

27 November 2017

English only\*

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**Forty-first Meeting of Heads of National  
Drug Law Enforcement Agencies,  
Asia and the Pacific**

Bangkok, 27–30 November 2017

Agenda item 10

**Adoption of the report****Draft report***Rapporteur:* Lee Pin How (Singapore)**Addendum****Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures**

1. At its 1st meeting, on 27 November 2017, the Meeting considered item 3 of its agenda, entitled “Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures”. For its consideration of the item, the Meeting had before it a report of the Secretariat on statistical analysis of drug trafficking trends in East, South-East and South Asia, in Oceania and worldwide ([UNODC/HONLAP/41/2](#)) and a report of the Secretariat on regional and subregional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific ([UNODC/HONLAP/41/3](#)). In addition, country reports were submitted by Brunei Darussalam, China (including Macao, China), Indonesia, Japan, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor Leste, Turkey, Viet Nam, ...] [...] ([UNODC/HONLAP/41/CRP.3-\[...\]](#)).
2. Representatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) introduced the item and made audiovisual presentations. The representatives of Japan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Bangladesh, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey and Australia made statements and/or gave audiovisual presentations.
3. The speakers reported on current trends in drug trafficking, cultivation and production, as well as drug abuse, in their countries and in the region, and informed the Meeting about the measures that their Governments had taken to counter and address those trends.
4. Reference was made by several speakers to the threats posed by inter alia opiates, cannabis, amphetamine-type stimulants, synthetic drugs such as 3,4-methylenedioxymetamphetamine (MDMA), cocaine, heroin, as well as new psychoactive substances. It was noted that their timely detection and suppression was essential.

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\* Available only in English, which is the working language of the subsidiary body.



5. The importance of international, regional and subregional cooperation in countering the drug-related challenges faced by the countries of the region was highlighted by several speakers. A number of speakers referred to the bilateral agreements that their Governments had signed with other countries in the area of countering the drug problem. In this regard, the importance of law enforcement cooperation, in particular in areas such as joint investigations, controlled deliveries and intelligence sharing, was emphasized by many speakers.
6. Reference was made by a number of speakers to the importance and utility of the three international drug control conventions, as well as to the SAARC Convention on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.
7. Reference was made by some speakers to the serious threat posed by drug production in and drug trafficking from Afghanistan. Reference was also made to the establishment, supported by UNODC, and activities of the Joint Planning Cell, which brought together the counter-narcotics forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan. Furthermore, reference was made to the activities undertaken in the framework of the Paris Pact Initiative and the Triangular Initiative.
8. A number of speakers stressed the threat posed by the availability of precursor chemicals and their diversion, and referred to the smuggling of precursors to the Golden Triangle. States were urged to cooperate in preventing precursor chemicals from entering drug production areas, to closely monitor the use of precursors, to prevent their diversion into illicit channels and to exchange real-time information on precursor seizures.
9. Reference was made by a number of speakers to innovative modus operandi used by drug traffickers, including by those from West African syndicates and Mexican cartels, and referred to concealment methods detected by authorities of their countries, as well as presented several case studies. Several speakers informed the Meeting about seizures and arrests, while some speakers mentioned the efforts undertaken by authorities to dismantle laboratories.
10. Several speakers expressed support for and highlighted the added value of the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies for Asia and the Pacific, in view of the existing similar patterns of drug threats in the region and the major threat that drugs posed to human security, social-economic development, as well as the health and welfare of people. Reference was made to the links between drug trafficking and other forms of crime, including, in some cases, terrorism.
11. The importance of and challenges encountered in monitoring, detecting and countering drug-related money laundering and seizing the proceeds of drugs was emphasized by a number of speakers.
12. Meeting participants were urged by one speaker to improve the information exchange on the legal convictions of citizens of other countries in their territories for the purpose of backtracking investigations.
13. Appreciation was expressed for the support provided by UNODC through inter alia the Container Control Programme and initiatives such as the Early Warning Advisory system. Appreciation was also expressed for initiatives of International Narcotics Control Board, including PEN Online, Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS), Project ION, and others. It was noted that UNODC's support was needed in setting up a practical mechanism for origin, transit and destination countries, with the view to countering drug trafficking. Reference was made to the need for meetings of heads of Coast Guards and anti-narcotics forces of countries from the coastal regions of the Indian Ocean.