

# NTS BULLETIN

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## MAIN HIGHLIGHT

**'World Drug Report 2009', 28 June 2009,**

**United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).**

The 2009 World Drug Report presents the most comprehensive statistical view of today's illicit drug situation. It shows a downward trend in major drug markets.

Opium cultivation in Afghanistan, where 93 per cent of the world's opium is produced, decreased by 19 per cent in 2008. Colombia, which produces half of the world's cocaine, saw a fall of 18 per cent in cultivation and a staggering 28 per cent decline in production compared to 2007.

The Report aims to enhance Member States' understanding of global illicit drug trends, and to sensitize all Governments about the need for more systematic collection and reporting of data related to illicit drugs.

In general, the ability of Member States to provide information on illicit drug supply is significantly better than their ability to provide demand-related data. Despite commendable progress, for example in the area of prevalence estimates, far more remains to be done to provide a solid, reliable basis for trend and policy analysis.

For the first time, the World Drug Report includes special feature sections on the quality of drug data available to the UNODC, trends in drug use among young people and police-recorded drug offences. It also discusses one of the most formidable unintended consequences of drug control - the black market for drugs - and how the international community best can tackle it.

### Additional Info:

COHA Responds to 'UN World Drug Report', 26 June 2009, Council on Hemispheric Affairs.

UN Backs Drug Decriminalization in World Drug Report, 24 June 2009, *The Huffington Post*.

'Trade road to Southeast Asia also drug road', 25 June 2009, *Xinhua*.

'Shift In Afghan Antidrug Policy Draws Mixed Reaction', 8 July 2009, Radio Free Europe.

## MIGRATION

### News & Commentaries

- 'IOM Centre in South Korea to help foster research on international migration', 30 June 2009, International Organization for Migration.
- Ruben Hortelano, 'Citibank projects 30% drop in OFW transfers', 1 July 2009, *The Daily Tribune*.
- 'Bad to worse for migrant workers as crisis bites', 3 July 2009, *BusinessWorld Online*.
- Martin Fackler, 'With wounded pride, unemployed Koreans quietly turn to manual labor', 6 July 2009, *The New York Times*.
- 'IOM refugee resettlement tops 67,000', 7 July 2009, International Organization for Migration.
- 'Pakistan: No official date for mass IDP returns', 9 July 2009, *IRIN*.
- Roger Lowenstein, 'The immigration equation', 9 July 2009, *The New York Times*.

## **Papers & Reports**

- Kholid Kaser, 'Study of Employment and Residence Permits for Migrant Workers in Major Countries of Destination', International Migration Papers 95, 2009.

This study reviews the policies for granting employment and residence permits for migrants in Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Japan, The Republic of Korea, New Zealand, The Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States. By presenting these policies in comparison with one another, the author hopes to assist in the review of existing policies. He cautions political leaders to carefully consider the specific needs and context of their national immigration situation before adopting policies applied elsewhere, however. In the process of implementation, he recommends that complementary policies be implemented to ensure that the strategies succeed in effecting major reforms, and that all immigration policies conform to international standards for the protection of migrant workers.

## **Events & Announcements**

- IOM International Dialogue on Migration, 9-10 July 2009, Geneva, Switzerland
- Fraudulent Travel Document Examination, Capacity Building for Migration Management in China, 7 July 2009, Harbin, China

## **Latest Publications**

- *Factory Girls: Voices from the Heart of Modern China*, New York: Picador, 2009.

By Leslie T. Chang.

Chang's book is an account of how industrialization in China has begun to transform the lives of rural Chinese women. As they migrate to the urban centres and work in the factories that constitute the modern economy of China, these women simultaneously experience greater empowerment and freedom and regimentation and exploitation. By linking the transformation of these women's lives to the greater social change in China itself, Chang creates a barometer of Chinese society and its shifting values.

## **INTERNAL AND CROSS-BORDER CONFLICT**

### **News & Commentaries**

- 'China in deadly crackdown after Uighurs go on the rampage', 5 July 2009, *Times Online*.
- 'What should China do about the Uighurs?' 8 July 2009, *The New York Times*.
- Rhys Blakely, "'Confessions" by Sri Lankan doctors raise doubts over lasting peace', 9 July 2009, *Times Online*.
- Edward Wong, 'China raises death toll in ethnic clashes to 184', 10 July 2009, *The New York Times*.
- 'Reports from Somalia suggest possible war crimes', 10 July 2009, *UN News Centre*.
- Stephan Faris, 'The last straw: If you think these failed states looked bad now, wait until the climate changes', 13 July 2009, *Foreign Policy*.

### **Papers & Reports**

- 'Recruiting Militants in Southern Thailand', Asia Report N°170, 22 June 2009, International Crisis Group.

This report looks at the recruitment of young Malay Muslims, especially from private Islamic

schools and argues that many students are receptive to the call to take up arms against the state. The report maintains that this is not a struggle in solidarity with global jihad. Rather, it is an ethno-nationalist insurgency with its own version of history aimed at reclaiming what was once the independent sultanate of Patani. Human rights abuses by the Thai government and security forces have only fuelled this secessionist fervour, and policies that centralise power in the capital have undermined a regional political solution. Changing these policies and practices is essential as the government tries to respond to the insurgents' grievances in order to bring long-lasting peace to the region.

- 'CrisisWatch N°71', 1 July 2009, International Crisis Group.

According to the latest instalment of CrisisWatch monthly bulletin, nine actual or potential conflict situations around the world deteriorated and none improved in June 2009.

- 'Pakistan: Invisible People, Visible Consequences', Refugees International Field Report, 24 June 2009.

Pakistan is witnessing the largest population movement since its independence in 1947. Refugees International's latest field report looks at the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian crisis in Pakistan and maintains that the implications of this humanitarian crisis and growing instability have not been adequately recognized. It urged the US to prepare for a prolonged aid effort as more people are displaced from their homes and military operations expand to Waziristan. US and international funding is urgently required to support the UN and aid agencies who are struggling to respond to the most pressing needs and to prepare for future displacement. It also urged the UN to take steps to ensure that no one is forced to return home and to reduce conflicts of interest by the Pakistani military as it leads the relief effort.

- 'Preventing Genocide and Mass Atrocities: Causes and Paths of Escalation', Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, 8 June 2009.

This report, as a necessary precursor to the development of effective policy, provides a framework for thinking about the causes of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. The report maintains that prevention is the single most important dimension of the Responsibility to Protect (or 'R2P'). However, little attention has been given to the specific causes of genocide and mass atrocities and the paths of escalation. Sound preventive strategies must be premised on a thorough understanding of the causes of genocide and mass atrocities. Prevention strategies must be sophisticated, choosing the right tools, engaging the most suitable actors, and combining long-term measures designed to reduce the risk of genocide and mass atrocities with measures designed to prevent their imminent commission.

### **Latest Publications**

- *World Report 2009*, Human Rights Watch, 2009.

The 19th annual World Report summarizes human rights conditions in more than 90 countries and territories worldwide. It reflects extensive investigative work undertaken in 2008 by Human Rights Watch staff, usually in close partnership with human rights activists in the country in question.

Sixty years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the governments demonstrating the clearest vision on international rights protections, sadly, are those seeking to undermine enforcement. In their foreign policies and in international fora, they invoke sovereignty, non-interference, and Southern solidarity to curb criticism of their human rights abuses and those of their allies and friends. Governments that champion human rights need urgently to wrest back the initiative from these human rights spoilers.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

### News & Commentaries

- 'Africa Union to launch initiative against human trafficking', 22 June 2009, *humantrafficking.org*.
- Phil Mercer, 'Australia warns boat people heading to its shores', 29 June 2009, *VOA News*.
- Dorian Jones, 'Turkey struggles to cope with annual illegal immigrant influx', 30 June 2009, *VOA News*.
- Penchan Charoensuthipan, 'Workers demand right to ILO conventions', 7 July 2009, *The Bangkok Post*.
- Sally Evans, 'South Africa: Anti-human trafficking plan for 2010 unveiled', 13 July 2009, *The Times*.

### Papers & Reports

- 'Caring for Trafficked Persons: Guidance for Health Providers', 2009, International Organization for Migration.

Human trafficking is a harmful and sometimes deadly practice whereby individuals are enticed by jobs and hopes for a better future into a cycle of migration and exploitation. For health care providers, trafficking in persons is best understood as a very serious health risk, because trafficking, like other forms of violence, is associated with physical and psychological harm.

This document aims to provide practical, non-clinical guidance to help concerned health providers understand the phenomenon of human trafficking, recognize some of the health problems associated with trafficking and consider safe and appropriate approaches to providing health care for trafficked persons. It outlines the health provider's role in providing care and describes some of the limitations of his or her responsibility to assist.

- 'In Pursuit of the Southern Dream: Victims of Necessity – Assessment of the irregular movement of men from East Africa and the Horn to South Africa', 2009, International Organization for Migration.

The East and Horn of Africa has been characterized by mixed migration flow of migrants fleeing conflict, poverty, natural disasters and in search of better opportunities to improve their livelihoods. Most of the migrants from this region migrate from Ethiopia and Somalia and move through the northern routes towards Europe or southwards towards southern Africa. Prompted by the up-coming 2010 World Cup in South Africa, the study was initiated to assess and profile human trafficking and smuggling towards South Africa in search of employment and exploitation of cheap labour.

## WATER SECURITY

### News & Commentaries

- Gethin Chamberlain, 'India prays for rain as water wars break out', 12 July 2009, *The Observer*.
- 'Better water management key to tackling Afghan poverty', 7 July 2009, *UN News Service*.
- 'Camels may store answers for thirsty Africa', 25 June 2009, *WaterNews*.

- 'Upstream dams threaten Mekong', 16 June 2009, *Radio Free Asia*.
- 'World leaders link water to economy at Singapore International Water Week', 24 June 2009, *WaterNews*.
- 'Singapore taps waste water and tops water innovation', 23 June 2009, *WaterNews*.
- 'Singapore launches Changi water reclamation plant', 23 June 2009, *Bernama.com*.
- 'Tropical Singapore an oasis for water research', 21 June 2009, *Agence France-Presse*.

### **Papers & Reports**

- 'Water Figures: Turning Research Into Development', Quarterly Newsletter of the International Water Management Institute, Issue 2, 8 July 2009.

According to the latest issue of Water Figures, adapting to the impact climate changes will have on water resources and food production will be one of the world's most serious challenges over the next 50 years. As climate change poses an ever-greater threat to water systems and agriculture, flexibility in choosing from a variety of water storage systems will become an increasingly important mechanism for adaptation. Understanding how we adapt to our current state of climate variability is the key to adapting to future climates, which brings us back to the agenda of conventional water management measures but requires us to rethink them as options for adaptation.

### **Events & Announcements**

- World Water Week, Stockholm, Sweden, 16-22 August 2009.

### **Latest Publications**

- *Facing Global Environmental Change: Environmental, Human, Energy, Food, Health and Water Security Concepts*, Springer, 2009.

By H. G. Brauch, Ú. Oswald Spring, C. Mesjasz, J. Grin, P. Kameri-Mbote, N. C. Behera, B. Chourou and H. Krummenacher (eds).

This policy-focused, global and multidisciplinary security handbook on *Facing Global Environmental Change* addresses new security threats of the 21st century posed by climate change, desertification, water stress, population growth and urbanization. These security dangers and concerns lead to migration, crises and conflicts. They are on the agenda of the UN, OECD, OSCE, NATO and EU. In 100 chapters, 132 authors from 49 countries analyze the global debate on environmental, human and gender, energy, food, livelihood, health and water security concepts and policy problems. In 10 parts they discuss the context and the securitization of global environmental change and of extreme natural and societal outcomes. They suggest a new research programme to move from knowledge to action, from reactive to proactive policies and to explore the opportunities of environmental cooperation for a new peace policy.

## **TRANSNATIONAL CRIME**

### **News & Commentaries**

- 'Oil theft lubricates corruption in West Africa', 10 July 2009, UNODC.
- Kate Thomas, 'Fake pharmaceuticals a bigger threat to West Africa than drug trafficking',

10 July 2009, VOA News.

- 'Organised crime plundering West Africa', 7 July 2009, UNODC.
- 'Crimethreatens democracy, Mexico's president warns', 24 June 2009, *The New York Times*.

### **Papers & Reports**

- 'Transnational Trafficking and the Rule of Law in West Africa: A Threat Assessment', United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 7 July 2009.

Trafficking in persons, drugs, oil, cigarettes, counterfeit medicines, toxic waste and electronic waste ('e-waste') is posing a serious threat to security and development in West Africa. According to the latest UNODC report, West Africa, in the past few years, has become a hub not only for cocaine trafficking from Latin America to Europe but also for other trafficking flows. West Africa suffers from a combination of factors, such as poverty and weak governance, that make it vulnerable to organized crime. The region is also located along illicit trafficking routes and criminals are exploiting these conditions to traffic products through the region.

### **Events & Announcements**

- International Drug Policy Reform Conference, November 12-14, 2009, Albuquerque, New Mexico, U.S.A.

### **Latest Publications**

- *Transnational Organized Crime*, Routledge, May 2009.

By Frank Madsen.

With organized crime estimated to generate billions of dollars every year through illegal activities such as money laundering, smuggling of people and goods, extortion, robbery, fraud and insider trading, authorities are increasingly working together to combat this increasing threat to international security and stability.

In this book former police officer Frank Madsen provides a much needed, short and accessible introduction to transnational organized crime, explaining its history and the key current issues and clearly examining the economics and practices of crime in the era of globalization.

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### ***About Us***

***The Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies is a research centre of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.***

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