

Compliance Report
Okinawa 2000
Crime and Drugs

Commitment

Para. 45: “We reaffirm our concern at the increasing global threat posed by the trafficking and use of illegal drugs. We remain committed to reducing demand in our own countries, and to countering the threat from the production and trafficking of illicit drugs globally. We will work with other countries, the UN system and other groups to reduce both supply and demand. We will support regional initiatives to end narcotics production and trafficking. We urge universal implementation of the conclusions of the 1998 UN Special Session on countering the world drugs problem. We are also committed to strengthening international co-operation to:

- a) Combat the illicit diversion of precursor chemicals for the production of illegal drugs
- b) Address the growing new threat from amphetamines and other synthetic drugs, and will convene an ad hoc meeting of drugs experts by the end of this year
- c) Accelerate the pace of work on asset confiscation
- d) Examine, by means of an international conference hosted by the United Kingdom, the global economy of illegal drugs.

Assessment

Country	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Britain			+1
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Russia			+1
United States			+1
Overall			+1

G8 Countries

The G8 Ad Hoc Meeting of Drug Experts was held from December 13 to 15, 2000, at Seagaia in Miyazaki, Japan, responding to the decision of the G8 leaders in Okinawa to strengthen international cooperation to counter the growing threat from production of and illegal trafficking in drugs. The meeting gathered together G8 country representatives and other experts from the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP).

A similar meeting of the G8 Senior Experts Group on Transnational Organized Crime (Lyon Group) took place from November 14 to 16, 2000, in Hiroshima.

At a joint press conference of the Interior Ministers of Germany, France, Italy, Liechtenstein, Austria, and Switzerland in Konstanz on September 5, 2000, the common questions of internal security were addressed. The main discussion focused on the problem of cross-border crime, in which the ministers committed themselves to a more intensive cooperation. On the question of the fight against organized crime, especially drug trafficking, they stated they would fortify their joint stance.

On December 15, 2000, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime was opened for signatures (after being adopted by the General Assembly at its Millennium meeting on November 15, 2000). The convention was drafted by the Ad Hoc Committee established by UN resolution 53/111 of December 1998. The heads of the G8 countries reaffirmed in the G8 Communiqué during the Kyushu-Okinawa that they would support the adoption of the convention by the end of this year.

There was no reference to the issues of crime or drugs in the statements of G7 finance ministers and central bank governors in either Prague (September 23, 2000) or Palermo (February 17, 2001). There was also no evidence that an international conference was hosted by Britain or in general of acceleration of asset confiscation or any specific action to counter the diversion of precursor chemicals.

The interior ministers of Germany, Albania, Italy, and Greece met in Tirana on March 1, 2001, to bring about a closer cooperation on the questions of internal security. The four countries declared their support for building a centre in Valona, Albania, for the fight against crime, including the problem of drug trafficking, as a way to intensify and professionalize international cooperation in the fight against crime. Albania is seen as an important drug transit route, especially for Western Europe.

France

Through a number of programs on the regional and national levels, the government worked on reducing demand in France and it also cooperated in a number of international actions intended to counter the global production and trafficking of illegal drugs. There is evidence that France worked with other countries, organizations, and contributed to the United Nations (UN) system, as well as provided initiative to commence new actions and programs to counter the drug threat.

There is less evidence or information on some specific areas of international cooperation, such as combating the diversion of precursor chemicals or asset confiscation. At the same time, however, it is important to note that France made significant drug seizures—especially amphetamines, which were identified as a particular and growing threat in the communiqué.

More specifically, the following are some of the programs and initiatives that the government of France undertook to address the drug problem:

National Initiatives

In 2000 and 2001, the French Customs had significant success in the seizures of illegal drugs, notably amphetamines.

International Initiatives

France participated in the meeting of the Interior Ministers at Konstanz on September 5, 2000, at which they stated they would fortify their stance against organized crime and drug trafficking.

At the recent Franco-British Summit in Cahors (February 9, 2001), the two countries identified some of the common priorities for the European Council in Stockholm. One of the main items on their agenda was the fight against drugs in the Balkans. The ministers called on the other European Union members to adopt their initiative on the European level and assist them in combating organized crime in the region. They made a further appeal to the EU to adopt the recent French proposition in the fight against drugs in South Eastern Europe, considering that there is relatively little local investment in the subject all the while the region is gaining in importance as a drug-trafficking route. Thus, they called on the other member states to implement this proposition quickly and to define the zones of priority for assistance. The two interior ministers also expressed their desire to make a joint visit to oversee the implementation of the proposed measures.

On February 21, 2001, at the 12th meeting of the high-level Franco-Dutch Group, which is dedicated to the fight against drugs, it was stated that great progress had been accomplished in the cooperation between the two states in terms of judicial, police, and customs work. A similar

conference was held earlier in Paris, on January 31, 2001, on the anti-drug policies in the Netherlands and in France. Nonetheless, the group stated that much common work remains to be done and identified the problem of synthetic drugs as being particularly of concern. The two countries declared their determination to proceed with their joint effort to fight against the development of the production and drug trafficking and to act in concert at the level of the EU.

France (with the UNDCP and the EU) has been a significant donor to Bolivia and Columbia to support exploring ways to strengthen their capacity to monitor illicit crops.

France also joined a program developed by the European Commission to support the fight against drugs in the developing world. The specific project, under the Fonds de solidarité prioritaire, the "Support to the National Centre for the repression of illicit drug trafficking," is destined to the Interior Ministry of Niger and totals 2.4 million francs over 24 months.

Based on the available information, it appears that France has made a genuine effort to comply with the communiqué commitment and should thus be assigned a score of +1.

Germany

The German government was involved in numerous programs on the regional and national levels to reduce demand in the country and it also cooperated in a number of international actions to counter the global production and trafficking of illegal drugs. There is evidence that Germany worked with other countries, organizations, and contributed to the UN system. Germany also hosted an international conference on precursor chemicals and had success on the national level in addressing the same problem.

There is less evidence of or information about asset confiscation or progress in countering the threat of amphetamines, these being some of the specific commitments to international cooperation made in the communiqué.

More specifically, the federal government undertook the following programs and initiatives to address the drug problem:

National Efforts

Otto Schily, Interior Minister, stated that Germany has had great success and has made large progress in the fight against the export of basic materials (precursors) for the narcotics production and the drugs in general. Schily and finance minister Hans Eichel reached this conclusion based on the five-year record of the Precursor Surveillance Commission, a joint effort of the Customs

Criminal Unit and the State Criminal Department, accompanied by constant international cooperation. Their success was fortified by the dialog developed with the industry sector.

The German Border Security and the Hamburg Police strengthened their joint fight against the open drug scene (January 22, 2001).

In her speech on in August 2000 on the topic of the “State of the Fight against Drugs in Germany,” parliamentary state secretary in the Ministry of Health Gudrun Schaich-Walch greeted the cooperation of various national agencies. She also pointed to the change in the anti-drug policy, as the new government emphasizes prevention rather than overstates repression. Earlier, at the ministerial conference of the Pompidou Group in October 2000 in Sintra, Portugal, she pointed to the cooperation of the German political parties and stated her support for the EU’s 2000–2004 Action Plan, noting its effectiveness as opposed to a rhetorical “war on drugs.”

International Initiatives

German minister of state Ludger Volmer stated his support for the peace process in Colombia, the “Plan Colombia,” on July 5, 2000, focusing particularly on the drug problem and strategies. He added that the “federal government is planning to increase its 2001 funding for Colombia by 50%, i.e. by another DM 10 million in addition to the DM 20 million already made available,” and that he hopes that Germany “will be able in this way to finance [its] contribution and that of Europe towards drug substitution policy, alternative crops as well as community- and democracy-building.”

The Bundeskriminalamt (Federal Criminal Police Office) directed Interpol’s “10th International Meeting on Synthetic Drugs and the Surveillance of Basic Materials” from December 6 to 8, 2000. Police, customs, and criminal technology experts from 47 countries and 7 international organizations attended the meeting, which made it one of the most important ones on this issue. The discussion themes included the growing international problem of production, smuggling, and distribution of synthetic drugs.

Germany’s interior minister participated in the meeting in Konstanz on September 5, 2000, at which the ministers jointly stated they would fortify the fight against organized crime, especially drug trafficking.

At the German-Spanish government consultations on September 15–16, 2000, the German Interior Minister wanted to address the question of organized crime and drug trafficking.

The interior ministers of Germany and Lithuania committed themselves to closer cooperation in the fight against organized crime, including drug offences, at a bilateral meeting in Vilnius on February 23, 2001.

At the meeting of interior ministers at Tirana on March 1, 2001, German interior minister Schily stated that the four countries would support the building of a centre in Valona, Albania, for the fight against crime, including the problem of drug trafficking, as a way to intensify and professionalize international cooperation in the fight against crime.

The interior ministers of Germany and Slovenia agreed on closer cooperation in the fight against organized crime and drug-related offences in Ljubiana on March 2, 2001. Schily stated that, after the events of the early 1990s, Slovenia is increasingly becoming a route for the illicit drugs, and this joint agreement is the first step toward a more effective fight against crime. Thereafter, a trilateral meeting of the interior ministers of Germany, Slovenia, and Italy took place.

At a meeting of the interior and justice ministers of the EU on March 15, 2001, German interior minister Schily proposed the development of a European border police as a means of combating organized crime and drug trafficking, a problem becoming increasingly important at a time of the EU enlargement. He also greeted the decision to form a European Crime Prevention Net. On the question of a joint fight against drugs, Schily explained that a consensus exists among the home and justice ministers, and that the fight against drug criminality must be the prime goal in the national, as well as the international political agenda.

Based on the available information, it appears that Germany has complied with the commitment made at Okinawa in taking a lead role in numerous regional agreements, as well as national programs. It should accordingly receive a score of +1.

Italy

Through a number of programs on the regional and national level, the government worked on reducing demand in Italy and it also cooperated in a number of bilateral and multilateral actions and programs to counter the global production and trafficking of illegal drugs. There is evidence that Italy worked with other countries, organizations, and contributed to the UN system, in particular through the support it provided to the implementation of the 1998 UN Special Session on countering the world drugs problem.

There is less evidence or information on the specific areas of international cooperation, such as combating the diversion of precursor chemicals or asset confiscation. At the same time, however, it is important to note that the most current report of the International Narcotics Control Board on Precursor Chemicals for 2000 would not be able to record any progress relevant to the post-summit developments.

More specifically, the government of Italy undertook the following programs and initiatives to address the drug problem:

Contribution to the UN Programs

In the year 2000, the Italian government made a voluntary contribution in the amount of Lit. 20 billion to the UNDCP.

Its support for the UN anti-drug and anti-crime programs should also be noted, as it hosted the high-level international conference for the signing of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

The presidency of the UN ad hoc committee was conferred to Italy, recognizing the Italian efforts in this area, and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs helped coordinate the positions of its partners under the anti-transnational organized crime group formed by the G8. The finalization of these juristic instruments proves the effective synergy of the UN-G8 in terms of crime.

At the same occasion, Pino Arlacchi, the Undersecretary-General and Executive Director of the UNDCP, noted that it is “extremely encouraging to learn that Italy would annually devote the monetary equivalent of 25% of confiscated assets to the United Nations to help developing countries in this regard.” Senator Michele Figurelli added: “The proposal referred to yesterday to earmark annually for the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, 25% of assets seized from organized crime has been approved and is now part of Italian budget legislation.”

At the address of the Italian Diplomatic Corps on December 21, 2000, President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi stressed the problem of organized crime and drug trafficking, and he indicated the full support Italy gave to the UN and the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. He added that it is up to the member states to provide the political will and ask for greater efficacy and responsibility.

International Cooperation

The Italian government was involved in a drug raid (Operation Orinoco) in Venezuela in Aug 2000 in cooperation with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency and several other governments.

Italy reaffirmed its fight against crime at a meeting on illegal activities in the Adriatic and the Ionian regions on August 10, 2000. It was hosted in Rome under the joint presidency of the Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs and the Undersecretary for Internal Affairs, following a similar conference in Ancona. The participating states agreed on intensified cooperation, information exchange, and monitoring.

Italy participated in the press conference at Konstanz on September 5, 2000, at which the interior ministers stated they would fortify their joint stance against organized crime and drug trafficking.

President Ciampi also noted the problem of organized crime and the related drug-trafficking at the conference on “The collaboration of Italy and Russia in Europe and in the World,” held in Moscow on November 28, 2000.

The meeting of the foreign ministers of Italy and Albania in Rome on January 30, 2001, provided an opportunity to discuss cooperation between the two countries with particular reference to the joint fight against organized crime and illegal trafficking. Iran and Italy signed an anti-crime pact, a cooperation protocol on several security issues, including drugs trafficking, in Teheran on January 7, 2001.

Italian interior minister Enzo Bianco told a news conference that one of the first measures would be the establishment of a committee of experts from the two countries. The agreement strengthens a protocol signed two years ago between Rome and Teheran.

In his visit to Syria, Italian interior minister Bianco signed an agreement on January 3, 2001, to exchange information in the fight against organized crime and drugs trafficking.

Italy’s interior minister participated in the meeting at Tirana on March 1, 2001, at which it was agreed to support the building of a centre for the fight against crime in Valona, Albania, including the problem of drug trafficking.

National Efforts

Italy has developed a number of projects under the National Fund of fight against drugs aimed mainly at prevention and curbing of addiction in the country.

To reduce the demand for illicit amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), the UNDCP pointed out that an agreement on special measures has been signed between the Government and the national association of discotheque owners.

Based on this information, in light of the initiatives that Italy has undertaken on all levels of government, it can be assigned a score of +1. Much work is still in progress, but the commitment itself does not presuppose a finalized outcome.

Japan

Japan actively participated in the deliberations on the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as described above. In the context of the G8, Japan demonstrated leadership in efforts to tackle such issues as high-tech crime and firearms in its capacity as chair of the Lyon Group (Toshinori Kanemoto, President of the National Police Academy and former Director-General of the International Affairs Department of National Police Agency, acted as chair). Japan was particularly active among G8 members and Asian countries concerning the convention and the three related protocols, and contributed to the agreement over the draft convention and two of the related protocols.

Furthermore, in order to strengthen the criminal, judicial, and law enforcement systems of developing countries mainly in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan has provided a variety of support for the development of legal framework, and has provided training to judicial and law enforcement experts in developing countries through such organizations as the United Nations, Asia, and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI). In January 2000, Japan hosted the Asia-Pacific Symposium on Trafficking in Persons. Japan also hosted the Asia-Pacific Law Enforcement Conference against Transnational Organized Crime in January 2001. In the area of drugs, on a Japanese initiative, international conferences were held in Tokyo in February 1999 and January 2000 in order to promote cooperation among authorities of Asia-Pacific countries, which have crucial importance in Japan's own measures in the fight against drugs. Japan is also cooperating through contributions to international organizations such as the UNDCP, and is dispatching experts, accepting trainees in Japan, and providing grant aid aimed at promoting the cultivation of alternative crops in place of drug producing plants and strengthening of regulations against the illegal trade of drugs.

In recent years, Japan, like many countries, has been facing incidents related to transnational organized crime, such as organized killings, the trafficking in stimulant drugs and firearms, and the smuggling of migrants, as well as high-tech crime. In order to tackle these crimes effectively, Japan has been making efforts to improve its domestic legal system to strengthen judicial and law enforcement systems. To this end, Japan has passed two pieces of legislation that relate to measures against organized crime: the Law Prohibiting Unauthorized Access and the Law for Punishing Acts Related to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

Based on the available information, it appears that Japan is making concerted efforts to comply with its summit initiative and should thus be accorded a score of +1.

Russia

The Russian government has concluded over 80 intergovernmental and inter-agency agreements related to drug control with other governments throughout the world. Law enforcement authorities of Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine have continued their joint efforts to fight drug trafficking, which have resulted in major seizures.

In the Russian Federation, amendments to the federal law on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances of 1997 are currently being prepared, which are extremely important for national drug control coordination. Russia also approved the governing principles and guidelines for action to counter illegal trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and drug abuse for the period up to 2008.

Although achievements were made in the recent years by Russian law enforcement agencies in combating illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, and precursors, Russian authorities have encountered difficulties in monitoring and reporting, as required under the three international drug control treaties, illicit activities in the country related to narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, and precursors.

Based on the available evidence, it appears that Russia is making efforts to comply with its summit initiative. As such, it should be accorded a score of +1.

Compiled by Michael Simpson and Maria Banda