GLOBAL DRUG TRADE: AFRICA’S EXPANDING ROLE

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WASHINGTON D.C.
28 May 2009

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Africa is a very important transit point for **HEROIN** from Asia, **COCOAINE** from South America, and **HASHISH** from Morocco.
Trans-Atlantic Trafficking:
Vessels (motherboard operations)
Light aircraft

Intra-Regional Trafficking:
Vehicles, Trucks
Light Aircraft
Sahelian Route:
4x4 Convoys
Light Aircraft
Air Couriers

Towards Europe:
Drug couriers (major airports)
Trucks (Mauritania, Morocco)
Containers (major seaports)
Vessels (fishing vessels, go-fasts)
Light aircraft (to Spain)
• How much Cocaine is coming into WA?
  – UNODC estimate: 40-50 tons annually
  – Wholesale value 2006: US $ 1,800 million

*Source: Economist Intelligence Unit data; UNODC*
Cocaine Trafficking Facts

- Stockpiling in West Africa:
  - Guinea-Bissau
  - Ghana
  - Senegal
Fig. 85: Breakdown of global cannabis herb production in 2006 (N = 41,400 mt)

- North America: 31%
- South America*: 24%
- Africa: 22%
- Asia: 16%
- Europe: 6%
- Oceania: 1%

* South America, Central America and the Caribbean

Sources: UNODC, Annual Reports Questionnaire Data and Govt. reports.
Changes in the use of heroin and other opiates, 2006 (or latest year available)

Sources: UNODC Annual Reports, Opiate Markets data, National Household Surveys submitted to UNODC, United States Department of State (Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs), International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, Law Enforcement Report, UNODC, Meetings of Heads of Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), UNODC Border Drugs Trends publications for various countries, UNODC Opium Surveys, Drug Abuse Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (DANAP), UNODC Global Assessment Programmes on Drug Abuse (GAP), UNODC Data for Africa Project.

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Changes in the use of cocaine, 2006 (or latest year available)

- Large increase
- Some increase
- Stable
- Some decline
- Strong decline
- Data not available

Sources: UNODC Annual Reports Questionnaires data, National Household Surveys submitted to UNODC, United States Department of State (Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs), International Narcotics Control of Strategy Report, Law Enforcement Reports, UNODC, Meetings of Heads of Law Enforcement Agencies (HOMELA), UNODC, Black Drug Trends publications for various countries, Drug Abuse Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (DANAP), UNODC Global Assessment Programme on Drug Abuse (GAP), UNODC Data for Africa Project.

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And what about TOC?

• Human Beings (migrants, children, women)
• Cigarettes
• Counterfeit goods (medicines, electronics, etc.)
• Natural Resources (oil, diamonds, timber, fishing)
• Arms
• Cyber Crime
• Kidnapping / Extortion
• Toxic wastes
• Piracy
• Money Laundering → financing of terrorism / rebels
Who are the players involved?

- Latin Americans
- Europeans
- Middle East
- South East Asians
- (West) African Org Crime
• Why is so attractive to drug traffickers?

- **Exogenous factors** *(Narcotics only)*:
  - Shift of the cocaine market from North America to Europe and emerging markets
  - Increased interdiction capacities on traditional routes
  - Geographical position

- **Endogenous factors** *(TOC at large)*:
  - “Permissive working environment”: corruption, weak law enforcement, weak judiciary, poverty…
  - Peculiar features of African business oriented (dis)organised criminal networks
TOC and its vicious circle

**DRUG ABUSE**
Spreading along trafficking routes

**TRAFFICKING**
Narcotics, arms, human beings, natural resources, etc

**ORGANIZED CRIME**
Emerging narco cartels
Pervasive corruption
Recourse to violence

**HIV-AIDS**
Spill over effect from trafficking of both narcotics and human beings

**TERRORISM**
Terrorism groups in business venture with criminal organizations

UNODC
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TOC and the cycle of failed states
For a really sustainable development

Development

Human Rights

Security/ Rule of Law
INTEGRATED APPROACH TO DRUG AND TOC

- Issue at the UN Security Council
- AU Plan of Action 2007
- ECOWAS Authority, Abuja Dec 2008 Political Declaration and Response Plan
- National Integrated Programmes against Transnational Organised Crime (Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Mali, Sierra Leone, Togo and more are coming)
- Regional, Trans Atlantic, and Global multi-partners initiatives
• Downward trend in cocaine trafficking though the region (seizures, arrests, operations)

• Street Prices up both in West Africa (Ghana) and major European markets (UK) coupled with decrease in purity
Efforts are paying off

• **Endogenous factors**: political events disrupting networks (Guinea Bissau, Guinea, but also Ghana, Sierra Leone)

• **Exogenous factors**: increased threshold of risks because of international pressure
Current challenges

• Sustain the positive spinn and consolidate achievements

• Develop containment strategies for these countries in the region which have not shown real commitment
Thank you!

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