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**Commission on Crime Prevention
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**Integration and coordination of efforts by the United
Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States in
the field of crime prevention and criminal justice: other
activities in support of the work of the United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the
United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice
programme network, non-governmental organizations
and other bodies**

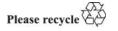# Work of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Note by the Secretary-General

The report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute was prepared pursuant to a decision of the Board taken at its meeting held on 14 to 15 December 2015 to report to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and it contains information on the work of and the results achieved by the Institute, in accordance with the statute of the Institute (Council resolution 1989/56, annex).

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* E/CN.15/2016/1.

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Results achieved by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Report of the Board of Trustees

I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) operates as a nimble, rapidly responding organization that addresses the needs of the international community, working within the broad scope of its mandate to formulate and implement improved policies in the field of crime prevention and control. The Institute is uniquely positioned to produce research findings that are action-oriented and produce outcomes that inform the training and education of practitioners and scholars and build a knowledge base for future research and policy development and implementation. UNICRI serves as a platform for consultation and cooperation by acting as an honest broker between partners, including Member States, local governments, international organizations, private entities, research institutions, non-governmental organizations and civil society, in designing a common approach to addressing shared challenges. The work undertaken by the Institute is funded exclusively from voluntary contributions.

2. UNICRI promotes, coordinates and conducts research and collaborates with Member States by supporting and organizing field activities with the aim of establishing a reliable information base, and building technical assistance capacity on issues of social concern, including emerging and often transnational forms of crime. The Institute identifies appropriate strategies, policies and instruments for crime prevention and control so as to contribute to socioeconomic development, increased security and the protection of human rights, by designing practical models and systems aimed at providing support for policy formulation, implementation and evaluation.

3. UNICRI was established pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1086 B (XXXIX) of 1965. The Institute is governed by its Board of Trustees, who contribute by giving strategic direction and setting priorities. The Board reports periodically to the Council through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

4. The Report of the Board of Trustees summarizes the work completed during 2015 by UNICRI that has led to the implementation of improved policies. The work of UNICRI, presented in this report, in addition to an introduction and a concluding section on the management of UNICRI, is organized in the following four thematic areas:

    (a)   Security governance and counter-terrorism;

    (b)   Crime and justice;

    (c)   Training and advanced education;

    (d)   Knowledge collection, exchange and dissemination.

5. UNICRI employs a broad range of methods to achieve its goals, including using rigorous social science research methods; developing effective educational

and training pedagogies; developing and sharing good practices, guidelines, handbooks and educational materials; creating online platforms and databases for information-sharing; assisting Member States in developing national action plans; facilitating partnerships between diverse stakeholders; and creating an environment conducive to cooperation that fosters development. The key to the effectiveness of UNICRI is the development of strong relationships with a wide range of partners, based on honesty, transparency and openness as a way to develop policies that can be implemented to bring about positive change.

II. Security governance and counter-terrorism

6. The objective of the activities of UNICRI in the area of security governance and counter-terrorism is to increase security by supporting Member States to improve policies to counter emerging security threats and the appeal of terrorism.

A. Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation and security governance

1. The European Union Centres of Excellence on Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation

7. The criminal use of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials pose a critical threat to peace, safety, security and development, as reflected in a number of instruments and resolutions. Since 2010, the Institute has been establishing centres of excellence, an initiative of the European Union to mitigate criminal, accidental and natural risks related to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials. These risks are addressed through a comprehensive approach covering legal, scientific, enforcement and technical issues and by increasing local ownership, local expertise and long-term sustainability.

8. The initiative, under the lead of the European Commission and the European External Action Service, relies on the technical support of relevant international and regional organizations, the European Union member States and other stakeholders. The initiative is implemented in eight regions of the world, namely: the African Atlantic façade; Central Asia; East and Central Africa; the Middle East; the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council; North Africa and the Sahel; South-East Asia; and South-Eastern and Eastern Europe.

9. In 2015, the number of partner countries for the centres of excellence increased, with three new countries (Burkina Faso, Qatar and Saudi Arabia), reaching 52 countries. Additionally, the Central Asia Regional Secretariat was opened in Tashkent, and a memorandum of understanding was signed with Algeria resulting in the opening of the North Africa and the Sahel Regional Secretariat in Algiers. UNICRI is now present in all regions to promote close cooperation and coordination among the partner countries, facilitate the implementation of activities and support countries with the development of their action plans on national chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks.

10. Georgia approved an action-oriented comprehensive assessment of national risks posed by chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials. Georgia is

the first centre of excellence partner country to have officially adopted a national action plan to counter the risks posed by those materials. The adoption of the plan has provided a basis for implementation.

11. National action plans for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation were finalized by Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Morocco, Myanmar, the Philippines and Serbia. The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon, Montenegro, Senegal, Seychelles, Tajikistan and Uganda have started the preparation of their national action plans.

12. In collaboration with 57 implementing agencies from 30 countries, UNICRI completed the implementation of 19 projects for the benefit of 44 countries in awareness-raising, knowledge development and technical support, addressing regional needs in the areas of protection of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear material/facilities and infrastructures; border control/border monitoring; illicit trafficking; chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear waste management; first response; public health impact mitigation; and post incident recovery. They provided equipment and produced a wealth of educational material, tools and analyses.

13. The initiative has produced the following concrete outcomes:

(a) Adoption of the Strategic Trade Management Act of the Philippines in November 2015, a result of the comprehensive assessment of legislation on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks and strategic trade;

(b) Commitment from 15 countries to establish a more effective mechanism for monitoring import/export of dual-use chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear material;

(c) Awareness of biosafety, biosecurity and bio-risk management at laboratories of hospitals and research facilities increased in 22 countries;

(d) Development of local capacity for knowledge dissemination. The projects reached out to 410 professionals and supported the establishment of a linking mechanism to enable rapid screening and response, in case of biological threat, in laboratories in the Philippines;

(e) Development of education material utilized for laboratory biosafety, biosecurity and bio-risk management, and on the dual-use of biotechnology. In addition, there are now three online platforms that can facilitate learning on topics specifically related to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation;

(f) Development of specific tools, such as software for assessing risks from malicious chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear events from multiple perspectives and a database application for registering infectious biological agents in laboratories. Furthermore, handbooks and guidelines have been produced for specific professional audiences.

2. Strengthening biosafety and biosecurity capabilities in southern Caucasus and Central Asian countries

14. UNICRI completed the implementation of 9 of the 12 projects funded under the European Commission's programme on biosafety and biosecurity, which seeks to improve the conditions in the targeted countries in the southern Caucasus

(Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia) and Central Asian countries (Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) by addressing needs of selected key institutes through tailor-made projects.

15. The implemented projects have built the capacities and developed the knowledge of the selected institutes in terms of biosafety and biosecurity. This has been achieved through the reconstruction and upgrading of the infrastructure of three laboratories and the purchase of and training on the use of equipment for seven institutes in Armenia, Georgia and Tajikistan. In addition, 15 technical training sessions or workshops were carried out on a diverse range of topics related to biosafety and biosecurity in Armenia, Georgia and Tajikistan; one international conference was organized in Georgia; and five institutes fostered relations and the exchange of best practices with partner institutes in the United States of America and Europe.

3. Putting on the international agenda chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks and security implications related to research innovations

16. In 2015, UNICRI promoted national action plans and began raising awareness of the current and likely future capabilities of artificial intelligence and autonomous robotics at the international level. In October, the Permanent Mission of Georgia, in cooperation with UNICRI, organized a side event of the General Assembly entitled "Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear national action plans: rising to the challenges of international security and the emergence of artificial intelligence".

17. Similarly, to raise awareness, the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations, in cooperation with UNICRI, organized a side event[1] at the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, held in December 2015.

B. Prevention of and countering violent extremism and rehabilitation of violent extremist offenders

18. The objective of UNICRI activity in the area of prevention of and countering violent extremism and rehabilitation of violent extremist offenders is to provide Member States with actionable knowledge to strengthen national capacity to identify innovative means to prevent and counter the appeal of terrorism and recruitment, as well as to rehabilitate violent extremist offenders. Although the broad field of violent extremism has received considerable attention, very little has been empirically tested. Most of the work by UNICRI in this field is cutting edge and involves pilot tests.

1. Countering radicalization and violent extremism

19. In September 2015, UNICRI launched a new pilot project to counter radicalization and violent extremism in the Sahel/Maghreb region, funded by the European Union. This pilot project will integrate international, regional and local

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[1] Entitled "Putting biosafety and biosecurity under the microscope: elements for an international approach to reinforce capabilities and address future risks".

resources to support the countries of the region in countering the growing threat of violent extremism, and requires a multidisciplinary approach.

20. The pilot project will test and evaluate innovative initiatives through the involvement of civil society actors, based on the theory that such actors enjoy grassroots support, and will make available key assets to limit the influence of violent extremist ideology, challenging the narratives of extremists by offering positive alternatives to violence. Non-governmental organizations, the media, cultural associations and women's and youth organizations will be the primary partners in the implementation of the activities.

21. This project will combine the European Union Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the European Union Strategy for Combating Radicalization and Recruitment to Terrorism, the European Union Strategy for Security and Development in the Sahel and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. It will develop a unified approach by involving national, regional, and international actors, international experts and the national competent authorities in the countries involved.

2. Rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders

22. UNICRI has been at the forefront of responding to the needs of programme development in the area of rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders, and the Institute plays a key role in supporting Member States in incorporating the generalized good practices identified in the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) Rome Memorandum on Good Practices for the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Violent Extremist Offenders, which specifically addresses the rehabilitation needs of incarcerated violent extremists, into national policies that integrate cultural, sociological and context-specific considerations and draw on the expertise of all relevant stakeholders, including State agencies and civil society organizations.

23. UNICRI has been working with one Member State to support the development and implementation of a rehabilitation and reintegration programme for violent extremist offenders, and to design a risk assessment tool for violent extremist offenders in prison. The tool, developed in close coordination with national experts and relevant authorities, is expected to be finalized by mid-2016. Preparatory work for implementation included a workshop[2] for the corrections staff.

24. UNICRI has an ongoing discussion with multidisciplinary groups, including prison officials, academics, religious professionals, civil society and other agencies, to determine the programme components necessary to design, develop and implement disengagement, rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for violent extremist offenders in prison settings in various cultures.

3. Responding to the threat of returning foreign terrorist fighters

25. In 2015, UNICRI laid the foundation for the regional exchange of experiences, best practices and information with regard to the threat posed by returning foreign terrorist fighters, and the existing responses implemented to date through practical application-oriented workshops, such as tabletop exercises, in line with the

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[2] Entitled "Rome Memorandum on Good Practices for the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Violent Extremist Offenders", conducted in November 2015.

recommendations that emerged from the UNICRI-GCTF expert workshop in 2014.[3] This platform supports Member States in analysing such threats, assessing existing responses and both designing and implementing effective rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for returning foreign terrorist fighters, which effectively engage key actors such as families, civil society and the full range of government entities.

4. Juvenile justice in a counter-terrorism context

26. UNICRI is supporting the adoption of evidence-based policies in counter-terrorism in the light of international and national juvenile justice standards through research and through a pilot project aimed at developing a model diversion programme for first-time juvenile offenders identified as being involved in violent extremist or terrorist activities. Anti-terrorist legislation and law enforcement measures have not given sufficient consideration to the fact that some of the suspected or alleged offenders are under the age of 18. Vulnerability of children and juveniles shall be considered when developing counter-terrorism policies and legislation seeking to integrate international standards of juvenile justice into national counter-terrorism frameworks.

27. To support the work of the GCTF working group on the criminal justice sector and the rule of law, UNICRI presented an overview of the rules, regulations, standards, jurisprudence and administrative practices concerning children and juveniles in counter-terrorism contexts, both at the international level and in a sample of countries of different legal traditions (e.g., common law, civil law and Islamic law), as well as research conclusions and recommendations to be discussed by GCTF in view of the preparation of guidelines, good practices and a memorandum on juvenile justice in a counter-terrorism context at a meeting jointly organized with the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law and Switzerland.

C. Security during major events and public-private partnerships for the protection of vulnerable targets

28. In furtherance of previous work supported by Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/28, in which the Council invited UNICRI to continue and expand its work in security measures during major events, the Institute is currently working on the development of a secure electronic platform, which will include tools and good practices available to enhance support to security planners with a comprehensive repository of information.

29. UNICRI provided technical assistance and advisory services to requesting Member States in planning the security of major events, including Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ireland, Lithuania, Poland and Slovakia.

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[3] The expert workshop held in Manila in August 2015 addressed the need to share and learn from each other's experiences and knowledge, to strengthen the multilateral approach and to successfully frame the strategy to counter this phenomenon as part of the wider stabilization efforts in conflict-affected situations.

30.   UNICRI is implementing the initiative "Protecting major events to foster crime prevention strategies in the Americas" in cooperation with the Organization of American States. The initiative provides training and advisory services to security planners in preparation for major events to be hosted in the Americas.

Public-private partnerships for the protection of vulnerable targets

31.   The work of UNICRI is founded on the assumption that while responsibility for security lies with State authorities, the protection of the multitude of vulnerable targets all around the world requires the active participation of the business community and civil society. Most UNICRI activities include partnerships, many of which are public-private partnerships. For example, UNICRI provided technical assistance and advisory services to the National Cybersecurity Centre in Portugal, making public and private entities more resilient to cyberattacks.

D. New initiatives in security governance and counter-terrorism

32.   The Board of Trustees of UNICRI acknowledges the importance of cutting-edge programming and encouraged UNICRI to focus on new areas of crime for future initiatives. Additionally, the Board recognizes the importance of disseminating cutting-edge knowledge. The following examples demonstrate the work of UNICRI in new fields of crime.

1. Artificial intelligence and robotics has potentially far-reaching implications

33.   UNICRI explored addressing security gaps and vulnerabilities derived from the duality of new technologies and promoting a comprehensive understanding to ensure responsible development to mitigate potential future exploitation and misuse by criminal and terrorist groups. Given the potential value of autonomous systems as delivery mechanisms and relying on its expertise in the field of mitigation of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks, UNICRI is exploring the risks raised by present day and potential future artificial intelligence and robotics technologies as a means of providing a strong knowledge base for dissemination to interested stakeholders and beneficiaries.

2. Emerging technologies and the Chemical Weapons Convention: autonomous systems and artificial intelligence

34.   In November 2015, UNICRI and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Hague Security Delta co-organized a side event in The Hague and briefed the participants of the twentieth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction on past, present and likely future developments in robotics and the technological trend towards increasingly autonomous systems. Participating experts discussed benefits and vulnerabilities derived from technological advancements, with a view to sharing best practices and information relevant to counter these emerging threats.

3. Community-oriented policing

35. Community-oriented policing continues to emerge as a critical strategy in the fight against crime. The objective of the programme on community-oriented policing is to promote the adoption of community-oriented policing approaches to prevent crime and violent extremism through community engagement and partnerships, by building trust and sharing information in order to identify, hinder and address crime and the spread of terrorist ideologies and behaviours prior to the occurrence of violence.

36. UNICRI in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) organized the expert meeting on community policing to enhance urban security, held in Turin, Italy, in November 2015, in order to identify characteristics and promising practices with regard to community-oriented policing in Member States around the world and thus develop a strategy for implementing community-oriented policing policies. Given the increasing interest of Member States in setting up national community-oriented policing programmes, UNICRI, UNODC, and other partners, in consultation with national and international experts, will develop a comprehensive technical guidance and training tool, respectively, to support States that are introducing community-oriented and proactive policing with a view to preventing crime, reducing the fear of crime and involving members of the community to enhance safety and security.

4. The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute at the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha, Qatar, on 12-19 April 2015

37. Venues, such as the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, provide an impactful way of disseminating knowledge. One of the sessions conducted by UNICRI at the Thirteenth Crime Congress considered the unprecedented acceleration in the development of new technologies and the threats associated with such advancements. UNICRI focused on a range of technologies in its field of work, including chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials; biotechnology; big data; and autonomous robotics.

38. A second session conducted by UNICRI discussed the challenges posed by returning foreign terrorist fighters and focused on the rehabilitation of violent extremist offenders in prisons as prison can provide a conducive environment for convicted terrorists to network, compare and exchange tactics, radicalize, recruit new members and set up outside command and control operations. As most detained extremists will eventually be released, it is crucial to find mechanisms to stimulate disengagement from violence.

III. Crime and justice

39. The objective of the Institute's activities in the thematic area of crime and justice is to support efforts by Member States to effectively prevent and respond to organized crime in its different forms through the implementation of research-informed policies and information-sharing among stakeholders and beneficiaries. UNICRI has extended the scope of its activities to new and emerging threats as a means to combat ever-evolving organized crime. The Institute views as a priority

the early detection of crimes, particularly in preventing their further expansion and as a means of identifying appropriate and innovative responses.

A. Combating organized crime and illicit proceeds

1. Support to countries of North Africa in asset recovery

40.   Countries of North Africa drafted new laws as a result of the innovative approach of UNICRI focusing on non-penal-based confiscation of illicit assets, along with technical and legal advice which encouraged States to apply the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as other principles of international law, to more effectively recapture stolen illicit assets. Through its project office in Brussels, UNICRI has launched a project funded by the European Union aimed at supporting Governments, in particular of Egypt, Libya and Tunisia, in recovering stolen assets. The project will continue into 2017 while implementation of the new laws is supported.

2. International strategy to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in precious metals and the linkages between trafficking of precious metals and transnational organized crimes

41.   International illicit trafficking in precious metals has become a significant source of financing for organized criminal groups which exploit loopholes in national legislation and international trade. With the support of the Government of South Africa, UNICRI initiated a study on the possible links between transnational organized crime, other activities and illicit trafficking in precious metals; the study will also assess good practices and lessons learned to prevent and counter the phenomenon.[4]

42.   In the course of the study, UNICRI has identified common trends, existing good practices, loopholes and challenges to be addressed, in partnership with an international network of key stakeholders including Member States' governmental entities, leading companies involved in the production, processing and trade of precious metals, international organizations and other relevant actors, stakeholders meetings and consultations are being held in order to design new policies to better address these issues.

3. Countering emerging threats and challenges of transnational organized crime in view of regional integration

43.   UNICRI, in partnership with the Thailand Institute of Justice, initiated a study on countering emerging threats and challenges of transnational organized crime from Thailand's perspective in the context of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) community. The purpose of the research is to assess how Thailand, in the context of its regional integration into the ASEAN Economic Community, is preparing to address the challenges posed by transnational organized crime to justice, security and development.

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[4] It is expected that the study will be made available to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-fifth session in the form of a conference room paper.

44. The outcome of the research, expected to be published in 2016, will serve to inform interested stakeholders in Thailand and the wider ASEAN region faced with similar challenges, to develop future, more comprehensive strategies to cater for their needs as a means of better addressing transnational organized crime.

4. Organized crime and illicit trafficking

45. An international environmental scanning system, Early Pursuit against Organized Crime Using Environmental Scanning, the Law and Intelligence Systems (ePOOLICE), to counter criminal networks, was developed, along with a training manual for operators by a consortium including UNICRI working alongside law enforcement and academic experts in the ePOOLICE project, funded by the European Commission.

46. In an effort to detect crimes at an early stage, the ePOOLICE tool provides a systematic overview of the surrounding environment to better assess and anticipate an emerging crime by monitoring the environment and capturing in real-time relevant information from heterogeneous sources, including law enforcement analysis reports, governmental information, the Internet and social media.

B. Counterfeiting

47. Counterfeiting, perceived as a victimless crime, can offer a highly favourable ratio of potential profits to assumed risks compared with other criminal activities such as drug trafficking. Transnational criminal groups are increasingly involved in counterfeiting. This illicit activity, which has grown to unprecedented proportions, is usually linked to other criminal activities such as fraud, customs and excise contraventions, tax evasion, money-laundering and several forms of illicit trade and trafficking.

1. Initiatives to strengthen the fight against falsified medicines: pilot project in Uganda

48. A better understanding of the situation of falsified medicines in Uganda was achieved through a pilot project implemented by UNICRI in cooperation with the International Development Law Organization and the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, with funding from the World Bank. The project assessed the regulatory and legislative framework in Uganda with a view to proposing ways to improve effective action by the country to counter the phenomenon. The assessment report includes a draft national strategy tailored to the country, with a view to supporting the enhancement of measures against the falsification of medicines.

2. Analysis of the reinvestment of illicit capitals in the legal economy

49. A research project was initiated in June 2013, in cooperation with the United States Department of State, to analyse the ways in which organized criminal groups reinvest illicit proceeds in the legal economy. Results are expected in April 2016.

3. Partnership with the private sector: using anti-counterfeiting technology

50.   Research revealed that substantial funds were being diverted from legitimate taxation given that counterfeit goods and the related transactions are not subject to taxation. When Governments employed the use of anti-counterfeiting technologies, significant additional amounts of tax revenue were collected compared with previous years. Additionally, anti-counterfeiting technologies secure the legitimate supply chain of products, ensuring that legitimate products, such as medication, arrive at their intended destination.

51.   The final report, *Ensuring Supply Chain Security: The Role of Anti-Counterfeiting Technologies*, focused on the role of anti-counterfeiting technologies in increasing safety for Governments and citizens. Focusing on several product categories (including medicines, wines, tobacco, mineral water, dairy products, soap, electrical switches, gas and oil, among many others), in different geographical areas, the research analysed Governments' approaches to anti-counterfeiting technologies.

4. Anti-counterfeiting technologies workshop: protecting intellectual property and economic development

52.   In line with its strategy to share information and best practices, in September 2015, at Expo Venice, Italy, UNICRI jointly organized, with the World Bank, the Italian Ministry of Economic Development and the Association of Italian Joint Stock Companies (Assonime), a workshop on anti-counterfeiting technologies focusing on the positive impact of anti-counterfeiting technologies on the protection of intellectual property rights, economic development, the increased collection of tax revenue, the protection of legitimate trade and the fight against organized crime.

5. Counterfeiting in the food and agriculture sector in the European and Mediterranean area

53.   Counterfeiting and food and agriculture fraud represent threats to consumers' health and safety, undermining trust in products and compromising the development of the industry. The results of a study containing a comparative analysis of legislative measures to tackle counterfeiting in the agriculture and food sector were discussed at Expo Milan in October 2015, at a high-level expert meeting funded by the Italian Ministry of Economic Development. Discussions centred on illustrating projects and international practices to fight against counterfeiting in the food and agriculture sector as a means of raising awareness and informing the development of policies to counter those threats.

6. Exposure of Italian regions to counterfeiting: creation of a risk assessment method

54.   Within the framework of the cooperation established with the Italian Ministry of Economic Development, in 2015 UNICRI initiated a project aimed at creating a risk assessment method to measure the exposure of Italian regions to counterfeiting, leading to the creation of risk profiles, with particular reference to counterfeiting activities. It is expected that the draft instrument will be ready to be tested in three Italian regions in 2016.

C. Countering environmental crime

1. Securing supply chain integrity against illicit pesticides

55. A road map to reduce the risks associated with illegal, counterfeit and substandard pesticides, and the identification of the supply chain vulnerabilities, and the actors and organized criminal groups and networks involved, along with their modus operandi, was documented in the report *Illicit Pesticides, Organized Crime and Supply Chain Integrity*. The report, based on data collected from experts, including representatives of Member States, such as members of law enforcement agencies, policymakers, customs authorities, prosecution offices and intelligence agencies, private sector representatives, and international and regional organizations, aims at deepening knowledge of current trends related to illicit pesticides, to identify and share good practices for detecting, investigating and prosecuting activities related to illegal and counterfeit pesticides and, ultimately, to improve the capabilities of law enforcement officials and prosecutors in this field.

2. Trafficking and illicit disposal of toxic waste

56. An estimation of the volume of waste in electrical and electronic equipment generated and illegally traded was reported in the findings of a recently released study. The report promoted a deep understanding of the routes and destinations of illegal shipments. UNICRI was involved in the legal and criminal assessment component of the project and contributed to the development of a set of recommendations to support the European Commission, law enforcement authorities and customs officials in countering illegal trade in waste electrical and electronic equipment in and from Europe. The consortium was led by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to implement the "Countering waste electrical and electronic equipment illegal trade" (CWIT) project.

57. The CWIT project assessed and identified gaps in the legal framework at the international and European levels, in particular the European Commission directives on hazardous substances in products placed on the market in Europe and their treatment. In parallel to the assessment of the typology of companies and brokers involved in the market, the CWIT consortium conducted a comprehensive study of the involvement of organized crime in the waste electrical and electronic equipment supply chain, aimed at identifying specific criminal activities and crime types associated with illegal e-waste shipments.

D. Cybercrime, cyberterrorism and the balancing of security with human rights

58. Cybercrime, the use of the Internet by terrorist organizations, cyberthreats to critical infrastructure, the misuse of big data and the hacking of robotics technology are increasingly affecting all countries. While technology promotes development, counter crime and protect human rights, it also provides opportunities to facilitate criminal activities. The issue of the misuse of technology has criminal as well as ethical facets, and a harmonized approach to address these issues by balancing security concerns and human rights is sought.

1. Cybercrime and cyberterrorism

59. In 2015, UNICRI extensively contributed to the project Cybercrime and Cyberterrorism European Research Agenda (COURAGE). The project is developing a measured, comprehensive and relevant research agenda for cybercrime and cyberterrorism, guided by a highly qualified consortium involving 17 partners from 12 countries and an advisory board composed by representatives from 14 organizations including Europol, the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission and the Academy of European Law. The project involves all 28 European Union Member States.

60. UNICRI, in 2015, contributed to the compilation and analysis of existing publications related to legal, ethical and societal aspects of cybercrime and cyberterrorism to create a comprehensive and enhanced framework and inventory and develop recommendations for research into these topics. In particular, the Institute addressed the themes of social cohesion and discrimination based on gender or religion or against minorities, as well as privacy and data protection in an effort to raise awareness of these issues in order to foster the development by stakeholders of more effective responses.

61. In line with its aim to provide and share knowledge and serve as a platform for the exchange of information, UNICRI participated in the conception of the COURAGE taxonomy on cybercrime and cyberterrorism, derived from an in-depth analysis of existing classifications and categorizations in current international literature, collected in the project repository. UNICRI also led the development of the first list of cybercrime and cyberterrorism research items for the project research agenda, as well as the preparation of guidelines for the evaluation of the research outcomes which can serve to guide to better tackle cybercrime and cyberterrorism.

2. Small and medium enterprises information technology security

62. In 2015, UNICRI produced the publication "Guidelines for IT security in SMEs", which provides information on trends and cyberthreats faced by Italian small and medium enterprises. The report includes the survey conducted through the use of interviews and case studies addressed in Italian for the use of beneficiaries in order to enhance their cybersecurity measures.

3. Security at the network edge (SECURED) project

63. UNICRI is an implementing partner of the project "Security at the network edge" (SECURED), funded by the European Commission within the Seventh Framework Programme for research and technological development. SECURED proposes an innovative architecture to achieve protection from Internet threats by offloading execution of security applications to a programmable device at the edge of the network. SECURED fosters in-network management, which can significantly improve users' security and protection levels. The Institute has focused its efforts on supporting the relevant technical partners in the definition of the SECURED architecture, basing this work on the ongoing development of the project's threat model and privacy and legal assessments, and by supporting policy specification, as it relates to the formulation of security requirements.

4. **Combating all forms of discrimination and intolerance, particularly hate crime and hate speech in new media**

64. In 2015 UNICRI produced the comprehensive research report entitled *Hate Crime and Hate Speech in Europe: Comprehensive Analysis of International Law Principles, EU-wide study and National Assessments*, along with five in-depth country studies on hate crime and hate speech in France, Italy, Romania, Spain, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

65. Findings from the research have served as a basis for the training seminars on hate crime and hate speech in new media addressed to law enforcement and legal professionals, which are organized by UNICRI in the above-mentioned focus countries of the project "Preventing, redressing and inhibiting hate speech in new media" (PRISM). The training courses raise awareness of the phenomenon, as well as providing professionals with the tools for identifying, investigating and fighting hate speech and hate crime, which effectively increases victims' possibilities for invoking criminal and civil justice in these matters.

66. As a partner of the project PRISM, funded by the European Commission under the Fundamental Rights and Citizenship programme, UNICRI, in line with its aims, is developing effective strategies for awareness-raising, information and dissemination, both for increasing denouncements and reporting, as well as for promoting a more conscious use of language in order to reduce the use and impact of hate speech.

E. Reducing vulnerabilities

1. **Preventing discrimination against and killing of persons with albinism**

67. UNICRI continued implementation of the research project to enhance the protection of fundamental human rights in cultural conflicts, in particular the discrimination against and killing of persons with albinism. Results are expected in March 2016.

2. **Capacity-building for the prevention of substance abuse and treatment and rehabilitation of substance abusers**

68. UNICRI, in partnership with the authorities of the region of Calabria in Italy, continued the implementation of a regional plan for the prevention of substance abuse and the treatment and rehabilitation of substance abusers. The pilot project facilitates the integration of national and international efforts to identify good practices and to adapt them to different national contexts. The project will serve as a platform for dialogue and sharing best practices and policies among drug abuse prevention, criminal justice and health practitioners in order to support more comprehensive strategies of capacity-building in this area.

3. **Supporting vulnerable women affected by drug and alcohol abuse**

69. Gender differences in drug addiction and the need to support vulnerable women affected by drug and alcohol abuse represents challenges facing most societies. To respond to requests for support and guidance, UNICRI initiated the project entitled "Drugs and alcohol women network", through which a network of

professionals has been established to actively advocate and assist in the development and implementation of evidence-based interventions, policies and best practices tailored to the needs of women. The project promotes a gender-responsive approach in all addiction prevention, treatment and recovery programmes and in professional working practices tailored to women.

70. Pursuant to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 55/5, entitled "Promoting strategies and measures addressing specific needs of women in the context of comprehensive and integrated drug demand reduction programmes and strategies", UNICRI developed a series of professional tools such as best practice manuals, Internet-based learning platforms and training courses.

71. Funded by the Department for Anti-Drug Policies of the Government of Italy, UNICRI presented its project activities at the seminar on women, drugs and violence in Europe and the Mediterranean region, convened by the Government of Italy in Rome in December 2015, with participation of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, the Council of Europe and countries of the Mediterranean region.

4. Mainstreaming gender into policy and practice of substance use prevention treatment and rehabilitation

72. In 2015, UNICRI brought together policymakers through a symposium entitled "Addressing vulnerabilities, increasing access to services: how to mainstream gender into policy and practice of substance use prevention treatment and rehabilitation", held at the First European Conference on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies, organized by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction and the Portuguese Government, which presented the state of the art in the implementation of a gender-responsive agenda within drug treatment and recovery services in Europe, highlighting good practices and discussing emerging risks, obstacles and challenges to gender mainstreaming in this field. The symposium stressed the need to focus on gender differences in treatment, mental health and violence issues, when considering treatment of women who use drugs.

5. Research and dissemination of best practices to counter addiction and promote healthy lifestyles

73. The contribution of UNICRI to the project focused on producing a comparative analysis of the costs of addictions to the criminal justice systems of Poland, Portugal and Spain, with regard to variations in the policies adopted by those countries and differences in law enforcement capacities and in the sentencing of addiction-related offences. Moreover, global experiences from alternatives to incarceration for people with drug addiction have been examined, and recommendations for policies and programmes were made based on scientific evidence and best practices.

74. Prison-based interviews were conducted by UNICRI in Italy. The Institute also examined revenues generated in the illicit economy in order to enhance understanding on the actors involved in the markets of addictive products.

75. UNICRI participated in the European Union-spanning project "Addiction and Lifestyles in Contemporary Europe: Reframing Addictions Project" (ALICE RAP), a five-year research project which brings together participants from 43 research

institutions in 25 European countries and provides a platform for sharing information.

76. The ALICE RAP project, co-financed by the European Commission, examines the challenges posed by addictions and lifestyles to cohesion, organization and functioning of contemporary European societies. Addiction to alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs and gambling/gaming, as well as addiction-related harms and costs, are studied through a multidisciplinary approach and foresight analysis.

6. Prison and drug use: enhancing prevention and treatment and promoting alternative measures

77. A workshop involving leading experts from different countries to discuss the economic, social and health costs of drug-related incarceration in Europe was organized by UNICRI.[5] The workshop was part of the programme of the First European Conference on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies, organized by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction and the Portuguese Government.

78. The symposium promoted a better understanding of the impact of drug control policies on prison costs and the development of evidence-based criteria to assess drug addiction, in order to support the criminal justice sector in facilitating access to non-custodial measures for people with substance use disorder, through better coordination mechanism and management in prison settings.

7. Establishing a platform to provide access to evidence-based research

79. Through its project entitled "Scientific community on addiction", UNICRI has established a platform to facilitate the identification and diffusion of best international practices related to prevention of substance abuse and the treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers. In addition, the Institute has set up national training programmes for professionals in countries in the Mediterranean region. The project, which uses an online platform, offers access to the most recent evidence-based research disseminated through special periodicals and newsletters, and provides practitioners, policymakers and judiciary and law enforcement personnel with an updated tool to better understand recent drug-related trends and other issues.

IV. Training and advanced education

80. The objective of the cross-cutting thematic area of training and advanced education is to build the capacity of Member States through training and education to develop and implement policies that reduce crime, increase access to justice and promote peace and security.

81. UNICRI is developing programmes aimed at graduates with law degrees who may later occupy decision-making positions. In 2015, UNICRI offered its ninth annual Master of Laws programme in international crime and justice, reaching more than 360 students to date, organized jointly with the University of Turin. UNICRI is

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[5] Workshop entitled "Prison and drug use: enhancing prevention and treatment and promoting alternative measures", held in Lisbon in September 2015.

increasing its student base by establishing a partnership with the Universidad Argentina John F. Kennedy to launch a joint Master of Laws programme focusing on international criminal law and justice.

82.   To build capacity and share expertise, in addition to the traditional educational degree programmes, UNICRI offers an array of training and for-credit courses. The course descriptions are as follows.

1. International criminal law defence seminar

83.   UNICRI designs and implements specialized training courses for executives, the judiciary and other personnel. An example of this is the International Criminal Law Defence Seminar for legal practitioners interested in litigating international criminal law cases at the national or international level. The Seminar is conducted under the aegis of the Office of the Public Counsel for the Defence of the International Criminal Court and the International Association of Lawyers.

2. Environmental crimes

84.   UNICRI prepares policymakers to develop and implement laws on environmental crimes. To increase participants' foundational understanding of environmental crimes and improve their knowledge of how law enforcement bodies and judicial systems are responding, UNICRI collaborated with the Italian Society for International Organization to implement a course. The existing international legal framework was examined with a view to improve the participants' ability to address the issue in a comprehensive way and promote their role as advocates for effective change in public policies, strategies and practices.

3. International experts in investigative and legal psychology

85.   UNICRI provides training in some of the most difficult topics in the criminal justice system. In cooperation with the Åbo Akademi University of Finland and with the support of the Salesian University Institute of Turin and its department CRIMELAB, UNICRI launched in December 2015 the International Postgraduate Expert Programme in Investigative and Legal Psychology, to expand participants' knowledge and develop cross-cutting proficiencies in the field of forensic psychology. The course blends theoretical lectures and practical exercises, with four trial simulations related to the crimes of homicide, rape, child sexual abuse and war crimes.

4. Journalism and public information programme on new threats

86.   Recognizing the power of the media, UNICRI prepares members of the media to accurately report in the areas of justice, human rights protection, crime prevention and security through specialized training opportunities. For example, the "Journalism and public information programme on new threats" course is aimed at enhancing the capabilities of media professionals. The programme deepens an understanding of new and emerging threats, in particular those associated with the onset of globalization and technological advances.

5. Emerging security threats

87.   Specialized training offered by UNICRI aims at deepening the knowledge of emerging security threats. In particular, the Institute is offering courses on cyberthreats; chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks; biosecurity; crimes against the environment; and artificial intelligence and robotics. In 2015, four courses were organized with the involvement of 70 participants.

6. New initiatives

88.   The Institute is expanding its training and education partnerships with universities and training institutes worldwide. A special focus is placed on education and training at postgraduate and professional levels in order to address those practitioners most likely to have policymaking and decision-making authority. For example, UNICRI is partnering with universities and international organizations to develop courses on the implementation of the standards and norms.

V. Knowledge collection, exchange and dissemination

89.   The objective of this thematic area is to promote the exchange of information and to respond to the need of the international community for the dissemination of information worldwide.

90.   To increase the availability of its information collection, the Board of Trustees encouraged UNICRI to focus on the use of new technologies and existing platforms. Accordingly, the Institute updated and implemented new online services in support of research, training and analysis in crime prevention and criminal justice, with increased users accessing website pages. The Institute's documentation centre continued its long-term involvement in assisting the training activities carried out by the Institute and in providing specialized resources.

VI. Management of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

91.   The objective of the UNICRI management team is to ensure cost-effective management, with full respect for the rules and regulations applicable to human and financial resources, and to ensure timely implementation of all programmes.

A. Strengthening infrastructure to support increased programme implementation

92.   UNICRI developed a strategic plan with a bifurcated focus on long-term financial sustainability and strengthening the infrastructure necessary to ensure timely implementation of projects according to grant agreements. UNICRI worked toward developing the infrastructure necessary to fully implement an increasingly nimble, rapid response capability and increased training activities in topic areas related to current projects and the Sustainable Development Goals. As a central part of strengthening the infrastructure, UNICRI worked toward implementing Umoja,

the new enterprise resource planning system implemented by the United Nations Secretariat, which the Institute must implement also.

93. Additionally, management instructions including administrative, financial and substantive support for project implementation were developed; enhanced programme monitoring and quality control systems were adopted; and evaluation was integrated into programme activities.

B. Approval of results-based biennium budget 2016-2017 and programme priorities

94. The Board approved a balanced 2016-2017 biennium budget and programme priorities, taking into account the projected income stream and related requirements. UNICRI continued to face unpredictable resourcing. Thus, a strategy of developing income-generating activities, such as the planned expansion of training, education, rapid response and capacity-building must be a priority for the long-term stabilization and sustainability of the programme of work of UNICRI.

95. While the host country has significantly increased its voluntary funding, UNICRI remains adversely impacted by a lack of substantial unearmarked contributions to the general-purpose fund. This was particularly impactful in 2015 because of the start-up costs related to implementation of Umoja. The Institute, guided by the Board of Trustees, will enhance fund-raising efforts to secure an increase in unearmarked voluntary contributions and expand its programmes.

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