

Draft Recommendations

Conference on Tackling Emerging Transnational Threats in the Mediterranean Region through Information Sharing and Co-operation

Monaco, 1-2 June 2015

Based upon the speakers' presentations and discussions for the four thematic conference sessions: irregular migration challenges as a transnational threat; tracing illicit financial flows and assets emanating from transnational organized crime activities; seaport and airport security; and preventing illicit weapons trafficking across borders, the following draft recommendations are provided below for further elaboration and consideration:

Session I addressed irregular migration challenges as a transnational threat.

- Develop a comprehensive and multiphase plan to help to address irregular migration, with strong co-operation and co-ordination among all relevant regional border management and law enforcement structures, with the active involvement of civil society and international and human rights organizations.
- Consider expansion of search and rescue operations to end the loss of life and human suffering, during and as a result of, migration. To help protect the human rights of migrants, voluntary return and reintegration programs should be supported and expanded.
- Strengthen regional co-ordination structures through trainings, seminars, workshops and other initiatives, in order to enhance co-operation between law enforcement and border management agencies; to include capacity building support for border management, migration and law enforcement authorities, as well as judiciaries.

Session II focused on improving regional efforts in tracing illicit financial flows and assets emanating from transnational organized crime activities.

- Encourage the relevant law enforcement structures to actively utilize Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) at the earliest stages of investigation, in a co-ordinated and co-operative fashion to assist with the identification, tracing and freezing of assets derived from transnational organized crime activities.
- Establish working level networks or forums to strengthen co-operation and interaction when dealing with the Mutual Legal Assistance requests, to improve the region's capacities to identify, trace and freeze criminally derived assets in accordance with all relevant legislation, treaties and conventions.

- Design and deliver specialized regional trainings and workshops for relevant authorities to improve and enhance their capacities to work together to identify and trace illicit financial flows and freeze assets derived from criminal activities.

Session III concentrated on supporting the development of effective communication and co-operation mechanisms to combat transnational organized crime activities in seaports and airports.

- Encourage and promote governments to support specialized inter-agency teams, as an integral component of a co-ordinated multi-agency response to help combat illicit trafficking and all other forms of transnational organized crime activities at airports and seaports.
- Contemplate the organizing of workshops, seminars and trainings for specialized joint inter-agency airport and seaport teams utilizing the interactive scenario and case based approach.

Session IV was dedicated to helping prevent illicit weapons trafficking across borders.

- Develop further co-operation on a regional level between INTERPOL, EU Agencies, and Europol.
- Strengthen OSCE mechanisms for engaging with the OSCE Partners for Co-operation in the areas of SALW collection, SALW related border security, SALW destruction and stockpile management and security.
- Enhance cross-border co-operation and information sharing on suspected traffickers and trafficking routes, suspected financial transactions and brokering activities relating to the illicit weapons trafficking across borders, and relating also to the diversion of small arms and light weapons, using all available data bases, including INTERPOL's iARMS, IBIN and other relevant databases.