

“Universal Periodic Review”

Report mandated by the General Assembly Resolution 60/251

Inputs from the United Nations office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Barbados

- 19-22 March 2007 - Barbados participated in Ministerial Conference for Caribbean countries on International Cooperation in the fight against Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime, held in Dominican Republic, organized by UNODC.

Regional Initiatives

Regional Smuggling of migrants initiatives

UNODC has launched two regional programmes for ECOWAS member states and Mauritania. The two projects aim at containing irregular migration and stamp out smuggling of migrants. Beneficiary countries will receive both the legislative assistance required for criminalizing smuggling of migrants, and the technical assistance empowering law enforcement and national border control agencies with operational capabilities for prosecuting smugglers.

Regional plans - Sahel Band

UNODC have convened an *Informal Ministerial Session* during the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna in April 2008 with a number of West African Ministers to discuss the security situation in the sub-region, with special focus on the *Sahel band*. Technical assessment missions are planned in the region in the second half of 2008. A preliminary study on the transnational trafficking and the rule of law in the sub-region is under preparation. A high-level ministerial meeting with ECOWAS is being planned to take place in October in **Cape Verde**. The meeting will discuss the critical situation in relation to the illicit trafficking and related crimes, response and way forward. The donor community is being informed about UNODC plans and expressed interest in follow-up. The African Development Bank has been offered partnership in this initiative, and the Peace Building Commission has also offered support to ODC plans in the region.

Regional reports that in some way cover certain countries under review

A study was prepared and released in June 2008 entitled “Crime and its impact on the Balkans and affected countries.” The report can be found on the following link:
http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Balkan_study.pdf.

A joint report by the United Nations office on Drugs and Crime and the Latin America and the Caribbean Region of the World Bank was released in March 2007. This report, “Crime, Violence, and Development: Trends, Costs and Policy Options in the Caribbean,” is available on the following link: http://www.unodc.org/pdf/research/Cr_and_Vio_Car_E.pdf

“Crime and Development in Africa,” a report published in June 2005 focusing on how crime is undermining development. Such can be found under:

http://www.unodc.org/pdf/African_report.pdf

“Transnational Organized Crime in the West African Region,” focusing on specific modes of operation of West African criminal groups, highlighting in particular their very loose and networked structures. Such is available on: http://www.unodc.org/pdf/transnational_crime_west-africa-05.pdf

“Organized Crime and Irregular Migration from Africa to Europe,” is a rapid assessment to analyze the extent of which irregular migration from Africa to Europe is mediated by organized crime, available on: http://www.unodc.org/pdf/research/Migration_Africa.pdf

July 7th, 2008