# COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)

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# Submissions from entities in the United Nations system, international organizations and other stakeholders on their efforts in 2019 to implement the outcomes of the WSIS

# Submission by

## United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

This submission was prepared as an input to the report of the UN Secretary-General on "Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels" (to the 23<sup>rd</sup> session of the CSTD), in response to the request by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2006/46, to the UN Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS as part of his annual reporting to the Commission.

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### UNODC inputs Annual World Summit Information Society (WSIS) report

#### Part One

<u>Education for Justice (E4J) initiative</u>: Under UNODC's Education for Justice (E4J) initiative, a component of the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration, diversified educational resources and tools continued to be developed and disseminated in different parts of the world. These resources and tools support children and youth to learn about challenges they might encounter while using ICT. As such, the material developed helps children and youth understand the risks they may face online and how they could use ICT to advance peace, justice and sustainable development.

<u>Counter-terrorism</u>: UNODC provides capacity-building assistance that varies from legal to highly specialized technical aspects of the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorist activity in the Internet and social media, in order to prevent radicalization, recruitment and training of terrorists through the Internet. UNODC facilitates the procurement of sophisticated technical equipment for some States and provides training on its application. Considerable emphasis is put on the practical measures of countering terrorist narratives and disrupting terrorism incitement, recruitment and radicalization online.

Judicial Integrity component of the Global Programme on the Implementation of the Doha Declaration: Under the Judicial Integrity component, UNODC's Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration continued to maintain and populate with new material a dedicated website for the participants of the Global Judicial Integrity Network, which uses ICT to provide access to an extensive library of resources, expert opinions, contact database, a podcast series, a training package on judicial ethics for judges and other features aimed at promoting information-exchange and networking. The judicial ethics training package developed by UNODC includes an e-Learning course on the practical application of the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct. Through the Global Judicial Integrity Network, UNODC's Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration has developed guidance for judges on the use of social media and is working on the issue of the use of ICT tools, including artificial intelligence, in court and case management systems.

<u>Global eLearning Programme</u>: The Global eLearning Programme leverages the advantages and power of ICT to offer comprehensive training and learning solutions tailored to the needs of Member State officials—the end users of the services. Through three platform set ups, the programme delivers its training and capacity building content: online, off-line and off-site. This delivery strategy ensures that UNODC eLearning content is accessible in any condition, anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day. Furthermore, the Programme is adapting all of its content in order to be compatible with mobile devices, which is expected to increase the accessibility of all the programme's content, notably to youths and new officials.

<u>Cybercrime (Internet governance)</u>: UNODC cybercrime technical assistance work consists of two main pillars: capacity building by strengthening the capacity of the criminal justice sector and prevention, through the E4J initiative where the E4J University Module Series on Cybercrime was developed. The awareness about the University Modules Series on Cybercrime has been raised among tertiary level educators across the world. At least 50 university professors from around the world have pledged to use the modules to teach different aspects of cybercrime in the academic year 2018-19.

<u>Capacity building on the use of ICT devices in data collection</u>: In 2016 and 2019, UNODC supported the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of Nigeria in carrying out a representative household survey on corruption and provided advice, support and training in the programming and use of PDAs (personal digital assistants or hand-held computers) used for capturing the responses to a comprehensive questionnaire. Furthermore, on request of NBS in 2019, UNODC conducted a one-week training workshop to staff of NBS (a core team of ten analysts, statisticians and ICT specialists working on the survey data) on survey-related issues such as sampling, survey weights, and prevalence computation using the advanced statistical programme STATA.

<u>Research on trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and technology</u>: Currently, UNODC works on a research paper on trafficking in persons and technology. The research is based on court cases of trafficking in persons, which has been shared with UNODC by Member States and addresses how traffickers apply information and communications technologies to perpetrate their crime, and assess the volume, trends and patterns of the crime. Furthermore, in continuation of the Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants, launched in June 2018, UNODC works on the establishment of a real-time observatory on smuggling of migrants that will gather information on technology usage among smugglers and smuggled migrants.

#### Part Two

<u>Education for Justice (E4J) initiative</u>: Bearing in mind the interconnected nature of the Sustainable Development Agenda, and the reinforcing relationship between Goal 16 and the other Goals, the Education for Justice (E4J) initiative of UNODC's Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration has been addressing, through its activities and its various resources and tools, some of the Goals and their related Targets. Goals 4,5, 8, 16 and 17 are reflected in several of the educational resources of the E4J initiative, as well as in its ongoing work and activities. The resources and tools developed under the E4J initiative were enhanced by the knowledge and input of a wide array of stakeholders from governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, as well as, children and youth.

<u>Counter-terrorism</u>: The legal assistance and technical capacity-building provided by UNODC on suppressing the use of the Internet by terrorist groups, be it for recruiting, financing or promoting the violent extremist ideology, as well as on preventing terrorist attacks on digital infrastructure, supports the progress towards achieving SDG 16. To that end, UNODC, along with other relevant UN entities, undertakes targeted assistance projects and actively contributes to the work of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, where the whole-of-UN approaches to countering terrorist narratives on social media and in the Internet at large, as well as on preventing terrorist attacks on digital infrastructure, are discussed.

*Cybercrime (Internet governance):* UNODC continued to substantively and organizationally support the open-ended intergovernmental expert group (IEG) to conduct a comprehensive study of the problem of cybercrime. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) requested the IEG in its resolution 26/4 adopted in May 2017, entitled Strengthening international cooperation to combat cybercrime, to hold periodic meetings and to function as the platform for further discussion on substantive issues concerning cybercrime. The expert group held its fifth meeting on 27-29 March 2019, where it discussed the topics of law enforcement and investigations as well as electronic evidence and criminal justice. As per the IEG 2018-2021 workplan, the expert group will hold an annual meeting from 2018 to 2020 to discuss planned topics and, no later than 2021, make conclusions and recommendations for submission to the CCPCJ. Moreover, in 2019, UNODC has been requested in GA resolution 73/187 to prepare a Secretary General's report entitled "Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes." Accordingly, Member States were invited to submit information on the challenges they face in countering the use of information and communication technologies for criminal purposes. The relevant national submissions covered challenges at both the national level and the international level, as well as actions taken to address them at both levels. They also highlighted the importance of international cooperation in countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes. The report, reflecting the input submitted by 61 Member States, was presented to the GA at its seventy-fourth session.

<u>Global eLearning Programme</u>: The Global eLearning Programme has the capacity to promote and build multi-stakeholder partnerships with other United Nations agencies, Member State's regulatory bodies, national judiciaries and law enforcement agencies, the academia and general public. It promotes the rule of law, justice, peace and security, human development and human rights through these partnerships. In this vein, the Programme contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals by promoting a global community and enhancing global partnership in multiple goals. In particular, SDG 17 "Partnership for the goals" is the principal goal addressed by the Global eLearning Programme. Additionally, the Programme has the capacity to work across all the goals, most notably goals 5, 10, 15, 16, 17 and recently goal 4, due to developments in delivering tertiary education trainings. The Programme is also contributing to the goals

comprehensively and ensures the unification and consolidation of UN pillars by cooperating with other United Nations agencies.

<u>Capacity building on the use of ICT devices in data collection</u>: The primary goal of supporting the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of Nigeria in carrying out a representative household survey on corruption was to create knowledge on corruption and bribery. However, it contributed also to other ends such as the possibility to design evidence-based policies against corruption and to monitor relevant anti-corruption measures (SDG 16, target 16.3) as well as to build the capacity of the NBS, which is the primary producer of official data in Nigeria and carries out regular surveys on a number of topics. Improving the knowledge and use of ICT in conducting the survey enhances the quality of data in future data collections and analyses in various areas (e.g. surveys of health, employment, agricultural activity, etc.)

<u>Research on trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and technology</u>: The research paper on trafficking in persons and technology gathers information from over 30 Member States. In connection with the production of the paper, one Expert Group Meeting, gathering leading global experts on technology and trafficking in persons, was held in Vienna to review emerging findings of the paper and verify the main conclusions. The paper will contribute to the implementation of SDG targets related to trafficking in persons (5.2, 8.7 and 16.2).

The Observatory on Smuggling of Migrants involves primary data collection in West Africa, North Africa and Europe. One of the data collection methods involves interviews with migrants and law enforcement professionals to understand recruitment practices by smugglers in their use of ICTs. Moreover, one Expert Group Meeting is scheduled for 2020, which will gather global experts on data science, criminology and migrant smuggling to explore applications of big data analytics in the further study of migrant smuggling in digital contexts.

#### Part Three

Education for Justice (E4J) initiative: The E4J initiative continued to involve youth, as well as other relevant stakeholders, in utilizing the benefits of ICT to propose innovative ideas for educational resources and materials through organizing various hackathons for secondary level students (aged 13-18). The series of hackathons educated youth on rule of law issues, while challenging them to come up with technological solutions. In addition to this, peer-reviewed material to support lecturers teaching at higher education institutions on issues related to ICT, ethical use of ICT, rule of law and prevention of cybercrime, have been developed. Furthermore, an online knowledge portal, the E4J Library of Resources was populated with additional material using ICT to increase access to relevant educational resources on the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 4, 5 and 16. On the E4J online portal, material to support educators to teach on rule of law related issues can be downloaded free of charge and is also included in the E4J online library. Various educational videos targeting primary and secondary level students have been developed and disseminated by E4J using ICT. These videos are preventive in nature and aimed at raising awareness and fostering critical thinking of children and youth on issues related to the rule of law, as well as on promoting the safe use of the Internet. Finally, E4J developed a mobile telephone application to educate secondary level students on rule of law issues, as well as additional animations for secondary and primary students.

<u>Counter-terrorism</u>: In 2011, the Office launched the Counter-Terrorism Learning Platform – an interactive tool designed to provide tailor-made online training to counter-terrorism practitioners, as well as strengthen cooperation between law enforcement and criminal justice actors worldwide and ensure the sustainability of the knowledge acquired during in-person technical assistance activities by offering substantive follow-up activities. With the help of the Platform, a truly global community of counter-terrorism practitioners has been created, numbering more than 1,840 members in over 125 countries. The tool has also been used extensively for capacity-building purposes, with UNODC having trained 1,595 practitioners through 30 online training courses and 121 real-time online discussions on a variety of counter-terrorism issues. In 2018, UNODC launched a new online forum for the Multi-Agency Task Force (MATF) - a network of cooperation for the MENA region that allows the practitioners serving as MATF Focal Points to share best practices and maintain a permanent contact outside the in-person meetings. In the first half of 2019, UNODC has been actively working on the upgrade and refurbishment of the current platform software into a new platform, with renovated IT features and more modern and user-friendly interactive tools (the official

launch of the new platform is scheduled for November 2019). UNODC also delivers, through targeted projects, capacity-building assistance on the specific technical aspects of the investigation of terrorist activity in the digital space. One of such issues is the cross-border access to electronic evidence in terrorism cases. the Office sought to tackle this challenge through capacity building of Central Authorities in preserving and obtaining electronic evidence in cross-border investigations for counter-terrorism and related organized crime. This resulted in the production, jointly with CTED and the International Association of Prosecutors, of the practical guide for requesting electronic evidence. Another project, focusing more broadly on the prevention and investigation of terrorist crimes involving the use of Internet, is currently implemented by UNODC in Sahel and North Africa and it aims to enhance the capacities of the practitioners in these regions to investigate and prosecute Internet-related terrorist offences.

Another good example of interactive tool is UNODC's SHERLOC knowledge management portal ("Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime"), accessible at sherloc.unodc.org. The SHERLOC portal is an initiative to facilitate the dissemination of information regarding legislative and administrative measures to combat organized crime and terrorism and is designed to support national officials, especially policy- and law-makers, responsible for the ratification, legislative drafting and implementation of the international legal tools. Currently, SHERLOC hosts six databases on case law, legislation, bibliographic abstracts, treaties, strategies and competent national authorities. The SHERLOC portal has a broad geographical scope, including resources from all 193 UN Member States and covers 15 crime types. The broad scope of materials included on SHERLOC enables users to see the linkages between various forms of crime and terrorism. Besides being used as a technical tool by practitioners, SHERLOC can be used also as an awareness-raising tool for the public and media, and as an information tool for researchers, policymakers, legal drafters and all those involved in the global response to organized crime and terrorism. Increasingly, SHERLOC is also becoming an educational tool used by academia around the world.

*Judicial Integrity component of the Global Programme on the Implementation of the Doha Declaration:* The Judicial Integrity component continued to disseminate the judicial ethics training package for judges. As part of this package, the e-Learning course is available on UNODC's Global e-Learning Platform free of charge. After registration, judges can access the course, complete the course at their own pace and be issued a certificate of completion (C7. ICT Applications E-learning). Also, International Non-Binding Guidelines were developed as a result of the work on opportunities and challenges created by the use of social media by judges. The Guidelines will be presented at the second High-Level Meeting of the Global Judicial Integrity Network in November 2019. Finally, UNODC continued to maintain a dedicated website for the Global Judicial Integrity Network. Additional resources, expert opinions, database of contacts, podcast episodes and other features aimed at promoting information-exchange and networking were added to the website in 2019.

<u>Global eLearning Programme:</u> Consisting of more than 450 modules in 19 languages and covering all of UNODC's mandate areas, the Global eLearning Programme continues to update and increase its course catalogue. The catalogue is accessible on the eLearning Platform, with the programme continuing to upgrade old Computer-Based Training (CBT) centres into full Online/Offline eLearning centres. As part of its efforts to raise public awareness in key thematic areas, the programme has also increased the number of modules to the general public on selected topics; including anti-corruption, gender, human rights, HIV and AIDS prevention treatment and care. One of the biggest initiatives of the Global eLearning Programme is to promote the blended learning approach of online and in-person training in UNODC capacity development. The integration of UNODC eLearning courses into blended learning is an effective way to ensure that learning objectives are achieved. eLearning courses ensure standardised training in line with United Nations standards and norms, consistency of delivery, mainstreaming of human rights and gender in training, reduce training time and costs, and facilitate effective reporting through monitoring of learners' progress. Conversely, face-to-face classes bring learners in contact with experts, who can now dedicate class time to practical training and to share experiences, increasing overall effectiveness and impact of training.

<u>Capacity building on the use of ICT devices in data collection</u>: Conducting sample surveys in the field with the use of PDAs (personal digital assistants or hand-held computers) has several crucial advantages over the traditional use of paper and pencil in recording the responses to the questions in a survey. The use of the method thus responds directly to several WSIS Action Lines, such as C1 (The role of governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development), C3 (Access to information and knowledge) and C4 (Capacity building). When properly implemented, the use of PDAs enhances the quality of responses (e.g. by preventing questions to be skipped by mistake or accidentally), it allows faster recording and direct uploading of all data captured, it adds value by integrating geo-spatial reference information (location of interview) etc. For example, in the 2019 survey around 33,000 respondents in the 36 states of Nigeria were interviewed and data were uploaded and made available immediately after the interview, rather than weeks or months after the field operation. The workshop on data analysis for NBS staff was held only one week after the end of survey operations and trained participants in the use of the advanced STATA software programme already on a fully cleaned dataset.

<u>Research on trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and technology</u>: Both research activities have the potential to broaden the understanding of how crime and technology overlap in global societies. Further action centres on expanding the research agenda on these types of crime and technology and deepening the analysis. In addition, both research activities promise to provide evidence-based guidance for national, regional and global policies aimed at curbing smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons.