

Improving responses to organised crime and drug trafficking along the Cocaine Route

AGENDA

May 28-30, 2013

Grand Hotel Plaza, Rome, Italy

DAY 1: ORGANISED CRIME AND DRUG TRAFFICKING ALONG THE COCAINE ROUTE IN A CHANGING CONTEXT

08:30-09:30

Registration

09:30-10:00

Opening Session

Welcome presentation highlighting the importance of addressing cocaine trafficking, the role of the EU, the objectives of the conference and an overview of the programme.

- Kristian Schmidt, Director, Human and Society Development, EuropeAid, European Commission
- Sandro De Bernardin, Director General, Political Affairs and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy
- Director General of Public Security, Ministry of Interior, Italy

10:00-10:30

Keynote address

Across the globe, legal and democratic systems, stability, sustainable development and human security are under pressure from organised criminal networks and the profits of the cocaine trade. It is imperative to improve strategies, strengthen responses and mitigate the impact of organised crime and drug trafficking.

- Olusegun Obasanjo, Chair of the West Africa Commission on Drugs, Former President of Nigeria

10:30-11:00

Coffee break

11:00-12:45

Session 1: Organised Crime and Drug Trafficking: a peace, security and development challenge

Organised crime and trafficking are increasingly recognised as cross-cutting phenomena that are spoilers to be addressed in debates around peace, development, governance, security, resource allocation and community cohesion. What does this mean, how does it manifest itself, and what impact does that have for responses?

Moderator:

- Richard Zink, EU ambassador to Mali

Speakers:

- Ajay Kumar Bramdeo, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the African Union in Brussels
- Erich Vilchez, Director of Democratic Security of, SICA
- Michèle Ramis, Ambassador on Organized Crime, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France
- Fabio Cassese, Deputy Director for Italian Cooperation and Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy
- Sonia Alfano, Chair of the Special Committee on Organised Crime, Corruption and Money Laundering, European Parliament

Questions and discussion

12:45-14:15

Lunch

14: 15-16:00

Session 2: Assessing the scope of the challenge

Current estimates place the value of the cocaine route from the Andes to Europe in the billions of dollars. However, it is universally acknowledged that data and knowledge about trafficking routes and key actors are far from comprehensive, and often do not permit proactive and strategic responses. What are the primary gaps in data and analysis, and how can the knowledge base that underpins responses be improved?

Moderator:

- Pierre Reuland, Special Representative of INTERPOL to the European Union

Speakers:

- Dennis Shepard, Deputy Director, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Directorate, SOUTHCOM
- Michael Rauschenbach, Head of Serious and Organised Crime, EUROPOL
- Angela Me, Chief, Research and Trend Analysis Branch, UNODC
- Ernesto Savona, Director, Transcrime

Questions and discussion

16:00-16:30

Coffee break

16:30-18:00

Session 3: Strengthening Regional Political Responses

Organised crime undermines state institutions and reduces the legitimacy and capacity of states to ensure the rule of law and provide security. Leadership, political will and coordination action are required to strengthen governance in the face of this transnational threat. Regional strategies and approaches are critical. How can their efficacy and impact be maximised?

Moderator:

- Robert Kopecký, EU ambassador to Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and for the Dutch Overseas Countries and Territories

Speakers:

- Francis Forbes, Executive Director, Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS), CARICOM
- Abdourahmane Dieng, Chief of Division, Regional Security, ECOWAS
- Jane Ong'olo, Programme Manager, African Union
- Jorge Chabat, Professor, Division of International Studies (DEI) of the Centre for Research and Teaching in Economics (CIDE), Mexico

Questions and discussion

18.30-20.30

Cocktail

DAY 2: ORGANISED CRIME AND DRUGS TRAFFICKING: EVALUATING STRATEGIES AND RESPONSES?

09:00-09:15

Introduction

Conclusions of the previous day. In light of the broader perspective identified on the previous day, can we critically evaluate the interventions that have we used to respond to the challenges of cocaine trafficking and its impacts? What have we done? What can we do better? And what do we need still to address?

- Mark Shaw, Senior Associate, Institute for Security Studies

09:15-11:00

Session 4: National Perspectives and Emerging Challenges

Building on the previous day's discussions, this session examines how these broader dynamics are played out at a national level, and the implications this has had for national responses. These cases allow an initial examination of lessons learned and emerging challenges. Are there trends and inter-dependencies that should be noted for the future? What challenges will be presented by trafficking routes adapting to growing national capacity or weakness?

Moderator:

- Phil Marshall, SLO Regional Manager, West Africa, UK High Commission in Ghana (Accra Platform of Liaison Officers)

Speakers:

- Marisa Helena do Nascimento, Minister of Interior, Cape Verde
- Manuel Moreno, Vice-Minister of Public Security, Panama
- Carmen Masías Claux, Executive President of the “Comisión Nacional para el Desarrollo y Vida sin Drogas”, DEVIDA, Perú
- Andrea De Gennaro, Director-General, Central Directorate for Anti-Drugs Service, Ministry of Interior, Italy

Questions and discussion

11:00-11:30

Coffee break

11.30-13:00

Session 5: Interrupting the Flow: Effective Law Enforcement

Strengthening the capacity for effective law enforcement and judicial prosecution still remains central to interrupting the cocaine route. This session will address issues of regional and trans-regional cooperation, and will propose ways to further improve the response, in particular looking at how to ensure sustainable national capacity. What are the views of key national actors – how are the EU programmes adding value?

Moderator:

- Yaw Akrasi-Sarpong, Executive Secretary, NACOB, Ghana

Speakers:

- Mark Vanhulle, International Coordinator, AIRCOP
- Timothy Manhire, Team Leader, SEACOP
- Flavio Mirella, Team Leader, PRELAC
- Andres Perez Lopez, Head of the International Relations Service, International Centre Against Organized Crime (CICO), COPOLAD

Questions and discussion

13:00-14:30

Lunch

14:30-16:00

Session 6: Money Laundering

Closing the routes that allow the illicit profits of the cocaine trade to enter the formal economy is an important strategy to reduce the profits garnered from the global cocaine trade. Efforts thus far have seen some successes, but are still insufficient. What needs to be done to improve current approaches?

Moderator:

- Jean-Luc Peduzzi, Commissaire Divisionnaire, French Embassy in Senegal (Dakar Platform of Liaison Officers)

Speakers:

- Mu'Azu Umaru, Director of Research and Planning, GIABA
- Fabrizio Lisi, International Police Cooperation Service, Ministry of Interior, Italy
- Ricardo Gil, Director de Proyectos, GAFISUD
- Janice McClean, Team Leader, AML/WA

Questions and discussion

16:00-16:30

Coffee break

16:30-18:00

Session 7: Information Sharing

Information sharing between all three regions, and within the regions themselves, is required for any efforts to suppress cocaine trafficking. This is a huge challenge for all involved, and there is a requirement to evaluate success so far. What has been achieved and what can be done better?

Moderator:

- José Luis Gonzalez, Ministry of Interior's Counsellor Spanish Embassy, Colombia (Bogota Platform of Liaison Officers)

Speakers:

- George Lovell, CEO of National Security, Belize
- Ebrahim Kadwa, Acting Head, Organised Crime Investigation SAPS, South Africa
- Philippe Baeten, Team Leader, WAPIS
- Marcos Alvar Bestillero, Team Leader, AMERIPOL-EU
- Marco Alma, Team Leader, CORMS

Questions and discussion

DAY 3 – NEW RESPONSES: STRATEGY SETTING AND MITIGATING IMPACT

09.00-09.15

Introduction

In earlier discussions, interventions were critically evaluated in light of the changing context. The goals of the final day will be to anticipate new challenges, seeking innovative options for addressing them through reinforcing the rule of law and justice systems, and building resilience within communities. This includes looking at how civil society actors can contribute, and how international responses can be better aligned.

- Tuesday Reitano, Senior Associate, Institute for Security Studies

09:15 – 11:00

Session 8: Mitigating Impact and Building Community Resilience: civil society, community and the media

In the absence of effective state institutions, targeting civil society and community level initiatives to create an environment that is inhospitable to organised crime and corruption can be an alternative entry point. Reinforcing support to traditional community structures, civil society organisations and an independent media can provide momentum and build resilience to mitigate the impact of organised crime and promote longer-term sustainable, crime-free development. What are the experiences to date?

Moderator:

- Jolyon Ford, Oxford Analitica, Zimbabwe

Speakers:

- Luiz Vaz Martins, President, Human Rights League, Guinea Bissau
- Etannibi Alemika, Professor of Criminology, University of Jos, Nigeria
- Paula Miraglia, Public Sector Specialist, Brazil
- Hans Mathieu, Friedrich Evert Stiftung, Colombia

Questions and discussion

11:00-11:30

Coffee break

11:15-13:00

Session 9: Aligning International Responses

Responses to the challenges of cocaine trafficking have been characterised by a lack of coordination on multiple levels. Given the strategic frameworks that exist to combat drug trafficking and organised crime, what measures can be taken to better align international responses to these strategies, improve coordination and cooperation for greater impact?

Moderator:

- Peter Gastrow, Senior Adviser, Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime

Speakers:

- Alan Doss, Senior Political Advisor, Kofi Annan Foundation.
- Bruce Ohr, Counsellor, Criminal Division of the US Department of Justice
- Jean-Paul Joulia, Head of Unit, Regional Programmes Latin America and Caribbean, EuropeAid
- Fernando Ponz, Deputy Head of Division, West Africa, EEAS

Questions and discussion

13:00-14:30

Lunch

14:30-16:00

Session 10: Elements of a Successful Response

Recognising that one of the objectives of the conference is to debate and improve programme interventions and the international response more broadly, what are the key lessons that have been learned, where does capacity need to be strengthened better and how? Who do these recommendations need to address?

Moderator:

- Jesper Steen Pedersen, EuropeAid, European Commission

Speakers:

- Jose Ferreira Leite, Executive Director, MAOC-N
- Michael von der Schulenburg, former SRSG Sierra Leone
- Kwesi Aning, Director of Research, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre
- Francisco Thoumi, INCB Member, Colombia

Questions and discussion

16:00-16:30

Coffee break

16:30-17:30

Final wrap up and way ahead

Preliminary conclusions of the conference and the way forward. Close.

- Anton du Plessis, Executive Director, Institute for Security Studies

17:30-18:00

Official Closure

- Joelle Jenny, Director, Security Policy and Conflict Prevention, European External Action Service
- Efisio Luigi Marras, Director General, Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy
- Francesco Cirillo, Deputy Director General of Public Security, Ministry of Interior, Italy

Simultaneous translation will be available throughout in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish.