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**Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related  
Matters in the Near and Middle East**

Forty-first session

Amman, 26-30 June 2006

**Report of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and  
Related Matters in the Near and Middle East on its  
forty-first session, held in Amman from 26 to 30 June 2006**

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\* The present report is issued in Arabic, English and Russian, the working languages of the subsidiary body.



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## **I. Matters calling for action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs or brought to its attention**

### **Recommendations adopted by the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East at its forty-first session**

1. At its forty-first session, the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East adopted a number of recommendations made by its working groups. The recommendations are presented below. (For the observations and conclusions that led to the recommendations, see chapter V below.)

#### **1. Regional trends in trafficking in opiates**

2. The following recommendations were made with regard to regional trends in trafficking in opiates:

(a) Governments must continue to encourage their law enforcement agencies in their communication and cooperation with the new counterpart drug law enforcement authorities in Afghanistan so as to support their development and rise to full operational effectiveness;

(b) States members of the Subcommission directly affected by the transit of opiates through their territories should take proactive steps to enhance their drug law enforcement effectiveness, such as supporting and strengthening front-line officers through the provision of technical equipment to support them in their duties and should also take proactive steps to regularize closer operational cooperation with regional, subregional and international partners and to develop their domestic capacity to generate an intelligence-driven operational response to the activities of traffickers;

(c) In response to the increasing use of maritime conveyances to transport significant cargoes of opiates and cannabis resin, Governments should ensure that their enforcement response to target, identify and intercept drug consignments carried by that means are adequate and effective.

#### **2. Regional cooperation in the exchange of criminal intelligence on drug trafficking**

3. The following recommendations were made with regard to regional cooperation in the exchange of criminal intelligence on drug trafficking:

(a) States should be encouraged to invest in the posting of drug liaison officers to source countries that pose significant risks from illicit drug trafficking so as to facilitate the gathering of evidence in order to dismantle and prosecute syndicates engaged in cross-border trafficking in illicit drugs;

(b) In response to the growing need for faster communication between agencies when exchanging information in order to support operations against traffickers, Governments must ensure that the procedure to provide the necessary clearance is fast and involves minimum delay in transmission of the information;

(c) In anticipation of requests for assistance from foreign law enforcement agencies in the investigation of cross-border trafficking offences, States should be encouraged to adopt a proactive strategy such as the development of investigative teams ready to respond when an overseas investigation requires their domestic operational support.

### **3. Identifying sound practice in the training of law enforcement officials**

4. The following recommendations were made with regard to identifying sound practice in the training of law enforcement officials:

(a) Governments should take steps to ensure that their law enforcement training facilities are well-resourced and operate to the highest professional standards so as to maintain a high quality of service to the communities whose needs they meet;

(b) In order to counter the increasing sophistication of the methods employed by syndicates engaged in illicit drug trafficking and to build cooperation and understanding at the grass-roots level, Governments should encourage integrated inter-agency training in counter-narcotics drug enforcement for all their front-line law enforcement agencies;

(c) In order to develop the professional skills of their national law enforcement agencies, as well as build the foundations for ongoing and future cooperation, Governments should encourage and support their law enforcement training academies in the development and hosting of training events that include participants from counterpart enforcement agencies in foreign countries with whom they work;

(d) The Executive Director of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) should seek to provide the necessary financial resources to maintain the training offered by the Office in the detection and identification of narcotics and should increase the training courses held at the Laboratory and Scientific Section of the Office in Vienna.

## **II. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation**

5. At its 1st meeting, on 26 June 2006, the Subcommission considered item 3 of its agenda, entitled "Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation". For its consideration of the item, the Subcommission had before it two background papers prepared by the Secretariat; on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation (UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/2) and on statistics on drug trends in the Near and Middle East, South, West and Central Asia and worldwide (UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/CRP.1). In addition, country reports were submitted by Azerbaijan, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Pakistan, Qatar, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates (UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/CRP.2, 3, 5 and 6). A representative of UNODC made an audio-visual presentation covering regional and global trends in drug trafficking and recent UNODC activities in the region. The UNODC Regional Representative for the Middle East and North Africa also made a statement. Statements were made by the representatives of Jordan, the

Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Egypt, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, the United Arab Emirates, India, the Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey.

6. The Subcommission noted that Afghanistan accounted for 88 percent of the illicit opium produced in the world. As a result, Afghanistan's neighbouring States, and those used as transit routes to heroin markets further west, in Central Asia and the Near and Middle East, were increasingly challenged by established trafficking groups engaged in moving consignments of opium, morphine and refined heroin through their territories. Authorities were also encountering associated criminal activities such as the diversion and smuggling of precursor chemicals, the operation of clandestine laboratories and the expansion of domestic trafficking networks distributing the increasingly available opiates. Efforts to combat trafficking in Afghan heroin and the precursors necessary for its production remained a key focus of regional and subregional cooperation.

7. Illicit cultivation of opium poppy remained an integral part of the Afghan domestic economy, supporting a significant number of farming communities. Efforts undertaken by the elected Government of Afghanistan to free the country from poppy cultivation and to decrease production, trafficking and consumption of illicit drugs were acknowledged, as were the enormous challenges facing it. The efforts of the Government to extend its authority to the entire country and to develop the required law enforcement capability to deter poppy cultivation were encouraged. It was agreed that the continued support of the international community was needed for Afghanistan to be successful in that work.

8. Several speakers observed that trafficking routes, patterns of trafficking and the *modi operandi* of traffickers were changing constantly. Shifts in trafficking routes were often the result of changes in the political and economic situation of transit countries. Transit through the Islamic Republic of Iran and further on along the Balkan route remained the principal conduit of opiates from Afghanistan, although the so-called northern route was growing in importance. Reference was made to new developments such as trafficking in cocaine along air routes leading from Latin America through Europe to the Near and Middle East and to the growing trafficking in amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) and hashish. Overall, seizures of illicit drugs reported across the region were on the increase.

9. Representatives spoke of the cooperation they had developed with neighbouring States on shared borders. Steps taken to build up support and trust were illustrated with examples of border exchanges between local commanders at the operational level and meetings of intergovernmental technical committees. While many States of the region had signed memorandums of understanding, bilateral and multilateral agreements with neighbouring and other States, many of those agreements were yet to be put into full operational effect. It was proposed that the Subcommission seek ways to activate those agreements.

10. The need to ensure adequate exchange of information among law enforcement agencies in the Near and Middle East and elsewhere was emphasized by a number of speakers. An example of enhanced cooperation in that area was a twinning initiative that one member State of the Subcommission had entered into with France, Germany and Greece in order to increase information exchange.

11. The Subcommission noted with appreciation the ongoing efforts of UNODC, such as the Paris Pact initiative on illicit trafficking in opiates of Afghan origin and

its support to the Central Asia Regional Information and Coordination Centre, the Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime and the Tehran Regional Training Centre. The UNODC technical assistance projects to specific member States and regional recipients were recognized as adding to collective cooperation and understanding in the region.

12. Some representatives made reference to measures taken in drug demand reduction, underlining the importance of preventive measures and raising awareness of the dangers posed by drug abuse, in particular to young people. According to most speakers, reduction of supply and of demand had to go hand in hand.

13. All speakers supplemented the information contained in their respective national reports to the Subcommission with additional statistics on drug seizures and other action taken with a view to drug law enforcement, including enhancing capacity at border crossings, controlled deliveries, participation in international operations such as Operation Purple and Operation Topaz and the introduction of new drug control legislation.

### **III. Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly**

14. At its 2nd meeting, on 27 June 2006, the Subcommission considered item 5 of its agenda, entitled "Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly". The Secretary of the Subcommission made a statement on the deliberations of and action taken by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-ninth session, in March 2006, with regard to the follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, as well as on progress reported by member States in implementing the action plans and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session. Statements were made by the Syrian Arab Republic, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, Jordan, Azerbaijan, Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, India, Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia.

15. In his introductory statement, the Secretary of the Subcommission drew attention to the Political Declaration (resolution S-20/2, annex), the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction (resolution S-20/3, annex), the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors (resolution S-20/4 A), measures to control precursors (resolution S-20/4 B), measures to promote judicial cooperation (resolution S-20/4 C), measures for countering money-laundering (resolution S-20/4 D), and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development (resolution S-20/4 E), all adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session. Reference was also made to the Joint Ministerial Statement and further measures to implement the action plans emanating from the twentieth special session of the Assembly, adopted during the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (A/58/124, sect. II.A).

16. The Secretariat informed participants that at its fiftieth session, in 2007, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs would consider the fourth biennial report on progress made by member States in the implementation of action plans and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session. That

review would be of great importance as it would provide an opportunity for member States to assess the extent of progress made and to make adjustments and recommendations in order to further promote achievement of the targets for 2008. The provisional agenda for the fiftieth session also included consideration of the timing and the format of and arrangements for the 10-year assessment in 2008 and how to mark that event.

17. The Subcommission was informed by the Secretariat that significant progress had been made by member States in the implementation of all the action plans and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session. The vast majority of reporting States had adopted a national drug control strategy that was balanced and comprehensive, showing the political will to take positive steps in that particular area.

18. The Secretariat noted that most countries had put in place key elements of a comprehensive demand reduction strategy and related training. Major progress had been made by many of the States affected by illicit cultivation of opium poppy and coca bush in achieving a significant reduction in and elimination of illicit crops. Insufficient information had been provided so far by member States to permit an assessment with regard to illicit cultivation of cannabis plant. However, there was still a need to address poverty, security and other development-related issues, as well as other areas of particular concern, including Afghanistan.

19. According to the Secretariat there was an increasing culture of awareness of judicial cooperation observable globally and there was almost universal adherence to the international drug control conventions. However, the practical implementation of those measures often fell short because of differences among national legal systems, as well as financial, logistical and technical problems. More countries were taking measures against ATS, especially in Africa, the Americas and Asia. However, not enough was being done to detect and dismantle clandestine ATS laboratories and to prevent abuse of ATS.

20. The Secretariat informed participants that most reporting States had indicated that laundering of the proceeds of drug trafficking was considered a criminal offence—a significant increase since 1998. Further efforts were needed to foster international cooperation, to establish financial intelligence units and to develop national capacity to combat that crime. Solid progress had been made in precursor control, as most reporting States had placed under control the substances listed in Tables I and II of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.<sup>1</sup> Some major successes were also noted in the area of international cooperation (Operation Topaz, Operation Purple and Project Prism).

21. Several representatives reported on progress made by their Governments in implementing the various action plans and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session. States in the region had established balanced and multisectoral drug control strategies and had set up national drug control coordinating entities, as well as national demand reduction strategies.

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

22. Representatives reported continued progress by their Governments in relation to the control of ATS and their precursors and to precursor control. Significant progress was also reported in countering money-laundering.

23. Regarding the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, it was noted that countries in the region in which illicit cultivation of opium poppy and cannabis plant was taking place had established national plans to eliminate those illicit crops. Some representatives noted that a survey should be conducted to assess the extent of illicit cultivation of cannabis plant. The representative of Lebanon proposed that alternative development programmes be extended to areas affected by the illicit cultivation of cannabis plant and that the necessary resources to implement such programmes be secured.

24. One representative noted that information provided by member States at the Subcommission on successful experiences in implementing the action plans and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session should be widely shared, for adaptation by other member States to their own needs, in particular as regards effective treatment and rehabilitation measures.

#### **IV. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its thirty-ninth session**

25. At its 3rd meeting, on 27 June 2006, the Subcommission considered item 6 of its agenda, entitled "Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its thirty-ninth session". For its consideration of the item, the Subcommission had before it a background paper prepared by the Secretariat (UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/3). The Secretary of the Subcommission introduced the agenda item. Statements were made by the representatives of Egypt, Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, India and Turkey.

26. Referring to the first cluster of recommendations on trafficking in opiates and the heightened need for coordination between States and law enforcement agencies across the region, the representatives of Egypt, Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, India and Turkey informed the Subcommission of measures their Governments had taken to bring their legislation into line with the international drug control conventions, conduct joint cross-border and controlled delivery operations, exchange information and intelligence and share experiences and best practices. All the States had entered into bilateral and multilateral agreements to encourage close cooperation and exchange of information in the fight against drug trafficking. They also regularly attended international and regional conferences on the subject.

27. The exchange of information and intelligence had led to increased seizures of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances and to the dismantling of international drug trafficking networks. Some representatives noted, however, that law enforcement agencies were sometimes only able to intercept the lower levels of trafficking syndicates, such as the couriers, but not the kingpins or primary organizers. Representatives also referred to possible hindrances to cooperation and coordination among States that could be eliminated through an open and frank



dialogue. Prompt notification of the arrest of each other's nationals by States and the sharing of information in a timely manner would contribute to better coordination.

28. The representative of Egypt noted that UNODC should facilitate the coordination of activities and exchange of information and expertise on the fight against drug trafficking among the member States of the Subcommission through its regional and country offices. That view was endorsed by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

29. Information was also provided on action taken to share best practices in the area of drug demand reduction among States participating in the sessions of the Subcommission. A number of representatives reported on action taken to fight money-laundering and to confiscate the illegally obtained assets of traffickers and on action taken to fight money-laundering.

30. The second set of recommendations approved by the Subcommission at its thirty-ninth session had dealt with current regional trends and the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in ATS. The representatives of Pakistan, India and Turkey reported on action to share information on ATS. There was a call for the creation of a regional database on ATS, as recommended by the Subcommission at its thirty-ninth session.

31. Reference was made to the third set of recommendations, relating to combating corruption through effective and uncompromising law enforcement. The representatives of Pakistan and India reported on measures they had taken to strengthen the integrity of their drug law enforcement agencies.

## **V. Consideration of topics by working groups**

32. At its 3rd to 7th meetings, on 27 to 29 June, the Subcommission established working groups to examine the three topics under item 4 of its agenda, entitled "Consideration of topics by working groups". The observations made by the working groups and the conclusions reached after their consideration of the topics are presented below. (For the recommendations made by the working groups and adopted by the Subcommission, see chapter I above.)

### **A. Regional trends in trafficking in opiates**

33. The working group on regional trends in trafficking in opiates held two meetings, on 27 and 28 June 2006. In its consideration of the topic under review, the working group made the following observations:

(a) Afghanistan accounted for 88 per cent of the illicit opium produced globally in 2005, making illicit opium production and trafficking in opiates a threat of great concern to the members of the Subcommission;

(b) Afghanistan remained the significant focus of international assistance efforts directed towards the rebuilding of a public service infrastructure damaged and in part destroyed by war and misrule. That situation, combined with the action of dissident armed factions and independent provincial warlords, left the elected

central Government not yet in a position to exercise full control over all the nation's territory;

(c) The current *modi operandi* employed by traffickers to smuggle opiates out of Afghanistan through Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Central Asian States included well-armed vehicular convoys, "camel narco" caravans, mule caravans, motorcycle convoys, backpackers, bodypackers, internal concealment and high-speed boats;

(d) Maritime smuggling of heroin and cannabis resin was on the increase. Dhows sailed down to Yemen and then on to Eastern African sea ports with cargoes of opiates;

(e) Member States of the Subcommission were increasingly turning to the use of controlled delivery operations as an operational response to dismantle trafficking syndicates;

(f) There was a need to take further urgent measures against the illicit cultivation of drug-related crops and the production of and trafficking in drugs in the regions of the world where traffickers and organized criminal groups took advantage of territories where control was lacking as a result of conflict, war, foreign occupation or other causes to engage in illicit activities.

34. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Close communication and cooperation ought to be maintained with the new counterpart drug law enforcement authorities in Afghanistan to support them in their development and rise to full operational effectiveness;

(b) Effective law enforcement against the operations of traffickers in opiates should include rigorous vehicle inspections at checkpoints, developing proactive intelligence strategies such as the regular exchange of information with counterparts in other countries and posted drug liaison officers, infiltration of trafficking groups by means of undercover agents, tactical surveillance to identify drug depots and convoys and well-planned armed interdiction operations;

(c) The role Africa played as an increasingly important destination in the international drug trade as a transit warehouse from which illicit drugs were shipped to markets all over the world had been overlooked for too long;

(d) Successful use of controlled delivery operations by member States of the Subcommission was strengthening both regional cooperation and the development of closer bilateral exchanges with partners further afield.

## **B. Regional cooperation in the exchange of criminal intelligence on drug trafficking**

35. The working group on regional cooperation in the exchange of criminal intelligence on drug trafficking held one meeting, on 28 June 2006. In its consideration of the topic under review, the working group made the following observations:

(a) Information gathered and developed into operational intelligence was obtained from many sources, but it was often difficult to disseminate it quickly and

effectively to the appropriate national front-line unit or foreign agency that could use it effectively;

(b) A regionally-pooled database, to which individual drug law enforcement agencies working on their own enquiries into suspects or in response to specific seizures could have access and contribute, would greatly assist in the identification of individuals and syndicates operating in States of the region;

(c) Although there appeared to be no shortage of contact points or channels for communication, it was felt that there was a need for a body or agency such as UNODC to take responsibility for the circulation of current operational contact list details;

(d) Police and customs agencies in each member State had access to fast and secure international communications systems through their respective membership of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) and the Customs Cooperation Council (also called the World Customs Organization (WCO)) and by direct contact among themselves;

(e) The posting of drug liaison officers to source countries of high risk had proved to be very successful in the dismantling and prosecution of syndicates engaged in cross-border trafficking in illicit drugs. Member States should be encouraged to support the work of the drug liaison officers by using them as a means of communication;

(f) All the members of the Subcommission were signatories to the international drug control conventions, which provided them with a legal platform upon which to base their cooperation with other States. In addition, most had concluded bilateral agreements for mutual support with neighbouring States and significant trade and commerce partners;

(g) Establishing personal contacts, holding regular scheduled meetings of counterparts and attending regional events on specialized topics related to drug law enforcement were the building blocks to closer understanding and cooperation.

36. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Law enforcement agencies urgently needed to agree on uncomplicated, fast procedures to clear information for exchange, together with clear guidelines as to what information could be readily exchanged and at what level authorization was required to release it;

(b) Basic information obtained from investigations into individuals engaged in trafficking, such as telephone numbers, names of vessels involved, vehicle numbers, addresses, company names and flight and drug seizure details, was an excellent starting point for an intelligence-pooling exercise;

(c) As computers were becoming less expensive and access to technologies more readily available to front-line staff, police and customs agencies should be encouraged to make more use of the global pool of enforcement information and technical support offered by Interpol through its Internet-based global communications system, I-24/7, and WCO through its Customs Enforcement Network;

(d) A natural step beyond the foreign posting of drug liaison officers would be common agreement to establish investigative teams with foreign law enforcement counterparts ready to respond when an investigation required in-country operational support.

### **C. Identifying sound practice in the training of law enforcement officials**

37. The working group on identifying sound practice in the training of law enforcement officials held two meetings, on 28 and 29 June 2006. In its consideration of the topic under review, the working group made the following observations:

(a) Developing human resources was key to effective policing. Law enforcement training academies set the foundation of professionalism and good procedure that led to high levels of agency performance;

(b) Countries of the subregion offered all their law enforcement officers, and in some instances staff from other agencies, initial drug identification courses as part of their basic training. Officers due to be posted to specialized counter-narcotics agencies or units followed longer, more advanced courses covering such topics as national drug control legislation, common types of illicit drugs, source countries and trafficking routes, interviewing techniques, negotiation skills, the use of undercover officers, information-gathering and the development of intelligence, operational planning and presentation of evidence;

(c) A systematic, progressively more responsible and specialized training programme should form the core of all staff development for law enforcement officers in order to ensure well-rounded professional knowledge and optimum performance;

(d) In addition to running specialized courses for their national law enforcement agencies, law enforcement academies in Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates also hosted foreign law enforcement officers at their domestic and specialist training courses.

38. The working group drew the following conclusions:

(a) Law enforcement training facilities needed to be well-resourced and to operate to the highest professional standards since they set and maintained the quality of service that their front-line officers delivered;

(b) The practice of a number of law enforcement agencies of members of the Subcommission to send officers to participate in overseas training courses was an excellent way of developing and upgrading professional skills, as well as of gaining insights into new procedures and practices;

(c) It was important for training academies to maintain a proactive approach to the development of new courses so as to develop the skills of front-line officers in keeping with changes in domestic legislation, operational procedures and the strategies and tactics employed by drug trafficking groups.

## **VI. Organization of the forty-second session of the Subcommittee**

39. At its 8th meeting, on 30 June 2006, the Subcommittee considered item 7 of its agenda, entitled "Organization of the forty-second session of the Subcommittee". For its consideration of the item, the Subcommittee had before it a note by the Secretariat drawing attention to certain questions that needed to be addressed concerning its forty-second session and a draft provisional agenda for its consideration (UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/4). Also for consideration under this item was a background document entitled "Questionnaire on the working methods of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs" (UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/CRP.4), which was briefly introduced by the Secretariat.

40. There was a discussion to identify potential topics for consideration by the working groups at the forty-second session of the Subcommittee. Agreement was reached on the general themes of the working groups, which would cover cultivation of cannabis plant and production of cannabis resin, precursor control and production of ATS and demand reduction matters, including strategies and responses adopted by members of the Subcommittee.

41. After the discussion, the Subcommittee approved the following draft provisional agenda for its forty-second session:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation.
4. Consideration of topics by working groups [to be finalized].
5. Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly.
6. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommittee at its fortieth session.
7. Organization of the forty-third session of the Subcommittee.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report.

## **VII. Adoption of the report**

42. At its 8th meeting, on 30 June 2006, the Subcommittee adopted the report on its forty-first session (UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/L.1 and Add.1-6), including the reports of the working groups and their recommendations as orally amended.

## **VIII. Organization of the forty-first session of the Subcommission**

### **A. Opening and duration of the session**

43. The forty-first session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, organized by UNODC and hosted by the Government of Jordan, was held in Amman from 26 to 30 June 2006. The Prime Minister and the Director-General of Public Security of Jordan, as well as the representative of the Executive Director of UNODC and Regional Representative for the Middle East and North Africa, addressed the participants at the opening meeting. Upon his election, the Chairman of the forty-first session of the Subcommission, the Assistant Public Security Director for Criminal Investigations of Jordan, also addressed the meeting.

### **B. Attendance**

44. The following States members of the Subcommission were represented: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Uzbekistan.

45. Germany, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were represented by observers.

46. The Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior, the European Commission and Interpol were also represented by observers.

### **C. Election of officers**

47. At its 1st meeting, on 26 June 2006, the Subcommission elected the following officers by acclamation:

*Chairman:* Samed Abu-Orabi (Jordan)

*Vice-Chairmen:* Michel Shakkour (Lebanon)

Mostafa Abdel Rahman Ahmed Amer (Egypt)

*Rapporteur:* Jagjit Pavadia (India)

### **D. Adoption of the agenda**

48. Also at its 1st meeting, the Subcommission adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation.
4. Consideration of topics by working groups:
  - (a) Regional trends in trafficking in opiates;

- (b) Regional cooperation in the exchange of criminal intelligence on drug trafficking;
  - (c) Identifying sound practice in the training of law enforcement officials.
5. Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly.
  6. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its thirty-ninth session.
  7. Organization of the forty-second session of the Subcommission.
  8. Other business.
  9. Adoption of the report.

#### **E. Documentation**

49. The documents before the forty-first session of the Subcommission are listed in the annex to the present document.

#### **F. Closure of the session**

50. Closing statements were made by the representatives of Iraq and Lebanon and by the Chairman of the Subcommission.

**Annex****List of documents before the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East at its forty-first session**

<i>Document</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/1	2	Provisional agenda, annotations and proposed organization of work
UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/2	3	Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation
UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/3	6	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommittee at its thirty-ninth session
UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/4	7	Organization of the forty-second session of the Subcommittee
UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/L.1 and Add.1-6	9	Draft report
UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/CRP.1	3	Statistics on drug trends in the Near and Middle East, South, West and Central Asia and worldwide
UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/CRP.2, 3, 5 and 6	3	Country reports
UNODC/SUBCOM/2006/CRP.4	7	Questionnaire on the working methods of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs