



GLOBAL ILLICIT DRUG TRENDS 2002



UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATION Sales No. E.02.XI.9 ISBN 92-1-148150-3

This publication has not been formally edited.

PREFACE

At the twentieth special session of the General Assembly in 1998, States Members agreed to make significant progress towards the control of supply and demand for illicit drugs by the year 2008. They noted that this objective could only be achieved by means of the 'balanced approach' (giving demand as much attention as supply), and on the basis of regular assessments of the drug problem. The aim of the present report is to contribute to such assessments by presenting supply and demand statistics and analysis on the evolution of the global illicit drug problem.

Reliable and systematic data to assess the drug problem, and to monitor progress in achieving the goals set by the General Assembly, however, is not readily available. The present report is based on data obtained primarily from the annual reports questionnaire sent by Governments to UNDCP in 2001, supplemented by other sources. Two of the main limitations encountered by UNDCP are that: (a) the reporting is not systematic enough, both in terms of number of countries responding and of content, and (b) many countries lack adequate monitoring systems.

The report tries to overcome these limitations by presenting, annually, Estimates of illicit drug Production, Trafficking and Consumption. These statistics form the main body of the report. They are supplemented by a section on Analysis, which focuses on different themes each year. Last year, the Analysis section contained chapters dealing with Clandestine Synthetic Drugs and Main Centres of Illicit Opium Production (Afghanistan and Myanmar). Today, international opiate markets continue to be in a state of flux, a result of the drastic reduction in Afghanistan's illicit opium production in 2001, and the resumption of production this year. The present report thus continues the analysis of illicit opiate markets, in a chapter on The Impact of Changes in Afghanistan.

The difficulties of trying to measure an illicit activity are well known. Although they impose obvious limitations on data, it is possible to make reasonable order-of-magnitude estimates. It is highly desirable to do so, because these estimates encourage transparency, stimulate discussion and build knowledge. Empirical evidence is the only realistic basis for policy-making. I would like to commend the Research Section of UNDCP for preparing this report which, by presenting what we know and by showing what we do not know, contributes to building the knowledge base for better policy and for better focussed action towards achieving the goals set in 1998.

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United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention



EXPLANATORY NOTE

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The following abbreviations have been used in this report:

ARQ annual reports questionnaire ATS amphetamine-type stimulants

CICAD Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission

CIS Commonwealth of Independent States

DEA Drug Enforcement Administration (United States of America)
DELTA UNDCP Database for Estimates and Long-term Trends Analysis

DMT N,N - dimethyltryptamine

DOB brolamfetamine

EMCDDA European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
ESPAD European School Survey Project on Alcohol and other Drugs

F.O. UNDCP Field Office

HONLC Meeting of Heads of National Law Enforcement Agencies - Latin America and the

Caribbean

HNLP Meeting of Heads of National Law Enforcement Agencies - Asia and the Pacific

IDU Injecting drug use

INCB International Narcotics Control Board

INCSR International Narcotics Control Strategy Report (United States of America)

Interpol/ICPO International Criminal Police Organization

LSD lysergic acid diethylamide

NAPOL National Police

ODCCP United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention

PCP phencyclidine

UNDCP United Nations International Drug Control Programme

UNAIDS Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human

Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

WCO World Customs Organization WHO World Health Organization

Govt. Government

u. Unit

It. Litre

kg Kilogram

ha Hectare

mt Metric ton



TABLE OF CONTENTS

HIGHLIGHT	rs6
ANALYSIS	Global Illicit Opiate Markets at the Crossroads: The Impact of Changes in Afghanistan
ESTIMATES	Production Overview 45 Opium 45 Coca 54 Eradication reported 62 Farmgate prices 62 Value of 2001 farmgate production 64 Manufacture 65
	Trafficking 75 Opiates 78 Cocaine 113 Cannabis 126 Amphetamine-type stimulants 161 Wholesale and retail (street) prices 192 Consumption
	Overview

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