

“Universal Periodic Review”

Report mandated by the General Assembly Resolution 60/251

Inputs from the United Nations office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Burundi

- 12-16 May 2008 - Burundi participated in the Fifth Conference of the Ministers of Justice of Francophone African countries for the implementation of the universal instruments against terrorism. Held in Rabat, Morocco.
- 20-22 March 2007 - Burundi participated in the 4th Conference of the Ministers of Justice of Francophone African countries for the implementation of the universal instruments against terrorism held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.
- 24 August 2006 - Videoconference to promote the ratification and legislative incorporation of the universal instruments against terrorism was held.
- 25-27 May 2006 - Participated in the Madrid Ministerial Round Table for West and Central African Countries on Counter Terrorism Legal Framework.
- 14-16 March 2006 - Burundi participated in the Sub-regional Seminar on International Cooperation Against Terrorism and its Financing for the Member States of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), jointly organised with COMESA in Djibouti.
- 7-9 February 2006 - Attended the Conference of the Ministers of Justice of Francophone African Countries for the Implementation of the Universal Instruments against Terrorism in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. Jointly organised with International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF) and the Government of Egypt.
- 25-27 October 2005 - Magistrates from Burundi participated in a videoconference on “the fight against international crime: corruption and crime” for francophone African countries jointly organized by TPB and the Agence inter-gouvernementale de la Francophonie
- 25-27 October 2004 - Burundi attended Regional Ministerial meeting of Francophone countries on the UN Conventions against corruption, transnational organized crime and the universal instruments against terrorism in Mauritius

a. Trafficking in Human Beings

Burundi is part of the technical assistance project XAF/S53 “*Strengthening regional cooperation and capacities amongst the Eastern African law enforcement authorities to combat trafficking in human beings*”, implemented in close cooperation with the East African Police Chief Cooperation Organisation (EAPCCO), INTERPOL Sub-regional Bureau in Nairobi and INTERPOL Lyon. The overall goal of the project is to put in place a strengthened regional cooperation framework to prevent and combat human trafficking in Eastern Africa. A regional

conference under the UN Global Programme against Trafficking in Persons (UN.GIFT) “First Regional Anti-Human Trafficking Conference in Eastern Africa: Vulnerabilities of Conflict and Post Conflict Countries,” was held in Uganda in June 2007 which counted on the participation of Burundian officials. The Chief of the Ugandan office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights¹ delivered a presentation at the event on human trafficking and human rights, specifically on the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking issued in July 2002 which aims at integrating the human rights of victims of trafficking at all levels of anti-trafficking interventions².

A technical assistance and needs assessment mission was carried out by UNODC to Bujumbura, Burundi in December 2006 by UNODC as per the request of UNDP Burundi Country Office. The mission aim was to focus on the areas of juvenile justice and penitentiary reform, as well as to identify other areas of potential technical assistance under the mandate of UNODC and under the framework of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Burundi to be in place as of January 2007. Programmes were developed as part of the “Human Rights and Justice Joint Programme”.

Regional Initiatives

Regional Smuggling of migrants initiatives

UNODC has launched two regional programmes for ECOWAS member states and Mauritania. The two projects aim at containing irregular migration and stamp out smuggling of migrants. Beneficiary countries will receive both the legislative assistance required for criminalizing smuggling of migrants, and the technical assistance empowering law enforcement and national border control agencies with operational capabilities for prosecuting smugglers.

Regional plans - Sahel Band

UNODC have convened an *Informal Ministerial Session* during the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna in April 2008 with a number of West African Ministers to discuss the security situation in the sub-region, with special focus on the *Sahel band*. Technical assessment missions are planned in the region in the second half of 2008. A preliminary study on the transnational trafficking and the rule of law in the sub-region is under preparation. A high-level ministerial meeting with ECOWAS is being planned to take place in October in **Cape Verde**. The meeting will discuss the critical situation in relation to the illicit trafficking and related crimes, response and way forward. The donor community is being informed about UNODC plans and expressed interest in follow-up. The African Development Bank has been offered partnership in this initiative, and the Peace Building Commission has also offered support to ODC plans in the region.

Regional reports that in some way cover certain countries under review

A study was prepared and released in June 2008 entitled “Crime and its impact on the Balkans and affected countries.” The report can be found on the following link:
http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Balkan_study.pdf.

¹ OHCHR is part of the UN.GIFT Steering Committee

² Please see report of conference under

http://www.ungift.org/docs/ungift/pdf/world/uganda_regional_report.pdf

A joint report by the United Nations office on Drugs and Crime and the Latin America and the Caribbean Region of the World Bank was released in March 2007. This report, "Crime, Violence, and Development: Trends, Costs and Policy Options in the Caribbean," is available on the following link: http://www.unodc.org/pdf/research/Cr_and_Vio_Car_E.pdf

"Crime and Development in Africa," a report published in June 2005 focusing on how crime is undermining development. Such can be found under: http://www.unodc.org/pdf/African_report.pdf

"Transnational Organized Crime in the West African Region," focusing on specific modes of operation of West African criminal groups, highlighting in particular their very loose and networked structures. Such is available on: http://www.unodc.org/pdf/transnational_crime_west-africa-05.pdf

"Organized Crime and Irregular Migration from Africa to Europe," is a rapid assessment to analyze the extent of which irregular migration from Africa to Europe is mediated by organized crime, available on: http://www.unodc.org/pdf/research/Migration_Africa.pdf

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