



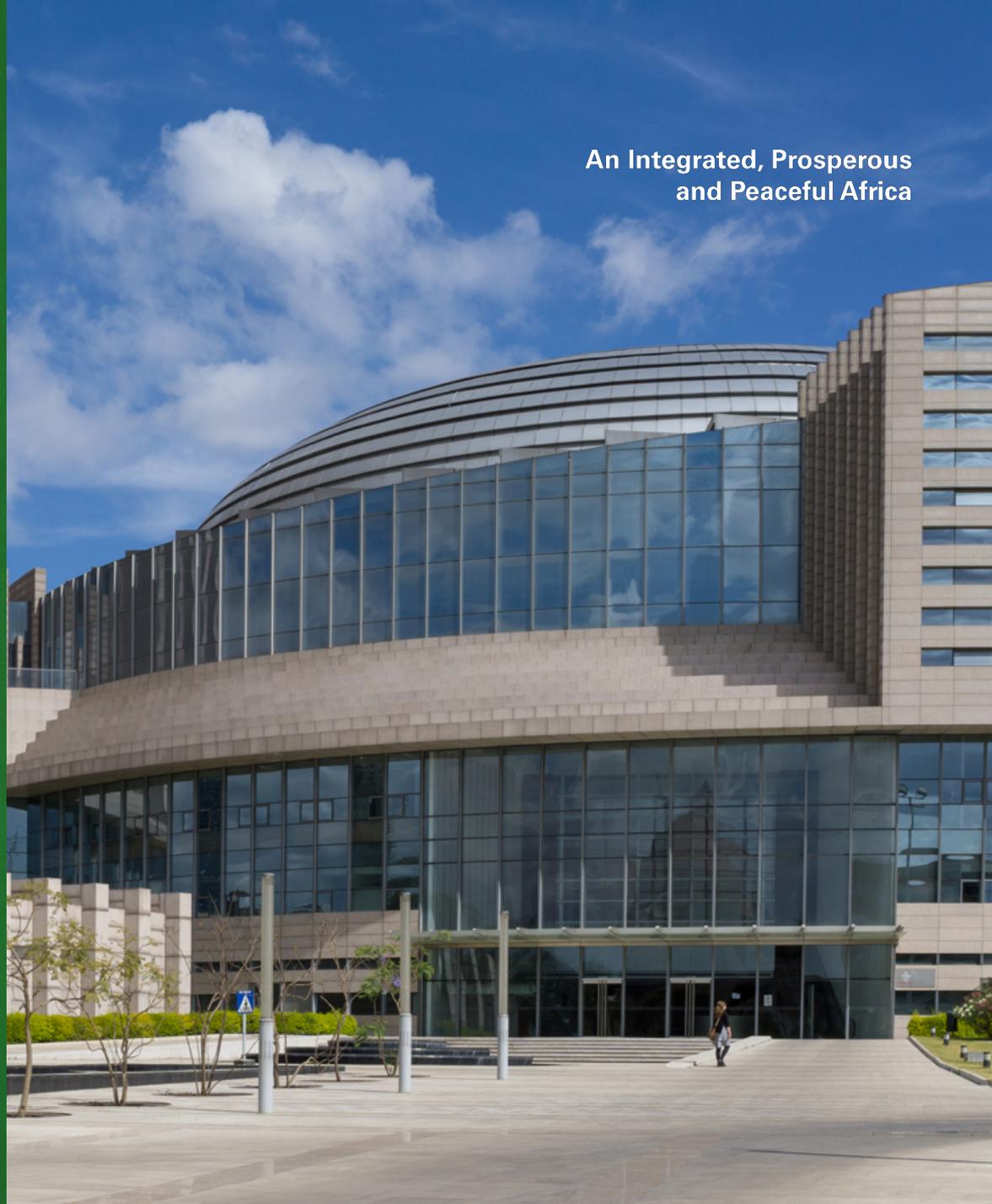
An Integrated, Prosperous  
and Peaceful Africa

# African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019-2023)

Virtual Conference on Drug  
Demand Reduction in Africa

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1. Introduction
  - African Union
  - African Union Commission
2. African Union strategic frameworks on Drug Control
3. AU Plan of Action on Drug Control & Crime Prevention (2019-2023)
4. Monitoring Implementation Progress
5. Reports Required from Member States
6. Collaborations



Administrative organ and executive secretariat of the African Union

## Primary role

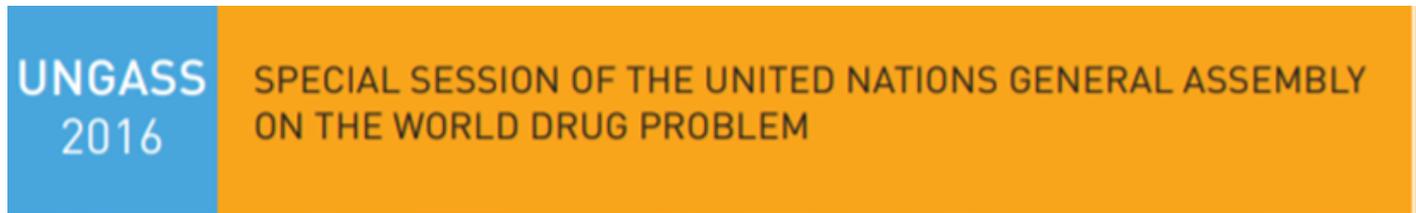
- Formulation of strategic continental policies/frameworks
- Coordination of implementation
- Capacity building & leveraging technical assistance to Member States
- Monitoring and evaluation of policy implementation



1. African Union Continental Minimum Quality Standards for Drug Treatment (2012)
2. Common African Position on Controlled Substances and Access to Pain Management Medication (2012)
3. Addis Ababa Declaration (2014) on scaling up balanced and integrated responses towards drug control in Africa.
4. Common African Position for UNGASS (2016)
5. Decisions & Declarations of Sessions of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Health, Population and
6. Drug Control (2015, 2017 and 2019)
7. The African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2019-2023).

# African Union Plan on Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019-2023)

- ❑ Overarching framework on drug control on the continent
- ❑ African Union's fifth Strategic Framework on drug Control
- ❑ Aligned to:



# African Union Plan on Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019-2023)

## Main Goal

- ❑ Improve the health, security and socio-economic well-being of the people of Africa by addressing drug trafficking and problematic drug use in all its forms and manifestations and preventing the onset of drug use.

## Framework Development

- ❑ Crafted out of consultative process involving Member States (validation and adoption by AU Policy Organs)
- ❑ Anchored on 9 Pillars
- ❑ Implementation Matrix at Continental, Regional & National Level

## 9 Key Priority Areas



# Nine Pillars of The African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2019-2023)

## Pillar 1: Measures to address drug demand reduction and health issues associated with drug use addressed

### Objectives:

- Prevent drug use
- Enhance capacity for treatment, rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration
- Reduce harm associated with drug use
- Implement alternatives to punishment for people who use drugs in conflict with the law

# **Nine** Pillars of The African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2019-2023)

## **Pillar 2: Access to and availability of controlled substances facilitated for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion**

### **Objectives:**

- Address barriers that suppress availability of and accessibility to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering
- Reduce the non-medical use of medicines

# **Nine Pillars of The African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2019-2023)**

## **Pillar 3: Measures to address drug supply reduction realized along with countering enablers of drug trafficking: firearms, corruption and money laundering**

### **Objectives:**

- Counteract illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychoactive substances
- Promote inter- ministerial collaboration between law enforcement and other sectors in monitoring of drug trafficking and peddling
- Address drug related violence and related crime (illicit arms dealers, corrupt officials, money launderers)

# Nine Pillars of The African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2019-2023)

## Pillar 4: Measures to address crime prevention and criminal justice reform implemented

### Objectives:

- Review criminal justice system procedures to facilitate cross-border crime prevention
- Improve quality, fairness and efficiency
- Facilitate criminal justice and prison law reform
- Enhance preparedness to fight emerging organized crimes (cybercrime etc)
- Address transnational organized crime

# Nine Pillars of The African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2019-2023)

## **Pillar 5: Cross cutting issues focused on drugs and human rights pertaining to all vulnerable groups, especially youth, women, children and communities addressed**

### **Objectives:**

- Ensure quality of services that respect dignity and human rights of those in treatment, including correctional facilities as a result of drug offences
- Ensure timely access to legal aid and right to a fair trial, especially for vulnerable groups including women
- Enhance knowledge of policy makers and law enforcement regarding human rights to health, safety and well-being for all, including people who use drugs
- Adjust approach towards people who use drugs from more punitive to more supportive measures
- Address protective and risk factors that make girls and women vulnerable to be recruited as drug couriers

# Nine Pillars of The African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2019-2023)

## **Pillar 5: Cross cutting issues focused on drugs and human rights pertaining to all vulnerable groups, especially youth, women, children and communities addressed**

### **Objectives:**

- Protect children from drug use and being used in production/trafficking of drugs (Article 28 of the African Charter on the rights and welfare of the child)
- Commit to full implementation of the African Youth Charter
- Protect persons with disabilities and older persons from drug use and from being used in the production and trafficking of drugs
- Strengthen National drug surveillance systems
- Strengthen national drug control coordinating mechanisms

# Nine Pillars of The African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2019-2023)

## **Pillar 6: Evolving reality dealt with: trends and circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats**

### **Objectives:**

- Strengthen measures to reduce availability, distribution and use of new psychoactive substances (NPS)
- Strengthen regional forensic capacity to identify NPS for early warning and criminal justice purposes

# Nine Pillars of The African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2019-2023)

## Pillar 7: Alternative development/alternative means of livelihood promoted

### Objectives:

- Promote implementation of development imperatives outlined in AU Agenda 2063 and UN Sustainable Development Goals for 2030
- Strengthen judicial interventions to make it difficult for companies linked to illicit drug production to operate legitimate businesses
- Promote development of infrastructure in high risk areas for illicit drug production, (roads, schools, clinics etc)

# **Nine Pillars of The African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2019-2023)**

## **Pillar 8: Strengthening international and regional cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility**

### **Objectives:**

- Mobilize support from international partners for technical and financial cooperation to implement balanced development oriented drug policies in member states
- Strengthen mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and extradition arrangements among AU member states and overseas countries where nationals are investigated for drug offences

## **Pillar 9: Enhancing continental, regional and national management, oversight, reporting, monitoring and evaluation of the AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019-2023)**

### **Objectives:**

- Strengthen capacity of the AU Commission to manage and coordinate implementation of the continental drug control framework.

Progress in implementation of provisions of the frameworks is reviewed biennially by a forum of Ministers of Health, population and Drug Control through

1. Biennial reports by Member States on their progress in the implementation of the AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019 -2023)
2. Annual national drug epidemiology reports by Member States

The African Union cooperates with a network of international and regional partners including:

- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- US Department of State, Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, (INL)
- International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP)
- African Regional Economic Communities
- Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission, Organization of American States (CICAD/OAS),
- Colombo Plan

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