

JejuMUN 8

Background Guide

United Nations Office of Drug and Crime

Responding to drug trafficking through cybersecurity in Central Asia

SDG: 16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

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Committee Introduction

First established in 1997 in Cairo, United Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) is a global leader of fighting against crime, drugs, and terrorism. By the mission of contributing to global peace and security, human rights and development, UNODC has been working to come up with resilient solutions for world drug problems, organized crimes, corruption and economic crime, terrorism, and criminal justice. As the scale of these problems are too big for the countries to solve by themselves, international networks and the committee have been giving practical assistance to make changes and actions.

UNODC operates in more than 80 countries through 115 field offices with 2400 personnels globally. The office is committed to supporting Member States by working closely with the government and civil society to make sure that security and justice are maintained for all. The office has also been setting a goal of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals to its member nations. The implementation enables states to be part of the sustainable development, as it explicitly recognizes the importance of fair rules and laws, humane justice systems, and health-oriented drug usage.

With the recent emergence of COVID-19, drugs, corruption, and terrorism have been posing bigger threats to the world. In order to protect people from posed threats but recover better, UNODC has recently introduced a five year strategy. The goal is to build a resilient society to the threats today, by forging new partnerships, strengthening existing ties, empowering women and youth, harnessing a culture of learning, and building inclusive communities.

Agenda Introduction

In recent years, Central Asia has been actively emerging as a major international drug trafficking center. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), more than half of the heroin consumed and dealt in Western Europe allegedly originated in Central Asia. This uprising has ignited several opposing initiatives and strategies around the world such as the European Union's financial investment in the Border Management in Central Asia (BOMCA) program, the United States' Central Asia Counternarcotics Initiative (CACI), and the Russian Federation's possible anti-drug campaign in cooperation with NATO.

This regaining of attention on drug trafficking in Central Asia, but, is yet to be considered groundbreaking. The strategies countries and international organizations have initiated are very much akin to those that were already implemented during the 2000s, a decade that can be marked as the biggest failure in combating drug trafficking in Central Asia. Thus, this calls for the immediate need for countries and international actors to adopt and rethink innovative security tools and mechanisms, as the methods and ways of drug trafficking have been advancing far above existing initiatives.

With the vast, international advancement of technology, recent generations have been increasingly involved in the virtual world where great information is to be stored and extracted easily. This allows for the black market of drugs to be set up through anonymous systems which allows access to sites without IP identification. Crypto currency or virtual currency is used for purchases, and "Silk Road" systems such as the TOR (The Onion Router) makes it impossible for outer entities to track down users.

Letter from the Chairs

Greetings Delegates,

This is Yoojeong Lee (Grade 11), Wieroo Park (Grade 10), and Hyeji Kim (Grade 10), who will be serving as your chairs in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the 8th annual JejuMUN Conference.

Greetings to everyone! My name is Yoojeong Lee, and I will serve you as the Head chair of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). I am currently a junior student from Branksome Hall Asia. My first MUN journey started in 6th grade, and I have joined a number of conferences both in and out of Jeju. As your chair, I look forward to seeing what all of you will come up with, and hope it will be a memorable learning experience for all. I am more than happy to answer your questions before, during and after the conference so please do not hesitate to contact me.

Hello, my name is Wieroo Park; currently a sophomore in Branksome. Starting from three years ago, I was granted the opportunity to develop and expand my public speaking and debate skills through a grand total of about nine MUN conferences so far. Thus I highly encourage all of you to carefully go over this chair report, search for additional information on the agenda and your specific delegation, and speak for your delegation with confidence. Most importantly, remember to have fun, and please don't feel embarrassed about making mistakes! All of us will try our best to support you and clarify any questions.

This is Hyeji Kim, a sophomore from Branksome. I have participated in five conferences and this would be my first time chairing. Everytime I participated in the conference, I was ALWAYS intimidated by that one 'scary but talented' speaker in the room. Still, I couldn't quit MUN because of its gem - what's better than practicing critical thinking skills through actually addressing global affairs as a country representative? I firmly believe that you will find your own gem in the UNODC committee as well - don't be shy, just try your best and give it a go!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via leeyoojeong02153@branksome.asia, parkwieroo00026@branksome.asia kimhyeji02549@branksomehall.asia. We are looking forward to meeting you all!

Key Terms

Border Management in Central Asia (BOMCA) program:

Established by the EU as a special Programme, the Border Management Programme in Central Asia (BOMCA), aims at enhancing security, fighting against illegal trafficking, and facilitating trade in Central Asia. Its aims are developing trade corridors, improving border management systems and eliminating drug trafficking across the Central Asia region.

Country Partnership Programme for the Islamic Republic of Iran (2015-2019):

UNODC Iran, with the Iranian government, has developed the Country Partnership Programme with four sub-programmes such as: 'Border Management and Illicit Trafficking,' 'Crime, Corruption and Criminal Justice,' 'Drug Use Prevention, Treatment, rehabilitation and HIV Care,' and 'Alternative Livelihoods and Sustainable Development.'

Country Programme for Afghanistan:

The program was established to strengthen the ability of the Afghanistan government; it also aims to assist the country in providing accurate data and information regarding the consequences of drug and crime.

Country Programme for Pakistan:

The program was established, with the aim of working on illicit trafficking, drug use and crime. This is also to promote the rule of law, toward public security in Pakistan.

Cyber security:

the application of technologies, processes and controls to protect systems, networks, programs, devices and data from cyber attacks. It aims to reduce the risk of cyber attacks and protect against the unauthorised exploitation of systems, networks and technologies.

Drug:

Any natural or artificially made chemical that is taken for pleasure, to improve someone's performance of an activity, or because a person cannot stop using it.

Drug Control Headquarters (DCHQ):

Established in Iran, DCHQ is a headquarter established with the aims of preventing addiction and combating drug trafficking including preventing production, distribution, sale, purchase and consumption as well as the concentration of judicial operations, public awareness and prevention programs against narcotic drugs.

Drug trade:

Illegal transportation of dangerous and narcotic drugs through global black markets or hand-to-hand sales.

Illicit drug transportation:

Illegally importing or exporting substances such as heroin, cocaine, marijuana, or other illegal drugs.

Online drug trafficking:

Engaging in illegal drug transportation through online platforms.

Triangular Initiative:

This initiative was launched by policy-makers from Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan in June of 2007.

Paris Pact Initiative:

With 58 partner countries and 23 organizations which include UNODC, it represents the strong determination of the international community on combating the trafficking of opiates that originate from Afghanistan.

Historical Background

The Paris pact Initiative(PPI) (2003):

With 58 partner countries and 23 organizations, including UNODC, The Paris Pact Initiative has evolved into one of the most important frameworks for combating illicit traffic in opiates originating in Afghanistan. The initiative is multi-layered, defining and strengthening counter-narcotic actors at the global level. Ultimately, it aims to define policy and provide stronger evidence for coordinated action by all signatories. Since its inception, it has developed operations according to geographic trends in order to effectively and comprehensively institute appropriate responses needed on land, sea and air.

Development of Central Asia Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC) (2009):

Through the establishment of the Central Asia Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC) in member states (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan), the committee aims to enhance legal mechanisms for better information sharing. More states have been joining in order to improve their legal frameworks and contribute to combating drug traffickings.

The Silk Road (February 2011):

The Silk Road, an online black market, is created with the goal of trafficking anonymously without monitoring. As a part of the dark web, it was operated as a Tor hidden service. It functioned as an auction format; new sellers had to purchase an account in an auction.

Families and Schools Together (FAST) (September 2012):

UNODC regional meeting happened in Istanbul with the purpose of discussing the results of the implementation of the family skills training programme “Families and Schools Together” (FAST) in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. This meeting was aimed at enhancing the regional exchange of expertise on drug use prevention.

Prevention Strategy and Policy Makers (December 2015):

In order to support the drug use prevention programmes, a national training seminar on the “Prevention Strategy and Policy Makers” was held in Dushanbe. It has been initiated by the countries of Central America and the Dominican Republic on deliberating ways to develop their drug prevention intervention and policies. The UNODC Regional Office of Central America and the Caribbean organised the seminar, consisting of more than 20 participants from the seven countries of Central America and the Dominican Republic. The seminar resulted in developed plans for the improvement of national prevention systems, and the implementation of these plans will be facilitated through further deliberations by the UNODC Regional Office.

Training to prevent drugs on-line (April 2016):

The law enforcement officer from the Ministry of Interior and the Customs of Uzbekistan took part in the training course on prevention of drug trade via the internet. The Prevention Strategy and Policy Makers were jointly organized by the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia (ROCA) and the Italian Embassy in Uzbekistan. The seminar aimed to promote and support the implementation of the coverage and quality of national systems for drug use prevention.

Launch of Drug World Report 2017 (June 2017):

International Day against Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking and Launch of Drug World Report 2017 held at UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia. It was presented in a five-booklet form, providing a global overview of the supply and demand of drugs, as well as their impact on health.

Global Container control Programme (June 2019):

UNODC works with Kazakhstan in order to strengthen analytical capacity on its border. The organization also promotes practical cooperation in certain areas in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan under the UNODC-WCO Global Container Control Programme. This programme has offered a plethora of training programmes and strengthening cooperation with state agencies in order to build capacity in Member States to improve supply chain security and trade facilitation in order to prevent cross-border transportation of illicit goods. At present, the CCP is operating under more than 70 Member States, and these efforts have resulted in a wide range of prohibited goods and have been able to identify illicit cross-border activities.

UNODC Regional office for Central Asia marked the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (2021):

The UNODC Regional office for Central Asia collaborated with the Republican Specialized Scientific and Practical Medical Center for Narcology to mark the International Day against drug abuse and illicit trafficking. The aim of the event was to create a forum for national experts to share valuable experience on how to ensure the continuity and sustainability of drug use prevention and drug dependence treatment, care and support for people who use drugs.

Current State of Affairs

Showing its first appearance in Central Asia by the Regional Office for Central Asia (ROCA), UNODC has continuously been supporting regional governments and representatives on strengthening legislatures to prevent drug crimes and track illicit trade routes. However, the proliferation of technologies and the Internet has roused the boundaries but enabled criminals to shift into new platforms to trade drugs more easily without getting involved in governmental regulations. In response to issues, UNODC has been providing workshops to country representatives to inform typical instruments used in cybercrimes and introduce techniques that are used to regulate and counter such crimes.

The UNODC describes their approach to the issue of drugs in a multi-faceted method, which includes prevention, treatment, and cooperation. In the prevention area, UNODC promotes the construction of strategies directed towards gaining information and distributing appropriate knowledge to people. On the issue of treatment, the UNODC seeks to improve the quality of the responses to abuse, dependence of drugs, and trafficking. The UNODC also publishes the annual World Drug Report, with data and trend analysis gathered worldwide pertaining to the production, traffic and consumption of illegal drugs.

Although UNODC and various organizations are working hard on drug trafficking, still, thousands of kilograms of illegal drugs cross international borders daily, leaving the hands of violent traffickers and entering the lives of drug dealers and addicts. In addition, criminals devise creative ways of disguising drugs for transport, making law enforcement face challenges in detecting such concealed substances. Since drug trafficking is often associated with other forms of crime, such as money laundering or corruption, this issue is one of the most crucial and most dangerous phases of the illicit drug market.

Stances of Parties

Afghanistan

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is located at the crossroads of Central South Asia. Renowned as one of the biggest illicit opium producers, Afghan's drug trade has not only been harming the nation itself but worldwide countries; leading to severe consequences associated with health, politics, and security. Hence, UNODC and the international community's greatest focus has been monitoring and examining the trade routes of Afghan opiates, also mentioned in the Paris Pact Initiative (PPI). Alongside the effort, UNODC has initiated the Afghan Opiate Trade Project (AOTP) in order to gain comprehensive information and support the international community on deviating from the issue. The project also aims to alert the community by increasing awareness of the issue. UNODC was able to successfully identify the trend of the Afghan heroin trade; the committee found out that the drugs were being transported to every region worldwide except Latin America. The committee also traced along the Balkan Route, which has been the primary route of drug trades from Afghanistan.

Canada

Canada is a country located in North America. Recently, Canada decided to support Afghanistan on a legal enforcement and reconstruction program by providing 200 million Canadian dollars. With the Canadian government, the committee has decided to cooperate with Afghan authorities in four main areas: improving law enforcement regarding drug trafficking, reducing substances that are used to produce heroin, combating corruption, and strengthening border security.

China

China, officially the People's Republic of China, is a country located in East Asia. Despite the decrease of methamphetamine and ketamine users in 2018 to 2019, the nation is facing a new challenge due to new forms of drugs that are emerging in the market. Not only are the drugs posing challenges on citizens' health and security, but they are increasing drug-related cybercrime cases. This has led the government and UNODC to increase and strengthen the online-drug trafficking.

Iran

Iran, officially the Islamic Republic of Iran, is a country located in Western Asia. Because the nation borders Afghanistan - the largest illicit opium producer, Iran has become a major transit of the drug trade. Therefore, Iranian government and UNODC have been spending millions of dollars in order to strengthen the border control and minimize illicit drug transportations. The nation has also been facing challenges because of newly formed drugs such as Amphetamine-Type Stimulants (ATS). Not only do the international drug trades pose challenges, but the illegal use of maritime routes for drug trafficking are posing huge threats to the nation as well.

Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan is located in Central Asia, bordering China and Russia to the east. Kazakhstan is Central Asia's biggest Cannabis producer, as 97 percent of the cannabis sold in Central Asia is presumably from the nation. Other types of drugs are relatively insignificant, and the government has been putting lots of effort into eradicating the illicit drug harvests. Supported by the Regional Office for Central Asia (ROCA) as one of the five Central Asian countries, the nation has been making efforts to strengthen crime prevention and eradicate illicit drugs domestically. In 2010 December, Kazakhstan inaugurated the Central Asia Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC) to cooperate with ongoing efforts on strengthening legislatures about drug trafficking.

Maldives

The Republic of Maldives is a nation of Islands, situated in the Indian Ocean. In recent years, drug trafficking and drug abuse has risen due to elevated exposure to the outside world. Drug abuse in the Maldives never was a problem until the mid-1970s, due to supposed remoteness from foreign entities. The appearance of drug abuse heavily coincides with the development of tourism in the Maldives, which is largely covering the country's economy. However it is abrupt to assume that the increase of drug abuse is a result from increased tourism, as globalization and increased overseas travel has also coincided with the trend. Despite newly implemented drug laws and intensive efforts to prevent illicit drug entry in the Maldives, drug abuse has been a growing concern for the country. In order to implement a National Master Plan for Drug Abuse Control in the country, the government of Maldives sought UNODC to support an evaluation of the current state of drug affairs as well as financial support provided by the UNODC.

Myanmar

Myanmar, officially the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is a country located in Southeast Asia. Since 2013, it has become the main source of meth in nations across the region, including Thailand, Laos, China, Japan, and Australia. Reportedly, Myanmar's cartels have started to produce their own drug precursors by using unregulated ingredients and restricted precursors, bypassing the international regulatory regime. The Myanmar government has been actively making efforts in recent years following the opium poppy cultivation elimination; however these efforts seem to have a contradicting effect in poverty and food insecurity of minorities.

Pakistan

Pakistan is geographically vulnerable to drug trafficking due to its borders with Afghanistan, the world's largest producer of illicit opium. In 2016-2017, Pakistan seized a total of 2860 metric tons of different narcotics drugs. Pakistan has always pursued a zero tolerance policy for all types and forms of drugs, and this approach has significantly contributed to a visible reduction in drug production in the nation over the past years. This nation's Anti-Narcotics Policy of 2010 is built around three pillars: (i) Drug Supply Reduction (ii) Drug Demand Reduction (iii) International cooperation. At the international level, this nation remains an active member of the United Nations (UN) Commission on Narcotics Drugs (CND), and has contributed to global debate on World Drug issues.

Tajikistan

Tajikistan is a country in Central Asia surrounded by Afghanistan, China, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. Between its neighboring countries such as Afghanistan and Russia, Tajikistan have been battling with illicit drug trafficking since the 1990s. For about fifteen years, since NATO shed light in combating drug production in Afghanistan, it did nothing but harm to Tajikistan. The number of traffickers exploiting drugs through Tajikistan to reach China and Russia has only increased since then. Despite prevention efforts done by the country itself and in cooperation with foreign governments, the illicit activities only seem to increase. However, it is also notable that both domestic policies done by the Tajik government and international assistance have been very minimal.

Ukraine

Ukraine, akin to many other countries in Central Asia, has been exploited by being used as a transit country for illicit drugs; synthetic drugs coming in from

Europe, and heroin heading west for Afghanistan. This caused more than 10,000 people in Ukraine to be convicted of drug-related charges every year. This, reportedly, has been the result of vast, unguarded borders between Ukraine and Russia, which makes exporting drugs to Europe extremely accessible to many drug traffickers. Another is known to be the Black Sea coastline of Ukraine, which lacks the necessary vigilance to prevent undetected boats that carry illicit drugs.

United Kingdom

The number of people in the United Kingdom whose deaths were caused by drug misuse increased constantly. Most forms of illegal drugs originate overseas and are trafficked into the UK via various routes, including: container shipping, yachts and small boats, light aircraft, vehicle traffic from continental Europe, airline passengers, the post and fast parcels. The main elements in the UK's strategy for dealing with international drug matters are through bilateral representations and multilateral action. The government is aiming for a comprehensive strategy to tackle the problem from source of supply through to the point of consumption by engaging in United Nations (UN), European Union (EU), Financial Action Task Force (FATF), G7/8, and also in less formal groupings.

United States of America

Drug abuse is one of the major problems in the United State, and individuals seeking to abuse drugs generally have little trouble finding those substances. The number of people in the United States who used to select illicit drugs in their lifetime varies by drug type, with over 127 million people using marijuana at some point in their life and some 16 million using methamphetamine. The death rate from drug overdose in this nation in 2018b varied considerably by state, but saw a national average around 17 overdose deaths per 100,000 population. With the increased use of certain addictive and dangerous drugs and high overdose death rates in certain states, the importance of prevention and treatment remains undeniable.

Uzbekistan

Afghanistan-produced heroin and opium passes into Uzbekistan both directly from Afghanistan and via Tajikistan. According to the United Nations (UN): "Uzbekistan shares a 137 km border with Afghanistan and borders every other Central Asian state." Therefore, this nation is putting a lot of effort into drug trafficking by engaging in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). One recent activity that this nation took was having a conference in 2019, where a joint delegation of law enforcement agencies of Uzbekistan, UNODC Regional Office

for Central Asia and Embassy of Japan in Uzbekistan gathered to discuss the problem of countering illicit drug trafficking at the Uzbek-Afghan border.

Possible Solutions

Strengthening the border control

Beyond the domestic drug trades, international illicit trades are threatening global security and justice on a more severe level. Hence, strengthening border security to minimize the expansion of illicit drugs as a main priority, then focusing on domestic levels may be a better step to take. Nowadays, UNODC has been focusing on establishing a Border Liaison Office (BLO) in some countries such as Kazakhstan in order to tackle the drug trafficking and transnational threats in Central Asia. Through abundant interaction with each country's central government, border police and military intelligence, the office shares intelligence and information on drug trends, routes, and seizures. Through rapid sharing of ideas and knowledge, the office also expands and maintains the police committee so that the border control can be strengthened - ultimately minimizing the transnational threats and preventing illicit drugs from being traded through global routes.

Multilateral cooperation

Since its inception, international and multilateral cooperation in criminal matters has been one of the fundamentals of UNODC's work. Various inter-governmental bodies have been bringing together practitioners, policy makers and individuals with expertise in the issue in question from all over the world on the topic of drugs and crimes and thus have been offering Member States a platform and a network for exchanging expertise, experience and information. Thus, multilateral cooperation between inter-governmental bodies play a key role in taking concrete action through resolutions and decisions. Additionally, through the vast development of technology in the present day, the cooperation between international bodies and organizations have been much eased compared to the past. Thus, delegates are highly encouraged to investigate more accessible multilateral methods through recent technology. Furthermore, as a personal anecdote, we highly encourage delegates to look into specific, individual features and functions of the inter-governmental bodies in question and deliberate their possible contributions to the agenda.

Collaborating with International Court of Justice to strengthen the laws

The international Court of Justice (ICJ) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations (UN). The role of the court is to settle, in accordance with

international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States and to give advisory opinions. The committee may collaborate with the ICJ to enhance the existing laws on drug crimes for example, setting an international law to increase the previous punishments of imprisonment or fine. Although ICJ does not have enforcement powers other than the ability to negotiate the reparations required for agreement non-compliance, the committee and ICJ can alert the criminals and reduce crimes.

Collaborating with International Telecommunications Union (ITU)

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies. In 2011, ITU and UNODC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate globally on assisting Member States in mitigating the risks posed by cybercrime with the objective of ensuring secure use of information and communication technologies. To prevent the drug criminals' communication through cyber technologies and to enhance the defense of online drug trafficking, this committee may engage more in ITU and hold an annual conference or build an extensive network together.

Questions to Consider

1. How can a country deal with financial issues while combating drug problems and regulating illicit drug industries?
2. What is the most effective way of implementing new technologies to combat cybercrimes in each country?
3. How can the committee ensure that countries that attribute to drug trafficking such as Afghanistan participate in the treaty?
4. How are drug criminals associated with other crimes?
5. How can the development of technology in the modern day support inter-governmental and multilateral cooperation in the regulation of illicit drug trafficking?
6. Could the enhancement of drug trafficking regulations possibly damage a country? If yes, in what ways could it be prevented?

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