



**UN General Assembly
Informal Thematic Debate on
Drugs and Crime
as a Threat to Development**

26 June 2012

North Lawn Building Conference Room 2
46th Street at First Avenue
UN Headquarters, New York

Agenda - Concept Note - Speakers' Biographies

TIME	PROGRAMME – CONFERENCE ROOM 2 (NLB)
10am – 10:45am	<p>Opening Session and Launch of the World Drug Report:</p> <p>H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, President of the General Assembly H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General Mr. Yury Fedotov, Executive Director, UN Office on Drugs and Crime</p>
10:45am – 1:00pm	<p>Morning Interactive Panel Discussion on: Challenges in mainstreaming drug control into development initiatives, and ways of improving the international community's coordinated efforts to address illicit drugs adverse impact on development</p> <p>Chair: H.E. Mr. Luis-Alfonso de Alba, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations Moderator: Mr. Yury Fedotov, Executive Director, UN Office on Drugs and Crime</p> <p>Panellists: <i>H.E. Ms. Carmen Bujan, Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs</i> <i>Mr. Raymond Yans, President of the International Narcotics Control Board</i> <i>Mr. Maged Abdelaziz, Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Africa</i> <i>Mr. Otaviano Canuto Vice-President of the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network, World Bank</i></p>
3:00pm – 5:45pm	<p>Afternoon Interactive Panel Discussion on: Challenges in mainstreaming crime prevention into development initiatives, and ways of improving the international community's coordinated efforts to address crime's adverse impact on development</p> <p>Chair: H.E. Mr. Jim McLay, Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations Moderator: Mr. Yury Fedotov, Executive Director, UN Office on Drugs and Crime</p> <p>Panellists: <i>H.R.H. Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol of Thailand, Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice</i> <i>Mr. Bruce Jones, Director of the New York University Center on International Cooperation and Director of the Managing Global Order Program at the Brookings Institution</i> <i>Mr. Stewart Patrick, Director of the International Institutions and Global Governance Program at the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations</i> <i>Mr. Francis Forbes, Executive Director of the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security</i></p>
5:45pm – 6:00pm	<p>Closing Session:</p> <p>H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, President of the General Assembly</p>

Vladimir Kalada / Russian Federation

- mentioned wanting more eradication
- mentioned US Institute of Peace report, re "Drugs in Afghanistan: A Forgotten Issue"

Concept Note

THEMATIC DEBATE OF THE 66TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON
DRUGS AND CRIME AS A THREAT TO DEVELOPMENT
ON THE OCCASION OF THE UN INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING
26 JUNE 2012 – NEW YORK

BACKGROUND

In the past decade, there has been significant growth in the illicit trafficking of drugs, people, firearms, and natural resources. Trafficking in these and other commodities is generally characterized by high levels of organization and the presence of strong criminal groups and networks. While such activities existed in the past, both the scale and the geographic scope of the current challenge are unprecedented. In 2009, the value of illicit trade around the globe was estimated at US\$ 1.3 trillion and is increasing.

Transnational organized crime and drug trafficking is of growing concern, and particularly illicit trade's broad impact on development. Few, if any, countries are exempt. Drug trafficking has particularly severe implications because of the vast illegal profits it generates: an estimated 322 billion dollars a year. In several drug production and transit regions, criminal groups undermine state authority and the rule of law by fuelling corruption, compromising elections, and hurting the legitimate economy. In all cases, criminal influence and money are having a significant impact on the livelihoods and quality of life of citizens, most particularly the poor, women and children.

The 2005 World Summit Outcome Document expressed Member States' "grave concern at the negative effects on development, peace and security and human rights posed by transnational crime, including the smuggling of and trafficking in human beings, the world narcotic drug problem and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons." (A/RES/60/1 at 111). The General Assembly has most recently reiterated this concern and noted the increasing vulnerability of states to such crime in Resolution A/Res/66/181 (Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity). The Assembly has also recognized that "despite continuing increased efforts by States, relevant organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, the world drug problem...undermines socio-economic and political stability and sustainable development." See A/Res/66/183 (International cooperation against the world drug problem).

A number of international conventions on drug control, and more recently the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its protocols on human trafficking, migrant smuggling and trafficking of firearms, as well as the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), constitute the key framework for a strategic response. Such instruments call upon State Parties to take "into account the negative effects of organized crime on society in general, in particular on sustainable development", and "to alleviate the factors that make persons, especially women and children, vulnerable to trafficking, such as poverty, underdevelopment and lack of equal opportunity." See article 30 of the UNTOC and article 9 of the Trafficking Protocol. See also article 62 of the UNCAC. They also commit parties to respect fundamental human rights in countering organized crime and drug trafficking.

The Secretary General's 2005 "In Larger Freedom" report highlighted that "We will not enjoy development without security, and we will not enjoy security without development". The Secretary-General's 2010 "Keeping the Promise" report (A/64/665) recognized that in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, "integrity, accountability and transparency are crucial for managing resources, recovering assets and combating the abuse, corruption and organized crime that are adversely affecting the poor." Par. 57.

As we move towards 2015, and take stock of the Millennium Development Goals, there is a growing recognition that organized crime and illicit drugs are major impediments to their achievement.

As economic development is threatened by transnational organized crime and illicit drugs, countering crime must form part of the development agenda, and social and economic development approaches need to form part of our response to organized crime. If we are to ensure that the MDGs are achieved, we must strengthen strategies to deliver these goals, including stepping up efforts to address issues such as money laundering, corruption and trafficking in wildlife, people and arms, and drugs. Organized crime and drugs impact every economy, in every country, but they are particularly devastating in weak and vulnerable countries. Weak and fragile countries are particularly vulnerable to the effects of transnational organized crime. These countries, some devastated by war, others making the complex journey towards democracy, are preyed upon by crime. As a result, organized crime flourishes, successes in development are reversed, and opportunities for social and economic advancement are lost. Corruption, a facilitator of organized crime and drug trafficking, is a serious impediment to the rule of law and sustainable development. It can be a dominant factor driving fragile countries towards failure. It is estimated that up to US\$40 billion annually is lost through corruption in developing countries.

Drugs and crime undermine development by eroding social and human capital. This degrades quality of life and can force skilled workers to leave, while the direct impacts of victimisation, as well as fear of crime, may impede the development of those that remain. By limiting movement, crime impedes access to possible employment and educational opportunities, and it discourages the accumulation of assets. Crime is also more “expensive” for poor people in poor countries, and disadvantaged households may struggle to cope with the shock of victimisation. Drugs and crime also undermine development by driving away business. Both foreign and domestic investors see crime as a sign of social instability, and crime drives up the cost of doing business. Tourism is a sector especially sensitive to crime issues. Drugs and crime, moreover, undermine the ability of the state to promote development by destroying the trust relationship between the people and the state, and undermining democracy and confidence in the criminal justice system. When people lose confidence in the criminal justice system, they may engage in vigilantism, which further undermines the state.

This timely Thematic Debate organized in cooperation with the Group of Friends in support of UNODC’s efforts in the fight against drugs and crime and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), will discuss existing challenges in mainstreaming drug control and crime prevention into development initiatives and ways of improving the international community’s coordinated efforts to address illicit drugs and crime’s adverse impact on development, and the role of the criminal justice sector in promoting MDGs.

OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of this Thematic Debate is to unite in common endeavour Member States, the UN System, international organizations, and civil society, to emphasize the value of a comprehensive approach and inclusive international partnerships in effectively fighting organized crime and drugs in order to facilitate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

The outcome of the debate will include a President’s Summary, which will be transmitted to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Doha in 2015—the main theme of which shall be “Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation.”

PROGRAMME

Thematic Debate will take place on Tuesday, June 26th 2012 at the UN Headquarters in New York. It will consist of opening and closing sessions as well as a morning and afternoon panel discussions. As this debate is being held on the occasion of the UN International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the opening session will include the launch of the annual World Drug Report.

Following presentations by the panellists, the floor will be open to delegates and other participants to share their experience and perspectives in both the morning and afternoon interactive panel discussions. Delegations are encouraged to engage in an open and interactive discussion. There will be no established list of speakers, and delegations are kindly asked to limit their interventions to a maximum of 3 minutes.

Speakers' Biographies



H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser
President of the United Nations General Assembly

H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser was elected President of the sixty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly on 22 June 2011 and assumed the Presidency on 13 September 2011. A veteran diplomat, Mr. Al-Nasser has the rank of Minister, granted by His Highness the Emir of the State of Qatar. Mr. Al-Nasser has contributed to advancing the multilateral agenda in the realms of peace and security, sustainable development and South-South Cooperation over four decades.

Mr. Al-Nasser served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations in New York (1998-2011), during which he represented his country on the UN Security Council for two-year term of Qatar as non-permanent member (2006-2007), Ambassador to Jordan (1993-1998), Minister Plenipotentiary at the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations in New York (1986-1993), Consul-General for Qatar in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (1975-1981), at the Embassy of Qatar in Islamabad, Pakistan (1975), and as Attaché at the Embassy of Qatar in Beirut, Lebanon (1972). Mr. Al-Nasser was educated in Doha and Beirut and is a recipient of numerous decorations and awards.



H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations

Ban Ki-moon is the eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations, serving his second term. His priorities have been to mobilize world leaders around a set of new global challenges, from climate change and economic upheaval to pandemics and increasing pressures involving food, energy and water. He has sought to be a bridge-builder, to give voice to the world's poorest and most vulnerable people, and to strengthen the Organization itself.

The Secretary-General served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea. His 37 years of service with the Ministry included postings in New Delhi, Washington D.C. and Vienna, and responsibility for a variety of portfolios, including Foreign Policy Adviser to the President, Chief National Security Adviser to the President, Deputy Minister for Policy Planning and Director-General of American Affairs.



Mr. Yury Fedotov
Executive Director, UN Office on Drugs and Crime

Appointed by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Yury Fedotov currently serves as the Executive of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at the rank of Under-Secretary-General.

Mr. Fedotov's roles include the promotion of the key principles: transparency of action, accountability, gender balance and geographical distribution; and to put into practice the reforms launched by the Secretary-General. Mr. Fedotov's roles act as the springboard for the United Nations to adapt to the challenges of the 21st Century, which include climate change, food and water security, and universal access to health.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Fedotov was assigned the position of the Russian Federation's ambassador to the United Kingdom, and served as a member of the College of Commissioners of the former UN Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) in Iraq.



H.E. Mr. Luis-Alfonso de Alba

Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations

A diplomat since 1983, H.E. Mr. Luis-Alfonso de Alba is the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations. Having participated in numerous multilateral meetings, both at the regional and global levels, Ambassador Luis-Alfonso de Alba has gained substantive knowledge on the work and functioning of such organizations, particularly those of the United Nations.

He has actively championed and pursued the advancement of human rights, namely through the strengthening and improvement of international mechanisms. Prior to his appointment as the Permanent Representative of Mexico in 2002, Ambassador de Alba was assigned to the Mexican Mission to the United Nations in New York, where he was made responsible of the Decolonization Committee, addressing matters such as the peace processes in Central America and the Middle East.



H.E. Ms. Carmen Bujan

Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

H.E. Ms. Carmen Bujan was appointed the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations Office at Vienna. She attained her law degree in 1993, and since then has been continuously involved in the diplomatic service.

In the course of her diplomatic career with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain, H.E. Ms. Bujan was the Spanish Ambassador to Romania, Pakistan and Hungary. Similarly, she was made the Director General for Strategic Affairs and Terrorism (2008), Deputy Director General for International Affairs of Terrorism (2005), and the General Directorate of Consular Affairs and Abroad Spaniards Protection (2002).



Mr. Raymond Yans

President of the International Narcotics Control Board

Mr. Raymond Yans was elected President of the International Narcotics Control Board on May 8th 2012. Mr. Yans is commonly associated with his fight against the legalization of drugs in Europe, and so calls for a greater international

support of prevention policies, more specifically of those against the use of cannabis by young adults.

Mr. Yans previous posts included Head of the Drug Unit, Chairman of the European Union Drug Policy Cooperation Working Group and member of the Belgian delegation to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Mr. Raymond Yans was pivotal in launching the European Union Joint Act on New Synthetic Drugs of an early warning system to alert Governments to the appearance of new synthetic drugs. Likewise, he was active in the creation of the Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union, the Caribbean and Latin America.



Mr. Maged Abdelaziz

Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Africa

Mr. Maged Abdelaziz currently serves as the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Africa, at the level of Under-Secretary-General. He will focus on revitalizing the entire agenda relating to the special needs of Africa, including through implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), to which the Secretary-General attaches highest priority.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Abdelaziz has been serving as Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations in New York since 2005. He has brought to the position more than 33 years of experience in the multilateral diplomacy and direct engagement in promoting global development and socio-economic agenda.

Mr. Abdelaziz has an intimate knowledge of the UN intergovernmental processes and multilateral diplomacy, having served three tours of duty at the United Nations headquarters in New York as well as serving on various committees and subsidiaries bodies of the United Nations. Mr. Abdelaziz played a leading role in the reform and revitalization of the United Nations, including the establishment of the Human Rights Council and the Peace-Building Commission as well as the elaboration and adoption of the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy.



Mr. Otaviano Canuto

Vice President and Head of Poverty Reduction and Economic Management

Mr. Otaviano Canuto is Vice President and Head of the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management (PREM) Network; a branch of the World Bank concerned with economy policy formulation in the areas of growth, debt, trade and poverty.

Mr. Canuto is involved in managing the Bank's interactions with major partner institutions such as the OECD and the IMF. Prior to his appointment in 2009, Mr. Canuto served as the Vice President for Countries at the Inter-American Development Bank. Dr. Canuto served as the Secretary for

International Affairs in the Brazilian Ministry of Finance, and was Professor of Economics at the University of Sao Paulo and University of Campinas (UNICAMP) in Brazil.



H.E. Mr. Jim McLay

Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations

Ambassador McLay currently serves as the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations. He has been appointed this position in 2009.

Ambassador McLay has been an active politician since 1963. In 1978 he was appointed as the Attorney General and Minister of Justice and had a particular focus on reforming laws that related to women's rights. In 1984, Ambassador McLay became Deputy Leader of the National Party, and thus the Deputy Prime Minister. After retiring from Parliament in 1987, he chaired the New Zealand Council for Infrastructure Development, an independent organization that promotes best practice in infrastructure development and investment.



H.R.H. Princess Bajarkitiyabha Mahidol of Thailand

Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

H.R.H Princess Bajarkitiyabha of Thailand currently runs the "Inspire" project, which aims at reintegrating female inmates into society after their release. In addition, she is active member of the project "Enhancing Lives of Female Inmates" (ELFI), which aims at improving the treatment of women prisoners. Princess Bajarkitiyabha has also found herself taking charge of the "Princess Pa Foundation", an independent body aimed at helping victims of natural disasters.

Princess Bajarkitiyabha received a bachelor's degree in Law from the Thammasat University, along with a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Sukhothai Thammathirat University, with first class honours. Following this, she obtained her master's and doctoral degree at the Cornell Law School in 2005. On completion of her doctorate, Princess Bajarkitiyabha worked for a period of time at the Thai Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.



Mr. Bruce Jones

Director of the Managing Global Order Program at the Brookings Institution

Dr. Bruce Jones is currently the Director and Senior Fellow of the NYU Center on International Cooperation, and Senior Fellow and Director of the Managing Global Order Program at the Brookings Institution. Dr. Jones' research is geared towards US policy on global order and transnational threats, as well as the role of the United Nations in crisis management and international security.

Dr. Jones has served as Senior External Advisor for the World Bank's World Development Report 2011 on Conflict, Security and Development, as a member of the Secretary-General's Senior Advisory Group to guide the Review of International Civilian Capacities, and as Deputy Research Director for the United Nations High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change.



Mr. Stewart Patrick

Director of the International Institutions and Global Governance Program at the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations

Dr. Stewart Patrick is senior fellow and director of the International Institutions and Global Governance Program at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). His areas of expertise include multilateral cooperation in the management of global issues; U.S. policy toward international institutions, including the United Nations; the challenges posed by fragile, failing, and post-conflict states; and the integration of U.S. defense, development, and diplomatic instruments in U.S. foreign and national security policy.

Prior to this appointment Dr. Patrick was a research fellow at the Center for Global Development (2005-2008) and a professorial lecturer in international relations/conflict management at John Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies. He also served on the Secretary of State's policy planning staff, with lead staff responsibility for U.S. policy toward Afghanistan and a range of global and transnational issues.



Mr. Francis Forbes

Executive Director of the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security

Francis Forbes was made Executive Director of CARICOM IMPACS in 2011. Mr. Francis Forbes' responsibilities are centered around research, evaluation, monitoring and analysis of crime and security issues, as well as the development and implementation of projects aimed at minimizing crime and enhancing security programs.

