

“Universal Periodic Review”

Report mandated by the General Assembly Resolution 60/251

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

Colombia

- 26-29 May 2008 - Colombia participated in the Second Ministerial Conference for the Central American countries on the implementation of the universal instruments against terrorism and on international cooperation against terrorism, held in Panama City, Panama.
- 16-19 October 2007 - Colombia participated in the Sub-regional Workshop for Specialized Training on International Cooperation in Cases of Terrorism and Criminal Matters, Organized in cooperation with Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)/Organization of American States (OAS), held in Lima, Peru.
- 22-25 May 2007 - Colombia participated in Regional Judicial Training Seminar on “The Balance between the power of the Government branches and the respect of human rights and democratic guarantees in relations to the effective fight against terrorist acts”, organized by the Government of Spain, the Terrorism Prevention Branch of UNODC and the CICTE of the OAS, held in Cartagena, Colombia.
- 8-12 May 2006 - Colombia participated in the Regional training on counter-terrorism for judicial personnel, organized in cooperation with CICTE and the Government of Spain held in Cartagena, Colombia.
- 4-7 April, 2006 - Colombia participated in the Ministerial Conference for Central American States on International Cooperation Against Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime, jointly organized with CICTE/OAS and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) held in Panama City, Panama.
- 21-24 March 2006 - Attended the CICTE/OAS Sixth Session on Counter Terrorism and undertook consultations with 34 focal points on counter-terrorism of CICTE to plan forthcoming activities. Held a presentation on the joint activities carried out by UNODC/TPB and CICTE.
- 29 November-2 December 2005 - Colombia attended the Regional Training workshop for judicial personnel of Latin American States on “the Prevention and Fight Against Terrorism and Terrorism Financing” in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 8-10 August 2005 - TPB conducted a technical assistance mission to discuss with national authorities on the elaboration of a draft legislation on terrorism financing and provided compared legislation.

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

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