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**Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and  
Related Matters in the Near and Middle East****Fifty-second session**

Beirut, 13-17 November 2017

Item 4 of the provisional agenda\*\*

**Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the  
Subcommission at its fiftieth session****Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the  
Subcommission at its fiftieth session****Note by the Secretariat**

1. The Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, at its fiftieth session, held in Abu Dhabi from 8 to 12 November 2015, adopted a set of recommendations following the consideration by working groups of the issues listed below.
2. In accordance with established practice, the report on the fiftieth session was forwarded to the Governments represented at the session. A questionnaire on the implementation of the recommendations adopted at the fiftieth session was dispatched on 7 July 2017 for responses by the extended deadline of 1 September 2017.
3. The present document was prepared on the basis of information provided to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) by Governments in response to the questionnaire. As at 6 September 2017, seven replies had been received, from the Governments of Egypt, Jordan, Pakistan, Qatar, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates.

**Issue 1: Counteracting new trends in the use of technology by drug traffickers****Recommendation 1**

**Governments should support close cooperation between their national law enforcement agencies, Internet service providers, postal services and courier companies to develop effective and integrated controls to meet the challenge of Internet-based pharmacies and similar websites selling illicit drugs and controlled pharmaceutical preparations.**

4. The Government of Egypt reported that the action under this recommendation is being done. In addition, a Directorate General has been created to combat cybercrime. Provisions on control of such crimes have also been included in criminal

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\* Available only in Arabic, English and Russian, which are the working languages of the subsidiary body.

\*\* [UNODC/SUBCOM/52/1](#).



legislation and are updated according to developments. It is to be noted that Internet-based pharmacy services are not available in Egypt.

5. Illegal rogue Internet pharmacies are not yet so challenging in Pakistan. However, the intelligence component/investigations of the Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) indicate that traffickers have the ability to sell illegal psychoactive drugs through the Internet. Youth do search for availability of party drugs and psychoactive drugs through online search engines, as anybody with a PayPal account or credit card or even with cash could buy drugs by email. On the issue of courier companies, ANF has developed close cooperation and cultivated sources with courier companies, which has resulted in the identification of various suspected drug consignments and seizures.

6. Qatar reported that its law enforcement agencies, Internet service providers, postal services and courier companies cooperate and coordinate in addressing the challenge of Internet-based pharmacies and suspicious websites selling illicit drugs and controlled pharmaceutical preparations by means of the following: monitoring websites and other new media involved in drug marketing, and working with the authorities to block them; coordinating and cooperating with the General Authority of Customs in order to make more rigorous the procedures for inspecting parcels arriving by post or by air, which is the method used for the delivery of drugs, particularly new psychoactive substances, purchased through unlicensed Internet-based pharmacies and suspicious websites; and holding regular coordination meetings in order to identify focal points and exchange information in a timely and comprehensive manner. The Anti-Cybercrime Centre also works to combat, detect, investigate and gather evidence of all forms of cybercrime countrywide. Applying the latest knowledge and using state-of-the-art equipment to combat such crime, it is regarded as the most advanced centre of its kind in the region.

7. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic reported that a cybercrime branch has been established, and the national law enforcement agencies coordinate with courier and postal services companies.

8. In Turkey, there are effective measures regarding Internet service providers, postal services and courier companies to develop effective and integrated controls to meet the challenge of Internet-based pharmacies and similar websites selling illicit drugs and controlled pharmaceutical preparations within the National Anti-Drug Strategy Document and Action Plan for the period 2016-2018 and the National Fight against Organized Crime Strategy Document and Action Plan for the period 2016-2018. In addition, there are well-established coordination structures for the fight against drugs in Turkey, consisting of three organizations: the High Council for the Fight against Drugs, the Board for the Fight against Drugs and the Technical Board for the Fight against Drugs, with the participation of all relevant Ministries. There is also a coordination board for the law enforcement authorities within the Ministry of Interior.

9. The Ministry of the Interior of the United Arab Emirates has worked in strategic partnership with the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority and the country's Internet service providers to combat the online marketing of drugs. The Mukafih telephone service has been set up (free telephone number: 80044) to raise awareness of the risks associated with drugs and to help victims and provide relevant information. A national strategic indicator has been adopted in connection with addressing the challenges posed by the online marketing of drugs.

## **Recommendation 2**

**Governments should encourage their law enforcement authorities to regularly coordinate and exchange information about current trends in detected cybercrime offences and the persons or groups identified as the originators of those offences and to share best practices and countermeasures to successfully investigate those offences.**

10. Egypt reported having several mechanisms for the sharing of information and coordination with authorities concerned with prosecuting such crimes. This has resulted in the prosecution of many cases.
11. Although no incident of drug trafficking through the Internet has emerged so far, the drug law enforcement authorities of Pakistan are gradually being sensitized about the phenomenon, and sufficient material pertaining to cybercrime is now being included in the syllabuses of different drug law enforcement courses being organized at the ANF Academy.
12. Qatar reported that through the Communication and International Relations Office of its Drug Control Department, information on drug control and drug-related offences, including cybercrime offences, is exchanged at the national, regional and international levels. Successful experiences and practices in effectively combating such offences are also utilized, to good effect.
13. The Anti-Drug National Committee of the Syrian Arab Republic has issued recommendations stressing the importance of coordination and reinforcing cooperation between all national law enforcement agencies.
14. In Turkey there is a coordination board consisting of all the law enforcement authorities to regularly coordinate and exchange information about current trends in the fight against drugs and other organized crimes within the Ministry of Interior in the context of the National Anti-Drug Strategy Document and Action Plan for the period 2016-2018 and the National Fight Against Organized Crime Strategy Document and Action Plan for the period 2016-2018. Also the Department of the Fight against Cybercrime and Counter-Narcotics works in coordination with other entities to counter drug crimes making use of the Internet.
15. In the United Arab Emirates, the Higher National Committee on Drug Trafficking was formed with the objective of, inter alia, combating the online marketing of drugs. Information about blocked websites is regularly and systematically exchanged. An initiative for developing technical research mechanisms and methods for combating the online marketing of drugs has been adopted.

### **Recommendation 3**

**Governments are encouraged to utilize the technical assistance programmes available through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to build the professional capacity of their authorities to successfully investigate, gather evidence and prosecute cybercrime and related offences.**

16. Egypt reported not having received any assistance or support in this area.
17. Currently, no cybercrime-related dedicated technical assistance programme has been offered by UNODC for drug law enforcement authorities of Pakistan. Nevertheless, possibilities will be explored in coordination with the UNODC country office in Pakistan in due course.
18. Qatar reported that its Drug Control Department is committed to ongoing cooperation and coordination with UNODC and to utilizing any programme that it offers. Indeed, it believes that such programmes play a substantial role in developing the skills and competencies of its own staff and of staff in the agencies that support its work, and in helping them to gain more experience and thus build their capacities in all areas pertaining to the fight against drugs and drug-related offences, including cybercrime offences.
19. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic reported that to date, UNODC has not implemented any technical assistance programme to build the capacity of its national authorities.

20. The United Arab Emirates reported using the following technical assistance programmes available through UNODC: Pre-Export Notification (PEN) Online, Project Ion Incident Communication System (IONICS) and goCASE.

## **Issue 2: Dynamics of and current trends in the region's illicit drug markets**

### **Recommendation 4**

#### **Member States are encouraged to adopt national strategies to prevent misuse and abuse of prescription drugs and psychotropic substances.**

21. Egypt reported having a national strategy aimed at preventing the abuse of medical drugs and psychotropic substances, through a tripartite committee comprising the Ministries of the Interior, Justice and Health, mandated to consider amendment of some legislative provisions related to drug control and following up all developments in the abuse of pharmaceuticals, by listing them or moving them from one table/schedule to another according to trends in the illicit trafficking market.

22. Jordan applies, through the Jordan Food and Drug Administration, a strategy of making prescription drugs and psychotropic substances available for legitimate use while preventing their misuse or abuse through a comprehensive regulatory system covering the import, export, control, distribution, dispensing, monitoring, registration, and inspection of medical prescriptions in the various pharmaceutical establishments and imposing the necessary penalties on violators.

23. The counter-narcotics efforts of Pakistan are being undertaken completely in consonance with national policy, legislation, international obligations and the domestic situation. All these factors, coupled with organizational experience, the assigned mandate, magnitude of threat, working environment, rationale and other guiding principles, are kept under consideration while striving for a unified national stance on all drug-related issues. Under sections 6 and 7 of the Control of Narcotic Substances Act of 1997, narcotic drugs, psychotropic and controlled substances can neither be imported nor possessed except for medical, scientific or industrial purposes. Moreover, prescription drugs fall under the ambit of the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan, working under the Ministry of National Health Services regulations and coordination. The National Anti-Narcotics Policy of 2010 (updated in 2011) seeks to enhance public participation in combating drug abuse, strengthen drug enforcement structures and boost treatment and rehabilitation services.

24. Qatar reported having updated its National Drug Control Strategy for the period 2017-2022, which is centred on three core areas: supply and demand reduction; treatment and rehabilitation; and aftercare and social reintegration. All attempts to misuse or abuse prescription drugs and psychotropic substances are addressed and prevented through the following: regular inspections and tighter controls by the health authorities; and close cooperation among the health, security and customs authorities in order to monitor any pattern of misuse. Given its essential function of curbing and combating all drug offences, the Drug Control Department also takes steps to prevent trading in misused substances and drugs as a precautionary measure until such time as a law is enacted to include them in the schedules. Laws for including such substances and drugs in the schedules are being enacted. A system is in place for monitoring psychotropic medications, consisting of an electronic drug-tracking programme for online monitoring of the prescribing and dispensing of narcotic and psychotropic medications. The Drug Control Department also coordinates its work with, and cooperates with, the Standing Committee on Drugs and Alcohol and the Communication Service Centre in running various campaigns to raise awareness of the harms and risks associated with the non-medical use of drugs.

25. The Syrian Arab Republic reported that the import of some dangerous psychotropic substances or chemical precursors, including pseudoephedrine, has been prohibited. Moreover, doctors have been instructed to limit prescribing drugs containing psychotropic substances, and control on pharmacies dispensing such drugs has been reinforced.

26. In Turkey, there are effective measures regarding the prevention misuse and abuse of prescription drugs and psychotropic substances within the National Anti-Drug Strategy Document and Action Plan for the period 2016-2018 and the National Fight Against Organized Crime Strategy Document and Action Plan for the period 2016-2018.

27. The new National Drug Control Strategy of the United Arab Emirates includes planned performance indicators for the Ministry of Health and protection of the public. An electronic programme is in use for controlling the dispensation of narcotic drugs and preventing the abuse of private medical prescriptions.

## **Recommendation 5**

**Member States are encouraged to review their current drug control frameworks so as to ensure they support a balanced response encompassing drug prevention, drug dependence treatment, care and rehabilitation, prevention of health and social consequences and ensuring access to controlled drugs for medical purposes, as well as supply reduction.**

28. Egypt's drug control strategy adopts a balanced approach between drug supply reduction and drug demand reduction. In addition, the Egyptian Government has maintained, since 1998, specialized rehabilitation and aftercare centers that provide several treatment and care programmes.

29. With regard to medicines available for medical purposes, the Jordan Food and Drug Administration acts as supervisor in this field by conducting awareness-raising lectures for all pharmacists, doctors and the various medical personnel so as to sensitize them to the laws, regulations and instructions that they should comply with and to limit the dispensing without prescription of controlled drugs, psychotropic substances and preparations, thereby reducing the supply of such drugs.

30. In Pakistan, ANF has remained engaged in carrying out drug demand reduction activities since its inception. Awareness-raising activities are carried out throughout the country on a regular basis. The purpose of these activities is to create awareness among the population about the hazards of drugs and to prevent them from being affected by this menace. These activities are undertaken by qualified and skilled, permanently employed staff, who maintain close interaction with target groups, non-governmental organizations and concerned departments for a collaboration effort. They also act as an outreach resource for ANF in drug demand reduction activities. The awareness-raising activities being undertaken include seminars, lectures, awareness walks, sports events, tableaus, essay competitions, sports events, free medical camps, advertisements in print and electronic material, and the distribution of informational materials. ANF has also launched the ANF Youth Ambassador Programme, which aims to engage youth in raising awareness about drug abuse, especially in educational institutions. Since its inception in June 2014, the number of youth ambassadors has risen to 5,000 active members throughout the country. The programme is basically aimed at getting youth on board for awareness-raising and drug abuse prevention, with the message "Say no to drugs". It aims at promoting public awareness, especially among street children, students, parents and teachers, highlighting emerging trends of drug abuse. It provides a platform for encouraging young talent to focus on the role of youth in serving humanity and society without any discrimination and exploitation. ANF undertakes media campaigns to disseminate awareness at the national level. It encompasses electronic, print and social media. Special media campaigns are also launched on specific occasions such as the Hajj Campaign, the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and national days. Awareness activities help create a bond between ANF and the general public, through non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, sports organizations and community gatherings, among others. These activities are based on the principle that if there is no demand, there will be no supply of drugs; thus, the drug demand reduction measures are aimed at convincing people to say "No to drugs" themselves. Currently, the following

significant initiatives have been undertaken by ANF to alert the general public about the hazards of drugs: (a) publication of an ANF public service message “Say no to drugs” on public sector advertisements published in newspapers; (b) inscribing an ANF public service message on gas consumer bills; (c) inscribing an ANF public service message on inland postal envelopes issued by the Pakistan Post Office Department. ANF is running three model addiction treatment and rehabilitation centres, located in Islamabad, Quetta and Karachi. The centres in Islamabad and Quetta (45 beds) are government-funded, while the centre in Karachi (55 beds) is being run on a self-help basis and with donor support. These treatment centres provide free-of-cost treatment, boarding and lodging facilities to drug addicts, and the treatment period lasts 45 days. These centres are model hospitals and undertake to follow the treatment protocol approved by the Government. Each hospital has professional staff for the centre’s specific purpose. The treatment protocol includes medical therapy, psychological therapy, personal and family interaction, rehabilitation skills and post-treatment communication. Additionally, it provides 10 days of treatment for relapse cases. In addition, a 48-bed female and child drug treatment ward was constructed at the model addiction treatment and rehabilitation centre in Karachi, while a 100-bed drug treatment hospital is under construction in Peshawar, and a 25-bed centre is being established in Sukkur District. Moreover, a number of private drug treatment centres are functioning across the country which fall under the jurisdiction of their respective provincial health departments.

31. Qatar is seen as a leader in the field of drug prevention, which it has made pivotal to its comprehensive strategies for achieving socioeconomic security and prosperity built on prevention policies and programmes aimed at protecting all social groups, in particular the youth and student communities. To that end, it organizes educational seminars and gatherings and also uses the various media, including social networking platforms, to impart a full scientific understanding of the risks of dependency and thus caution against falling victim to such dependency. Schools and universities, as social institutions, are also engaged with in order to protect young people from drugs through the implementation of programmes, projects and activities designed to educate and protect them and ensure that they stay away from drugs. Qatar has also established the Communication Service Centre, which uses numerous programmes and tools for raising awareness among all social groups. The Centre identifies the social causes of dependency and behavioural anomalies, which it addresses by way of a thoughtful and creative information message. It also offers a range of facilities for communication and dialogue with all sectors of society, in particular its youth. It also makes use of sport to prevent drug use and juvenile offending. Qatar has, in addition, established a number of treatment and rehabilitation centres, as it is eager to provide treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare for drug-dependent individuals, reintegrate them into society and prevent them from relapsing. Of those centres, the newest is the Nawfar Centre, which is the biggest facility in the Middle East for the treatment of drug-dependent individuals. It is an integrated medical and psychological facility offering comprehensive first-rate treatment, rehabilitation and prevention services, integrated social care, educational programmes and applied research. Qatar is working to enact legislation and take measures to prevent the misappropriation and misuse of controlled substances and analgesics, including the establishment of requirements concerning licensing, record-keeping, inspection and monitoring and medical prescriptions. At the same time, it takes care to ensure that controlled substances are available for medical and scientific purposes, in keeping with its belief in the right of patients to receive treatment that alleviates their pain and suffering. To that end, health professionals receive specialist training in palliative care and in the responsible prescription and safe use of semi-opioids; patients are taught about the misuse of controlled substances and about health problems associated with the non-medical use of drugs; and measures are taken to raise public awareness concerning responsible drug use.

32. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic reported that a treatment centre in Aleppo province, the Ibn Khaldun Addiction Treatment Centre, has resumed its work,

but, to date, no rehabilitation centre has been established. Nevertheless, the national authorities are organizing annual social and health awareness campaigns.

33. In Turkey, there are drug control frameworks to ensure a balanced response encompassing drug prevention, drug dependence treatment, care and rehabilitation, prevention of health and social consequences and ensuring access to controlled drugs for medical purposes, as well as supply reduction in the framework of the National Anti-Drug Strategy Document and Action Plan for the period 2016-2018 and the National Fight Against Organized Crime Strategy Document and Action Plan for the period 2016-2018, with a well-established coordination framework.

34. The National Drug Control Strategy of the United Arab Emirates includes the establishment of a higher national committee for drug use prevention and a higher national committee for treatment, rehabilitation and social integration. Performance indicators have been adopted, together with initiatives for investing in drug use prevention programmes, balancing the various aspects of drug control, expanding treatment and rehabilitation facilities and reducing relapse rates, without prejudice to the procedures for appropriate and necessary access to drugs that are used to treat medical symptoms.

### **Recommendation 6**

**Member States are encouraged to strengthen their national drug demand reduction strategies to be comprehensive, evidence-based and supported by monitoring and evaluation.**

35. Demand reduction is one of the most important pillars of the drug control strategy of Egypt. In this connection, in 2015 the Anti-Narcotics General Administration established, in its organizational structure, a specific directorate, the Directorate of Awareness-Raising and Liaison with Demand Reduction Agencies, which is mandated to liaise with all government bodies and civil society organizations in order to coordinate efforts to counter the drug problem.

36. Through the strategy of reduction of demand for controlled drugs for medical purposes, the Jordan Food and Drug Administration conducts awareness-raising lectures for all community groups in Jordan concerning the proper use of the drugs, psychotropic substances and sedatives that may be misused.

37. The key element of the National Anti-Narcotics Policy of Pakistan is to reduce drug demand by focusing on drug demand prevention and treatment of drug users. It contains the following policy objectives: enhance demand prevention efforts through education and community mobilization campaigns and projects (the establishment of drug-free homes and schools, drug-free prisons and drug-free cities; the development of curriculums against drugs; engaging labour unions; improving recreational facilities; community mobilization and awareness-raising campaigns; and the role of political parties in social movements); develop an effective and accessible drug treatment and rehabilitation system (improving hospital and drug treatment centre facilities, supporting non-governmental organization treatment facilities, extending drug treatment facilities in prisons, developing treatment centres for women and children and developing a uniform drug treatment protocol); and conduct a drug abuse survey to determine the prevalence of drug addiction.

38. The authorities of Qatar reported giving special attention to the prevention of drug-related harm through supply reduction, which is a key focus of the National Drug Control Strategy. The aim is to increase public awareness of the danger posed by drugs and to help all segments of society, in particular youth, to acquire a full scientific understanding of the risks of drug dependency. Statistics on seizures by the Department are analysed on a monthly, biannual and annual basis. The findings are then used to design thoughtful, evidence-based plans for raising awareness throughout the community and protect its members from falling victim to the drug scourge. To that end, it organizes educational seminars, exhibitions and meetings, publishes brochures, leaflets and posters and uses the media and social communication websites

to heighten public awareness of the risks and harm posed by drugs. The International Standards on Drug Use Prevention are also applied; awareness training for peers is undertaken; use is made of the role of the family and schools; strategic partnerships are formed with civil society organizations and media institutions; and sport is used to protect against the drug scourge. In addition, the Communication Service Centre has been established, with staff comprising experts in awareness-raising, family guidance and psychology, social workers and educators. The Centre monitors and studies negative social phenomena and behaviours, putting in place solutions and appropriate awareness-raising programmes in conjunction with the relevant authorities. It also offers a range of facilities for communication and dialogue with all sectors of society, particularly young people.

39. Turkey's National Anti-Drug Strategy Document and Action Plan for the period 2016-2018 are comprehensive, evidence-based documents, and these documents are monitored and evaluated very effectively with the Coordination Boards (the High Council for the Fight Against Drugs, the Board for the Fight against Drugs and the Technical Board for the Fight against Drugs, with the participation of all relevant Ministries).

40. The United Arab Emirates has espoused the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, adopted by the United Nations, in its national drug supply reduction strategies and has adopted performance indicators for reducing the rate of drug dependency among school students and the number of first-time drug users.

### **Issue 3: Measures to counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows**

#### **Recommendation 7**

**Governments should encourage their drug law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units to work together and promptly respond to requests for information and support with financial investigations from foreign competent authorities.**

41. The Government of Egypt has provided notification that it has appointed the Technical Office of the General Directorate for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Justice, as the competent authority to implement the provisions of article 7, on mutual legal assistance, of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. Furthermore, the Egyptian Criminal Procedure Code contains several provisions enabling international cooperation and letters rogatory with respect to drug crimes

42. Pakistan reported on a national risk assessment being conducted, as well as regular meetings among stakeholders, including ANF and the Financial Monitoring Unit (Pakistan's financial intelligence unit). A close collaboration between the two exists regarding generating reports on suspicious transactions and investigating them. Moreover, all the requests for information/assistance received from other States through proper channels are properly responded to as per national legislation and international obligations.

43. Qatar, represented by the Drug Control Department and the relevant authorities, makes a valuable contribution to regional and international efforts to prevent and combat drugs and drug-related offences, including money-laundering and the financing of terrorism. In so doing, it devotes significant attention to strengthening the mechanisms for international cooperation with counterpart agencies and interested centres, organizations and international entities, including judicial cooperation, investigation support and the exchange of relevant information. An entire section of the Qatari law on money-laundering and the financing of terrorism is devoted to international cooperation, including mutual legal assistance in investigations and legal procedures relating to money-laundering and the financing of terrorism.

44. The Syrian Arab Republic indicated that its national agencies have not received any urgent legal request for information and support from foreign governmental authorities.



45. In Turkey, drug law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units work together in investigations to find the links between drug crimes and other organized crime activities, as well as the financing of terrorism, with a national working group coordinated by the Financial Crimes Investigation Board (MASAK).

46. In the United Arab Emirates, the Higher National Committee on Drug Trafficking was established to combat drugs. It comprises all the country's law enforcement agencies, including the Anti-Money-Laundering Unit of the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates. A regulatory unit known as the Anti-Drug-Money-Laundering Section is the authority concerned with the matters covered in recommendation 7.

## **Recommendation 8**

**Governments should support the establishment of inter-agency joint investigation teams to investigate the laundering of the proceeds of drug trafficking.**

47. Egypt reported that Law No. 80 on combating money-laundering was issued in 2002 and later amended by Law No. 78 of 2003 and Law No. 36 of 2014. Following the issuing of that law, a unit was established to combat the crime of laundering assets derived from drug crimes. Drug control agencies enforce the provisions of the money-laundering law on persons who receive assets as a result of illicit drug trafficking. The unit coordinates with the money-laundering unit of the Ministry of Justice and with counterparts in various countries.

48. The Government of Pakistan has initiated all the necessary steps to encourage inter-agency cooperation against money-laundering of the proceeds of drugs. ANF as the coordinating agency of the inter-agency task force on illicit drugs, holds meetings regularly to promote inter-agency cooperation and expeditious information exchange. However, so far, no dedicated inter-agency joint investigation team has been established to investigate the laundering of the proceeds of drug trafficking.

49. Qatar reported that all its agencies involved in combating money-laundering and the financing of terrorism cooperate and coordinate to prevent and combat money-laundering and illicit financial flows arising from drug trafficking and related offences, including the financing of terrorism, corruption and all other organized criminal activities. Cooperation and coordination is ongoing among the following agencies: the Financial Information Unit; the National Committee on Money-laundering and the Financing of Terrorism; the National Counter-terrorism Committee (Ministry of the Interior); the Economic Crimes Section (Criminal Investigation Department of the Ministry of the Interior); and the Seizure and Confiscation Office, which falls directly under the authority of the Attorney General and is responsible for detecting and tracing assets that may be subject to seizure and confiscation.

50. The Syrian Arab Republic reported having a legislative decree for combating money-laundering, particularly the proceeds of drug crimes.

51. In Turkey, drug law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units work together for the investigations to find out the links between drug crimes and other forms of organized crime, as well as the financing of terrorism, with a national working group coordinated by MASAK.

52. In the United Arab Emirates, the law enforcement agencies coordinate in an integrated manner in tackling the laundering of proceeds from drug trafficking. The Government has issued implementing regulations for the Money-Laundering Act, which include amendments aimed at assisting the work of the teams responsible for investigating cases involving the laundering of assets, in particular the proceeds of drug trafficking.

### **Recommendation 9**

**Governments are encouraged to make use of the specialized technical support available through UNODC to strengthen their capacity to combat money-laundering and related offences.**

53. Egypt reported not having received any assistance or support in this area.

54. In Pakistan, UNODC is conducting capacity seminars/short courses for law enforcement agency officials, including ANF, but they are inadequate in relation to the technical nature of the crime of money-laundering. ANF has requested UNODC to sponsor the hiring of seven domestic financial experts to carry out complex assets/financial money-laundering investigations linked to trafficking in illicit drugs.

55. Qatar reported working to cooperate and coordinate with all United Nations entities, including UNODC. It also strives to make use of any technical support available through UNODC to strengthen its capacity for preventing and combating money-laundering, the financing of terrorism and all other organized criminal activities relating to drug trafficking and laundering of the proceeds of illicit trafficking.

56. The Syrian Arab Republic had not received any technical support in recent years, from 2011 to 2017.

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