



Commission on Narcotic Drugs**Sixty-fifth session**

Vienna, 14–18 March 2022

Item 8 of the provisional agenda*

**Recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of
the Commission****Action taken by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on
Narcotic Drugs****Report of the Secretariat****I. Introduction**

1. The subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs held extraordinary online sessions from 20 to 24 September 2021,¹ organized from the seat of the Commission in Vienna, as follows: the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, on 20 September; the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, on 21 September; the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, on 22 September; the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, on 23 September; and the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, on 24 September 2021.
2. In the light of the continuing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Commission had agreed in May 2021, by the silence procedure, that the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to be held in 2021 would be held in an online format, as extraordinary sessions, with one day scheduled for each subsidiary body.
3. Each of the subsidiary bodies discussed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in its region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission at the thematic discussions² to be held in October 2021.
4. In total, 660 participants from 99 countries and 40 observers from 11 organizations participated in the online extraordinary sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

* E/CN.7/2022/1.

¹ UNODC/CND/ES/2021/1.

² The Commission on Narcotic Drugs holds thematic discussions in the fourth quarter of the year on the challenges identified in the Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem, following up on the implementation of all international drug policy commitments (more information is available at www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Mandate_Functions/thematic-discussions.html).



II. Meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

A. Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

5. Three meetings of the extraordinary session of the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, were held on 20 September 2021. The extraordinary session was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations (Vienna), who provided opening remarks. A statement (pre-recorded video) was made at the opening of the meeting by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). A statement (pre-recorded video) was also made by the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

6. The Secretary of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs gave a presentation on the work of the Commission.

7. Representatives of Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine and the United States of America attended the meeting. The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, the European Union, the International Narcotics Control Board, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Southeast European Law Enforcement Center and the World Customs Organization (WCO) were also represented by an observer.

Impact of COVID-19 in the region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021

8. Following the opening of the meeting, a discussion was held on the topic of agenda item 1 (b), entitled “Impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021”.

9. For the consideration of the item and its sub-items, participants had before them a background paper prepared by the Secretariat on topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021 ([UNODC/CND/ES/2021/2](#)).

10. On a dedicated secure website, presentations were made available to the participants in the meeting.

1. COVID-19 and the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime

11. A discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 1 (b)(i), entitled “COVID-19 and the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime”. The discussion was moderated by the Chief of the Implementation Support Section and a programme officer for law enforcement, both of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. To introduce the topic, a presentation was made by a representative of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of Poland, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, Belgium and Sweden.

2. COVID-19 and proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking

12. A discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 1 (b)(ii), entitled “COVID-19 and proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from

drug trafficking”. The discussion was moderated by the Head of the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. To introduce the topic, a presentation was made by a representative of the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia/Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC). Statements were made by the representatives of Poland, Spain and Belgium and the observer for WCO.

3. COVID-19 and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities

13. A discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 1 (b)(iii), entitled “COVID-19 and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities”. The discussion was moderated by the Chief of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money-Laundering Section of UNODC. To introduce the topic, presentations were made by representatives of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money-Laundering Section and the Laboratory and Scientific Service of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Belgium and Sweden.

14. During the closing session, the Chair reiterated the offer of Malta to host the Fourteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, in 2022.

B. Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa

15. Three meetings of the extraordinary session of the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, were held on 21 September 2021. The extraordinary session was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations (Vienna), who provided opening remarks. A statement (pre-recorded video) was made at the opening of the meeting by the Executive Director of UNODC. A statement (pre-recorded video) was also made by the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

16. The Secretary of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs made a presentation on the work of the Commission.

17. Representatives of Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Chad, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan and Tunisia attended the meeting. Observers for Canada, France, Italy, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Spain, the United States and Yemen attended the meeting. The International Narcotics Control Board, INTERPOL and WCO were also represented by an observer.

Impact of COVID-19 in the region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021

18. Following the opening of the meeting, the Meeting considered agenda item 2 (b), entitled “Impact of COVID-19 in the region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021”.

19. For the consideration of the item and its sub-items, participants had before them a background paper prepared by the Secretariat on topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021 ([UNODC/CND/ES/2021/2](#)).

20. On a dedicated secure website, presentations were made available to the participants in the meeting.

1. COVID-19 and the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime

21. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 2 (b)(i), entitled “COVID-19 and the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime”. The discussion was moderated by the Chief of the Implementation Support Section and a programme officer for law enforcement, both of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. To introduce the topic, a presentation was made by a representative of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya, Morocco and Ghana.

2. COVID-19 and proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking

22. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 2 (b)(ii), entitled “COVID-19 and proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking”. The discussion was moderated by the Head of the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. To introduce the topic, a presentation was made by a representative of the UNODC Regional Office for Southern Africa and a representative of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money Laundering Section of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of South Africa, Chad, Egypt, the Sudan and Kenya and the observer for WCO.

3. COVID-19 and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities

23. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 2 (b)(iii), entitled “COVID-19 and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities”. The discussion was moderated by the Chief of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money-Laundering Section of UNODC. To introduce the topic, presentations were made by representatives of the UNODC Regional Office for West and Central Africa and the Laboratory and Scientific Service of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of Kenya, South Africa and Algeria.

C. Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East

24. Three meetings of the extraordinary session of the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East were held on 22 September 2021. The extraordinary session was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations (Vienna), who provided opening remarks. A statement (pre-recorded video) was made at the opening of the meeting by the Executive Director of UNODC. A statement (pre-recorded video) was also made by the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. A statement was also made by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board.

25. The Secretary of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs made a presentation on the work of the Commission.

26. Representatives of Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen attended the meeting. Observers for Armenia, Canada, France, Georgia, Germany, the Russian Federation and the United States attended the meeting. The Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior, CARICC, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the International Narcotics Control Board, INTERPOL, OSCE and WCO were also represented by an observer.

Impact of COVID-19 in the region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021

27. Following the opening of the meeting, the Subcommission considered agenda item 3 (b), entitled “Impact of COVID-19 in the region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021”.

28. For the consideration of the item and its sub-items, participants had before them a background paper prepared by the Secretariat on topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021 ([UNODC/CND/ES/2021/2](#)).

29. On a dedicated secure website, presentations were made available to the participants in the meeting.

1. COVID-19 and the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime

30. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 3 (b)(i), entitled “COVID-19 and the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime”. The discussion was moderated by the Chief of the Implementation Support Section and a programme officer for law enforcement, both of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. To introduce the topic, a presentation was made by representatives of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch of UNODC and the UNODC/WCO Container Control Programme. Statements were made by the representatives of Tajikistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

2. COVID-19 and proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking

31. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 3 (b)(ii), entitled “COVID-19 and proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking”. The discussion was moderated by the Head of the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. To introduce the topic, a presentation was made by a representative of the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia/CARICC and a representative of the Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa. Statements were made by the representatives of Saudi Arabia, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan and the observer for the Russian Federation.

3. COVID-19 and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities

32. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 3 (b)(iii), entitled “COVID-19 and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities”. The discussion was moderated by the Chief of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money-Laundering Section of UNODC. To introduce the topic, presentations were made by representatives of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money-Laundering Section and the Laboratory and Scientific Service of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Saudi Arabia and the observer for the Russian Federation.

33. During the closing session, the Chair reiterated the offer of Turkmenistan to host the 55th Meeting of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, in 2022.

D. Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

34. Three meetings of the extraordinary session of the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, were held on 23 September 2021. The extraordinary session was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations (Vienna), who provided opening remarks. A statement (pre-recorded video) was made at the opening of the meeting by the Executive Director of UNODC. A statement (pre-recorded video) was also made by the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

35. The Secretary of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs made a presentation on the work of the Commission.

36. Representatives of Afghanistan, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, China, France, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste and the United States attended the meeting. Observers for Canada, Germany, Qatar and Spain also attended the meeting. The International Narcotics Control Board, INTERPOL and WCO were also represented by an observer.

Impact of COVID-19 in the region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021

37. Following the opening of the meeting, the Meeting considered agenda item 4 (b), entitled “Impact of COVID-19 in the region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021”.

38. For the consideration of the item and its sub-items, participants had before them a background paper prepared by the Secretariat on topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021 ([UNODC/CND/ES/2021/2](#)).

39. On a dedicated secure website, presentations were made available to the participants in the meeting.

1. COVID-19 and the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime

40. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 4 (b)(i), entitled “COVID-19 and the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime”. The discussion was moderated by the Chief of the Implementation Support Section and a programme officer for law enforcement, both of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. To introduce the topic, a presentation was made by a representative of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, China and Australia.

2. COVID-19 and proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking

41. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 4 (b)(ii), entitled “COVID-19 and proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking”. The discussion was moderated by the Head of the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. To introduce the topic, presentations were made by representatives of the UNODC country office for Viet Nam and of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money-Laundering

Section of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and the Russian Federation.

3. COVID-19 and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities

42. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 4 (b)(iii), entitled “COVID-19 and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities”. The discussion was moderated by the Chief of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money-Laundering Section of UNODC. To introduce the topic, presentations were made by representatives of the UNODC Regional Office for South-East Asia and the Pacific and the Laboratory and Scientific Service of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand, Indonesia, Japan, China and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

E. Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

43. Three meetings of the extraordinary session of the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, were held on 24 September 2021. The extraordinary session was chaired by the Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations (Vienna), who provided opening remarks.

44. Representatives of Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, the United States, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) attended the meeting. Observers for the Russian Federation also attended the meeting. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the International Narcotic Control Board, INTERPOL, the Organization of American States, OSCE and WCO were also represented by an observer.

Impact of COVID-19 in the region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021

45. Following the opening of the meeting, the Meeting considered agenda item 5 (b), entitled “Impact of COVID-19 in the region with regard to the topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021”.

46. For the consideration of the item and its sub-items, participants had before them a background paper prepared by the Secretariat on topics to be discussed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the thematic discussions to be held in October 2021 ([UNODC/CND/ES/2021/2](#)).

47. On a dedicated secure website, presentations were made available to the participants in the meeting.

1. COVID-19 and the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime

48. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 5 (b)(i), entitled “COVID-19 and the increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime”. The discussion was moderated by the Chief of the Implementation Support Section and a programme officer for law enforcement, both of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. To introduce the topic, a presentation was made by a representative of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of

Paraguay, Colombia, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the observer for WCO.

2. COVID-19 and proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking

49. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 5 (b)(ii), entitled “COVID-19 and proceeds of crime related to money-laundering arising from drug trafficking”. The discussion was moderated by the Head of the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. To introduce the topic, a presentation was made by a representative of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money-Laundering Section of UNODC. Statements were made by the representatives of Mexico and Peru.

3. COVID-19 and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities

50. An interactive discussion was held among experts from the region under agenda item 5 (b)(iii), entitled “COVID-19 and the criminal misuse of information technologies for illicit drug-related activities”. The discussion was moderated by the Chief of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money-Laundering Section of UNODC. To introduce the topic, presentations were made by representatives of the UNODC offices in El Salvador, Guatemala and Peru. Statements were made by the representatives of Peru, Mexico, Paraguay and Trinidad and Tobago.

51. During the closing session, the offer of Guatemala to host the Thirtieth Meeting of the Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, in 2022 was announced.
