

**Report**  
**170<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the**  
**Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR)**  
(ECO Secretariat, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2011 at 1100)

The 170<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting was held in the newly renovated conference room of the ECO Secretariat. At the outset, the Secretary General thanked the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for providing financial and technical support in equipping the new Conference Hall with the latest audio-visual facilities and wished more productive meetings in this pleasant environment of the hall. The meeting was attended by all Member States (except Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan) and the delegation of the ECO Secretariat headed by the Secretary General. The list of participants is attached as *Annex-I*.

Mr. Antonino De Leo, UNODC Representative in Tehran briefed the Council on the main pillars of the UNODC Regional Programme for Promoting Counter Narcotics efforts in Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries. He informed the Council that the programme will be launched in near future. Mr. De Leo noted that the need for soliciting the support of ECO Member States, to ensure successful implementation of the initiative to mitigate the growing menace of narcotics in the region, was felt during the meeting of H. E. Mr. Yuriy Fedotov, Executive Director of UNODC Headquarters, Director General of the United Nations Office in Vienna and the Secretary General of ECO in July, 2011 at the Secretariat. After presentation, question/answer session was held and the Member States appreciated the efforts of UNODC to eradicate menace of narcotics from the ECO region. The text of the presentation is attached as *Annex-II*.

Afterwards, the Council proceeded to its routine work.

**Agenda Item No.1**  
**Adoption of the Agenda**

1. The Council adopted the following agenda:
  1. Adoption of the Draft Agenda
  2. Adoption of the Draft Report of the 169<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting
  3. Secretariat's Proposal for revision in the salaries & allowances of the Staff
  4. Follow up mechanism of Implementation of the Recommendations of the Audit Board on the Accounts of the Secretariat
  5. Establishment of ECOTA Implementation Fund
  6. Establishment of a Parliamentary Forum of the ECO Member States

7. FAO Central Asian Regional Office (FAO-SEC) Project on Seed Sector Development in Countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)
8. Draft ECO Work Programme for the year 2011-2012
9. Draft MoU on Utilization of ECO Statistical Network (ECOSTAT) between ECO and Statistical Centre of Iran
10. Development of Road Transport Corridors
11. Administrative Matters
12. Recent Events/Meetings attended by the ECO Secretariat Staff
13. Any other business
14. Date of the next CPR meeting

### **Agenda Item No.2**

#### Adoption of the Draft Report of the 169<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting

2. The Council, with slight amendment in para 52, proposed by the delegation of Iran, adopted the Report of the 169<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting which was circulated to the Member States vide Secretariat's Note Verbale *dated 4 August, 2011*.

### **Agenda Item No.3**

#### Secretariat's proposal for revision in the salaries & allowances of the Staff

3. The need for increase in salaries and allowances of the ECO Secretariat staff has been raised due to effects of removal of subsidies and concomitant inflation which is diminishing the purchasing power of the staff. The matter was deliberated in the last two CPR meetings as well as CPR Working Group adjudicated to formulate recommendations on the matter. The Working Group, taking cognizance of the inflationary trends in the recent years, acknowledged that there was a genuine need to enhance the emoluments of the Secretariat staff to partially compensate the loss in their purchasing power; but it could not finalize recommendations for an agreeable percentage-increase. Since the Working Group was unable to finalize its recommendations, the Secretariat brought the issue at the CPR level.

4. The delegations of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey, while expressing their principle consent to review the salaries of the Secretariat staff, stated that they need more details for clarification of some points. Delegations of Afghanistan and Tajikistan also supported the request to provide more details that could be circulated for onward submission to their capitals for instruction.

5. The Council requested the Secretariat to circulate information in accordance with the queries raised by the Member States, so that a final position could be placed in the next CPR meeting.

#### **Agenda Item No.4**

##### Follow up mechanism of Implementation of the Recommendations of the Audit Board on the Accounts of the Secretariat

6. The Council deliberated the recommendations of the CPR Working Group on the budget issues which had formulated proposals on the intergovernmental mechanism to follow up implementation of the Auditors' reports and recommendations as requested by the 169<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting and adopted the following follow-up format:

- The Secretariat shall circulate/submit the First Implementation Report to the Member States for consideration by the CPR after six months of the Audit of the Secretariat's Accounts; and
- The Secretariat shall circulate/submit the Second Implementation Report to the Member States for consideration. The second report will first be considered by the CPR and then be submitted to the ECO Council of Ministers Meeting.

7. The Council requested the Secretariat to monitor the follow-up process.

#### **Agenda Item No.5**

##### Establishment of ECOTA Implementation Fund

8. The 21<sup>st</sup> RPC meeting (17-19 May, 2011, Tehran) endorsed the recommendation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of ECOTA Cooperation Council on establishment of the ECOTA Implementation Fund and recommended the CPR to allocate sufficient amount for the Fund. The 4<sup>th</sup> ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce/Foreign Trade (11-13 July, 2011, Kabul) also referred the consideration of the proposal on the establishment of ECOTA Implementation Fund in the upcoming CPR meeting.

9. The Council decided to establish ECOTA Implementation Fund and allocated US\$ 50,000/- for the fund from General Purpose Feasibility Fund. The Council requested the Secretariat to prepare the Terms of Reference for utilization of the fund and circulate it to the Member States before the next CPR meeting.

#### **Agenda Item No.6**

##### Establishment of a Parliamentary Forum of the ECO Member States

10. The proposal to establish a Parliamentary Forum of the ECO Member States was initiated by Pakistan and came up during the meeting of H.E. Dr. Fehmida Mirza, Hon'ble Speaker of National Assembly of Pakistan with the ECO Secretary General in March 2011. It was agreed that such forum could offer opportunities to the

parliamentarians of the ECO Member States to play a due role in the economic prosperity of the ECO region. The proposal was hailed by the delegations; however, more details were requested before taking a decision.

11. Pakistan delegation informed the Council that they are currently preparing a Concept Paper on the details of the proposal, which will be circulated in due time; therefore, they requested the Council to defer the matter to the next CPR meeting. The Council agreed on this.

### **Agenda Item No.7**

#### **FAO Central Asian Regional Office (FAO-SEC) Project on Seed Sector Development in Countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)**

12. The project proposal “Seed Sector Development in Central Asian Countries” was elaborated by FAO—SEC initially with a budget of 250,000 USD. Upon the proposal of ECO Secretariat, FAO-SEC Steering Committee expanded the said project into a regional seed project covering all ECO countries with additional budget estimating US\$ 400,000/- (US\$ 350,000/- from FTTP + US\$ 50,000/- from ECO Feasibility and General Purposes Fund (ECO-FGPF)). The 163<sup>rd</sup> CPR meeting held on 18 October, 2010 has allocated the amount of US\$ 50,000 from the ECO FGPF for the proposed project. The Secretariat requested the Council for approval of signing the project document to enable the parties to start its implementation.

13. The representatives of Iran and Pakistan informed that instructions are awaited from their respective concerned authorities. The Council, therefore, decided to defer the matter to its next CPR meeting.

### **Agenda Item No.8**

#### **Draft ECO Work Programme for the year 2011-2012**

14. The Council deliberated the Draft ECO Work Programme prepared on the basis of decisions of the 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Regional Planning Council (Tehran, 17-19 May, 2011) and endorsed it, subject to final approval by the COM.

15. The Council took note of the proposal of the Iranian delegation that such documents should have been adopted much earlier, as four months had passed since the 21<sup>st</sup> RPC meeting. The Council also agreed with the proposal of Turkish delegation to keep the Work Programme for further contribution and new proposals, if any.

### **Agenda Item No.9**

## Draft MoU on Utilization of ECO Statistical Network (ECOSTAT) between ECO and Statistical Centre of Iran (SCI)

16. The proposed Draft MoU on Utilization of ECOSTAT established by the decision of the 149<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting (7 June, 2009) and officially launched in the 166<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting (23 February, 2011) was prepared to facilitate joint cooperation between ECO and SCI on maintenance, technical support and updating ECOSTAT. The Statistical Centre of Iran has waived off the initially stated annual maintenance costs of ECOSTAT, which have been reduced to one time payment of US\$ 25,000 only during year 2012. During this period the SCI has committed to transfer the IT content to the premises of the Secretariat and train responsible IT staff to operate the system.

17. The delegation of Pakistan made reservation stating that they had been waiting for instructions from their capital.

18. The Secretary General appreciated the support and contribution of the Statistical Center of Iran requesting the Iranian delegation to negotiate with SCI management whether they could generously cover the whole cost of the project to support the ECO budget.

19. Consideration of the matter was deferred to the next CPR meeting.

### **Agenda Item No.10**

#### Development of Road Transport Corridors

20. The 8<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting on Transport and Communication (29 June, 2011, Ashgabat) decided to establish a road transport corridor on Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul route and a road transport corridor between Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic.

21. The CPR was requested a) to allow the Secretariat to utilize the balance of US\$ 35,000 left at the ECO Truck Caravan Project for the proposed projects; b) approve the allocation of a total sum of US\$ 50,000 from the ECO FGPF to the proposed projects for development of two Road Transport Corridors: i) *Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul*; and ii) *Iran-Afghanistan-Tajikistan-Kyrgyz Republic*; and c) to establish open-ended Working Groups of representatives of the enroute Member States to assure close contacts and coordination for development of the abovementioned Corridors .

22. The delegations of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Turkey expressed their support to the proposals, stressing the significance of the transport communication development in the region. The delegation of Iran made observation that the Secretariat should revise some budget lines of the estimated costs, namely,

decrease the number of the ECO staff going for mission, since there is no need for participation of three staff members in the scheduled events.

23. After deliberation of the matter, the Council decided *a)* to allow the Secretariat to utilize the balance of US\$ 35,000 left at the ECO Truck Caravan Project for the proposed projects; *b)* approve the allocation of a total sum of US\$ 50,000 from the ECO FGPF to the proposed projects for development of two Road Transport Corridors i) *Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul*; and ii) *Iran-Afghanistan-Tajikistan-Kyrgyz Republic*, with the condition that the observation of the Iranian delegation regarding number of ECO delegation would be taken care off; and *c)* to establish open-ended Working Groups of representatives of the enroute Member States to monitor implementation of the projects.

### **Agenda Item No.11** **Administrative Matters**

#### *Recommendations of the Selection Panel*

24. The Council approved the following recommendations of the Selection Panel held before the 170<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting, which was coordinated by the Deputy Secretary General (Administration) and attended by the Representatives of Iran, Kazakhstan, Pakistan and Turkey:

**i. Director (PERS), Cat.I, D2**

**Ms. Bayan Adilbekova** (Kazakhstan National), Director (Projects, Economic research and Statistics), Cat.I, D2 be granted extension for another term of three years effective from 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2011.

**ii. Assistant Accountant, Cat.II, P2**

**Ms. Dinara Sadykbekova** (Kazakhstan National) be appointed as Assistant Accountant (Cat.II, P2) for the remaining term of her predecessor Ms. Elmira Tomasheva, i.e. up to 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

#### *Pending issue of nomination of Director (HRSD)*

25. The Representative of the Turkish delegation raised the pending issue of appointment against the post of Director (HRSD). He recalled that as there was consensus between Turkey and Kyrgyzstan for appointment against this post, CPR was instructed by the 20<sup>th</sup> Council of Ministers Meeting (Istanbul, 2010) to resolve the matter. He further pointed out that this kind of situation effects smooth and full-fledged functioning of the Directorate.

26. The Representative of the Iranian delegation, by supporting the need to resolve the matter, drew attention of the Council to the fact that currently there is an acting director who has been carrying out the workload of the division for a long time, and his work needs to be compensated accordingly.

27. Since the delegation of Kyrgyz Republic was absent in the 170<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting, the Council did not find it appropriate to consider the matter in their absence. The matter was deferred to the next CPR meeting.

### **Agenda Item No.12**

#### Recently events/Meetings attended by the ECO Secretariat Staff

28. Under this item, the Secretary General briefed the Council about his recent participation in the following meetings:

- i) *Secretary General's participation in the Concluding Meeting of the 19<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum, 15-16 September, 2011, Prague*

29. The Secretary General briefed the Council about his participation in the Concluding meeting of the 19<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum, which was held on 14-16 September, 2011 in Prague. The OSCE [Economic and Environmental Forum](#) is the main and the highest level annual meeting of the OSCE. Its objective is to give political stimulus to the dialogue on economic and environmental issues linked to security, as well as to contribute to the elaboration of specific recommendations and follow-up activities to address economic and environmental challenges. The Secretary General also attended the special session "Regional and sub-regional co-operation on sustainable energy and transport", where he shared his vision on establishing mutually beneficial cooperation between two regional organizations in the main areas of their interest. Since the areas of transport and energy are priorities in ECO activities, it looks logical to have cooperation with organizations outside the region.

30. The host authorities covered the return air ticket and local hospitality expenses, whereas Secretariat borne a small amount of expenditure. The Council approved the said expenditure.

- ii) *18<sup>th</sup> Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (CoM), 27 September, 2011, New York*

31. The 18<sup>th</sup> Informal CoM Meeting was held on the sidelines of the 66<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly Session on 27 September, 2011 in New York over a working-lunch hosted by H.E. Dr. Ahmet Davutoglu, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey. It was attended by the Foreign Ministers of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, and Pakistan as well as the Permanent Representatives/Representatives of the Missions of other ECO Member States in New York. H.E. Ambassador Numan Hazar, Eminent Person from the Republic of Turkey was also present in the Meeting. The Secretary General stated that constructive discussion was held during which the Foreign Ministers shared their views and assessment of the activities of the Organization along with their vision for its future. Despite the informal status of the COM meeting, the Foreign Ministers through their statements conveyed the message that the Member States must help to remove the bottlenecks in different fields of cooperation and play an active role in its activities to enhance the performance of the Organization. The statement of H. E. Dr. Ali Akbar Salehi, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, wherein he touched upon progress in the ECO activities and expressed his vision on the future of ECO, was very clear in this regard. A Joint Press Communiqué was adopted at the close of the Meeting. A detailed report would be circulated to the Member States, shortly.

32. The Ministers also welcomed the launch of the EPG work. The Foreign Ministers outlined the importance of the EPG work, saying that the Member States expected that the Group would submit its recommendations to the 20<sup>th</sup> COM meeting to be held in Baku in 2012.

33. The Secretary General further informed the Council that the ECO Foreign Ministers have stressed the need for the esteemed Ambassadors of ECO Member States to play an active role to facilitate the work of the Secretariat. According to the Foreign Ministers, the Ambassadors/Permanent Representatives in their capacity as Permanent Representatives to ECO should attend the CPR Meetings to facilitate speedy and qualitative decision making.

*iii) Participation in the joint ECO and ASEAN meeting on the sidelines of the 66<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly in New York*

34. While referring the other meetings attended by the ECO delegation on the sidelines of the 66<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly, the Secretary General briefed the CPR about the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ECO Joint Ministerial Meeting which was co-chaired at the highest level by the Foreign Minister of Turkey and the Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister of Cambodia on behalf of ECO and ASEAN respectively. The Meeting, attended by ECO Foreign Ministers and Permanent Representatives was constructive. The outcome of the deliberations between the two sides was reflected in a summarized form in the Joint Press Communiqué issued after the close of the



Meeting. The Meeting decided that the Ambassadors of ASEAN member countries be accredited to ECO and, vice versa. A detailed report will be circulated shortly.

*iv) Participation in the meeting with MERKASOR*

35. On the invitation of H.E. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran, the Secretary General participated in the meeting with the delegates of MERKASOR organization from Latin America. The meeting was attended by the Ambassadors of Turkey and Turkmenistan. The meeting was useful enough giving motivation for ECO to go beyond the region. Some countries like Pakistan and Turkey have already established contacts with some Member States of MERKASOR, and it could make easier for ECO to establish link with this organization in future. Initially the contact could start with exchange of views and information. Further contacts may be expanded after obtaining instructions from the headquarters of both organizations. In this context, a technical working group may be established to work out the contour of cooperation for MoU between the two organizations.

**Agenda Item No.13**

Any other business

36. Under this agenda item no issue was raised.

**Agenda Item No.14**

Date of the next CPR meeting

37. The CPR decided that the next (171<sup>st</sup>) CPR meeting would be held on Wednesday, 9 November, however, later in consultation with the Chairman and Secretary General the meeting was rescheduled for **Monday, 31 October, 2011** at 1000 hours at the ECO Secretariat.

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**Annex-I**

## **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

### The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan:

- Mr. Ahmad Shah Alizoy, First Secretary

### The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan:

- Mr. Kanan Nazarov, First Secretary

### The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

- H. E. Mr. Ali Mohamad Mousavi, Director General (MFA)
- Mr. Sayed Jalal Alavi, Director of ECO Affairs Bureau
- Mr. Mohammad Reza Abbassi, Expert, ECO Affairs Bureau

### The Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

- H.E. Mr. Baghdad Amreyev, Ambassador
- Mr. Ontalap Onalbayev, Minister-Counsellor
- Mr. Ermek Sadikbekov, Third Secretary

### The Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic:

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### The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan:

- Dr. Aman Rashid, Minister/DHM

### The Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan:

- Mr. Komil Mirzoev, ECO Focal Point

### The Embassy of the Republic of Turkey:

- H.E. Mr. Umit Yardim, Ambassador
- Mr. Mehmet Kucuksakalli, Counsellor
- Mr. Mehmet Akif Koç, Third Secretary

### The Embassy of Turkmenistan:

- H. E. Mr. Ahmet Qurbanov, Ambassador

### The Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

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### The ECO Secretariat:

1. H.E. Mr. M. Yahya Maroofi, Secretary General
2. Mr. Abolghasem Tahmasebi, Deputy Secretary General
3. Mr. Fatih Unlu, Deputy Secretary General
4. Ms. Matluba Turaeva, Assistant Director (C&FU)
5. Mr. Bahram Heidari, Legal Adviser
6. Mr. Faruk Feza Ustankaya, Ched de Cabinet
7. Mr. S. Abolfazl Khoddam Hosseini, Chief Accountant
8. Mr. Amir Hossein Khojavi, Protocol Assistant
9. Mr. Shafqat Amir, Steno-Secretary
10. Mr. Mohammad Reza Malakooti, IT Department
11. Ms. Aynur Mammadova, Russian Interpreter
12. Mr. Amir Mohammad Javaheri, Persian Interpreter

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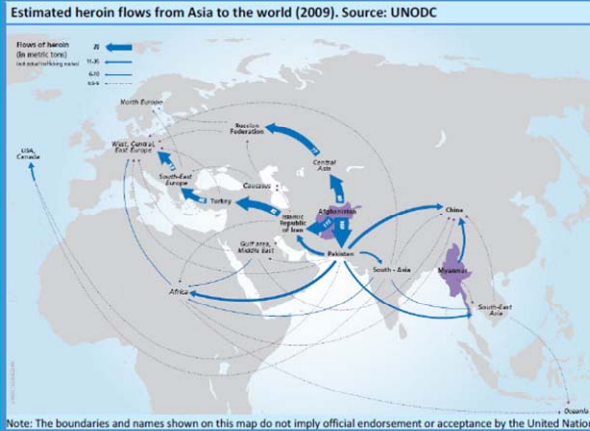


## OVERVIEW OF THE PRESENTATION

- Why the Regional Programme?
- Scope of the Regional Programme
- Goals of the Regional Programme
- The Sub-Programmes of the Regional Programme
- Governance Mechanism
- Approval and implementation process

### WHY REGIONAL PROGRAMME? 1/3

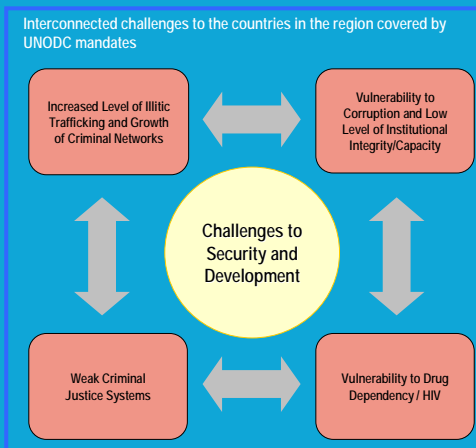
- While illicit drugs are cultivated and produced mainly in Afghanistan, they are trafficked to the destination markets via the territory of its neighbouring countries.
- Afghan illicit drug trade is a transnational threat with regional and global implications, yielding negative consequences not only in origin and destination countries but in the countries along the trafficking routes as well.
- Narco-dealers and traffickers do not distinguish between national borders or specific types of illicit goods.



Greater impact would be achieved collectively through better regional coordination and cooperation

### WHY REGIONAL PROGRAMME? 2/3

- The overall aim of the Regional Programme is to enhance the counter-narcotics capacity across the region
- The Regional Programme will assist the Governments of the region to engage in regional interventions, not only through policy advice and coordination support but also through dedicated resources to support cross-border operations and promote regional cooperation



## SCOPE OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME



**Afghanistan**  
**Islamic Republic of Iran**  
**Kazakhstan**  
**Kyrgyzstan**  
**Pakistan**  
**Tajikistan**  
**Turkmenistan**  
**Uzbekistan**

## GOALS OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME


1. Disrupt key illicit drugs markets in the region
2. Addressing the financial flows through the establishment of a regional asset recovery network
3. Increasing CN enforcement capacity through better coordinated CN training across the region
4. Increasing data availability and quality to enable evidence-based interventions in law enforcement, criminal justice and drug demand reduction
5. Facilitating and coordinating CN efforts across the region
6. Operations under the Triangular Initiative framework further strengthened
7. Identifying coordinated action to tackle critical flows in the Northern Routes


## THE SUB –PROGRAMMES OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME

|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| 1<br><b>Regional Law Enforcement Cooperation</b> | 2<br><b>Int'l/Regional Cooperation in Legal Matters</b> | 3<br><b>Prevention and Treatment of Addiction Among Vulnerable Groups</b> | 4<br><b>Trends and Impacts (as a cross-cutting function)</b> |
|--|---|---|--|

**Examples of possible Regional Programme Support**

|   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Regional joint training</li> <li>➢ Financial support to conduct regional activities (such as TI JPC Permanent Liaison Officer, TI communications equipment)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Standardized legislation on asset recovery</li> <li>➢ Support to the collection, analysis and sharing of financial information in the region</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Evidence-based prevention programmes strengthened through regional training and advocacy</li> <li>➢ Establishment of referral systems across the countries of the region</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Report on law enforcement capacities in the region to implement joint operations and institutional mapping, regional criminal justice capacity report</li> <li>➢ Regional database on treatment reporting</li> </ul> |
|---|--|--|---|

 **UNODC**  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

 **RAINBOW**  
STRATEGY

Core Governance Mechanism

RP Steering Committee

➔

CP Governance Mechanisms  
(e.g. Pakistan PGC)

Link to Country Programme Governance Mechanism

RP Expert Task Force

Governance arrangements ensure national ownership

## APPROVAL & IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

- **Revised draft circulated**
  - Government feedback incorporated
  - more concise and impact-oriented version of the Regional Programme document
- **Joint declaration of intent**
  - released during the Paris Pact Meeting in Vienna (December 2011)
  - endorsing the regional programme approach
- **Regional Programme activities to be agreed in 2012**
  - UNODC will propose list of outputs/activities to the Governments following Joint Declaration of Intent
  - Activities will be implemented according to national needs

