWAS member States for the implementation of the Regional Action Plan, in which UNODC was called upon to support the development of national anti-drug and -crime strategies.

68. The regional programme, which is aimed at supporting the implementation of the Regional Action Plan at the national and regional levels, was launched at a high-level briefing session on West Africa held in New York on 16 December 2010, organized by UNODC jointly with ECOWAS and the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA), in partnership with the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), and in the presence of representatives of international and regional partners and member States.

2. Progress in implementation

69. The regional programme is composed of the following thematic subprogrammes: (a) organized crime, illicit trafficking and terrorism; (b) justice and integrity; (c) drug-abuse prevention and health; and (d) awareness and research.

70. National integrated programmes, developed in the framework of the regional programme, are under way in Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Nigeria, and others are under development or have been finalized, such as those for Burkina Faso, Ghana and Togo.

71. The implementation of national integrated programmes allows UNODC to expand its pool of expertise in the region, which has grown with the inception of targeted regional initiatives in the areas of forensic science and airport interdiction. As of December 2010, the UNODC Regional Office had expertise in the areas of law enforcement, trafficking, money-laundering, forensics, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, counter-terrorism and HIV/AIDS prevention. The pool of experts is expected to increase, notably within the framework of the European Union support for the implementation of the ECOWAS operational plan and other initiatives foreseen in the areas of criminal justice, prison reform and illicit trafficking.

72. A component of the regional programme is the West Africa Coast Initiative (WACI), which has contributed to security sector reforms and peacebuilding initiatives in post-conflict settings. In 2010, activities included the fielding of joint assessment missions to Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea-Bissau, the establishment of a UNODC presence in Sierra Leone and the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Governments of Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau to establish a transnational crime unit. WACI also promotes increased and closer cooperation with United Nations integrated missions in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone. UNODC capacity will be set up in Guinea after the establishment of a new Government to support security sector reform.

3. Partnership with other parts of the United Nations system

73. WACI is a comprehensive inter-agency pilot programme, jointly implemented by UNODC, the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, UNOWA and INTERPOL, supporting the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan and Political Declaration. UNODC is hosting two Department of Peacekeeping Operations staff in Dakar to assist in its implementation.

74. UNODC is involved in UNDAF development, review and implementation throughout West Africa, acting as group leader for the subprogramme on security in Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau.

75. The UNODC Regional Office for West and Central Africa is part of the UNDG regional directors team established in Dakar. That forum provides leadership, strategic guidance and support to resident coordinators and United Nations country teams, where UNODC advocates the inclusion of drug- and crime-related threats as cross-cutting issues in the development agenda.

4. Funding

76. During the period under review, important donor contributions were provided for different initiatives within the framework of the regional programme. The European Union remains the major donor to the West Africa region, which is also supported by a number of other national, regional and international contributors. Important funding has been secured from the United States, as well as from Brazil in the context of South-South cooperation, and from the Peacebuilding Commission to support initiatives in post-conflict settings in the region.

5. Strengthening international support for States in West Africa in their efforts to combat drug trafficking

77. The present section contains information pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/4.

78. The year 2010 was marked by several high-level events organized or supported by UNODC that strengthened international support for West African States to combat drug trafficking. On 15 February 2010, a ministerial conference of the Dakar Initiative was held to garner international support for the efforts of Cape Verde, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal against drug trafficking and organized crime. A follow-up meeting took place in October 2010 to design concrete proposals that emerged from the road map drawn up in February.

79. The Freetown Commitment, the outcome of a ministerial conference of the countries involved in WACI on 17 February 2010, demonstrated the political will to combat drug trafficking and transnational organized crime. The participation of bilateral and multilateral partners resulted in the announcement of pledges to WACI.

80. UNODC has completed a subregional project for the Mano River Union, which included in-depth joint assessment missions to Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone, and assistance to strengthen the operational capacity of the Mano River Union secretariat. Technical missions to Guinea were fielded for the disposal of large amounts of precursor chemicals discovered in 2009.

81. To address trafficking at air borders, UNODC has started the implementation of the project "Establishment of real-time operational communication between selected airports in West Africa". The project, a joint initiative of UNODC, INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization (WCO), supported by the European Commission, will establish joint airport interdiction task forces at eight airports¹ along drug trafficking routes in West Africa, as well as one in Brazil and one in Morocco. The task forces will be connected to the INTERPOL I-24/7 and WCO CENcomm communication systems.

82. In Mali, the national integrated programme was launched in February 2010 and a UNODC programme office was opened.

83. In the context of the national operational plan developed by UNODC in Guinea-Bissau, a special counter-narcotics unit was established within the Judiciary Police and two prisons were refurbished in accordance with international standards.

¹ In Dakar, Bamako, Lagos, Praia, Accra, Conakry (currently on hold), Abidjan and Lomé.

Also under the plan, Brazil started to support the establishment of a training centre for security forces in Bissau, in cooperation with UNODC, to provide law enforcement training at the national level and, in the long term, to turn the training centre into a regional training institution for Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa.

84. UNODC has continually drawn the attention of the international community to the threat of drug trafficking and organized crime in West Africa and its global impact, notably on the occasion of high-level meetings in New York, Brussels and other European capitals.

G. Regional Programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries

1. Development and launch

85. The Paris Pact Initiative exemplifies successful UNODC engagement in regional and international cooperation. Involving over 55 countries and organizations sharing an interest in countering the threat from opiates, it provides a framework for coordination and mutual cooperation to maximize the impact of field drug- and crime-control activities for reducing opiate consumption and for treating opiate dependence. It facilitated the emergence of the Rainbow Strategy in 2007, as a way of structuring UNODC efforts in the region through the setting of common targets. Achievements can be noted in the field of precursor control, border management and intelligence-led operations, among others, under the umbrella of the Triangular Initiative, the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC) and the Targeted Anti-trafficking Regional Communication, Expertise and Training (TARCET) Operation.

86. UNODC presented the initial outline of the regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries at the Group of Eight meeting in Trieste; a commitment to work together to address the challenges that affect Afghanistan and the region was expressed. The programme is aimed at enhancing regional cooperation in key areas and ensuring maximum coherence in the collective ongoing regional work of UNODC. The programme incorporates the recommendations of the Rainbow Strategy most relevant to the UNODC mandate and integrates them into a time-bound, pragmatic and comprehensive programme with a clear monitoring mechanism. At the policy level, the Paris Pact high-level meetings continue to serve as the overarching forum and mechanism for political discussion, consultation and priority-setting on issues concerning the programme.

87. Member States have invested significant resources in responding to the threat of opiates and organized crime originating in Central and West Asia. UNODC has supported those efforts through the contribution of expertise and facilitation of technical measures, and by acting as a neutral broker among regional and international partners.

88. In its resolution 53/5, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs emphasized the importance of the regional approach in tackling illicit production and trafficking of drugs originating in Afghanistan. It also reiterated the principle of common and shared responsibility of all countries, including countries of destination, in assisting Afghanistan and most affected transit States neighbouring Afghanistan. In its

resolution 52/2, the Commission requested the international community to provide technical and financial assistance to counter the flow of illicit drugs. The contribution and regional coordination role of UNODC have been recognized in Security Council resolutions, most recently in resolution 1917 (2010), as well as in reports of the Secretary-General on Afghanistan. The support provided by UNODC to the Triangular Initiative (Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan) and CARICC, the efforts to promote international cooperation in criminal matters among Afghanistan and surrounding region and operation TARCET have been commended.

89. The London Conference on Afghanistan (28 January 2010) reiterated the importance of regional cooperation for countering the narcotics trade and called for active participation and support from all stakeholders, including the international community, and more specifically UNODC. The International Conference on Afghanistan (Kabul, July 2010) paved the way for the Kabul process, which entails a growing responsibility for Afghanistan as a regional driver and consensus builder, a process that UNODC is well positioned to support.

2. Progress in implementation

90. UNODC began the implementation of the preparatory phase of the regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries in early 2010, aimed at developing a full-fledged regional programme that includes several technical-level meetings, workshops and training activities promoting capacity and regional cooperation in the area of judicial cooperation, law enforcement and drug demand reduction, as well as HIV/AIDS.

91. As part of the consultation process to develop a fully fledged regional programme document, a series of thematic and regional workshops, missions, discussions and briefings with Member States and donors were held to forge a common understanding and agreement on the needs and ways to address the problems related to drug production, trafficking and abuse at the regional level. Consultation meetings on a variety of issues were held, including on judicial cooperation (Astana, July 2010), law enforcement (Kabul, July 2010) and drug demand reduction (Tehran, October 2010). The first Triangular Initiative judiciary meeting was held in Tehran on 7 and 8 December 2010, paving the way for closer cooperation in criminal matters, including mutual legal assistance.

92. The UNODC regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries (2011-2014) covers Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. It will place emphasis on cross-border and regional activities and is composed of three subprogrammes: (a) border management, law enforcement cooperation in drug control and forensics; (b) international legal cooperation in criminal matters; (c) drug-abuse prevention and treatment and HIV/AIDS prevention; and (d) trends and impact measurement. The regional programme framework will furthermore provide a platform on which the shared responsibility between the countries of the region and the international community can be strategically planned and implemented.

93. The Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran country programmes have been launched, and the implementation of the country programme for Afghanistan is expected to begin in 2011.

3. Partnership with other parts of the United Nations system

94. UNODC interventions are aligned with United Nations system-wide support for national priorities, as articulated in UNDAF. UNODC is part of the United Nations country teams and works closely with a number of United Nations agencies present in the region, as well as with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). Through its linkages and close implementation activities with the country programmes, the regional programme is aimed at promoting United Nations system-wide coherence, inter alia, by adhering to the priorities identified in the countries. The regional programme will seek consistency and linkages with UNDAF exercises in the recipient countries

95. UNODC will continue to work closely with the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, UNAMA, UNDP, IOM, the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Regional organizations, such as the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Eurasian group on combating money-laundering and financing of terrorism, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the European Union, INTERPOL, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), in particular the NATO-Russia Council, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, will contribute to the implementation of the regional programme. The regional programme will seek to build upon successful training efforts by providing and expanding the number of trained officials and by covering other countries in the region. A number of bilateral partners are already playing a critical role in funding and implementing counter-narcotics interventions in Afghanistan and the neighbouring countries; a consultative process with those partners is ongoing so as to ensure coherence between efforts and secure support for the programme.

4. Funding

96. The total value of UNODC activities in the region amounts to approximately \$215 million.

H. Regional Programme for Southern Africa

97. The development of a regional programme for Southern Africa is expected to be completed in the first half of 2011. Guided by the priorities and needs of the countries concerned, the programme is aimed at promoting the rule of law and effectively responding to evolving security threats posed by crime, drugs and terrorism in the subregion.

98. The regional programme will focus on transnational and cross-border challenges and will be aligned with and complement the Southern African Development Community (SADC) strategic priorities as established in the

SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan and the Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation. UNODC hopes to conclude a memorandum of understanding with SADC in 2011.

99. Following preliminary consultation with stakeholders, the regional programme focuses on three priority areas: (a) countering trafficking, organized crime and terrorism; (b) criminal justice reform; and (c) drug-abuse prevention and health. These themes and principles are complemented by cross-cutting activities on research and advocacy.

100. UNODC is supporting ongoing activities in the region focusing on the support, protection and empowerment of victims of crime and violence, law enforcement responses to violence against women, improving criminal justice responses to smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, strengthening of law enforcement border-control capacities, and developing and implementing effective and sustainable responses to HIV/AIDS in prisons.

101. The programme will also consider the development of national integrated programmes, if requested by Member States. In partnership with UNDP and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNODC is currently supporting the development of a rule-of-law programme in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and will open a programme office in Kinshasa in January 2011.

III. Way forward, lessons learned and ensuring sustainability

102. The first generation of regional programmes devised and implemented by UNODC has represented a transitional period for the Office. The programmes have centred on the key concept of achieving and maintaining flexibility and efficiency in the field, avoiding project proliferation, maintaining consistency and coherence, and maximizing integration across mandates.

103. On the basis of reporting from the field, lessons have been learned as the Office seeks effective implementation solutions. That feedback is helping to shape the future of the integrated programme approach. Certain common traits in that reporting merit further attention.

Challenges

1. Integration of a large number of projects and countries into the new framework

104. The adoption of the integrated programme approach has generated challenges related to the integration of existing projects into coherent regional programmes. An example is the East Asia and the Pacific region, where the specific requirements of a large number of highly diverse countries and territories necessarily have to be taken into account, while at the same time maintaining flexibility and responsiveness to specific regional and national circumstances.

105. The development of targeted national integrated programmes, tailored to support individual country policies, needs and priorities, will help to address some

of these challenges, since those programmes will be aligned with the overall strategic framework set out in the relevant regional programme.

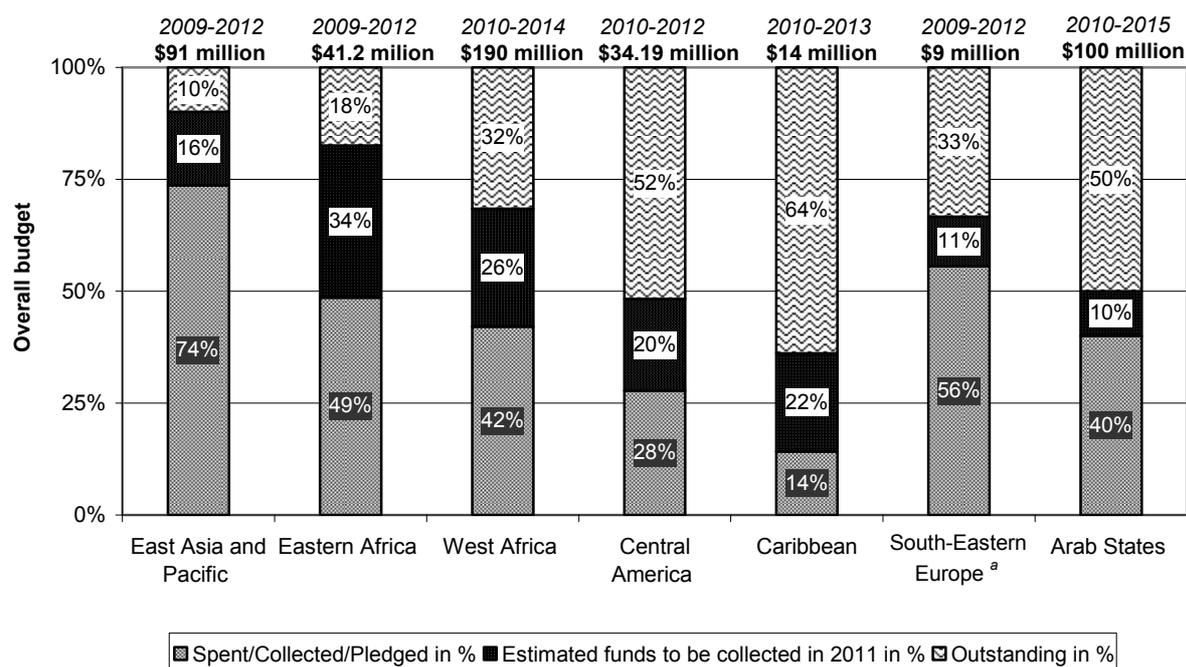
2. Funding mechanisms and donor reporting

106. Integrated programmes have been designed to enable reporting to partner countries and donors alike in a comprehensive and consolidated fashion through, inter alia, regular narrative and financial reports. However, there is no agreement yet on the notion of harmonized programme reports to be shared with programme donors. Rather, progress reports continue to be donor-specific, creating a heavy burden on regional offices for tailored fund-raising and reporting.

107. The burdens of multiple reporting and fund-raising efforts could be alleviated if donor contributions were allocated to a regional programme as a whole, rather than to specific activities, and if donor reporting would focus more on overall programme impact than on the progress of individual outputs and activities.

108. A summary of the funding status of ongoing regional programmes is presented in figure II, reflecting the significant progress made despite the global economic climate. Fund-raising continues throughout the life cycle of a programme.

Figure II
Funding status of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime regional programmes (December 2010)



^a The regional programme for South-Eastern Europe was reviewed and downsized in 2010.

3. Administrative and financial system support

109. The current administrative support infrastructure of UNODC is not yet fully adapted to meet the requirements of the broad implementation tracks dictated by the regional approach, as the existing administrative framework was designed to support projects rather than multidimensional programmes.

110. An internal task team supports regional and country offices as they transition through this interim period, and dedicated support will continue to be provided. Concurrently, upgrades to the programme management and administration system are in progress, to better facilitate the planning, monitoring and reporting of the integrated programmes.
