



**SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**

**СЕКРЕТАРИАТ СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
И МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

No. NCT/CID/696

The Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) presents its compliments to the CICA Member States and has the honor to convey herewith revision 1 of the draft Concept paper on Cooperation Among CICA Member States in the Area of Combating Illicit Drug prepared by the Islamic Republic of Iran in its capacity as the Coordinator of the corresponding priority area.

*Enclosure:
as stated,
on 5 p.*

The Secretariat kindly requests Member States to study the updated draft. Should there be no further comments and suggestions before 1 July 2024, the document will be submitted for CICA SWG consideration.

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the CICA Member States the assurances of its highest consideration.

Astana, 7 June 2024



**MEMBER STATES
OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION AND
CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**



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Секретариат Совещания по взаимодействию и мерам доверия в Азии (СВМДА) свидетельствует свое уважение государствам-членам СВМДА и имеет честь препроводить ревизию 1 проекта Концепции сотрудничества государств-членов СВМДА в области Борьбы с незаконным оборотом наркотиков, подготовленную Исламской Республикой Иран в качестве координатора соответствующей приоритетной сферы.

*Приложение:
упомянутое,
на 5 л.*

Секретариат любезно просит государства-члены изучить обновленный проект. В случае отсутствия новых комментариев и соображений в срок до 1 июля 2024 года документ будет направлен на рассмотрение СРГ СВМДА.

Секретариат пользуется случаем, чтобы возобновить государствам-членам СВМДА уверения в своем весьма высоком уважении.

Астана, 7 июня 2024 года



**ГОСУДАРСТВА-ЧЛЕНЫ
СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ И
МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

Қосымша:
аталған,
5 п.

Азиядағы өзара іс-қимыл және сенім шаралары кеңесінің (Азия Кеңесінің) Хатшылығы Азия Кеңесіне мүше мемлекеттерге өзінің зор ілтипатын білдіре отырып, Иран Ислам Республикасы «Есірткінің заңсыз айналымына қарсы күрес» басым саласының үйлестірушісі ретінде әзірлеген Азия Кеңесіне мүше мемлекеттердің тиісті саласындағы ынтымақтастық туралы тұжырымдама жобасының 1-ревизиясын жолдауды өзіне мәртебе санайды.

Хатшылық мүше мемлекеттерден жаңартылған жобаны қарауды сұрайды. 2024 жылғы 1 шілдеге дейін жаңа түсініктемелер мен ескертпелер түспеген жағдайда құжат Азия Кеңесі Арнаулы жұмыс тобының қарауына жіберілетін болады.

Хатшылық осы мүмкіндікті пайдалана отырып, Азия Кеңесіне мүше мемлекеттерге өзінің зор ілтипатын тағы да растайды.

Астана қаласы, 2024 жылғы 7 маусым

**АЗИЯДАҒЫ ӨЗАРА ІС-ҚИМЫЛ ЖӘНЕ
СЕНІМ ШАРАЛАРЫ КЕҢЕСІНЕ
МҮШЕ МЕМЛЕКЕТТЕР**

Draft Concept paper on cooperation among the CICA Member States in the area of Combating Illicit Drugs

Proposal by the Islamic Republic of Iran

As the Coordinator in the priority area of “Combating Illicit Drugs”

June 2024, revision 1

I. Background

The Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) has adopted the CICA Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures, hereafter referred as the Catalogue (updated in October 2021), and has agreed to the realization of these guidelines in practice on bilateral and/or multilateral basis as voluntarily agreed upon. Security, as one of the core ideas behind the CICA, is the main concern of all countries, not only in Asia, but at the global level. The Member States, irrespective of their political or ideological orientation, need to strengthen their security both individually and collectively. On this basis, the CICA has so far produced a number of documents in which the ways and means of strengthening regional security and cooperation have been agreed. One of these is the Catalogue where the Member States in para 2.2.12 have agreed to “exchange information on the measures taken to curb illicit drug trafficking”.

Previous concept paper in this area was adopted in August 2008 and serves as a basis for the current updated version.

On this basis, the Member States:

1. Recognizing the severe threats posed by illicit drug trafficking to the security and stability of Asia, particularly in countries sharing borders with major drug-producing regions;
2. Emphasizing the need to implement Confidence-Building Measures (CBMs) to address and mitigate the impact of illicit drug trafficking in alignment with the specific needs and challenges faced by Member States;

3. Underscoring the imperative of robust cooperation among Member States to combat drug trafficking, including exchange of information and capacity building;
4. Highlighting the escalation of organized and transnational nature of drug-related crimes, which not only undermine public safety and stability but also contribute to financing terrorism, posing a direct threat to regional security and national interests;
5. Attaching importance to the implementation of the United Nations “Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961” as amended by Protocol 1972, “Convention on Psychotropic Substances 1971” and “Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances 1988”;
6. Being alarmed by the serious threat posed by illicit drug production and trafficking to the security of the region and its negative impact on political, social, economic and cultural life of the CICA Region;
7. Affirming a strong commitment to addressing the root causes and conducive conditions of illicit drug production and trafficking, with a particular focus on countries exposed to more damage and based on national context and vulnerabilities, in accordance with the principles and obligations set forth in international law and treaties;
8. Noting with additional concern that the money generated from illegal drug production and trafficking often feeds into the financing of activities of terrorist groups. Desiring to take appropriate steps to combat such transnational criminal activities as money laundering and terror financing derived from illicit drug production and trafficking narcotic drugs and chemical precursors; and disrupting the financial networks associated with such activities, which directly affect countries security and stability.
9. Determined to provide, when possible, access to treatment, social reintegration, rehabilitation and aftercare for people who use drugs;
10. Acknowledging the increased challenges posed by ever evolving new technologies being misused by drug trafficking through dark-net, cryptocurrencies, encrypted messaging services and social media;

11. Appreciating new threats being encountered by New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), synthetic drugs and unregulated precursors resulting with the ever-growing researches, technologies and easy availability of chemicals.

Reached the understanding regarding the procedure of carrying out cooperation and coordination among themselves, so as to combat illicit drug production and trafficking subject to the respective legislations of their countries.

II. Areas and Forms of Cooperation

Cooperation among the Member States may include, inter alia:

1. Facilitating provision of mutual legal assistance in investigations, prosecutions and judicial proceedings in relation to illicit drug production, trafficking and related crimes;
2. Reducing drug demand and supply;
3. Taking joint measures to suppress illegal transportation, drug abuse and preventing the diversion of precursors from licit to illicit traffic as well as to eliminate illicit drugs supply sources, cultivation and clandestine laboratories;
4. Cooperation on alternative development programmes for the deterrence of production as well as the cultivation of drugs. Enhancing common efforts on prevention of conditions conducive to spread of production and cultivation of drugs;
5. Enhancing cooperation in the field of combating illicit drugs production and trafficking in regional and international arena ~~through regular intelligence sharing~~¹;
6. Exchange of information on the methods of detection and seizure of concealed drugs, as well on the 'modus operandi' used by drug traffickers;

¹ Focusing merely on the aspect of intelligence sharing in cooperation in the field of combating illicit drugs will sensibly affect the scope of Member States' cooperation in this regard – *in regard to the proposal from a Member State*

7. Sharing information on new technological equipment and modern technologies, applied to detect illicit drugs and increase capacity-building activities against illicit drug production and trafficking such as experts' training courses on new technologies, enforcement activities etc.;
8. Exchange of information on New synthetic drugs, unregulated precursors and New Psychotropic Substances (NPS), precursors and chemicals including Novel Psychoactive Drugs (NPS);
9. Holding training workshops and meetings for representatives of the relevant bodies involved in the drug law enforcement, prevention education, treatment and rehabilitation;
10. Promoting cooperation in the field of legislation and exchange of legal information among the Member States in accordance with international treaties;
11. Undertaking joint scientific research on drug control, including drug forensic analysis;
12. Raising public awareness and disseminating information on the risks of drug consumption;
13. Implementation of scientific evidence-based demand drug policies, drug treatment, rehabilitation and harm reduction strategies including sharing best practices in prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, harm reduction, drug treatment, rehabilitation, community-based treatment and rehabilitation (CBTx) interventions, evaluating the effectiveness of different drug policies, sharing lessons learned from successful scientific evidence based demand;
14. Identifying and engaging potential donors and aid organizations;
15. Establishing mechanisms for financial assistance and grant funding and collaborating with international partners to secure donations or subsidized access to modern technologies;
16. Combating widespread illicit drugs, including synthetic ones, using IT technologies and cryptocurrencies, strengthening operational activities and information exchange on the CICA territory
17. Cooperation on combating drug trafficking through the internet including dark-net, crypto-currencies, encrypted messaging services and social media through exchange of expertise and best practices;

18. Encouraging member states to enhance the use of INCB platforms for information sharing such as PEN, PICS and IONICS;

III. Confidentiality of information and documents

Confidentiality level of information and documents provided within implementation of the present Concept Paper is defined by the providing party. Information and documents should not be transferred to a third party without prior written authorization of the providing party.

IV. Meetings

In order to review the situation concerning the illicit drug production and trafficking and progress made in implementation of this Concept Paper, the Member States might meet whenever necessary on voluntary basis.

V. National Drug Control Focal Points

It is proposed that the Member States might voluntarily inform the CICA Secretariat about their respective drug control focal points. The Secretariat will maintain and regularly update the list of focal points and disseminate this information among the Member States.

VI. Implementation

This Concept Paper will form the basis for conducting further deliberations aimed at elaborating an Action Plan. Furthermore, Member States are encouraged to organize relevant seminars, workshops and conferences guided by Article II of the current Concept paper, in close coordination with the CICA Secretariat and the Coordinator in the priority area of “Combating Illicit Drugs”.