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**AFRICAN UNION PLAN OF ACTION ON DRUG
CONTROL AND CRIME PREVENTION (2019-2023)**

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Foreword



I am delighted to present to you this African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019-2023) – the fifth strategic framework to guide drug policy development on the continent. It comes with a matrix of activities and responsibilities at various levels and is to be used as a guide for designing national drug policies and programmes aligned to continental aspirations.

Through this action plan, the African Union continues to promote a multi-sectorial, balanced and integrated approach to drug control cognisant of global challenges relating to drugs including health, socio-economic wellbeing, crime, terrorism and security in our Member States.

In 2012 the African Union adopted the AU Plan of Action on Drug Control for the period 2013-2018, based on the 2009 UN Political Declaration and Plan of Action and its balanced and integrated approach between supply reduction, demand reduction, harm reduction and international cooperation. This new action plan leverages gains of the predecessor framework, and builds on the foundation of the seven operational pillars of the Outcome document of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on the world drug problem held in 2016.

The new framework is also informed, inter alia, by: the three international drug control conventions; the Common African Position for UNGASS (2016); and earlier declarations and decisions of the Conference of African Ministers in Charge of Drug Control, and more recently, the Specialized Technical Committee on Health, Population and Drug Control, taking into account the principle of shared and common responsibility.

The problem of drugs transcends all of Africa's five regions some of whom are experiencing a melt-down of sorts. Africa has not only become a major transit route in the global trade in narcotics, but also a major consumer and source. Trafficking has been displaced to Africa as the path of least resistance. The continent is emerging as a cocaine and heroin trafficking and consumption hub. At the same time, there is an exponential growth in the number of drug users and with it an increase in problems associated with drug use. To make matters worse, Africa's youth bulge, coupled with high unemployment, has seen a surge in the number of young people on the continent who use drugs. After cannabis, synthetic drugs are becoming a major challenge in Africa. Also presenting a growing concern for public health and safety is the non-medical use of opioids.

The Commission's fundamental role remains to coordinate, monitor and evaluate implementation, as well as to leverage technical assistance to Member States through strategic partnerships. As encapsulated in Africa's blue print for social and economic transformation, "Agenda 2063" which espouses the Africa we want, the African Union is committed to prioritizing sustainable development efforts by addressing pervasive poverty, social exclusion and discrimination and thereby providing enabling conditions for gaining licit and sustainable livelihoods.

To sustainably consolidate our credibility and build the Africa we want, we must move beyond a catalogue of good intentions, and collectively step up responses to cope with these challenges. It is my hope that this plan of action will redirect our efforts towards addressing the world drug problem.



H.E Mrs Amira Elfadil
Commissioner for Social Affairs

Executive Summary

According to reports in 2018 from African Union Member States, the consumption and trafficking of controlled substances have escalated in all five (5) AU Regions. Growing use of cocaine, tramadol, amphetamine type stimulants (ATS), new psychoactive substances (NPS) have been stated. Heroin consumption and injection is rising in Eastern and Southern Africa resulting (in the absence of the necessary health services) in high transmission rates of HIV and hepatitis among people who inject drugs, particularly women and young people.

Large shipments of heroin are transhipped on the high seas of Eastern Africa, and that of cocaine off-shore in the Atlantic Ocean, while on-shore shipments are made through harbours and airports across the continent. Women, especially those from low-income backgrounds, continue to be vulnerable to recruitment as drug couriers. In West, East and Southern Africa trafficking of and/or diversion from licit batches of precursor chemicals for illicit use, especially ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, occurs frequently. This takes place in areas where ATS drugs are manufactured in clandestine laboratories on a large scale, resulting in online sales of these and other drugs, including NPS.

The African Union has since 1996 adopted Action Plans to address drug control and associated crime prevention on the continent, resulting in the establishment of institutional mechanisms in Member States, Regional Economic Communities and at the AU Commission to coordinate balanced and integrated responses to the mentioned drug control challenges.

The responses encapsulated in the AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019-2023) (AUPA) mirrors that of the African Common Position for the 2016 UNGASS General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on the World Drug Problem, as well as the seven (7) chapters of Operational Recommendations of the UNGASS Outcome Document. In addition, the AUPA contains two additional pillars with objectives and activities to address crime prevention, and coordination of the implementation of the AUPA at national, regional and continental levels, respectively.

The overall objective of the AUPA (2019-2023) is to improve the health, security and socio-economic well-being of the people of Africa by addressing drug trafficking and problematic drug use in all its forms and manifestations and preventing the onset of drug use.

Objectives and outputs/activities under the nine (9) chapters or pillars address the following:

- I. Measures to tackle drug demand reduction and health issues associated with drug use, focusing on prevention and treatment of drug use with provisions for training of workers and professionals in these fields, parental skills training, life

skills training for children and young people, reducing harm associated with drug use and implementing alternatives to punishment for drug use.

- II. Availability and access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion, with emphasis on erasing barriers that suppress accessibility to medicines, including for the relief of pain and suffering, as well as reducing non-medical use of medicines and availability of counterfeit medicines.
- III. Measures to address drug supply reduction along with countering enablers of drug trafficking: firearms, corruption and money laundering which addresses illicit trafficking in drugs, drug law enforcement and intelligence sharing and ratification of AU instruments on combating corruption, money laundering, terrorism and trafficking in small arms.
- IV. Measures to address crime prevention and criminal justice reform, with emphasis on international cooperation on combating transnational organized crime, fighting emerging organized crime such as cybercrime, rise in gangs, extortion, violence and criminal governance. It involves continuous assessment of fragility and vulnerability, and analysis of risk, pressures and stress factors in societies. Criminal justice reform, particularly addressing prison decongestion and non-custodial sentencing, is of critical importance to prevent reoffending, among others.
- V. Cross cutting issues on drugs and human rights pertaining to all vulnerable groups, especially youth, women, children and communities, and this pillar provides for policy makers and law enforcement authorities to be oriented on human rights to health and safety as it relates to the field of drugs, emphasizing respect for and dignity of those in treatment, as well as protective and risk factors for vulnerable girls, women, children and youths. In this regard, national epidemiological surveillance on drug use, production and trafficking, research and data collection and national drug control coordination mechanisms are critical.
- VI. Evolving reality: trends and circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats mainly focusses on countering the availability and use of NPS and ATS, sales of these drugs through the internet, and the importance of inter-regional forensic drug testing cooperation.
- VII. Alternative development and alternative means of livelihood, also targeting grower communities in the agricultural sector with a specific focus on Technical, Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for youth and women employment, including economic and social infrastructure development.
- VIII. International and regional cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility which makes provision for engagement with international partners for technical and financial support, for participation in regional,

continental and international fora and for fast-tracking of extradition and mutual legal assistance arrangements.

- IX. Continental, regional and national management, oversight, reporting, monitoring and evaluation of the AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019-2023) entails actions by the African Union Commission to account to the AU Policy Organs on the implementation and impact of the AUPA (2019-2023).

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFRIPOL	African Union Mechanism for Police Cooperation
AMA	African Medicines Agency
ART	Anti-retroviral Therapy
ARQ	Annual Report Questionnaire
ATS	Amphetamine-type stimulants
AUC	African Union Commission
AUC DIE	Department of Infrastructure and Energy, AUC
AUC DCU/DSA	Drug Control Unit in the Department of Social Affairs, AUC
AUC DPA	Department of Political Affairs, AUC
AUC DPS	Department of Peace and Security, AUC
AUC DREA	Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, AUC
AUC DSA	Department of Social Affairs, AUC
AUC HRST	Department of Human Resources, Science and Technology, AUC
AUC SPPMERM	Department of Strategic Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Resource Management, AUC
AUPA	AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Plan
CID	Criminal Investigation Department (Police)
CND	Commission on Narcotic Drugs
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DDR	Drug Demand Reduction
DMP	Drug Master Plan
DSR	Drug Supply Reduction
EAC	East African Community
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ENACT	Enhancing Africa's Response to Transnational Organised Crime
HCV	Hepatitis C Virus
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HONLEA	Heads of Narcotics Law Enforcement Agencies
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
ICUDDR	International Consortium of Universities for Demand Reduction
ISSUP	International Society of Substance Use Professionals
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organisation
MAT	Medication-Assisted Treatment
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MS	Member States
NDCC	National Drug Control Council/Commission/Committee
NPS	New Psychoactive Substances
NSP	Needle and Syringe Program
PEN	Pre-Export Notification
PICS	Precursors Incident Communication System
PMU	Programme Management Unit

PWID	People who inject drugs
PWUD	People who use drugs
PRISM	Project of the International Narcotics Control Board to monitor the trade in chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of ATS
REC	Regional Economic Community
RPCCO	Regional Police Chiefs' Cooperation Organization
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SMART	Project of the UNODC on Synthetics Monitoring, Analysis, Reporting Trends in response to the global synthetic drug problem
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
SUD	Substance Use Disorder
TB	Tuberculosis
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, headquarter in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNODC ROs	Regional Offices of the UNODC (4 in Africa – based in Cairo, Dakar, Nairobi and Pretoria)
WCO	World Customs Organisation
WHO	World Health Organisation

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Age appropriate	Suitable for a particular age or age group; in the context of drugs referring to drug education information and manner of presentation.
Court diversion	Court takes an alternative route to correctional or punishment system upon agreed desired outcomes.
DarkNet	A computer network with restricted access for concealed/secret use, which can also be used for illegal peer-to-peer file sharing.
Drug use prevention	Process and activities focused on individuals or their environment to prevent the onset of drug or substance use or limit the development of problems associated with using psychoactive substances.
Destigmatisation	Remove the negative associations from something once regarded as shameful or disgraceful, in this sense as regards drug use and people who use drugs.
Drug use treatment, rehabilitation and social integration	Activities involved in assisting people who use drugs to detoxify physically from harmful substances in their system, psycho-social counselling, family counseling in the process of recovery with new personal paradigms regarding drugs, new life skills, on garnering social support and eventually re-entering their education or vocation.
Early detection and Brief intervention	Identifying the signs of problematic drug use and communicating factual information on its progressive effects and on the way out of dependence.
Electronic monitoring	Electronic monitoring devices employed for people who received the punishment of home detention.
Evidence-based interventions	An interdisciplinary approach to clinical practice that has started in medicine as evidence-based medicine and spread to allied health professions, educational fields, and others. Regarding drug use prevention and treatment, research outputs have pointed to successful outcomes for certain prevention and treatment activities, as encapsulated in the prevention and treatment standards for drug use compiled by the WHO/UNODC.
Low-threshold treatment services	Starts off as easy to access harm reduction-based health care centres for people who use drugs, making minimal demands on the patient, and offering services and counselling that will motivate them to eventually graduate from problematic drug use and stop using drugs.
Misuse of drugs	Use of a drug for purposes for which it was not intended or using a drug in excessive quantities.
Money laundering	Money laundering is the process of creating the appearance that large amounts of money obtained from criminal activity, such as drug trafficking or terrorist activity, has originated from a legitimate source.
New psychoactive substances	NPS are defined as 'a new narcotic or psychotropic drug, in pure form or in preparation, that is not controlled by the United Nations drug conventions, but which may pose a public health threat comparable to that posed by substances listed in these conventions'. ⁱ
Outpatient services	Drug use treatment or rehabilitation services in a location or centre without an overnight stay, and include counselling services, self-help groups, skills training and many more.
Pharmacovigilance	Also known as drug safety, this is the pharmacological science relating to the collection, detection, assessment, monitoring, and prevention of adverse effects with pharmaceutical products.

Proportionality sentencing	in	The principle of proportionality in sentencing is the view that the punishment should equal the crime. The proportionality principle is one of the main goals of sentencing, however, it is not well defined yet as regards sentencing for drug offences due to the diverse definitions and views on drug use, problematic drug use and trafficking among countries.
Psychoactive Substances		Substances that, when taken in or administered into one's system, affect mental processes, e.g. cognition.
Recidivism		The percentage of former prisoners who are rearrested for a similar offense. The term is frequently used in conjunction with criminal behaviour and substance abuse. (Recidivism is a synonym for "relapse", which is more commonly used in medicine and in the disease model of addiction).
Restorative justice		Focuses on the rehabilitation of offenders through reconciliation with victims and the community at large.
Social inclusion		Social inclusion is the process of improving the terms on which individuals and groups take part in society—improving the ability, opportunity, and dignity of those disadvantaged on the basis of their identity. Social inclusion is a leading concept in mental health practice and it intends or aspires for an individual to feel socially included regardless of his or her physical involvement in the community.
Social protection		It refers to public and/or private measures designed to protect individuals against life-cycle crises that curtail their capacity to meet their needs, and includes all forms of social security, and strategies and programs aimed at supporting and ensuring a minimum standard of livelihood and access to essential social health services and care for all people.
Social Security		"Social Security" is included in the social protection concept, comprises social assistance, social insurance and social allowances, and refers to public and/or private measures designed to protect individuals and families against income insecurity caused by contingencies such as unemployment, employment injury, maternity, sickness, poor health, disability, old age, maintenance of children and death of a family member (including social assistance, social insurance and social allowances).
Viral hepatitis		Viral hepatitis is an infection that causes liver inflammation and damage. The hepatitis B, C, and D viruses can cause acute and chronic, or long-lasting, infections.

I. Introduction

1. Africa is at a crossroads as far as addressing her drug problem is concerned. On the one hand, the continent is experiencing a rise in drug trafficking coupled with an expansion in crime. On the other hand, the continent is facing rapidly rising consumption of drugs and the mushrooming of illicit drug production sites and increase in the volumes of drugs trafficked within and through the continent¹. These challenges contribute toward serious health consequences, including drug use disorders, HIV and AIDS and other infectious diseases, malnutrition and death, as well as severe social risks such as discrimination, exclusion and violence are also a challenge, and lucrative conditions for criminal activity in the illicit drug markets.² Drug trafficking is linked to organized crime, money laundering, illicit financial flows and terrorism financing, among others. The undermining of the rule of law and good governance resulting from drug trafficking poses new challenges with regard to exchanging of intelligence, training of border officials and enhancing preparedness to fight new and emerging organized crimes such as cybercrime, mafia style crimes – rise in gangs, extortion, violence and criminal governance.³ There are multiple causes for the rise in drug use and trafficking on the continent, among others, poverty, social exclusion, conflict, violence and trauma, gender inequality, high levels of income inequality, a high share of youth in populations and youth unemployment, high rates of urbanisation, low levels of criminal justice resources, mental health factors and lack of treatment opportunities, high levels of availability of drugs, lack of recreational space and recreation activities, family factors, homelessness, etc.

2. The above mentioned challenges will be more apparent as Africa prepares herself for the free movement of people within the continent⁴, the opening of African skies to facilitate intra-African tourism, labour migration and trade⁵, and with the adoption of the Continental Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)⁶. It is expected that migration within the continent will grow significantly during the initial period and that the informal economy and rural agriculture sectors will expand substantially. Free trade agreements open opportunities for the heightened mobility of illicit substances across borders, and may lead to changes in patterns of rural production and trafficking in illicit substances. Migrant populations may become victims of international traffickers taking advantage of their specific vulnerabilities.

¹ *Progress report on the implementation of the AU Plan of Action on Drug Control (2013-2017) for the period 2014-2016. Report submitted to the STC-HPDC-2, 20 – 24 March 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*

² *EU Action Plan on Drugs (2017-2020)(2017/C 213/02), European Commission, 2017, Brussels, Belgium*

³ *Comprehensive assessment of Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime in West Africa, African Union Commission. January 2014*

⁴ *Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, Right to Residence and Right of Establishment, a protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community (Abuja Treaty of 1991), adopted by the 30th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 28-29 January 2018*

⁵ *Launch of the Single African Air Transport Market by the 30th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 28-29 January 2018*

⁶ *Continental Free Trade Agreement, adopted by the 10th Extraordinary Session of the AU Assembly, Kigali, Rwanda, 21-22 March 2018.*

3. On the demographic front, the continent is blessed with a youthful population which, if planned for, can result into a great demographic dividend with a high proportion of the working class and thus higher economic development. However, this is only possible if the young people are protected from drug use and other dangers. In addition to the imminent demographic dividend there is an increasing population of older persons that hold enormous potential which should not only be fully harnessed, but also be preserved and taken care of in the service of the socio-economic development of Africa. On the other hand, the increase in older persons may result in the need for availability of more medicines and for access to more controlled medicines for palliative care.

Drug control and crime prevention is essential to implementing AU Agenda 2063 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

4. AU Agenda 2063 is the shared strategic framework for inclusive growth and sustainable development for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years. The First Ten Year Implementation Plan for AU Agenda 2063⁷, under its Aspiration 3, “An Africa of good governance, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law”, provides for improving the quality of justice and governance to realize the rights of citizens of the continent, which includes building strong institutions as cornerstones for development. Similarly, Aspiration 4, “A peaceful and secure Africa”, provides for the updating of the African Peace and Security Architecture to incorporate, among other organized crime trends, drug trafficking (and illicit synthetic drug production as an emerging threat).
5. The guiding principles and framework institutional conditions of the two mentioned aspirations will result in positive drug supply reduction outcomes, and will ensure that citizens can claim their social rights and that justice shall be served for people who need healing from violence and traumas (which may have triggered drug dependence). In addition, AU Agenda 2063 implementation outcomes that speak to drug demand reduction in general, including framework conditions for combating exclusion, are depicted under Aspirations 1 and 6 which calls for ending poverty, addressing youth unemployment, developing Africa’s human and social potential and expanding access to health care services, especially for girls and women.
6. These noble aspirations cannot be realized if drug demand reduction, supply reduction, criminal justice system reform, among other key priorities, are not accelerated over the next few years. The same goes for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals – especially Target 3.5 (“Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol”), Goals 1-5, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 16 (“Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”).

⁷ *First Ten Year Implementation Plan for Agenda 2063, A shared Strategic Framework for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, 2015*

Recent landmark commitments to inform drug policy at continental, regional and national levels in Africa



The Seven Chapters of the Outcome Document of the 2016 United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on the World Drug Problem

1. Operational recommendations on demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as other health-related issues
2. Operational recommendations on ensuring the availability of and access to controlled substances exclusively for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion
3. Operational recommendations on supply reduction and related measures; effective law enforcement; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation
4. Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, children, women and communities
5. Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues in addressing and countering the world drug problem: evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats, including new psychoactive substances, in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments
6. Operational recommendations on strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility
7. Operational recommendations on alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues

7. At UN level, the “Outcome Document of the 2016 United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem”⁸, contains a joint commitment by Member States to counteract the world drug problem and the 7 chapters of operational recommendations to be addressed are fully relevant to Africa. In addition, resolutions of the 60th & 61st Sessions of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) of 2017 and 2018, respectively, illuminate touchstones for the implementation of the 7 chapters of the Outcome Document, emanating from experiences shared by Member States at the CND.
8. At AU level, the “Common African Position for the UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on the World Drug Problem”, committed “...that the fundamental

⁸ *Outcome document of the 2016 United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem, 30th Special Session, UN General Assembly, New York, 19-21 April 2016*

goal of drug policies should be to improve the health, safety, security and socio-economic well-being of people by reducing drug use, drug-related harms, illicit trafficking and associated crimes”, and that “...Drug policies which focus entirely or disproportionately on law enforcement, incarceration, punishment and repression have not succeeded in eradicating supply, demand and harm caused by illicit drugs on the Continent. These policies have led to serious unintended consequences and often disproportionately impact upon the poor and marginalised, while creating a rich and powerful criminal market that undermines security of states. Therefore, we commit to strive for balance and proportionality at the local, national, regional and international levels. Drug use (must be prevented) and drug dependence must be treated as a public health issue with socio-economic causes and consequences and justifies a separate fourth pillar in the international drug control architecture. People who use drugs must be offered support, treatment and protection, rather than be faced with punishment and a criminal record. This includes the provision of alternatives to arrest, sentencing and incarceration.”⁹ Hence, the Common African Position reflects what is contained in the UNGASS Outcome Document, and vice versa. In addition, the UNGASS Outcome in Chapter II focuses on increasing access and availability to controlled drugs for medical purposes, for which the AU also adopted the Common Position on Controlled Substances and Access to Pain Management Drugs in 2012.¹⁰ A revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019-2023) should therefore be based on the chapters of the UNGASS Outcome Document, and translate them for the African context, to achieve a comprehensive balance between drug demand and supply reduction and to include access and availability to controlled drugs for medical purposes.

Concise overview of the drugs used, trafficked and manufactured in Africa

9. Drug use on the continent has escalated in all 5 AU Regions, confirming that Africa is no longer only a transit zone in the global trade in narcotics, but also a major consumer.¹¹ While cannabis remains the most widely used substance after alcohol, there is evidence of growing use of cocaine, heroin, tramadol, amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), as well as new psychoactive substances (NPS). In Eastern and Southern African countries, heroin use, as well as injecting drug use is escalating. Also the transmission rates of HIV and hepatitis among people who inject drugs are high, particularly among women and young people.
10. The syphoning of precursor chemicals for illicit use, especially ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, has been recorded in West, East and Southern Africa. These are from areas where ATS are manufactured in clandestine laboratories on a large scale, or in domestic kitchens in the case of small scale production and trafficking. Online sale of drugs has been reported in South Africa. Large shipments of heroin occur on the high seas of Eastern Africa, and that of cocaine off-shore in the Atlantic Ocean,

⁹ *Common African Position for the UN Special Session on the World Drug Problem*. Adopted by the 1st Session of the AU Specialized Technical Committee on Health, Population and Drug Control, 13-17 March 2015, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

¹⁰ *Report of the 5th Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Drug Control*, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 8-12 October 2012.

¹¹ *Progress report on the implementation of the AU Plan of Action on Drug Control (2013-2017) for the period 2014-2016*. Report submitted to the STC-HPDC-2, 20 – 24 March 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

while on-shore shipments are made through harbours and airports across the continent. Women, especially those from low-income backgrounds, continue to be vulnerable to recruitment as drug couriers.

Achievements of the previous continental Plans of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (AUPA)

11. Since the First AUPA was implemented in 1996, AU Member States established drug control units or divisions mostly in their Ministries of Police or State Security and. Over time, a gradual shift took place where Ministries of Health, and Social Development (with all stakeholders represented, including those in supply reduction) assumed a joint or sole mandate for coordinating the implementation of their national drug control strategies or Drug Master Plans (DMPs). At present, close to 80% of AU Member States have national inter-ministerial drug control committees that meet regularly, and 62% implement revised drug control strategies and produce annual drug situation reports.¹² The remaining Member States are revising their DMPs, while some will commence it before long with technical assistance from the AU Commission, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and other international partners.

12. The implementation of the AU Plans of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention were additionally galvanised by Regional Drug Control Strategies implemented by Regional Economic Communities (RECs), such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the East African Community (EAC). An important output of the Regional Economic Communities was the strengthening of epidemiological surveillance on drug use and trafficking trends in regions and in some Member States. Some challenges were encountered, mainly when funding from supporting partners decreased. At continental level, the Project, “Strengthening Research and Data Collection Capacity for Drug Use Prevention and Treatment in Africa” was launched in 2015 with the support of the US Government and it has been rolled out in 15 Member States (3 in each of the 5 AU Regions.) The overall objective of the project is to develop and implement a drug surveillance system with a public health orientation for the collection and dissemination of comparable data on drug use and related problems in Africa. In addition to information from surveillance systems, there is a critical need for research and data collection on drugs, such as school, workplace and community surveys and qualitative studies on targeted populations. The improved knowledge and understanding of the drug use and trafficking situation will facilitate the successful development, revision and implementation of regional and national drug control strategies in order to address problems associated with drug use and trafficking.

Contemporary realities considered in the revised AUPA (2019-2023)

¹² *Progress report on the implementation of the AU Plan of Action on Drug Control (2013-2017) for the period 2014-2016. Report submitted to the STC-HPDC-2, 20 – 24 March 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*

13. The revised AUPA builds upon existing activities in Member States and in some African regions, including research, training and preventive activities that could be shared with other countries, and on the successful outcomes of drug demand reduction training, in prevention and treatment, conducted by the Drug Control Program Management Unit within the AU Commission and by other partners in Member States. Furthermore, responses to prevent the transmission of blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, such as HIV and viral hepatitis are more strongly included in the revised AUPA. The AUPA takes into consideration the right to health of all citizens and that drug use is a complex condition to be managed. Children and other family members of people who use drugs should not suffer victimization through losing a parent or loved one. People who use drugs should be supported to overcome the problems that they may be facing.
14. The availability of and accessibility to drugs for the relief of pain and suffering is a major challenge in Africa, resulting in the majority of patients who need these drugs dying in pain. The AU Ministers in Charge of Drug Control adopted a Common Position in this regard in 2012, and in tandem with the UNGASS Outcome, access to and availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion, is addressed as a priority in the revised AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019 – 2023) as well.
15. The AUPA also responds to the contemporary challenges in drug supply reduction, such as the diversion of precursor chemicals, online drug markets, new psychoactive substances, and the linkages between drug trafficking and organised crime – of which drug trafficking is usually the first link in the chain of illicit flows. In this regard, the revised AUPA focuses on drug-related violence, and the profiling of high-level actors and enablers of drug trafficking and drug related crime (such as illicit arms dealers, corrupt officials and money launderers).
16. In addressing the angles of gender, youth, children and community, the revised AUPA calls, among others, for the strengthening of extended family support in the African context, because having to deal with a child or grandchild who uses drugs is a new phenomenon to parents, grandparents and guardians. It is less difficult for families to provide physical care for people living with HIV/ AIDS in terms of African culture and norms. Most parents and elders do not have experience in supporting young people who are under the influence of drugs or who are experiencing drug-related problems.
17. Furthermore, in tandem with the UNGASS Outcome, the promotion of alternative development, in the wider sense of promoting alternative crops to substitute cannabis production and in the narrower sense of providing alternative livelihoods following vocational training and support to small business, even to diverse from selling alcohol, is also a priority area in the revised AUPA. Particularly, there is need for the provision of infrastructure and services in areas vulnerable to drug production and use, to stimulate job creation and socio-economic development.

18. Lastly, the revised AUPA provides for international cooperation nexuses and continental coordination for its implementation with the involvement of all relevant international and national stakeholders and partners. In this regard, the African Union Commission was a founding partner of the International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP) in 2015. ISSUP is a focal point for information about substance use prevention and treatment and training for prevention and treatment workforce. African Member States and organizations have played an active role in its development, with Kenya that hosted the 4th International ISSUP Conference in December 2018 – the first on African soil. A second major aspect of Africa’s international cooperation is its role in the International Consortium of Universities for Demand Reduction (ICUDDR), which promotes university education and training in addiction prevention, treatment and public health interventions.

II. Overall objective

19. The fundamental objective of the AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019-2023) is to improve the health, security and socio-economic well-being of the people of Africa by addressing drug trafficking and problematic drug use in all its forms and manifestations and preventing the onset of drug use.

A. MEASURES TO ADDRESS DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION IMPLEMENTED AND HEALTH ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE ADDRESSED

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE A1 --- PREVENT DRUG USE AMONG ALL AGE GROUPS, MALES AND FEMALES, AND YOUTH AT RISK, BY APPLYING EVIDENCE BASED PREVENTION SCIENCE				

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
<p>a. Establish national focal unit on drug use prevention and train focal persons on implementation of internationally evidence-based prevention standards, including UNODC/WHO International Standards on Drug Use Prevention- 2nd updated version https://www.unodc.org/documents/prevention/standards_180412.pdf and as also contained in Continental Minimum Quality Standards for Drug Use Prevention and Treatment (adopted by 5th Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Drug Control, October 2012) in multiple settings</p>	Ongoing	MS RECs	<p># of MS that have established drug use prevention units</p> <p># of MS that have conducted training on drug use prevention approaches</p>	<p>Member State Prevention/Demand Reduction Focal Points (MS FP) RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs</p>
<p>b. Engage the private sector, key ministries, academia, CSOs, religious organisations, school learners, youths, adults and elders in planning and execution of evidence based prevention activities in an integrated partnership approach</p>	Ongoing	MS RECs	<p># of MS that engaged the private sector, key ministries, CSOs, religious organisations and other stakeholders in planning and execution of prevention activities</p>	<p>MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs</p>
<p>c. Organise evidence based, age-appropriate drug awareness campaigns, debate and essay competitions for school learners, building their resilience, highlighting drug facts, and need for destigmatisation and social inclusion of learners who started using drugs, including involving them in sport, culture and leisure time activities with the aim to prevent the onset of drug use and/or delay initiation into drug use. The role of the internet is crucial in drug education.¹³</p>	Ongoing	MS RECs	<p># of MS that reported on having conducted activities on raising awareness on drug prevention targeted at school learners, girls and boys</p>	<p>MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs</p>

¹³ For school based activities, the effective preventive initiatives should focus on (by age groups): Middle Childhood (early school years): Classroom management skills programmes, policies to keep children in schools, preventive education in the form of socio-emotional skills. Early adolescence: Prevention education based on social and personal skills and social influence these can be teacher led (and many programmes can be suggested) or sport coaches led and we have a UNODC programme with evolving evidence to suggest (Line Up Live Up!). The above could be applied on a universal and/or selective basis.

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
d. Conduct targeted evidence based social media campaigns for secondary school and tertiary students and out of school youths on drug use risks, with skills to avoid using drugs and with information on pathways to exit drug use habits	Ongoing	MS RECs	# of MS that reported social media campaigns conducted/ repeated for secondary and tertiary students and out of school youths on drug use risks, how to avoid drugs and exit drug use	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
e. Involve traditional media (newspapers, television and radio) and the entertainment industry (soap operas, films, etc.) in disseminating drug facts to the adult population with the emphasis on reducing stigmatisation, enabling assistance to people who use drugs, supporting “back to work” strategies and support to the elderly and traditional caregivers to deal with the drug use of family or community members	Ongoing	MS RECs	# of MS that produced written articles /talk shows/discussions for adults on drug facts, destigmatisation and available assistance, including workplace prevention programs	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
f. Engage the media, community leaders, religious organizations and other stakeholders in communicating of and training in family and parental skills approaches as most valuable and cost effective in drug use prevention and treatment	Ongoing	MS RECs	# of MS that conducted parental skills training for drug use prevention and treatment	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/ DSA CSOs
g. Disseminate visual IEC materials targeted at empowerment of women and girls on drugs, basic coping and parenting skills to women in the formal economy, to women in the informal sector in open markets and hair salons also in slum areas	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that availed IEC materials to workplaces, open markets, slum areas and female workers on drugs, basic coping and parenting skills	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
h. Participate in the International Society for Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP) training to increase numbers of trained prevention professionals and to share best practices	Ongoing	MS, AUC DCU/DSA, RECs	# of MS that have participated in the ISSUP training opportunities to increase numbers of prevention professionals	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
<p>i. Exchange best practices with fellow AU MS regarding evidence-based prevention activities for children and young people, girls and women, workers and their families, with teachers, social workers, community front line workers (e.g. hair dressers), religious, traditional and community leaders, law enforcement personnel, etc.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>MS, RECs, AUC DCU/DSA</p>	<p>- Biennial AUC report includes a section on best practices shared among MS highlighting positive outcomes of targeted prevention interventions</p>	<p>RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA</p>

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE A2 --- ENHANCE CAPACITY FOR TREATMENT OF DRUG USE DISORDERS, REHABILITATION, RECOVERY AND SOCIAL REINTEGRATION				
a. Establish a national focal unit on drug use treatment and train focal persons on the implementation of internationally evidence-based standards, including the Continental Minimum Quality Standards for Drug Use Prevention and Treatment (adopted by the 5th Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Drug Control, October 2012) and the UNODC/WHO International Standards for Treatment of Drug Use Disorders ¹⁴ https://www.unodc.org/documents/.../CND/CND.../ECN72016_CRP4_V1601463.pdf	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that have established a national focal point on drug use treatment # of MS that have conducted training on drug use treatment	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
b. Engage the public sector, the private sector, academia, CSOs, religious organisations in planning and execution of treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration activities – evidence-based treatment in line with the above-mentioned two instruments	Ongoing	MS RECs	# of MS that engaged the private sector, CSOs, religious organisations and stakeholders in planning and execution of treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration activities in line with evidence-based treatment approaches and practice	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
c. Strengthen services for early detection, screening, brief interventions and referral for treatment for people who use drugs and train school teachers, nurses and police officers in brief interventions	Ongoing	MS	# of MS that trained school teachers, nurses and police officers in early detection, screening, brief interventions and referral for treatment	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
d. Facilitate treatment access for people who use drugs, including women, to low threshold services, out-patient services and residential treatment facilities (if required and available) and for voluntary co-morbidity HIV and HCV testing , all in accordance with approved quality treatment standards	Ongoing	MS	# of MS that established - low threshold services - out-patient services - residential treatment - voluntary HIV/HCV testing, including for women and girls	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

¹⁴ CSOs are running treatment centres in many countries. What they need from government and the private sector is financial support – grants, etc. This needs to be considered seriously to sustain treatment programs in future, as governments should focus more comprehensively on the mental health of their populations.

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
e. Implement evidence-based treatment programmes for people who use drugs who need it in the “captured audience” situations of probation homes, prisons and psychiatric hospitals with accompanying co-morbidity assessment and treatment for psychiatric disorders, and HIV/HCV testing and treatment on a voluntary basis (while also committing to reducing drug use-related incarceration)	Ongoing	MS	# of MS that established a coordination mechanism between Ministry of Health and Ministry of Justice to provide appropriate treatment for PWUD in prisons and probation homes # of MS that have established a treatment programme for drug use disorders in psychiatric hospitals	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
f. Put into practice social reintegration and career guidance programmes for people who use drugs in recovery after treatment, PWUD in contact with the criminal justice system, ex-probation homes residents and PWUD who suffer from morbid mental health disorders	Ongoing	MS	# of MS that assisted people who use drugs in recovery to gain access to the social capital of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Accommodation- Employment- Education- Family relationships	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
g. Promote the development of continental, regional and national treatment curricula for substance use disorders, including in partnership with the Colombo Plan for the Universal Treatment Curriculum and the Universal Prevention Curriculum.	Ongoing	MS, Colombo Plan, AUC DCU/DSA	# of MS that have developed their own prevention, treatment and social reintegration training curricula’s for substance use disorders	MS FP Colombo Plan, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
h. Promote participation in the International Consortium of Universities for Demand Reduction (ICUDDR) to increase the number of trained prevention and treatment professionals.	Ongoing	MS, Colombo Plan, ICUDDR,	# of MS that have a certification body for substance use prevention and treatment education and training	MS FP Colombo Plan, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
i. Promote the development of continental, regional and national treatment workforces for treatment, rehabilitation and social integration of substance use disorders	Ongoing	MS, Colombo Plan, ICUDDR, AUC DCU/DSA	# of MS that have increased the number of trained substance use disorder treatment workers and professionals over the past two years # of MS that have established a professional association and registered network of workers and professionals on the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders	MS FP Colombo Plan ICUDDR AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
j. Promote training for, and involvement of traditional healers, religious and cultural authorities in treatment and rehabilitation of people who use drugs, including the use of traditional medicines and counseling methodology	Ongoing	MS, Traditional Healers, Religious	# of MS that involve traditional healers, religious and cultural authorities in treatment and rehabilitation of PWUDs.	MS FP Traditional Healers', Religious and Cultural Associations CSOs
k. Facilitate funding and support to CSOs for training of personnel and for treatment, rehabilitation and social integration programs for people who use drugs	Ongoing	MS CSOs	# of MS that facilitated funding and support to CSOs working in the Substance Use Disorder treatment sector	CSOs MS FP CSOs in the SUD treatment sector
l. Exchange best practices with fellow AU MS regarding treatment activities for people who use drugs, including children and young people, women and girls, working and unemployed men, people in contact with the criminal justice system, and people with comorbid mental health disorders to avoid stigmatization.	Ongoing	MS RECS	- Biennial AUC report includes a section on best practices shared among MS highlighting positive outcomes of treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration interventions	AUC, RECs, UNODC ROs and MS reports, training reports, professional associations

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE A3 --- REDUCE HARM ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE				

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
<p>a. Implement the WHO/UNAIDS/UNODC recommendation on the comprehensive package of health services for people who inject drugs, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Needle and syringe programmes ii) Drug dependence treatment: a) Opioid substitution therapy (OST) b) Other drug dependence treatment iii) HIV testing and counselling iv) Antiretroviral therapy (ART) v) Prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) vi) Condom programs for PWID and their sexual partners vii) Targeted information, education and communication (IEC) for PWID and their sexual partners viii) Diagnosis and treatment of and vaccination for viral hepatitis ix) Prevention, diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis (TB). The role of the internet is crucial in education on reducing drug related harm. 	Ongoing	MS, RECs	<p># of MS that trained personnel in drug treatment settings on the comprehensive package</p> <p># MS that are implementing the comprehensive package of health services for PWID</p> <p># of MS that offer PWID needle and syringe programmes</p> <p># of MS that instituted condom programmes for PWID</p> <p># of MS that have PWUD tested voluntarily and counselled for HIV</p> <p># of MS that treated PWUD for HIV (ART)</p> <p># of MS treating PWUD for HCV</p> <p># of MS that treat PWUD for TB</p>	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
<p>b. Prevent and manage HIV, STIs, HCV and TB among the drug using populations, including prisoners, probation homes residents and people who use drugs in in-and out-patient psychiatric services</p>	Ongoing	MS, RECs	<p># of MS that offer people PWUD sexual and reproductive health services to prevent and manage STIs</p>	MS FP RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
<p>c. Scale up, where applicable, services to lessen the harmful consequences of opioid use disorders to prevent opioid overdose deaths, not directly linked to blood-borne infections, as recommended by the WHO for people who inject drugs. See “Joint UNODC/WHO S-O-S initiative – Stop Overdose Safely”</p>	Ongoing	MS	<p># of MS implementing Opioid Substitution Treatment, such as methadone and buprenorphine for PWUD with opioid use disorders, including heroine</p> <p># of MS provide access to naloxone, and have peers and potential first responders, including family trained in its administration in case of overdose</p>	MS FP National AIDS Councils MoH RECs UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
d. Exchange best practices for PWID with fellow AU MS on: 1) prevention and treatment programmes of blood-borne infectious diseases; 2) those of TB and STIs; 3) implementation of NSP; 4) MAT and emergency management of opioid overdose programmes.	Ongoing	MS, RECs, AUC DCU/DSA	- Biennial AUC report includes a section on best practices shared among MS highlighting outcomes of NSP, HIV and TB testing and treatment, condom, MAT and naloxone programmes	MS RECs UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE A4 --- IMPLEMENT ALTERNATIVES TO PUNISHMENT FOR DRUG USE, PROMOTE PROPORTIONALITY IN SENTENCING FOR DRUG OFFENSES AND PROVIDE SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW				
a. MS sensitise the prosecutorial and judicial authorities regarding age and gender appropriate judicial outcomes and consider court diversion and proportionality in sentencing for drug offenses , in view of the provisions in the UN Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules) and specifically for women with caregiving responsibilities in line with the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (Bangkok Rules)	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that have sensitized prosecutorial and judicial authority personnel regarding alternatives to punishment for PWUD in contact with the criminal justice system, court diversion and proportionality in sentencing for drug offenses and to provide services for people who use drugs in conflict with the law	Ministry of Justice in MS Ministries of Health in MS RECs UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
b. MS revisit/evaluate sentences for women with caregiving responsibilities incarcerated and consider house arrest/ electronic monitoring for them see: https://www.unodc.org/documents/UNODC_WHO_Alternatives_to_Conviction_or_Punishment_2018.pdf	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that have considered female drug offenders in prisons with caregiving responsibilities, for house incarceration/ electronic monitoring	MS Ministry of Justice Ministries of Gender/ Social Development in MS, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
c. MS provide access to evidence-based treatment for PWUD and consider treatment as alternative to punishment for PWUD in contact with the criminal justice system in adequate cases in line with the international drug control conventions, the Tokyo and Bangkok rules.	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that have opted for treatment as alternative to punishment for PWUD in contact with the criminal justice system	MS Ministry of Justice Ministries of Gender/ Social Development in MS, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
d. MS sensitize public, religious, political figures regarding the positive effects of the implementation of alternatives to punishment for drug use	Ongoing	MS	# of MS that have sensitized public figures on the positive effects of alternatives to punishment for drug use	Drug Control focal point in MS CSOs, RECs UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA
e. Exchange best practices with fellow AU MS regarding alternatives to punishment for PWUD in contact with the criminal justice system for personal drug use or other adequate offences of minor nature and on health and justice cooperation	Ongoing	MS, RECs, AUC DCU/DSA	Biennial AUC report includes a section on best practices shared among MS on alternatives to punishment for drug use	MS RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

B. ACCESS TO AND AVAILABILITY OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES FACILITATED FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES WHILE PREVENTING THEIR DIVERSION

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE B1 --- ADDRESS BARRIERS THAT SUPPRESS THE AVAILABILITY OF AND ACCESSIBILITY TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, INCLUDING FOR THE RELIEF OF PAIN AND SUFFERING				
a. Engage with medical and pharmaceutical associations, government, CSOs and relevant stakeholders to determine the status of access to controlled medicines, how to address barriers and to avoid the misuse and illicit diversion of these medicines	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS having engaged with all stakeholders to assess access to controlled medicines with the view to streamline and simplify procedures to procure and dispense controlled medicines safely	Ministry responsible for Health Medicines, Regulatory Authority in MS, African Medicines Agency (AMA), RECs, UNODC ROs, AUC DCU/ DSA, CSOs
b. Consolidate all aspects in the supply chain of controlled medicines to ensure the medicines included on WHO Essential Medicine list are available, accessible and financially affordable to all patients with medical need, including for patients who need medicines for the relief of pain and suffering	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS having upgraded their selection of controlled medicines (for affordability and quality), procurement procedures, storage and distribution outlets	Ministry responsible for Health Medicines, Regulatory Authority in MS, African Medicines Agency (AMA), RECs, UNODC ROs, AUC DCU/ DSA, CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
c. Train the healthcare workforce and pharmacists on all aspects of controlled medicines to include but not be limited to laws, regulations and policies; the standards in medically managing pain including assessment, diagnosing and treating patients; the rational use of controlled medicines, pharmacovigilance; non-medical use of controlled medicines and the management of the supply chain to include safe storage, prescription and administration of controlled medicines, including those used for the relief of pain and suffering	Ongoing	MS, RECS	# of MS having conducted training seminars with the healthcare workforce and pharmacists to accelerate prescription, administration and storage procedures	Ministry responsible for Health Medicines, Regulatory Authority in MS, African Medicines Agency (AMA), RECs, UNODC ROs, AUC DCU/ DSA, CSOs
d. Remove identified legal barriers to the provision of controlled substances for scientific and medical purposes	Ongoing	MS, RECS	# of MS that have removed legal barriers to the provision of controlled substances for scientific and medical purposes	Ministry responsible for Health Medicines, Regulatory Authority in MS, African Medicines Agency (AMA), RECs, UNODC ROs, AUC DCU/ DSA, CSOs
e. Consider local provisions to increase the local production of controlled substances and plants for scientific and medical use, in line with the international drug conventions	Ongoing	MS, RECS	# of MS that produced controlled substances and plants for scientific and medical use, in line with the international drug conventions	Ministry responsible for Health Medicines, Regulatory Authority in MS, African Medicines Agency (AMA), RECs, UNODC ROs, AUC DCU/ DSA, CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE B2 --- REDUCE THE NON-MEDICAL USE OF MEDICINES TO INCLUDE ASSESSMENT OF THE SUPPLY CHAIN FOR DIVERSION INCLUDING COUNTERFEIT PRODUCTS OR OPEN MARKETS OUTSIDE THE REGULATED SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES				
f. Promote electronic systems for the prescription of pharmaceuticals, linked to all registered pharmacies and public health pharmaceutical outlets	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that have migrated to electronic systems for the prescription of pharmaceuticals	Ministry responsible for Health Medicines, Regulatory Authority in MS, African Medicines Agency (AMA), RECs, UNODC ROs, AUC DCU/ DSA CSOs
g. Regulate the trade in narcotic and psychotropic substances, including licensing of importers and outlets and prevent the entrance of counterfeit products in open markets, the informal economy and unlicensed pharmaceutical outlets	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that crack down on the trade in counterfeit narcotics and psychotropic substances in open markets, the informal economy and unlicensed pharmaceutical outlets	Medicines Regulatory Authority Narcotics Police Unit Customs Department AMA, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
h. Exchange best practices with fellow AU MS regarding facilitation of access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including improving of regional and continental information sharing on the misuse of identified controlled substances	Ongoing	MS, RECs, AUC,	- Biennial AUC report includes a section on best practices shared among MS regarding facilitation of access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes	Medicines Regulatory Authority AMA RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

C. MEASURES TO ADDRESS DRUG SUPPLY REDUCTION REALIZED ALONG WITH COUNTERING ENABLERS OF DRUG TRAFFICKING: FIREARMS, CORRUPTION AND MONEY LAUNDERING

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE C1 --- COUNTERACT THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES				
a. Review current legislation to adapt it to contemporary challenges, including drugs currently trafficked and New Psychoactive Substance (NPS)	Ongoing	MS, RECs, AUC DCU/ DSA	# of MS that have reviewed their drug control legislation over the past five years in compliance with international standards and commitments	Ministry of Health Medicines Regulatory Authority Ministry of Justice National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, RECs, UNODC ROs, AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs
b. Boost capacity of national forensic or drug testing laboratories, and/or support regional drug testing laboratories by secondment of scientists, sharing of operational costs among MS, etc.	Ongoing	MS, RECs, AUC DCU/	# of MS that have functional forensic laboratories and # of MS that rely on drug testing facilities in their sub-region	National Forensic Laboratory National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA
c. Enhance national drug law enforcement capacity for information sharing on national drug trends, including trafficking routes, borders with weak capacity for drug detection, possible in-country production sites for synthetic drugs, investigating of shipping containers, postal and courier parcels, use of sniffer dogs, etc.	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that have established national platforms that meet or engage regularly to exchange information on drug use and trafficking trends	National Customs Agency National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
d. Strengthen regional coordination platforms, with INTERPOL, UNODC and the World Customs Organization offices to exchange drug intelligence information timely, assess training needs of border officials, and to conduct joint border operations.	Ongoing	MS, RECs, RPCCOs, INTERPOL	# of MS that participate in regional law enforcement activities for drug intelligence information exchange and assessment of training needs	National Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies RPCCOs, INTERPOL RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
e. Enhance skills of Law Enforcement Agencies in combatting drug trafficking with support of AUC, INTERPOL and UNODC.	Ongoing	MS, RPCCOs, INTERPOL, AUC	# of MS having personnel trained in latest drug law enforcement techniques by INTERPOL, UNODC, AUC and others	National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies RPCCOs, INTERPOL RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA
f. Carry out public awareness campaigns with support of INTERPOL and on the use of INTERPOL Policing Capabilities to fight drug trafficking and organize crime.	Ongoing	MS, RECs, INTERPOL, RPCCOs	# of MS that raise public awareness of collaboration with INTERPOL to fight drug trafficking and organized crime through social and traditional media platforms	National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies Traditional and social media platforms PRCCOs, INTERPOL RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
g. Increase financial investigation capacity of law enforcement entities to reduce drug supply, as it will increase drug seizures, facilitate asset forfeiture and confiscation of other proceeds of drug trafficking which can be linked to financing of terrorism	Ongoing	MS	# of MS that have increased their financial investigation capacity in National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies	National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies Ministry of Finance Private sector auditing companies INTERPOL RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA
h. Train drug law enforcement officials in analysing and collating drug-related intelligence to identify threats associated with drug-related organized crime, including diversion of precursors for clandestine drug manufacturing (also see section F.4)	Ongoing	MS, RECs, Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Crime Intelligence	# of MS having assessed training needs of drug law enforcement officials annually with the view to develop their capacity to identify drug-related organized crime threats	Medicines Regulatory Authority Drug Law Enforcement Agencies CIDs, Ministry responsible for Safety and Security, Police INTERPOL, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE C2 --- PROMOTE INTER- MINISTERIAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, YOUTH, CSOS, RELIGIOUS AND TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES IN THE SERVICE OF MONITORING OF DRUG TRAFFICKING AND PEDDLING				
a. Engage with local illicit drug producers/manufacturers (see section G: Alternative Development)	Ongoing	MS Ministries of Trade, Agriculture, and	# of MS that have engaged with local illicit drug producers/manufacturers	Drug Law Enforcement Agency Ministries of Trade, Agriculture, Education CSOs, RECs, UNODC ROs, AUC DCU/DSA
b. Increase number of female officers in the drug law enforcement agency for closer engagement with communities to implement supply reduction measures in conjunction with initiatives to prevent drug related crime and violence	Ongoing	MS Drug Law Enforcement Agency, RECs	# of MS that have increased the numbers of female drug law enforcement officers	Ministry of Safety and Security, Police Drug Law Enforcement Agency RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
c. Develop phone applications for police officers with updated information on drug policy, how to profile “kingpins” and proposed responses to violence associated with drugs, including gang violence	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that have introduced smartphone applications to drug law enforcement officials on how to respond to drug offenses	Ministry of Safety and Security, Police Drug Law Enforcement Agency RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE C3 --- ADDRESS DRUG RELATED VIOLENCE, PROFILE ACTORS AND ENABLERS OF DRUG TRAFFICKING AND DRUG RELATED CRIME: ILLICIT ARMS DEALERS, CORRUPT OFFICIALS, MONEY LAUNDERERS				
a. Dismantle the nexus between corruption/illicit financing/ purchase of weapons/ drugs, etc. and eradicate safe havens for human traffickers, , clandestine goods and trafficked persons by encouraging cooperation to expose traffickers in humans, drugs and arms, including whistle blowing, as stipulated in the AU Master Roadmap of Practical Steps to Silence the Guns in Africa by Year 2020	Ongoing	MS, RECS	# of MS that have established a mechanism to implement the AU Master Roadmap of Practical Steps to Silence the Guns in Africa by Year 2020	Ministry of Finance/National Treasury/ Ministry of Justice/Legal Affairs, Drug Law Enforcement Agencies AUC DPS/PSC, INTERPOL, RECS, UNODC ROs, AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs
b. Promote the ratification of the AU Strategy on the Control of Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (2013)	Ongoing	MS, RECS	# of MS having ratified the AU Small Arms Strategy and running disarmament/ strict registration programmes for firearms possession	Ministries of Safety and Security, and Justice National Law Enforcement Agencies AUC DPS/PSC, RECS, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs
c. Promote the ratification of the AU Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (2003) and the UN Convention against Corruption (2005) and the establishment of Anti-Corruption Agencies including whistle blowing programs	Ongoing	MS, RECS	#of MS having ratified the AU and UN Conventions Against Corruption and having established Anti-Corruption Agencies, including whistle blowing programmes	Ministries of Safety and Security, and Justice National Anti-Corruption Agency National Law Enforcement Agencies AUC DPA, RECS, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
d. Promote the ratification of the AU Convention on Preventing and Combating of Terrorism (2004), including national legislation according to the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (2015) on International Standards on Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism and Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS having functional Financial Intelligence Units in place to detect and report suspicious financial transactions	Ministries of Safety and Security, Finance and Justice National Financial Intelligence Unit National Law Enforcement Agencies RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs
e. Exchange best practices with fellow AU MS to combat drug related violence and enablers of drug trafficking and drug related crime: illicit arms dealers, corrupt officials, money launderers	Ongoing	MS, RECs	- Biennial AUC report includes a section on best practices shared among MS regarding combating of drug related violence and of enablers of drug trafficking and drug related crime	MS AUC DPS/PSC/DPA INTERPOL, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

D. MEASURES TO ADDRESS CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM IMPLEMENTED

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE D1 --- ADDRESS TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIME THROUGH RATIFYING INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL INSTRUMENTS AND BY CONTRIBUTING INTELLIGENCE TO INTERNATIONAL, CONTINENTAL AND REGIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY ORGANS AND MECHANISMS				
a. Review current legislation to adapt it to international instruments such as the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and the Protocols thereto	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that have reviewed their legislation over the past five years in compliance with the TOC and its protocols	Ministry of Safety and Security/ Justice, National Law Enforcement Agencies RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE D2 --- ENHANCE PREPAREDNESS TO FIGHT NEW AND EMERGING ORGANIZED CRIMES, SUCH AS CYBERCRIME; MAFIA STYLE CRIMES – RISE IN GANGS, EXTORTION, VIOLENCE AND CRIMINAL GOVERNANCE				
<p>a. Establish, in accordance with the Statutes of the AU Mechanism for Police Cooperation (AFRIPOL), a National Liaison focal point for AFRIPOL, as well as communication linkages with the 5 Regional Organised Crime Observatories of the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime’s African Programme: Enhancing Africa’s Response to Transnational Organised Crime (ENACT) to prevent and counter money laundering, illicit financial flows and terrorist financing, among others</p>	Ongoing	MS, RECs	<p># of MS that have established a focal point for AFRIPOL and ENACT</p>	<p>Ministry of Safety and Security/Justice National Law Enforcement Agencies AFRIPOL, INTERPOL, ENACT, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs</p>
<p>b. Galvanize strong liaison, reporting and communication ties with regional coordination platforms of AFRIPOL, INTERPOL, UNODC and World Customs Organization offices to exchange information timely, assess training needs of border officials, and to conduct joint border operation to counter illicit flows of bulk cash, high value counterfeit goods such as cigarettes and medicines, precursor chemicals for manufacturing of drugs, human trafficking and migrants smuggling, proceeds from environmental crimes such as illegal logging, smuggling of animal and flora products, non-renewables such as mining products, etc.</p>	Ongoing	MS, RECs, AFRIPOL, INTERPOL	<p># of MS with functional INTERPOL, UNODC and WCO desks that are in constant contact with the mentioned entities for purposes of information sharing and participation in joint operations</p>	<p>Ministry of Safety and Security/Justice National Law Enforcement Agencies INTERPOL, AFRIPOL, WCO, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA</p>

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
c. Mobilize the private sector, i.e. ICT companies to assist in trawling for internet-based drug markets and other drug-related offences child pornography websites, online child sexual exploitation, drugs and arms smuggling sites, and other emerging crimes	Ongoing	MS, RECs, Private Sector, AFRIPOL, INTERPOL	# of MS that have forged alliances with ICT companies to help identify websites for illicit means and purposes	Ministries of Safety and Security/Communication and information/National Law Enforcement Agencies Private sector RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs
d. Establish a monitoring mechanism so as to monitor patterns and trends of the Darknet (so as to facilitate intervention measures)	Ongoing	MS, RECs, Private Sector, AFRIPOL, INTERPOL	# of MS that have forged alliances with ICT companies to help identify websites for illicit means and purposes	Ministries of Safety and Security/Communication and information/National Law Enforcement Agencies Private sector RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs
e. Increase intelligence gathering on violent gangsterism, and extortion incidences and attempts	Ongoing	MS, RECs, Private Sector, AFRIPOL, INTERPOL	# of MS that have forged alliances with ICT companies to help identify websites for illicit means and purposes	Ministries of Safety and Security/Communication and information/National Law Enforcement Agencies Private sector RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
f. Strengthen intelligence gathering, especially at local government level, whether elections are being manipulated by criminals, by paying voters for their votes, or to threaten them if they vote for non-favoured candidates of the criminals, and to implement the IntegriTAS system (Threat Assessment System) to analyse the interaction between criminals and politicians	Ongoing	MS RECs	# of MS that have implemented the IntegriTAS system to facilitate non-interference of criminals in elections	Ministry of Safety and Security/ Independent Elections Commissions/ Law Enforcement Agencies RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE D3 --- MONITOR RISK AND VULNERABILITY FACTORS FOR TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIME, SUCH AS SOCIAL COHESION, THE ECONOMIC THE ECONOMIC SITUATION, GEO-POLITICAL SITUATED AND RESOURCES, AND LABOUR MATTERS IN MS, AS WELL AS THE COUNTRY’S RESPONSE TO TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIME (GOVERNMENT STATEMENTS, LAWS AND POLICIES AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION, AND RESULTS)				
a. Launch national studies to assess vulnerability and employ the Fragility Index under the pillars for political, social, economic, security and environmental factors to analyse risk, pressures and stress factors in MS, considering drivers, structural factors and triggers. Fragility also looks at the ability of the state to provide basic services to the poor and vulnerable	Ongoing	MS, RECs, International Partners	# of MS that have assessed themselves on the Fragility Index, including their ability to provide basic services to the poor and analyses of possible triggers for crime	National Planning Commissions Universities Research Institutions RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE D4 --- REVIEW CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCEDURES TO FACILITATE CROSS-BORDER CRIME PREVENTION AND STRENGTHEN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE RULE OF LAW, ALSO IN POST-CONFLICT SITUATIONS				
a. Strengthen judicial cooperation among AU MS to combat cross-border drug trafficking and money laundering and efforts to confiscate and/or freeze the proceeds of organized crime, also from post-conflict situations	Ongoing	MS, AFIPOL, RPCCOs, RECs	# of MS that have engaged in combating of cross-border crime and freezing the proceeds of crime of nationals of other states in their territories, also from post-conflict situations	Ministries of Safety and Security/ Justice/ Correctional Services/Law Enforcement Agencies RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE D5 --- IMPROVE THE QUALITY, FAIRNESS AND EFFICIENCY OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS IN MS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE VULNERABILITY OF SOME MEMBERS OF SOCIETY				
a. Establish or strengthen an inter-judiciary mechanism to review the efficiency of the criminal justice process in MS to strengthen the rule of law and on the other hand, to counter recidivism without rehabilitation of offenders	Ongoing	MS, RECS	# of MS that have a functional mechanism in place to review fairness and efficiency of criminal justice processes # of MS with functional INTERPOL, UNODC and WCO desks # of MS having assessed training needs of drug law enforcement officials annually with view to develop capacity to identify drug-related organized crime threats # of MS that have forged alliances with ICT companies to identify websites for illicit means and purposes # of MS that have implemented the Integri-TAS system # of MS that have assessed themselves on Fragility Index, including their ability to provide basic services to poor and analyses of possible triggers for crime # of MS that have engaged in combating of cross-border crime and freezing proceeds of crime of nationals of other states in their territories, also from post-conflict situations # of MS that have functional mechanism in place to review fairness and efficiency of criminal justice processes # of MS that are in the process of re-integrating ex-offenders without stigmatization into mainstream employment sectors, including as unskilled and semi-skilled labourers	Ministry of Safety and Security/Justice National Law Enforcement Agencies Drug Law Enforcement Agency CSOs RECs UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA Ministry of Safety and Security/ Justice, National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies PMU AUC Ministries of Foreign Affairs/ Safety and Security/ Justice/ Drug Law Enforcement Agencies PMU AUC Private and public sector workplaces/ Ministries of Safety Correctional Services/Drug Law Enforcement Agencies PMU AUC

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE D6 --- FACILITATE CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PRISON LAW REFORM TO ASSIST OFFENDERS TO BE RE-INTRODUCED INTO THE JOB MARKET OR EDUCATION, AS EMPLOYMENT IS AN IMMUNIZATION AND CURE TO CRIME AND AS PRISONS ARE UNSUSTAINABLE EXPENDITURES				
a. Facilitate skills training in detention centres, and access to educational/ job placement services for offenders after completing their sentences; introduce a corps of trained, non-uniformed voluntary female and male wardens in work places and educational institutions to guide ex-offenders back into mainstream employment	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that are in the process of re-integrating ex-offenders without stigmatization into mainstream employment sectors, including as unskilled and semi-skilled labourers	Private and public sector workplaces/ Ministries of Safety Correctional Services/ Drug Law Enforcement Agency Informal Economy Sector Organisations, CSOs
b. Exchange best practices with fellow AU MS on measures to address prevention of transnational organized crime, emerging crime, fragility, vulnerability and criminal justice reform, including prison reform.	Ongoing	MS, RECs, AFRIPOL, INTERPOL	- Biennial AUC report includes a section on best practices shared among MS regarding prevention of transnational organized crime, emerging crime, fragility, vulnerability and criminal justice reform, including prison reform.	Ministries of Safety and Security/ Justice/ Correctional Services/Law Enforcement Agencies CSOs, RECs, AFRIPOL, INTERPOL, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

E. CROSS CUTTING ISSUES FOCUSED ON DRUGS AND HUMAN RIGHTS PERTAINING TO ALL VULNERABLE GROUPS, ESPECIALLY YOUTH, WOMEN, CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES ADDRESSED

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E1 --- ENHANCE THE KNOWLEDGE OF POLICY MAKERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS TO HEALTH AND SAFETY AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL, AND SOCIETY AS A WHOLE BE PROTECTED, INCLUDING PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS				
a. Adapt national policies and practices of sentencing for drug related offences to be proportionate to the gravity of the offences, consider alternatives to punishment such as drug use treatment, vocational training, age and gender appropriate interventions, in particular for women and children	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs	# of MS that have adopted policies on proportional sentencing and alternatives to punishment for drug offences, particularly for children, youths and women	MS Ministries of Justice and Homes Affairs RECs UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E2 --- ENSURE QUALITY OF TREATMENT SERVICES THAT RESPECT THE DIGNITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS OF THOSE IN TREATMENT, INCLUDING FOR THOSE IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES AS A RESULT OF DRUG OFFENCES				
a. Promote effective supervision and quality assurance mechanisms and oversight of drug treatment and correctional facilities according to international standards, and the AU Minimum Quality Standards for Drug Use Prevention and Treatment	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs	# of MS with oversight and quality assurance mechanisms for drug treatment and correctional facilities	Ministries of Justice, Correctional Services, and Police, and Social Development RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs
b. Implement the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), the UN Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules) as well as the UN Standard Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules)	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs	# of MS' that have trained officials in implementing the Bangkok, Tokyo and Nelson Mandela Rules	Ministries of Justice, Correctional Services, and Police, and Social Development RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E3 --- ENSURE TIMELY ACCESS TO LEGAL AID AND THE RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL, ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THE VULNERABLE, AND SPECIFIC NEEDS OF WOMEN DRUG OFFENDERS WHEN IMPRISONED				
a. Assemble an additional judicial task force to conduct hearings of prisoners in remand/awaiting trial for drug offenses to decongest prisons, such as the Ghanaian "Justice for all" program	Ongoing	MS, RECs, National Drug Control Councils	# of MS that fast-tracked the trial of prisoners in remand/ awaiting trial for drug offenses by an additional judicial task force to decongest prisons	Ministries of Justice, and Correctional Services Drug Law Enforcement Agencies CSOs RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA
b. Refer PWUD with supportive evidence to the appropriate court (Supreme/ Constitutional court) to claim their right to health and assistance	Ongoing	MS, RECs, National Drug Control Councils	# of MS that have referred PWUD to the Supreme court to have their right to health and assistance realised	Ministries of Justice, and Correctional Services Drug Law Enforcement Agencies CSOs RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E4 --- ADJUST APPROACH TOWARDS PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS FROM MORE PUNITIVE TO MORE SUPPORTIVE MEASURES				
a. Conduct human rights impact assessments of existing drug policies and laws	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs	# of MS that have adjusted their approach towards people who use drugs from more punitive to more supportive	Ministry of Youth Ministry of Justice/ RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E5 --- ADDRESS PROTECTIVE AND RISK FACTORS THAT MAKE GIRLS AND WOMEN VULNERABLE TO BE RECRUITED AS DRUG COURIERS				
a. Encourage alternatives to punishment for vulnerable women, including pregnant women and those with young children who have been convicted of drug related offenses	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs	# of MS that have implemented alternatives to punishment for vulnerable women	Ministries of Justice, Police, Correctional Services, Social Development Drug Law Enforcement Agency RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs
b. Assess conditions for women and girls in areas from where they have been recruited as couriers and address illiteracy and poverty in vulnerable communities	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs	# of MS that have assessed conditions for women and girls in areas from where they have been recruited as couriers	Ministries of Justice, Police, Correctional Services, Social Development Drug Law Enforcement Agency RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E6 --- COMMIT TO THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN YOUTH CHARTER, ENCOURAGING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN ALL SPHERES AND THE REALIZATION OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES				
a. Prevent the involvement of youth in criminal activities, and promote the use of diversion programmes and restorative justice for former youth offenders to build their resilience	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs	# of MS that implement diversion and restorative justice for youth offenders instead of incarceration	Ministries of Justice, Police and Correctional Services, Social Development RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E7 --- PROTECT CHILDREN FROM DRUG USE AND FROM BEING USED IN THE PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING OF DRUGS AS STIPULATED IN ARTICLE 28 OF THE AFRICAN CHARTER ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD				
a. Promote rights of the child as enshrined in the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, including protection from harm by drug use of parents and care givers and focus on the provision of voluntary, evidence-based social services and health interventions, instead of punitive measures when dealing with drug use offenses	Ongoing	MS, RECs, National Drug Control Councils, African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child	# of MS that provide for drug education and life skills training in their school curricula	Ministry of Education CSOs African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA
b. Make provision for children to receive age appropriate, evidence based drug education regarding the potential negative effects of drug use, production and trafficking and empower them with social and life skills to express their emotions freely according to evidence-based prevention and treatment practices	Ongoing	MS, RECs, National Drug Control Councils, African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child	# of MS that provide for drug education and life skills training in their school curricula	Ministry of Education CSOs African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E8 --- PROTECT PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND OLDER PERSONS FROM DRUG USE AND FROM BEING USED IN THE PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING OF DRUGS				
a. Assess persons with disabilities and older persons for drug use and related adverse effects of drug interactions resulting from over-prescription, as well as their possible forced participation in drug production and trafficking	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs	# of MS assessing and assisting persons with disabilities and older persons with drug use, production and trafficking challenges	Ministries of Social Development and Justice, Home Affairs CSOs RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E9 --- STRENGTHEN NATIONAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE ON DRUG USE, PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING				
a. Complete the Annual Report Questionnaire (ARQ) of the UNODC	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, AU RECs, DCU/DSA	# of MS that have completed the ARQ of the UNODC	Ministries of Health and Social Development, Police, Correctional Services Pharmaceuticals Regulatory Authority CSOs in the drug prevention and treatment sector RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA
b. Support the establishment of community epidemiological networks on drug use to feed into a national structure for the collation, analysis and reporting on national drug patterns and trends for onward transmission to the AUC Epidemiological Network on Drug Use	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, AU DCU/DSA	# of MS that have established a national epidemiological network on drug use # of MS that regularly provide epidemiological data on drug use to their RECs', and the AUC Epidemiological Network on Drug Use	Ministries of Health and Social Development, Police, Correctional Services Pharmaceuticals Regulatory Authority CSOs in the drug prevention and treatment sector RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E10 --- CONDUCT RESEARCH ON DRUGS, AND PROVIDE SUPPORT TO DATA COLLECTION IN SCHOOLS, WORKPLACES AND COMMUNITIES, AND SUPPORT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES ACROSS COUNTRIES				
a. Conduct research and data collection in schools, workplaces and communities, including surveys in hot spots to understand the extent of drug use, its drivers and dynamics of use, production and trafficking and to examine the impact of national drug demand and supply reduction programmes	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs, AUC DCU/DSA	# of number of MS that have partnered with research institutions and that issue reports on drugs regularly # of MS that have submitted reports or indicated best practices in drug demand and supply reduction based on national research and data collection outputs	Universities National Research Institutions RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE E11 --- STRENGTHEN NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL COORDINATING MECHANISMS				
a. Build capacity for effective coordination of the implementation of national drug control strategies/ Drug Master Plans (DMPs) for the achievement of all its different Key Priority Areas and distinct goals	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs, AUC DCU/DSA	# of MS with functioning National Drug Control Mechanisms/ Committees/ Councils # of MS implementing Government approved DMPs	Office of the President/ Prime Minister Ministries of Health/ Education/ Police/ Home Affairs and National Security CSOs RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA
b. Exchange best practices with fellow AU MS on cross cutting issues focused on drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities, including quality of treatment and correctional services, right to a fair trial, vulnerability, epidemiological surveillance and strengthening of national drug control coordinating mechanisms.	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs, AUC DCU/DSA	- Biennial AUC report includes a section on best practices regarding cross cutting issues focused on drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities, epidemiological surveillance and national drug control coordinating mechanisms	MS NDCCs RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

F. EVOLVING REALITY DEALT WITH: TRENDS AND CIRCUMSTANCES, EMERGING AND PERSISTENT CHALLENGES AND THREATS

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE F1 --- REDUCE THE PREVALENCE OF HARMFUL NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES (NPS), THEIR AVAILABILITY, DISTRIBUTION AND USE				
a. Strengthen reporting mechanisms for the identification of NPS, and on the consequences of their use, their possible sources of production and distribution, and share the information with national, regional and continental epidemiological/ early warning networks and drug observatories/ Regional Organised Crime Observatories	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs, AUC DCU/DSA	# of MS that have identified and reported the presence and use of NPS	Ministries of Health, Education Drug Law Enforcement Agency National Forensic Laboratory INTERPOL, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE F2 --- STRENGTHEN REGIONAL FORENSIC CAPACITY TO IDENTIFY NPS FOR EARLY WARNING AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PURPOSES				
a. Make provision for the sharing of resources (laboratories and equipment) and personnel to capacitate regional forensic laboratories for the analyses of NPS	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs, AUC DCU/DSA	# of MS that have functional national forensic laboratories that can analyse NPS	Ministries of Health, Education Drug Law Enforcement Agency National Forensic Laboratory INTERPOL, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE F3 --- ADDRESS THE AVAILABILITY AND USE OF AMPHETAMINE-TYPE STIMULANTS (ATS)				
a. Raise awareness among the public of the constant threat of ATS and methamphetamine use and production, and closely monitor its use at recreational facilities to avoid casualties	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, RECs, AUC DCU/DSA	# of MS that provide data on ATS to the global SMART and Prism Projects	Ministry of Health National Forensic Laboratory Law Enforcement Agency INTERPOL, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE F4 --- MONITOR DIVERSION OF CHEMICALS USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF DRUGS				
a. Strengthen ties with industries that manufacture legitimate chemicals for monitoring purposes, and to strictly comply with the Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) and Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS)	Ongoing	MS, Medicines Regulatory Authority, RECs	# of MS that employ the PEN Online and PICS systems	Medicines Regulatory Authority RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE F5 --- PREVENT THE ILLEGAL SALE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES THROUGH THE INTERNET				
a. Engaging the private sector in trawling for illicit or darknet internet sites (see D.2), and encourage the use of the Guidelines for Governments on Preventing the Illegal Sale of Internationally Controlled Substances through the Internet (UN Publication)	Ongoing	MS, National Drug Control Councils, Private Sector, RECs	# of MS that have circulated for use, the Guidelines for Governments on Preventing the Illegal Sale of Internationally Controlled Substances through the Internet	Ministries of Safety and Security/Communication and information/National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Private sector INTERPOL. RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs
b. Exchange best practices with fellow AU MS on evolving reality regarding drug production and trafficking, trends and circumstances, contemporary cannabis use by early teenagers, misuse of codeine and fentanyl, emerging and persistent challenges and threats regarding NPS and ATS, sharing of forensic analysis capacity, monitoring of chemicals and pharmaceutical products and prevention of the illegal sale of controlled substances through the internet	Ongoing	MS, RECs	- Biennial AUC report includes a section on best practices regarding trends and circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats	Ministries of Health, Safety and Security Medicines Regulatory Authority Drug Law Enforcement Agency AMA, INTERPOL, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

G. ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT/ ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD PROMOTED

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE G1 --- IMPLEMENT THE AU AGENDA 2063 AND ITS FIRST TEN YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN, I.E. THE SHARED STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION OF THE CONTINENT				
a. Address wealth inequality and reduction of poverty as root causes for crime and violence, which again obstructs growth, increases people's vulnerability and gives rise to the production, supply, trafficking and use of drugs	Ongoing	MS, RECs, National Planning Commission	# of MS that have mechanisms in place for national implementation of: - AU Agenda 2063 - UN ECA Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community (1991 Abuja Treaty), on Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Right of Establishment -2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations	Ministries of Trade, Home Affairs, Education, Labour, Justice, Social Development and Foreign Affairs National Planning Commissions AUC DSA AU SPPMERM RECs, UNECA
b. Promote free movement of people and free trade in MS to promote mobility of labour and capital within the continent	Ongoing	MS, RECs, National Planning Commission	# of MS that have mechanisms in place for national implementation of: - AU Agenda 2063 - UN ECA Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community (1991 Abuja Treaty), on Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Right of Establishment -2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations	Ministries of Trade, Home Affairs, Education, Labour, Justice, Social Development and Foreign Affairs National Planning Commissions AUC DSA AU SPPMERM RECs, UNECA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
c. Address youth unemployment, develop Africa's human and social potential and build inclusive societies, marginalizing no one	Ongoing	MS, RECs, National Planning Commission	# of MS that have mechanisms in place for national implementation of: - AU Agenda 2063 - UN ECA Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community (1991 Abuja Treaty), on Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Right of Establishment -2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations	Ministries of Trade, Home Affairs, Education, Labour, Justice, Social Development and Foreign Affairs National Planning Commissions AUC DSA AU SPPMERM RECs, UNECA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE G2 --- PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT IMPERATIVES OUTLINED IN THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS FOR 2030				
a. Implement social protection and social security interventions for vulnerable populations, including for people who use drugs during treatment	Ongoing	MS, RECs, National Drug	# of MS that have extended their social assistance and social protection interventions to cover more vulnerable groups and members of society	Ministries of Social Development, Justice, Health and Education AUC SPPMERM/DPA/DSA/HRST UNODC ROs, UNECA CSOs
b. Promote security based on human rights and the rule of law and in realizing the rights of citizens in the continent, develop strong institutions, clean of corruption as cornerstones for development	Ongoing	MS, RECs, National Drug Control Councils	# of MS that have extended their social assistance and social protection interventions to cover more vulnerable groups and members of society	Ministries of Social Development, Justice, Health and Education AUC SPPMERM/DPA/DSA/HRST UNODC ROs, UNECA CSOs
c. Emphasize health, protection of human rights and the gender perspective in drug control, in implementing SDG 3.5: "Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance use, including narcotic drug use and harmful use of alcohol"	Ongoing	MS, RECs, National Drug Control Councils	# of MS that have extended their social assistance and social protection interventions to cover more vulnerable groups and members of society	Ministries of Social Development, Justice, Health and Education AUC SPPMERM/DPA/DSA/HRST UNODC ROs, UNECA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE G3 --- PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AU'S COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CAADP) AND TARGET ALCOHOL OUTLET OWNERS FOR INCOME DIVERSIFICATION PROGRAMMES				
a. Encourage producers of cannabis and khat to become beneficiaries in efforts to strengthening food security on the continent through the CAADP	Ongoing	MS, RECs	<p># of MS that have engaged producers of cannabis and khat in national CAADP extension projects</p> <p># of MS that have supported alcohol outlet owners to diverse to agriculture or craftsmanship such as carpentry or tailoring</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture AUC DREA Ministry of Labour/ TVET RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs</p>

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE G4 --- STRENGTHEN JUDICIAL INTERVENTIONS TO MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR COMPANIES LINKED TO ILLICIT DRUG PRODUCTION TO OPERATE LEGITIMATE BUSINESSES				
a. Confiscate assets of illicit drug producing operations (machines, containers, vehicles, property and freeze their licit bank accounts) once investigations have commenced	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that have confiscated the assets of illicit drug producing operations	Ministries of Justice, Security National Law Enforcement Agencies RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE G5 --- BUILD ROADS, SCHOOLS, CLINICS AND OTHER SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE IN HIGH RISK AREAS FOR ILLICIT DRUG PRODUCTION, INCLUDING IN URBAN SETTINGS				
a. Support local politicians in vulnerable and high risk areas in their call for the development of economic and social development infrastructure with State and private sector funding in their areas	Ongoing	MS, RECs	# of MS that have built social and economic infrastructure in vulnerable and high risk rural and urban areas for drug use and illicit drug production	Ministries of Works, Transport, Trade, Commerce and Finance, Social Development, Education, Health RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs
b. Exchange best practices with fellow AU MS on the promotion of alternative development and alternative means of livelihood, including through the development of social and economic infrastructure, and implementation of the AU Agenda 2063, UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and the AU Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme.	Ongoing	MS, RECs, AU SPPMERM	- Biennial AUC report includes a section on best practices regarding the promotion of alternative development and alternative means of livelihood	Ministries of Works, Transport, Trade, Commerce and Finance, Social Development, Education, Health AUC DREA/DIE/SPPMERM RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

**H. STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION
BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF COMMON AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY**

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE H1 --- MOBILIZE SUPPORT FROM INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS FOR TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION TO IMPLEMENT BALANCED DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED DRUG POLICIES IN MEMBER STATES				
a. Establish a national forum with international partners and prepare updates on the implementation of national drug control strategies/ Drug Master Plan, highlighting existing challenges as well as technical and financial gaps to overcome them	Ongoing	MS, International Partners, Embassies, UN Agencies National Drug Control	# of MS that have a functional partner’s forum for the implementation of their DMP	National Drug Control Councils International Partners, UN Agencies RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE H2 --- ENGAGE IN INTERNATIONAL, CONTINENTAL AND REGIONAL FORA TO ADDRESS DRUG CHALLENGES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF COMMON AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY, AND DELIBERATE AFRICAN COMMON POSITIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE PRINCIPLE				
a. Utilize the existing INTERPOL Secure Communication for timely sharing of information and use of databases, notices and diffusions in investigation of drugs related cases	Ongoing	MS, AU DSA &, PSC, UNODC, RECs, National Drug Control Council	# of MS utilizing and participating in cross-border investigations/exchange of information # of MS participating in: - STC-HPDC - HONLEA - RPCCOs/Interpol - CND - Other drug control forums	Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Police, State Security INTERPOL RECs UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA
b. Participate in joint cross-border investigations and exchange of criminal intelligence and information among MS	Ongoing	MS, AU DSA &, PSC, UNODC, RECs, National Drug Control Councils	# of MS utilizing and participating in cross-border investigations/exchange of information # of MS participating in: - STC-HPDC - HONLEA - RPCCOs/Interpol - CND - Other drug control forums	Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Police, State Security INTERPOL RECs UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA
c. Actively participate in the sessions of the AU Specialized Technical Committee on Health, Population and Drug Control and subsequent continental meetings and training; the Heads of Narcotic Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA); Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisations/Interpol; RECs Security meetings and the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs	Ongoing	MS, AU DSA &, PSC, UNODC, RECs, National Drug Control Councils	# of MS utilizing and participating in cross-border investigations/exchange of information # of MS participating in: - STC-HPDC - HONLEA - RPCCOs/Interpol - CND - Other drug control forums	Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Police, State Security INTERPOL RECs UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE H3 --- STRENGTHEN MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS AND EXTRADITION ARRANGEMENTS AMONG AU MEMBER STATES AND OVERSEAS COUNTRIES WHERE NATIONALS ARE INVESTIGATED FOR DRUG OFFENCES				
a. Fast-track Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance with fellow AU MS and other non-African countries, based on the respective protocols to the UN Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime	Ongoing	MS, RECs/ AUC Offices of the Legal Counsel, Relevant Embassies	<p># of MS having MLA agreements with all AU MS</p> <p># of MS having extradition arrangements with all other AU MS</p>	<p>Ministries of Justice, and Foreign Affairs National Drug Control Councils Relevant Embassies UNODC AUC Office of the Legal Counsel RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs</p>
b. Fast-track repatriation arrangements between AU MS and developed countries where repatriation of Africans are delayed due to claims that African prisons do not meet human rights standards, particularly in the case of female offenders/ couriers with dependents	Ongoing	MS, RECs/ AUC Offices of the Legal Counsel, Relevant Embassies	<p># of MS having extradition agreements with overseas countries where their nationals are held in custody for drug offences</p>	<p>Ministries of Justice, and Foreign Affairs National Drug Control Councils Relevant Embassies UNODC AUC Office of the Legal Counsel RECs, UNODC ROs AUC DCU/DSA, CSOs</p>

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
<p>c. Exchange best practices with fellow AU MS on the strengthening of regional and international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, including technical and financial support, participation in regional and international for and sharing of intelligence, as well as fast-tracking extradition and mutual legal assistance arrangements in combating drugs and crime</p>	Ongoing	MS, RECs, AUC, UNODC, RECs, AFRIPOL, INTERPOL	- Biennial AU report includes a section on best practices regarding strengthening of regional and international cooperation in combating drugs and crime	<p>Ministries of Justice, and Foreign Affairs National Drug Control Councils Relevant Embassies INTERPOL, AFROPOL, RECs, UNODC ROs AUC Office of the Legal Counsel AUC DCU/DSA</p>

I. ENHANCING CONTINENTAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL MANAGEMENT, OVERSIGHT, REPORTING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE AU PLAN OF ACTION ON DRUG CONTROL AND CRIME PREVENTION (2019-2023)

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
OBJECTIVE I1 --- GALVANIZE THE CAPACITY OF THE AU COMMISSION TO MANAGE, COORDINATE, EVALUATE AND REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AU PLAN OF ACTION ON DRUG CONTROL AND CRIME PREVENTION (2019-2023)(AUPA)				
a. The AU Commission establishes/supports a dedicated Programme Management Unit (PMU) with a Programme Manager and technical staff to manage the implementation of the AUPA from the Department of Social Affairs (DSA), AU Commission with a cross-cutting/mainstreaming mandate in all DSA Divisions and AUC Departments relevant to the AUPA	Ongoing	AUC DSA/DCU, RECs	*Programme Management Unit established at AUC referred to as Drug Control Unit in the AUC Department of Social Affairs (AUC DCU/DSA)	National Drug Control Councils; Drug epi-network contact points in MS AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
b. The AU Commission furnishes and updates the database of national contact points in MS of National Drug Control Councils; Demand Reduction Prevention and Treatment; Law Enforcement; CSOs with the view of coordinating flows of information to and from these entities	Ongoing	AUC DSA/DCU, RECs	*A database of national contact points established and regularly updated at the AU Commission of key stakeholders in drug control in MS *National Drug Control Councils in MS receive regular updates on best practices in drug control from the AU Commission	National Drug Control Councils; Drug epi-network contact points in MS AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
c. The AU Commission provides support to National Drug Control Coordinating Councils by sharing updated drug control-related information and best practices relevant to the different sectors represented in these bodies: health, justice, education, social development and contemporary continental drug concerns of CSOs	Ongoing	AUC DSA/DCU, RECs	*National Drug Control Councils in MS receive regular updates on best practices in drug control from the AU Commission	National Drug Control Councils; Drug epi-network contact points in MS AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

Activities/Outputs	Timetable	Entity responsible	Indicator (s)	Major data sources
d. The AU Commission, in collaboration with MS and RECs, identifies priority technical training needs in drug control for MS and RECs	Ongoing	AUC DSA/DCU, RECs	*The AU Commission identifies technical training needs in drug control for MS and RECs	National Drug Control Councils; Drug epi-network contact points in MS AUC DCU/DSA CSOs
e. The AU Commission enhances capacity at the PMU to collate drug related data and analyse and disseminate drugs trends information to all AU MS	Ongoing	AUC DSA/DCU, RECs	*The AU Commission collates and analyses drug use and trafficking trends for the continent	National Drug Control Councils; Drug epi-network contact points in MS AUC DCU/DSA CSOs

¹ EWS[a]emcdda.europa.eu