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Items for discussion and decision: crime statistics

Report of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on crime statistics

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2014/219, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit the report of the Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on crime statistics. The report reviews the implementation of activities included in the road map to improve the quality and availability of crime statistics at the national and international levels ([E/CN.3/2013/11](#)), which was presented to the Statistical Commission at its forty-fourth session, held in March 2013, and to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-second session, held in April 2013. Both Commissions welcomed the road map and expressed support for the activities included in it.

Two years after the adoption of the road map, the present report further elaborates on the long-term goals to improve crime statistics, taking into account the information needs deriving from the ongoing debate on the post-2015 agenda. After a review of major accomplishments in the last two years, it develops a five-year workplan to foster the implementation of the road map. The Statistical Commission is invited to take note of recent achievements in the field of crime statistics and future activities to further the road map and improve crime statistics at the national and international levels.

* [E/CN.3/2015/1](#).



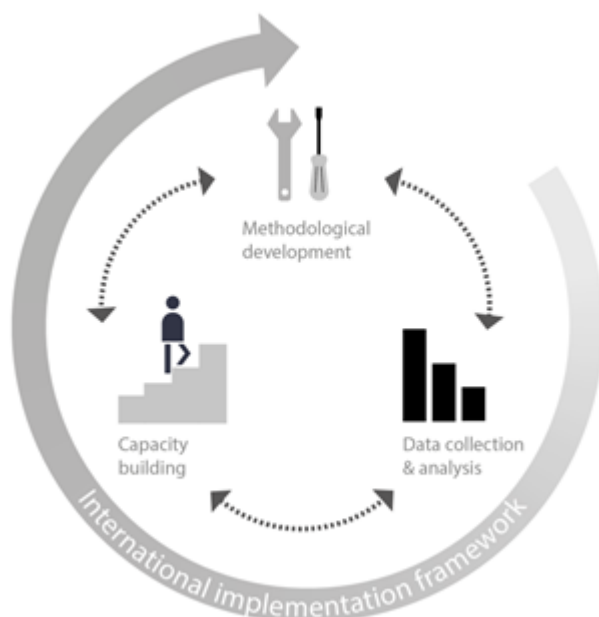
Report of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on crime statistics

I. A vision for crime statistics and the post-2015 agenda

1. As a response to the many information challenges determined by evolving crime dynamics and by the need to supply Member States with policy-relevant information, the road map provides a conceptual and operational framework to improve crime statistics at the national and international levels. This framework is instrumental to achieving the long-term goal of having high-quality and available statistical information on crime in all countries to support evidence-based policies on rule of law, access to justice and crime prevention in general. Such a goal can only be realized if national and international information systems capable of generating high-quality data on crime issues are in place.

2. In order to achieve this long-term goal, the road map suggests a number of activities centred around three areas of work (see the figure below). While the development of methodological tools is essential to promote high-quality and comparable information on crime, technical assistance to Member States remains key to implementing such standards and strengthening national information systems, while data collection and analysis at both the national and international levels need to be further developed to produce the sound analysis required for evidence-based policymaking. The road map also identifies the main elements of a framework to support its implementation at the international level.

The three pillars of the road map



3. While reviewing the work on crime statistics – two years after the adoption of the road map — and developing a plan for the future, important advances made in the context of the international debate on the post-2015 agenda need to be fully acknowledged. After a complex but also effective debate about the concept of sustainable development and its components,¹ a comprehensive framework of goals and targets was proposed by the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals (see [A/68/970](#)). The 17 goals included cover all policy areas that are seen as essential to end poverty, protect the environment, ensure peace and realize human rights. Importantly, this framework includes explicit reference to topics relevant to crime and criminal justice under goals 5, 15 and above all, 16.² More recently, the synthesis report of the Secretary-General ([A/69/700](#)) identifies justice as one of the six essential elements for delivering on sustainable development goals and explicitly lists eradicating violence, promoting access to justice and personal security, combatting corruption and curbing illicit financial flows as targets for sustainable development.

4. The ongoing progress on crime and criminal justice statistics is therefore relevant to improving the measurement of a number of areas that might be part of the post-2015 agenda, such as violence and security (including violence against women and against children), access to justice and rule of law, illicit financial flows, trafficking in persons, corruption, organized crime and wildlife crime.

5. In particular, the work to implement the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS)³ and promote high-quality and standardized victimization surveys lays the foundation for several metrics in the area of crime, violence and security. Furthermore, the development of standardized methodologies to produce data on corruption, organized crime, trafficking in persons and access to justice will provide guidance for producing high-quality data in these areas.

II. The road map two years after its adoption: main achievements

6. Since its adoption in 2013, several activities planned under the road map have been implemented and related outputs produced. This has been possible thanks to the work of several actors, at both the national and international levels, who have contributed to recent achievements by providing substantive expertise, promoting coordination and providing key financial and human resources to implement the

¹ For a consolidated summary of the post-2015 process, see [A/69/700](#).

² In goal 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) reference is made to the need to eliminate all forms of violence against women; under goal 15 (Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss) the need to end forms of wildlife crime is recalled; and targets in goal 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) refer to reducing violence and related deaths, ending violence against children, promoting rule of law, ensuring access to justice, reducing illicit flows, combatting organized crime and fighting corruption.

³ ICCS, the first standard classification of crime for statistical purposes, provides reference definitions for production of crime statistics and a framework for systematic crime analyses. More information on the development of ICCS, its contents and the implementation plan can be found in document [E/CN.3/2015/7](#).

programme. Table 1 presents some of the main activities conducted in the last two years, while a more extended review is provided in the annex to the present report.

Table 1
Key activities conducted since the adoption of the road map

<i>Methodological development</i>	<i>Capacity-building</i>	<i>International data collection and analysis</i>
Finalization of the ICCS	Training activities on UN-CTS and victimization surveys	Strengthening of UN-CTS through network of focal points and regional synergies
Development of common methodology for victimization surveys in Latin America and the Caribbean	Development of regional partnerships for technical assistance	Production of <i>Global Study on Homicide 2013</i>

Abbreviations: UN-CTS, United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems.

III. Next steps in the implementation of the road map (2015-2020)

7. The workplan for 2015-2020 has been designed around three medium- to long-term targets in the three areas of work of the road map (development of standards, capacity-building and international data collection and analysis):

(a) International statistical standards are developed for the regular production of statistics from main data sources on crime and criminal justice (administrative data and victimization surveys), on a number of crimes that are very high in the political agenda (corruption, organized crime, trafficking in persons, etc.) and on how to measure access to justice;

(b) National statistical systems on crime are in place where relevant agencies, including national statistical offices, coordinate to produce objective, consistent, accurate, comparable and transparent statistical data on crime and criminal justice. Countries have the minimum technical capacity to produce and disseminate comprehensive data on crime and criminal justice from administrative sources and victimization surveys according to international standards;

(c) There is a functioning international system of data collection and analysis that provides the international community with solid knowledge (data and reports) on crime trends and patterns and that is instrumental in assessing progress against the post-2015 development agenda. This system is based on high-quality and comprehensive information provided by Member States and with a high level of integration between international processes and actors.

8. For the several activities included in the workplan, a distinction is made between those that can be covered with existing resources and those for which additional funds will be needed. As many fall into the latter category, the actual provision of additional resources will have an impact on the actual scope and delivery pace of essential activities planned to further implement the road map. The role of many partners of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

is therefore crucial in the implementation of the 2015-2020 workplan, starting with the UNODC-Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI) Centre of Excellence for Statistical Information on Governance, Victims of Crime, Public Security and Justice, which will continue to implement capacity-building activities and support the development of methodological standards. The Centre's priorities for 2015-2020 are the following:

(a) Improve methodologies for victimization surveys: the main priorities in this area are (i) the initiative for standardizing victimization survey methods in Latin America and the Caribbean, jointly with several national and international partners;⁴ (ii) the conduct of work to compile, test and strengthen various methodological aspects of victimization surveys (victimization survey lab); and (iii) development of objective criteria to help countries assess the quality of their victimization surveys and improve it;

(b) Technical assistance and training: the Centre will continue to provide technical assistance for the implementation of victimization surveys upon countries' requests, training courses on victimization surveys (online and on-site) will be conducted and support will be provided for the implementation of ICCS at the regional level;

(c) Methodological research: further work will be conducted in order to facilitate the exchange of practices and development of methodological guidelines in areas where there is high demand for better data, such as in the measurement of corruption;

(d) Regional and international processes on crime statistics: strengthen crime statistics systems at the regional level, for example by supporting the Working Group on Statistics on Public Security and Justice within the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and other international initiatives to facilitate exchange of practices on crime statistics, promote international standards and raise awareness about the importance of crime statistics.

A. Development of methodological tools

9. After the adoption of ICCS, its implementation will require the development of methodological tools to support its use at the national level (see table 2). The production of a comprehensive implementation manual is scheduled, with priority on developing guidelines to assist countries in mapping existing data from administrative sources (police, prosecution, courts, prisons) into ICCS. This activity aims at improving consistency and international comparability of administrative data on crime, a fundamental source of information on crime and criminal justice.

10. The second line of work refers to victimization surveys, the other fundamental tool used to assess the extent and nature of crime, investigate the context in which crime occurs and explore State responses to crime victimization. Such surveys have been conducted in a limited number of countries around the world, often not on a regular basis and using various methodological approaches. The identification of best practices (key indicators, model questions) and the production of common

⁴ See the annex to the present report for further details.

standards to conduct victimization surveys is essential to promoting consistency and comparability across countries and time.

11. Methodological standards to better understand patterns and trends in a number of crimes need to be developed or consolidated if we wish to better inform policymaking at both the national and international levels. In particular, it is envisaged to work on the measurement of corruption (develop a conceptual framework to measure corruption and produce methodological guidelines to conduct sample surveys on corruption), organized crime (refine and test an analytical framework for measuring organized crime, including metrics of the illegal economy) and trafficking in persons.

12. Statistical data on the functioning of the criminal justice system can provide essential information on its overall performance in relation to a number of criteria, such as efficiency, effectiveness, fairness and speed. The work foreseen will focus on developing a conceptual framework and identifying key indicators with a view to developing common standards in measuring access and efficiency of justice across the world.

Table 2

Next steps in the implementation of the road map: development of methodological tools

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Actors</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Activities to be implemented with existing resources		
Develop ICCS implementation manual, vol. I: guidance to map national administrative crime data into ICCS	UNODC, ICCS Technical Advisory Group. UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence, Eurostat, Member States	2016
Planned activities needing additional resources		
Develop ICCS implementation manual: Volume II: map victimization surveys data into ICCS Volume III: review of counting rules Volume IV: develop a codebook	UNODC, ICCS Technical Advisory Group, Eurostat	2017-2020
Victimization surveys: develop methodological standards for surveys and related indicators	UNODC, UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence, Member States, Regional organizations, UNDP	2016-2020
Corruption: develop a conceptual framework to measure corruption and develop methodological guidelines to conduct sample surveys on corruption	UNODC, UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence	2016-2020

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Actors</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Organized crime: refine and test analytical framework for measuring organized crime	UNODC, UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence, European Union	2015-2017
Trafficking in persons: develop estimation methods integrating qualitative and quantitative data	UNODC	2016-2017
Access to justice and efficiency of the criminal justice system: develop standard indicators based on administrative crime data	UNODC	2015-2016

B. Capacity-building

13. Capacity-building activities are essential to strengthen national mechanisms for data production and dissemination of crime statistics, which in many countries are still weak owing to a combination of factors, including lack of awareness, coordination and technical skills. Such activities are very resource-intensive; the model being pursued is one where UNODC primarily plays a supervisory and coordination role while training and other support activities are implemented by regional hubs or other regional or national partnerships. To this end, the creation of regional centres, especially in Asia and Africa, will be actively promoted, following the experience of the UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence established in Mexico City. Similarly, collaboration and coordination with other regional and international agencies is actively sought in order to ensure that capacity-building activities are implemented efficiently and consistently (see table 3).

14. In the workplan, reference is made to activities aimed at producing a training curriculum for the revised United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems and develop e-training packages on ICCS and victimization surveys. Technical assistance activities, in the form of training or other support, can be directly provided upon request and within the scope of available resources.

Table 3
Next steps in the implementation of the road map: capacity-building

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Actors</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Activities to be implemented with existing resources		
ICCS: develop an e-learning package to support its implementation	UNODC	2016-2017
Crime statistics: promote the creation of regional hubs (e.g. Centre of Excellence) for capacity-building in Asia and Africa	UNODC, Regional organizations, United Nations regional commissions	Ongoing
Victimization surveys: promote the implementation of surveys and the use of the e-learning platform	UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence	Ongoing
Planned activities needing additional resources		
UN-CTS: develop a new training curriculum	UNODC	2016-2017
Direct support to countries (upon request) for developing and implementing surveys and improve administrative data	UNODC, UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence	2015-2020
Training activities on data-collection tools (administrative data and victimization surveys)	UNODC, UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence	2015-2020
Organized crime: support countries to develop capacity to measure and report on organized crime	UNODC, UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence, European Union	2016-2018

Abbreviations: UN-CTS, United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems.

C. International data collection and analysis

15. International data collection on crime will be further strengthened (see table 4), as it is the basis for informing the international community about crime trends and patterns and promoting good statistical practices at country level. The workplan refers to a number of activities aimed at strengthening the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, including its revision to make it compliant with ICCS, and other data collections on crime. In particular, the homicide statistics database will seek stronger integration with data produced by the World Health Organization (WHO) (based on public health sources) in order to address existing discrepancies between international data on homicide produced by UNODC and WHO.

16. The production of analytical reports on crime is an important output to increase knowledge of crime trends and patterns. The *Global Study on Homicide* has become a reference publication on homicidal violence and it is planned to produce it regularly, possibly in collaboration with other partners (depending on the availability of additional resources).

Table 4

Next steps in the implementation of the road map: international data collection and analysis

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Actors</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Activities to be implemented with existing resources		
UN-CTS: maintain regular data collection and ensure dissemination	UNODC, Eurostat, OAS	Ongoing
Homicide statistics database: maintain regular data collection and ensure dissemination	UNODC, WHO	Ongoing
UN-CTS: review the data-collection instrument; align with ICCS	UNODC, ICCS Technical Advisory Group, Eurostat, OAS	2016
Sustainable development goals: make the UNODC reporting system fit for monitoring the goals	UNODC, inter-agency mechanism, Member States	Ongoing
Crime data dissemination: develop a dissemination strategy to address the needs of various audiences	UNODC	2015-2016
Trafficking in persons: maintain regular data collection and dissemination	UNODC	Ongoing
Wildlife crime: establish and maintain a data repository	UNODC	2015-2020
Planned activities needing additional resources		
Global homicide study: produce an analysis of homicide levels and trends at global level	UNODC, WHO, Member States	2016-2017 2019-2020
Gendered crime: produce an analysis of selected crimes from a gender perspective at global level	UNODC, HEUNI	2015
Global report on trafficking in persons: produce an analysis of the extent and trends in trafficking in persons at global level	UNODC	2016 2018 2020

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Actors</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Global study on wildlife crime: produce an analysis of extent and trends in wildlife crime at global level	UNODC	2015-2016
International crime victimization survey programme: promote a new wave of standard victimization surveys	UNODC, UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence	2017-2018

Abbreviations: UN-CTS, United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems; HEUNI, European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations.

D. Strengthening the international implementation framework of the road map

17. A number of activities are proposed to foster international dialogue and partnerships to support the implementation of the road map (see table 5). Key among them is the regular gathering of national focal points for the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, representatives of institutions appointed by Member States to coordinate the annual collection and submission of the Survey questionnaire. This network of national experts would provide technical advice and guidance on the implementation of the road map and it would also oversee activities of the Technical Advisory Group on ICCS.

18. After the successful international conferences on crime statistics in 2012 and 2014, this event has proved to be a powerful tool to facilitate exchange of good practices and promote dialogue between data producers and data users. It is therefore proposed that such conferences be held regularly (every two years) and that member countries be encouraged to volunteer to host them.

19. In order to ensure a close link and dialogue with Member States, it would be beneficial to maintain the practice of regular reporting on the road map to the Statistical Commission and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. These forums provide Member States with the opportunity of guiding and advising on the implementation of the road map.

Table 5
Next steps in the implementation of the road map: strengthening the international implementation framework

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Actors</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Activities to be implemented with existing resources		
Meeting of the UN-CTS focal points: organize biennial meetings	UNODC, Eurostat, OAS, Member States	2016 2018 2020
ICCS Technical Advisory Group: establish the Group and organize biennial meetings	UNODC	2016 2018 2020
Regular reporting to intergovernmental bodies: Statistical Commission and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice	UNODC, INEGI	To be determined
Planned activities needing additional resources		
International conference: organize a biennial global conference on crime statistics	UNODC, UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence	2016 2018 2020

Abbreviations: UN-CTS, United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems.

IV. Conclusions and the way forward

20. The review of the ongoing work highlights a number of challenges in crime statistics and suggests the way forward in several areas.

21. As a key measure to improve crime statistics at the global level, UNODC will formally establish the group of national focal points on crime statistics.

22. Progress against the implementation of the road map and the five-year workplan will be reported to the Statistical Commission and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; in particular, INEGI and UNODC will report to the Statistical Commission in accordance with the Commission's multi-year programme.

23. INEGI and UNODC encourage Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary funds to enhance the ability UNODC to implement the activities envisaged in the road Map.

24. The Commission may wish to take note of the conclusions.

Annex

The road map two years after its adoption: main achievements

Development of methodological tools

1. The development and finalization of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS) was an activity of high priority since it lays the foundation for further improvements.^a ICCS has been developed to support countries in producing reliable statistics to measure crime levels, monitor State response to crime, evaluate policies and understand the changing dynamics of crime. It provides a solid foundation for crime and criminal justice statistics and sets a common standard for their production and dissemination.^b

2. More specifically, ICCS aims to enhance the systematic production and comparison of statistical data across different criminal justice institutions (police, prosecutors, courts, prisons), across subnational entities, in cases where they adopt different legal or statistical frameworks, and across different data sources (administrative records, surveys). By offering a common classification scheme of crime and criminal justice data, ICCS will improve the consistency of national and international data. Furthermore, it will constitute a valuable analytical framework on crime and its context at the national and international levels.

3. Another line of work to improve crime statistics has focused on enhancing and standardizing victimization surveys, a key source to provide complementary data on crime. Such surveys enable an assessment to be made of crime not reported to authorities (the so-called “dark figure” of crime), while the victims’ perspective provides additional information on crime victimization contexts and on the response of states to crime. To date, a relatively small number of countries, mainly located in Europe and the Americas, have established a regular programme of national victimization surveys. Moreover, methodological approaches can differ markedly and therefore limit comparability of results. The work undertaken under the road map has aimed to develop a first tool to improve quality and international comparability of crime victimization surveys.

4. UNODC and the UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence for Statistical Information on Governance, Victims of Crime, Public Security and Justice are leading the initiative to standardize methodology for crime victimization surveys in Latin America and the Caribbean. This initiative, started in 2013 and supported by the UNDP Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the Organization of American States, the Central American Integration System and the Regional System of Standardized Indicators in Peaceful Coexistence and Citizen Security, directly involves a number of countries in the region.^c It aims to produce a standard questionnaire for

^a More information on the development of ICCS, its contents and the implementation plan can be found in document [E/CN.3/2015/7](#).

^b ICCS has been developed through a broad consultation process with national and international partners. The ICCS development process also benefitted from continuous support from the UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence.

^c Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama and Peru.

victimization surveys, methodological guidelines for conducting the survey and guidance on computing indicators derived from victimization surveys.

5. In addition to ICCS and victimization surveys, the road map pointed to a number of complex crimes for which data are scarce and of poor quality. In the last few years, a number of valuable experiments have been done in measuring corruption, organized crime and human trafficking.

6. Progress has been made in the measurement of corruption through the implementation of surveys focusing on the experience of bribery, both within the general population and within the business sector. The methodology for conducting corruption surveys has been further refined, thanks in part to the direct involvement of national statistical offices in a number of countries.^d

7. The statistical measurement of organized crime is another area where a first step has been made with the development of a statistical framework to collate a series of metrics relevant to organized criminal groups and their activities.^e The measurement of the economic impact of organized crime is receiving new impetus through the implementation of the revised System of National Accounts (SNA 2008), which requires countries to include the economic value of illegal activities in their national accounts.^f

8. In the area of trafficking in persons, the availability and quality of information has substantially improved since 2006, when UNODC produced the first of four global reports published to date.^g National data are extracted from administrative sources, and the improvement is mainly linked to the increasing number of countries having passed new or updated legislation since the entry into force of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol in 2003. In 2014, more than 90 per cent of countries have specific legislation against trafficking in persons.

Capacity-building

9. Over the past few years, UNODC has undertaken a number of initiatives to support countries in the production of crime statistics, through advisory services, training tools, training activities and the organization of seminars (e.g. training courses on victimization surveys in Latin America and Asia and direct technical assistance for the compilation of the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems).

^d See, for example, corruption surveys conducted by statistical offices in countries of the western Balkans, with the support of UNODC and the European Union, and the survey on quality of public services conducted by INEGI in Mexico.

^e The UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence published a methodology to generate evidence-based knowledge on organized crime. The framework was tested with data from Colombia, Chile and Mexico. For more information, see www.cdeunodc.inegi.org.mx/articulos/doc/measuringfinalTRANSCRIME.pdf.

^f See, for example, United Kingdom Office for National Statistics, *Changes to National Accounts: Inclusion of Illegal Drugs and Prostitution in the UK National Accounts* (2014) and Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat), *Summary of the Esa2010 revision of National Accounts* (2014).

^g See UNODC, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons* (2014), available from www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/glotip.html.

10. The UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence has made a fundamental contribution to promoting the quality and consistency of crime and criminal justice statistics. The Centre has organized several activities to strengthen country capacities, including direct advisory services, on-site training on victimization surveys for national officials, an e-learning platform on victimization surveys and an online repository of crime victimization surveys to facilitate access to related methodological and analytical documentation.^h

11. In the same region, the Regional System of Standardized Indicators in Peaceful Coexistence and Citizen Security — a project funded by IADB — has functioned as a coordinating system for the sharing of information and statistical indicators relating to crime and security. Through this project, countries have benefited from technical assistance to improve data and information systems and promote increased national coordination in the production of crime data.

12. In Asia, a recent meetingⁱ jointly organized by UNODC, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Thailand Institute of Justice and the Korean Institute of Criminology brought together national representatives from about 20 countries of the Asia-Pacific region. The meeting, which involved agencies from the criminal justice system and national statistical offices,^j proved to be a unique forum for sharing practices in the production, analysis and dissemination of statistics on crime and criminal justice, both within and between countries.

International data collection and analysis

13. UNODC has been carrying out a programme of global data collection through the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems since the 1970s. Data are collected annually from Member States, disseminated for public use on the UNODC website and used for analytical publications.^k In recent years, efforts have focused on building up a network of national focal points^l and on developing synergies with regional organizations. Following the partnership established with the Organization of American States for managing the Survey in the Americas, the Survey was for the first time administered jointly by UNODC and Eurostat for countries in Europe in 2014, with a positive impact on streamlining data-collection processes and reducing the response burden on countries.

14. Building on the data collected through the Survey and supplemented by an extended data collection, UNODC has established the homicide statistics database, a global and comprehensive repository of data on intentional homicide. This database is the basis of the *Global Study on Homicide*, a flagship publication to understand global and regional features of homicidal violence and its drivers. The 2013 study analysed patterns and trends of intentional homicide for 219 countries and territories, examined homicide and violence in the wake of conflict, the roles played by firearms and other mechanisms and analysed the criminal justice response to homicide. In addition, a global report on violence prevention has recently been

^h For more information, see www.cdeunodc.inegi.org.mx/.

ⁱ Regional meeting on crime statistics and victimisation surveys, 1-3 December 2014, Bangkok.

^j For more information, see www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/statistics/meeting-crime-stats-asia.html.

^k Available from www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/statistics/crime.html.

^l Some 120 countries have appointed a national focal point for the Survey.

published by WHO, with relevant analyses on violence, including homicide, at regional and global level.^m

15. Following General Assembly resolution 64/293, UNODC has established a regular data collection on trafficking in persons, which serves as the basis of the biennial production of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*. The focus of these reports is on patterns, trends and flows of trafficking in persons at the global, regional and national levels. The data collection has achieved a coverage of around 130 countries, thus ensuring a good representation of regional and global patterns.

16. UNODC has recently undertaken a programme of research on wildlife crime, with a focus on species protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. With nearly universal accession, this international agreement sets rules and procedures for the international trade in wildlife. As part of this research, in cooperation with the International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime, UNODC is compiling a global wildlife seizures database.ⁿ This database will represent the first international mechanism for monitoring trends and patterns in wildlife crime and law enforcement. It should also yield insights into the nature of wildlife trafficking. While the key findings of the research will be delivered in 2015, the database is designed to be maintained on a regular basis.

Driving the implementation of the road map

17. Besides the implementation of several activities in the three main areas identified by the road map, a number of activities have fostered international dialogue and cooperation in the area of crime and criminal justice statistics.

18. The regular reporting on the road map to the Statistical Commission (and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice provides Member States with an opportunity to guide and advise on its implementation, as well as to be informed of its accomplishments.^o

19. Furthermore, in order to facilitate exchange of practices and raise visibility of crime statistics, two large international conferences on crime statistics were held in Aguascalientes, Mexico (2012) and in Mexico City (2014). Both conferences were jointly organized by INEGI, UNODC and the UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence.^p This international conference is becoming a reference for presenting and discussing new methodologies and best practices on statistics and measurement of crime, victimization and criminal justice and on the use of such data for better policymaking.

^m WHO, *Global Status Report on Violence Prevention* (2014).

ⁿ This database is based on seizures data submitted by Member States in their biennial reporting to the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, but it also incorporates inputs from a variety of official reporting mechanisms, including that of the World Customs Organization.

^o See, for example, [E/CN.15/2014/10](#).

^p This second conference was attended by statisticians, other government officials and experts from 42 countries (23 from the Americas, 5 from Africa, 3 from Asia, 10 from Europe and 1 from Oceania).

20. At the regional level, the Americas have been very active in promoting an active role of national statistical agencies through the ongoing work of the Working Group on Statistics on Public Security and Justice^q within the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, which aims to support and coordinate efforts to improve crime statistics systems within the region. In Africa, a promising framework for strengthening crime statistics is the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa, a collaborative effort of the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank.^r Within the Strategy, which covers a wide array of topics and issues to improve statistics in the African continent, a specific technical initiative on governance, peace and security statistics has been established under the chairmanship of the Kenya National Board of Statistics.

^q The working group is composed of the following members: Mexico (coordinating country), Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Peru and Saint Lucia. The UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence acts as technical secretariat; OAS and IADB participate as observers.

^r For more information, see http://auc-statdivision.voila.net/pdfstat/SHaSA_strategy.pdf.