

therefore had to be made to tackle demand as well as supply.

Efforts to combat the problem were being carried on in the context of agreements with China, Russia, Afghanistan and various international organizations. Other agreements were in the pipeline and co-operation with India had been strengthened. Pakistan, which had extradited several drug barons during 1997-1998, was convinced of the need for close international co-operation since the fight was far beyond the means of Pakistan alone.

The Kenyan Delegate reported that his country had taken part in various successful controlled deliveries, notably with United Kingdom officers and the DEA. He urged those European countries that were still wary of using that procedure to take a more positive attitude to the matter.

Referring to sub-regional co-operation, the Delegate said that at the Meeting of Heads of African Drugs Services held in Zanzibar in October, a draft agreement for combating drugs in the region had been finalized in conjunction with a General Secretariat representative.

Specialists meeting in Nairobi had asked the OAU to create a contact point and co-ordination team for Africa.

The Nigerian Delegate reported on his country's efforts to combat drug couriers. The authorities had succeeded in significantly reducing traffic by stopping direct flights between Nigeria and source countries.

An operation was currently being carried out to eradicate cannabis crops. Nigeria, in conjunction with UNDCP, had launched a project to set up a drugs database.

The OAU Conference of Heads of State, held in Yaoundé in 1996, had adopted a resolution on combating drug trafficking and abuse. The Delegate said that an operation carried out with Niger on the basis of information from Interpol had led to about 20 arrests.

The UNDCP Observer, speaking on behalf of the Regional Bureau, referred to the role played by the Bureau both individually and as the



secretariat of the Cairo drug control office. The Cairo office had been set up in 1997 for the 17 countries of the region.

It had no operational role but was actively involved in analysing trafficking trends and promoting crop substitution. Its activities were remarkably similar to the objectives set out in Interpol's new Strategic Development Plan. As the secretariat of the United Nations control body, it monitored trends in the Middle East and was endeavouring to strengthen the means available to law enforcement agencies and to support legislative and crime investigation initiatives in the countries concerned.

General Mansour, the Observer from the International Narcotics Control Board, described the activities of that independent body, which implemented United Nations drugs agreements. The INCB co-operated to combat the production and distribution of drugs, as well as the smuggling of drugs for scientific and medical purposes, mainly by pinpointing weak points within central regulatory bodies. Information exchanges with the WCO in particular had resulted in the seizure of large quantities of acetic anhydride destined for South America.

The Bahraini Delegate said that his country's authorities had discovered a heroin laboratory for the first time. They had arrested those responsible and seized large quantities of drugs.

The Delegate of Myanmar said it was easy to smuggle drugs produced in China and neighbouring countries into Myanmar. In 1997, 32 laboratories had been dismantled. The drugs were mainly destined for the international market. A crop-substitution programme would run in the border region until 2011.

A conference on heroin would be held in Myanmar in 1999.

The Romanian Delegate reported that his country had become a drug-storage country on the Balkan Route, and there was good reason to think that situation would probably get worse in the coming years. The Romanian authorities had signed 57 co-operation agreements with 29 countries and were currently negotiating 33 others. Large seizures had already been made in application of the agreements signed to date.