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Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Activities of the institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

II. Activities of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

1. The report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute is submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in accordance with the statute of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/56 of 24 May 1989. According to article IV, paragraph 3 (e) of the statute, the Board of Trustees of the Institute shall report periodically to the Economic and Social Council through the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control (now superseded by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice).

2. The Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute favourably evaluated the completed and ongoing activities of the Institute in 2004 and approved the work programme and budget proposal of the

* E/CN.15/2005/1.



Institute for 2005. It welcomed the projections made both on a base and high scenario and was satisfied with the explanation provided by the Director whereby the “high scenario” was based on initial commitments in addition to funds received and funds pledged. It approved an appropriation up to the amount of US\$ 10,209,480.00 for the budget for 2005, funded under the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, sub-account UNICRI, as follows:

	<i>United States dollars</i>
Analyses and operations	6 639 880
Management and administration	874 300
Staff costs	2 471 300
2002-2003 transferred obligations	171 500
Programme support costs to UNOV	52 500
Total appropriation	10 209 480

3. The Board authorized the Director of the Institute to redeploy resources between appropriation lines in the budget up to a maximum of 5 per cent of the appropriation to which the resources were redeployed and noted that implementation of the budget and additional programmes was subject to the availability of funding.

Activities of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute in 2004

4. The year 2004 was one of transition for the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute in terms of management, administrative organization and programme.

5. A new director and deputy director took up their posts in August. Prior to those appointments, an officer designated by the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna after the separation from service of the former Director of the Institute had been in charge of the Institute from January to July 2004.

6. An external audit conducted in February 2004 had concluded with a letter from the management, sent in March, and the final report was received in May from the Internal Audit Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, after an audit carried out in 2003 had resulted in a series of management activities designed to comply with recommendations contained in the report on that audit.

7. In 2003, after the merging of the nine European United Nations Information Centres into the Regional United Nations Information Centre in Brussels, the competent offices of the Secretariat and the Institute agreed to a request from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy that the Institute provide support to the desk officer for Italy at the Regional United Nations Information Centre and complement the public outreach work of the Centre in Italy. On the basis of an exchange of notes with the Ministry, the Institute moved its Rome office into the former United Nations Information Centre premises, which are now also used to perform the new tasks. The costs of relocation and the new functions are fully covered by additional voluntary contributions from the Ministry.

8. With regard to operational activities, the Institute carried out the work programme approved by the Board of Trustees and prepared project proposals, taking into account requests from recipient countries and donors.

9. Attention was paid to the need for coordination with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Vienna and specific work was carried out or planned in cooperation with the Office.
10. The main substantive areas of action by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute correspond to priorities selected by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. The thematic focus remained in 2004 on the same matters as in most recent years: justice reform, trafficking in human beings, and security.
11. With regard to the balance between research, training, field operations and the collection and dissemination of information (the four “modalities” of action mandated by the statute of the Institute), initiatives were taken to intensify research and documentation activities. To that end, agreement was reached with UNODC to prepare a common publication on world trends in crime and criminal justice for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Bangkok; revitalization of the International Crime Victim Survey was agreed with UNODC; and reinforcement of the documentation centre is to be undertaken. Those are significant steps that are likely to produce good results in 2005. It should also be noted that the present programmes and projects concerning security issues consist of research and the collection and dissemination of information.
12. During 2004, training and technical assistance activities predominated, forming the largest component of the major projects on justice reform and prevention of trafficking in human beings.
13. The projects carried out in the African region in 2004 were given special emphasis in the programme of work of the Institute. That reflected not only the priorities of donors, but also the commitment of the Institute to focus its projects, in particular those relating to technical assistance, on regions and countries that, for various reasons, including the comparative poverty of intervention carried out by other potential assisting entities, are most in need of support in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.
14. The Institute is totally funded by voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, sub-account UNICRI.
15. In 2004, intense efforts were made to maintain and increase the funding support provided by traditional donors to the Institute, in particular Italy, the host country. Attempts were made to diversify the funding sources, to include new and important sources.
16. The active participation of representatives of the Institute in the annual sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as in other meetings of United Nations bodies and other entities has resulted in effective advocacy action. The new office of the Institute in Rome and its new tasks, mentioned above, may facilitate image-building of and fund-raising for the Institute.
17. The activities carried out during the year were grouped into three main thematic clusters: justice reform, trafficking in human beings, and security. A fourth cluster comprises activities related to other issues. That structure should not be construed as being normative; it reflects the present thematic preferences in the work programme and is consequently subject to change.

18. The cluster on justice reform draws on the Institute's long-standing experience in criminal and juvenile justice, which have been major fields of action since the establishment of the Institute in the 1960s. The cluster includes, at present, projects concerning juvenile justice and the protection of children's rights, as well as training projects for judges and prosecutors.

19. The largest operations were carried out in Africa. In spring 2004, the Institute closed its operations on the dissemination of criminal justice legislation and other legal documentation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Activities for the reconstruction of the juvenile justice system in Angola, initiated in 2001, continued throughout the year. A major result of the Angolan project was the close cooperation established between all the institutional partners, the non-governmental organizations and the local communities where the child prevention and rehabilitation centres were based. The success of the institution-building component was attested to by the work of the Luanda Juvenile Court, which processed 656 cases in its first year of existence. Following a request from the Ministry of Justice of Angola, the Institute designed and submitted to the donor country a follow-up project, which had a particular focus on gender issues and correctional aspects. A formal agreement was signed with the Governments of Italy and Mozambique for the implementation of a similar programme in Mozambique.

20. A number of projects for the training of prosecutors and judges in various regions were finalized and submitted to donors. Pledges were received for activities in Albania and in the Andean countries. The Institute considers training indispensable to promote a fair criminal justice system capable of effectively dealing with serious crimes (in particular, organized crime, including illicit trafficking and corruption) at every stage of criminal investigation and proceedings. Special attention is paid to the reinforcement of effective judicial assistance and police collaboration at the multilateral and bilateral levels.

21. The cluster on security includes two projects on security during major events and a project on the illegal trafficking in and use of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear substances. The thrust of action by the Institute in this field is to facilitate the exchange of information among national agencies in charge of security and promote the identification of best practices. These results are pursued through expert meetings and the development of specialized databases made available to a network of international experts. During 2004, two expert meetings on major events were organized, in Norway and Spain.

22. The Institute finalized a project, funded by the European Commission, aimed at the coordination of and cooperation among national and European research programmes on security activities during major events. The project involves national institutional partners (mainly ministries of the interior) from 10 European Union countries and the European Police Office, with the Institute being entrusted with coordination and secretariat functions. The opening meeting was held at the headquarters of the Institute in December 2004.

23. Similar activities, consisting of a preparatory meeting, held in Romania, and the establishment of a database, were carried out for a project on the illicit trafficking in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear substances in the Eurasian area, with a view to its full implementation in 2005.

24. The cluster on trafficking in human beings is a response to numerous requests from beneficiary and donor countries, which appear to be particularly sensitive to this most dramatic phenomenon. The cluster included six projects with special focus on trafficking for sexual exploitation.

25. Four projects in that area were completed in 2004. The research on trafficking in women in the Czech Republic and Poland was carried out within the framework of the Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings, which was designed by UNODC in collaboration with the Institute and launched in March 1999. A second, similar study was carried out on the trafficking of women between Romania and Germany.

26. The third project was aimed at countering the increase in trafficking in human beings, which usually takes place in areas of peace-support operations and results from inadequate training of police and justice personnel, who often lack the necessary knowledge and skills. The pilot project resulted in the production of a specialized module and a detailed handbook, which were assessed during a pilot training course for international personnel from peace-support operations in south-eastern Europe.

27. The fourth project, on the trafficking of Nigerian women and girls, was completed in April 2004. The project adopted an integrated approach to the problem and promoted cooperation between Italian and Nigerian law enforcement and criminal justice agencies. The activities of the project were aimed both at strengthening the response of public agencies and providing prevention and victim support through the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the two countries. Its main results were a memorandum of understanding for the exchange of judicial information on organized criminal groups involved in trafficking in persons, signed by the Italian national anti-mafia prosecutor and the Nigerian Attorney-General; the establishment of a national monitoring centre on human trafficking in Abuja; and awareness campaigns and assistance to over 1,000 victims of trafficking in Italy and Nigeria. A follow-up is presently being negotiated with the donor country (see the work programme for 2005).

28. Finally, the Institute, in collaboration with End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism (ECPAT) International, started a programme to enhance international cooperation and information-sharing for the prevention of trafficking in children for sexual exploitation, through the collection and analysis of data at the local and international levels and the implementation of modular technical cooperation activities in the three pilot countries (Costa Rica, Thailand and Ukraine). The 2004 activities focused on secondary data collection and analysis and field activities starting in January 2005 (see the work programme for 2005).

29. The last cluster combines miscellaneous activities. In most cases, the Institute attempts to keep alive or revamp its action on priority issues through projects of limited dimensions, despite a lack of significant funding. Some projects have been carried out over a number of years, for example, the management of a clearing house on illicit drug abuse established in 1991. Others, such as a website on probation, draw on expertise gained from past activities in the relevant areas, as do the previous work of the Institute in the area of corruption and the collaboration with UNODC in the organization of expert meetings for the elaboration of a legislative guide on the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

30. Finally, the second year of the master's course in criminology and international criminal policy saw an increase in the number of students and confirmed the interest of young graduates in the international aspects of criminal justice.

Work programme for 2005

31. The operational priorities contained in the document submitted by the Director of the Institute to the Board of Trustees (BT/2004/2) offer an outline for the activities of the Institute in the medium term. The present work programme, for 2005, represents an effort towards making a transition to a more effective and balanced set of actions.

32. The activities planned for 2005 reflect the priorities set by United Nations policy-making bodies and specific requests put forward by donors and beneficiary countries.

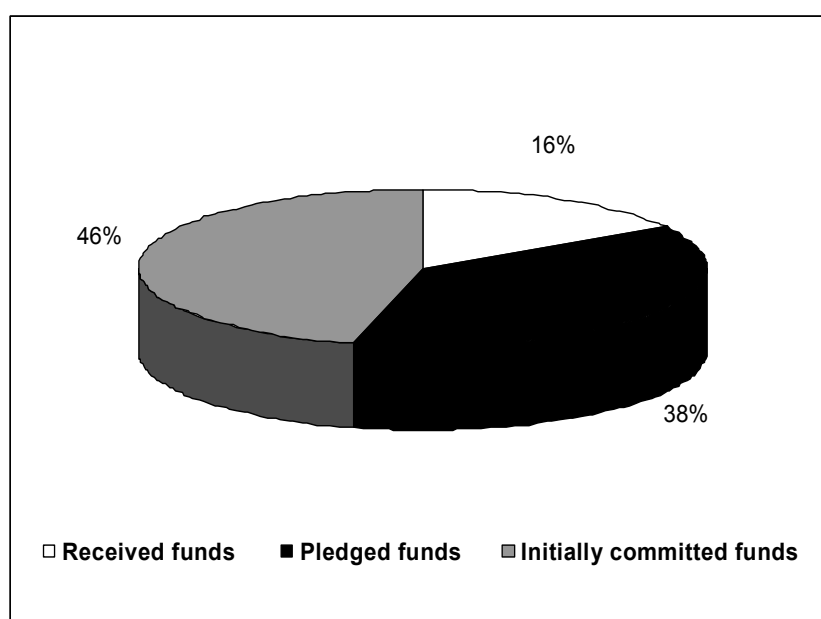
33. Continuity exists between the 2004 and 2005 programmes. First, various 2004 projects are to be completed in the following years and other activities are continuous in nature (for example, the documentation centre). In addition, some of the new projects complement previous activities (second-phase projects in Angola and Nigeria, the preparation of a fourth year of the master's course, and so forth). Some types of intervention used in past projects are replicated in other countries (for example, the rebuilding of the juvenile justice system in Angola, to be replicated in Mozambique), while in other programmes of technical assistance to national justice systems the training of prosecutors and judges (in Albania, Ethiopia and the Andean countries) remains the almost exclusive *modus operandi*.

34. All this should not be construed as an intentional, programmatic choice for specialization, nor as a strict adherence to a "niche" policy. It is the result of specific requests made by donors and recipients and corresponds to the interest of the Institute in building upon its positive work experiences.

35. The Institute is ready to develop ideas for projects on a broad range of crime and criminal justice issues and to adopt a variety of operative methods for its field activities. To that end, a more active approach has been adopted with regard to the identification, designation and employment of consultants and senior fellows who can supplement the capacity of the Institute by preparing and executing programmes in new substantive areas requiring specialist knowledge and expertise. The draft decision proposed for the adoption of criteria and procedures for the designation of fellows contained in the document submitted by the Director of the Institute to the Board of Trustees (BT/2004/5) pertains to this line of action.

36. The work programme for 2005 is based on income projections that include received funds, formally pledged funds and commitments still to be formally finalized (initial commitments). The percentages for the three categories, for the biennium 2004-2005, are shown in figure I.

Figure I
Income projections, 2004-2005



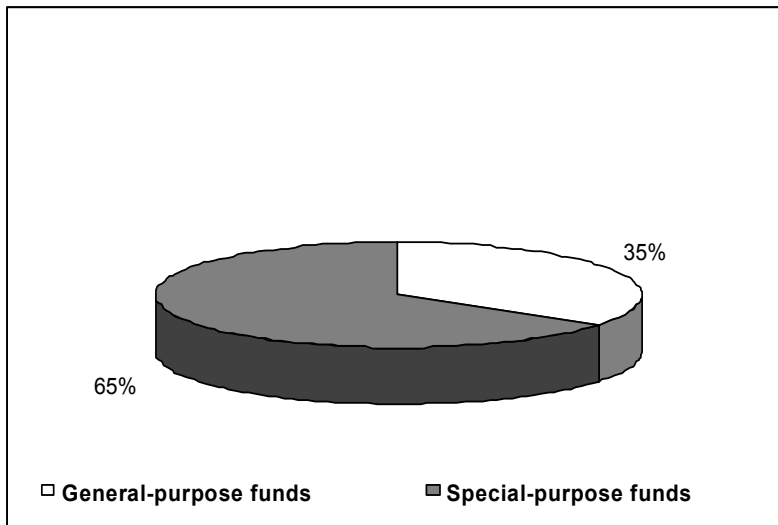
37. The amounts of the appropriations needed to carry out the work programme are indicated in the table below. Depending upon the receipt of relevant funds, two scenarios are foreseen. The column entitled “base scenario” relates to expenditures for activities funded by already received or pledged contributions; the column entitled “high scenario” also comprises expenditures for activities that will be made possible if and when initial commitments by the relevant donors are formalized.

**United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
budget requirements for 2005**

<i>Costs</i>	<i>Base scenario</i>	<i>High scenario</i>
	<i>United States dollars</i>	
Operating: analysis and operations	3 025 241	6 639 880
Operating: management and administration	632 100	874 300
Staff	2 157 300	2 471 300
Total	5 814 641	9 985 480

38. The funding of the Institute remains characterized by a substantial prevalence of special-purpose funds as opposed to general-purpose funds. Figure II shows the percentage of the two classes in the base scenario. In the most favourable projections (high scenario) there may be a further increase in special-purpose funds.

Figure II
Income projections by type of funding: base scenario 2004-2005



39. The first phase of the Angolan juvenile justice project activities included in the cluster on justice reform is expected to be completed in June 2005. By then, the juvenile justice department should be fully operational and the Ministry of Justice of Angola should take over the running costs of the juvenile justice system in order to guarantee its sustainability beyond the duration of the programme. At the end of the first phase, a final evaluation will be conducted. Subject to the availability of funds, there will be no interruption and the second phase of the programme will complete the juvenile justice system in Luanda and prevent the detention of minors in adult facilities. The programme takes into account gender issues and provides adequate services for girls. Finally, a comprehensive communication component will be designed and implemented.

40. A second programme on juvenile justice will start in Mozambique. The two-year programme aims to promote the rights of minors in conflict with the law, enhance the capacities of relevant institutions and grass-roots organizations and strengthen juvenile justice in Maputo Province. The programme will include nationwide activities. In line with the Angolan experience, the programme will combine institution-building and social activities.

41. In 2005, the Institute will carry out training courses on the topic of serious crime for prosecutors and judges in Albania and in four Andean countries. The Albanian project was conceived as a pilot intervention for the preparation of modules of the regular syllabus of the school of magistrates in Tirana. The project targeted at Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru focuses on the prevention and prosecution of corruption, with emphasis on its links with trafficking in drugs and human beings. An additional objective of the project is the improvement of judicial cooperation in the subregion.

42. A project to reinforce the Ethiopian justice training system through the provision of a wide range of pedagogical options at the national judicial training centre is being negotiated with the donor country and may start in late 2005.

43. The projects included in the cluster on security will continue, subject to confirmation of initial financial commitments. The International Permanent Observatory on Security Measures during Major Events will organize two expert meetings (to be held in Beijing and at the headquarters of the Institute) and maintain its data collection and analysis activities.

44. In its role as secretariat of the project entitled "Coordinating national research programmes on security during major events in Europe", the Institute will develop a website, with access restricted to the project partners, that will enable the sharing of relevant documentation and data; and will organize two meetings of the network steering committee, as well as a larger meeting with all the project partners.

45. The activities on the prevention of illicit trafficking in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear substances include the organization of two expert meetings and the preparation of two technical reports on existing national strategies in the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern Europe.

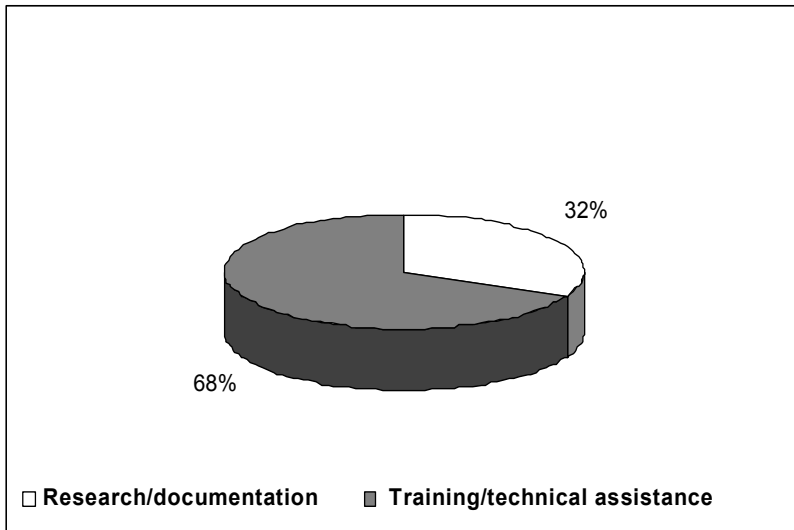
46. The cluster on trafficking in human beings consists of the continuation of the action programme against trafficking in children for sexual purposes. In 2005, in addition to the continuation of the research carried out at the headquarters of the Institute, field activities in Costa Rica, Thailand and Ukraine will be implemented, including training of police officers, prosecutors and judges; awareness and information campaigns; primary data collection on child trafficking and database design and development.

47. The follow-up to the programme on the trafficking in women and adolescents from Nigeria, presently under negotiation with the donor country, should start in 2005. The main activities will be the adaptation to Nigerian requirements of the specialized database developed by the Italian national anti-mafia prosecutor's office; and support in the fields of trafficking prevention and assistance to victims to the coalition of non-governmental organizations in Edo state.

48. In 2005, the Institute will carry out a series of activities that include the continued operation of the clearing house on illicit drug abuse, the management of the international probation website and the organization of the second expert meeting for the preparation of the legislative guide to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The third master's course on the international aspects of criminology and criminal justice will be held and the fourth course organized. Finally, it is hoped that the International Crime Victim Survey will be revamped and the Institute entrusted with its secretariat.

49. The analysis of the above-mentioned activities indicates that, in 2005, training and technical assistance operations will comprise almost 70 per cent of the entire activity. The data in figure III take into account any research or documentation components in training or technical assistance projects and vice versa.

Figure III
Operations by type of activity: base scenario



50. Figures IV and V show the preponderance of resources devoted to projects in Africa; that percentage may be even higher, should the high-scenario expectations be met. Projects on justice reform represent the major part of Institute operations; in the high scenario, the activities concerning trafficking in human beings may increase significantly, to over one third of the workload.

Figure IV
Operations by geographical areas: base scenario

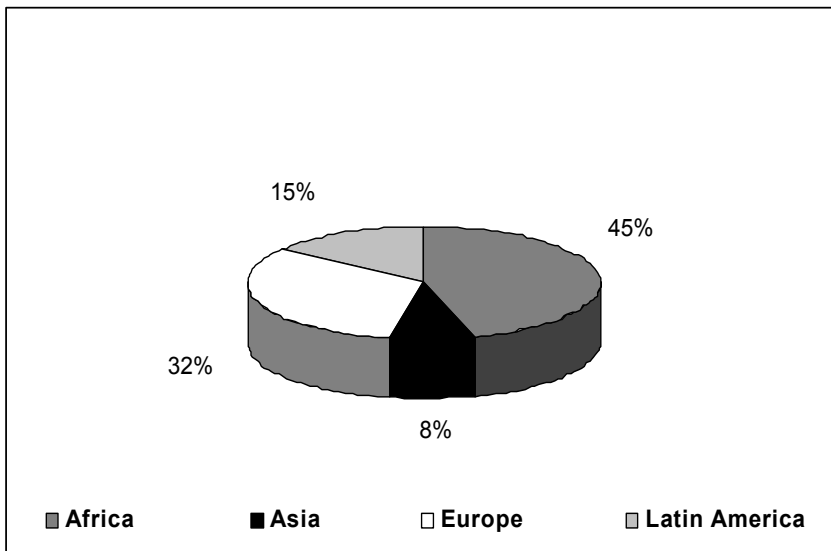


Figure V
Operations by cluster: base scenario

