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Twelfth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe Vienna, 27-30 June 2017

Draft report

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Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

1. At its 1st meeting, held on 27 June 2017, the Meeting also considered item 4 of the agenda, entitled "Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe". The Meeting had before it a document prepared by the Secretariat (UNODC/HONEURO/12/4) on the basis of information provided by Governments in response to a questionnaire sent to all States participating in the Meeting of HONLEA, Europe. The document reflected the replies received as at 28 April 2017 from the Governments of Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Tajikistan and Turkey. After that date, responses to the questionnaire had been received from Belgium, Canada, France, Malta, Portugal and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which the Secretariat, due to the late submission, had not been able to reflect in the report.

2. The meeting was informed on the implementation of recommendations by the Secretariat.

3. With regard to the implementation of the recommendations concerning the Airport Communication Project, the Meeting was informed about the level of involvement of several delegations in the project or the support provided to it. Many countries reported on close cooperation and information exchange between the law enforcement agencies present at their airports and some indicated that they had established joint airport interdiction task force units under the AIRCOP initiative. Most countries reported having taken action on operational cooperation in the sharing of information between authorities such as advanced passenger information and passenger name records. In some countries these initiatives were related to the implementation of an EU directive in this area.

^{*} Available only in English, French, Russian and Spanish, which are the working languages of the subsidiary body.





4. On the implementation of the recommendations concerning the Container Control Programme (CCP), the meeting was informed of various measures taken to implement the programme and to increase cooperation with drug source countries and transit States. Some Governments already joined the CCP, and used the ContainerCOMM system, while others were still considering this option. Most countries indicated they were cooperating with others in investigating drug seizures made in containerized freight destined for Europe. Some States reported on relevant training provided at the international level, including in the framework of the CCP.

5. Reporting on the implementation of the recommendations concerning the handling of synthetic drug production and responding to changing trends in drug use, new psychoactive substances and precursors, most governments had implemented control measures regarding the status of new psychoactive substances. A number of countries reported adding NPS to their lists of controlled substances, some of which were defined as belonging to the generic definitions of specific groups of substances, others scheduled them individually. Many countries reported undertaking research regarding the harmful effects of new psychoactive substances on human health. A number of countries had established a national early warning system in cooperation with the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). With respect to the sale of NPS over the Internet, many countries reported on increased cooperation with the international postal and courier services to develop strategies to intercept such substances.

6. Regarding the recommendations on measures to counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows, most countries reported on sharing information with their national financial intelligence units at the early stages of investigations. Some countries reported having developed guidelines for financial money-laundering investigations, others have conducted joint investigations between law enforcement agencies and the national financial intelligence unit to ensure information sharing at the earliest stage possible. Inter-agency joint investigation teams to investigate the laundering of proceeds of drug trafficking were established in a number of countries as recommended.