

17 September 2019

Original: English*

**Twenty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National
Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa**

Balaclava, Mauritius
16–20 September 2019

Draft report*Rapporteur:* Michael Addo (Ghana)**Addendum****Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the
Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law
Enforcement Agencies, Africa**

1. At its third and fourth meeting, on 17 September 2019, the Meeting considered item 4 of its agenda, entitled “Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa”. The Meeting had before it a note prepared by the Secretariat ([UNODC/HONLAF/29/4](#)) on the basis of information provided by Governments in response to a questionnaire sent to all States participating in the Meeting of HONLEA, Africa.
2. A side event was held in the framework of the meeting on “Legal Finish for Illicit Narcotics Interdictions in the Indian Ocean and Eastern Africa”, organized by the UNODC Regional Office for Eastern Africa and the UNODC Maritime Crime Programme. The United Republic of Tanzania and Kenya shared their best practices.
3. As at 1 July 2019 replies had been submitted by the Governments of Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria and the United Republic of Tanzania. Questionnaires were received after the deadline by Egypt, Kenya, Madagascar, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia and Zambia. The observers of Spain and the United States of America also submitted replies.
4. The Secretary made an introductory statement. During the discussion, statements were made by Sudan, Zambia, Ghana, Angola, Senegal, Kenya, the Gambia, Cote d’Ivoire, South Africa and Mauritius. The observers for INTERPOL and WHO also made statements.
5. The Meeting discussed action taken by Governments to implement the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-seventh Meeting.

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



6. Many speakers reported that their Governments efforts to address the first issue, *Effective Measures to Counter Money-Laundering and Illicit Financial Flows*, included the establishment of financial intelligence agencies and asset recovery units. Cross-agency cooperation on the national level or inter-agency authorities were highlighted by many speakers. The benefits of a regular exchange between law enforcement and regulators was also underlined.
7. Some speakers reported on efforts undertaken to increase national investigation capacities, including the establishment of cybercrime and cryptocurrency units. It was mentioned that technical assistance was needed to adequately equip national authorities, in particular laboratories.
8. The second issue related to *Enhancing Coordination of the Regional Communication Platforms that Support Drug Law Enforcement across Africa*. Many speakers reported on the use and the benefits of the different coordination and communication mechanisms supported by UNODC, INCB, INTERPOL, WCO and ECOWAS. Several speakers highlighted national and international law provisions for mutual legal assistance.
9. Relating to the third issue on *Trafficking in New Psychoactive Substances, including Khat, Benzodiazepines and Tramadol, and Law Enforcement Responses*, many speakers highlighted that new psychoactive substances were a significant public health issue. It was mentioned that the lack of therapeutic facilities remained a problem.
10. Several speakers reported the enhancement of laboratory capabilities. The usefulness of the Pre-Export Notification system of INCB was also highlighted. Substances of concern mentioned were khat, methamphetamines and synthetic cannabinoids. Some speakers highlighted that some of these new substances were already or would soon be controlled by national legislation.
11. *Addressing the specific needs of women and girls in the context of the world drug problem*, the fourth issue, many speakers highlighted the inclusion of women in their law enforcement entities, some had achieved gender parity in hiring practices. Some countries mentioned specific rules to protect women in contact with the police, such as the mandatory presence of a female police officer at interrogations or a specialized police unit for women and children.
12. Some speakers also reported on gender-disaggregated data collection on drug use. Awareness-raising campaigns targeting women and tailored treatment were also mentioned. Some speakers underlined that being victim of human trafficking could be a mitigating factor in court.
13. Many speakers reported that due to the lack of financial resources, no alternative development programmes were currently ongoing and consequently, there was also no specific alternative development programme for women.
