

Background to second meeting of the OECD Task Force on Charting Illicit trade (TF-CIT)

In April 2013, OECD held its first meeting of the Task force on Charting Illicit Trade (TF-CIT), which was established under the OECD High Level Risk Forum of the Public Governance Committee. The goal of the Task Force is to identify and quantify risks and harms related to illicit trade, and to analyse the mix of policies aimed at disrupting activities at the level of production, transit and consumption that generate revenues for a global illegal economy. Following the initial meeting, sub-groups were established to measure illicit trade in the following sectors: illegal drugs, alcohol, counterfeit medicines, tobacco, environmentally sensitive goods and trafficking in persons.

This second meeting will focus on the progress made by sub-groups, provide a platform for the private sector and intergovernmental organisations to present their views, and explore together how to leverage the expertise of the Task force for maximum impact through international outreach events.

Context

The ability of transnational criminal networks to conduct illicit trade in new markets and exploit governance gaps is an on-going challenge, or 'steady-state risk', for governments. To address this quickly evolving global risk, public and private sector decision makers first need a firmer grasp on the magnitude, flows and nature of its impacts on economic activities, and a clearer understanding of the economic, geographic, technological and policy conditions that drive or enable it. While gross estimates of monetary values are available for some sectors, a comprehensive and holistic effort is needed to improve data quality, enhance partnerships between the public and private sectors for data sharing, and to conceive new approaches to effective policy strategies.

Preparations

In advance of the meeting, Task Force members are invited to circulate their relevant research, or information on policies and private sector practices that have been effective in addressing illicit trade. The aim is to develop an inventory that will enable the Task Force to identify any correlations between volume or flows of illicit goods and effectiveness or gaps in effective government and private sector interventions to counter them.

Draft agenda

Afternoon Session – Wednesday, 5 March 2014 – Room CC5

14:00 Welcome

Rolf Alter, Director, OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate

Objectives of the meeting and adoption of the draft agenda

David Luna, Chair of the Task Force on Charting Illicit Trade, United States Department of State

Presentation of the draft OECD Recommendation on Governance of Critical Risks

Tina Gabbrielli, Director, Air Domain Intelligence Integration Element, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Department of Homeland Security, United States

14:30 Session 1: Public policies as countermeasures to illicit trade

This session will call upon government Task Force members to share what the primary types of illicit trade are in their countries, and explain what their administration has done to address these activities. The aim is to identify what policies have been successful, or not, and why, and in particular to scope the potential for international cooperation to reinforce policy effectiveness.

Speakers:

Mexico, Luis Eduardo Gutiérrez, tax administration authority (SAT)
 Additional countries may request to present in this session

16:00 Coffee Break

16:15 Session 2: Building public/ private partnerships against illicit trade in counterfeits

This session will focus on how different forms of illicit trade simultaneously damage the interests of the private sector and undermine the public interest and goals of governments. It will explore from this perspective suggestions for policy changes to counter the tactics of traffickers, and identify opportunities for collaborative partnerships, both between governments and with the private sector.

17:45 Wrap-up of first day

The Chair will summarize the first day and chart the discussions over the next two days.

18:00 Welcome cocktail – Restaurant des Nations (inside the OECD)

Morning Session, Thursday, 6 March 2014 – Room CC5

09:00 Welcome

The Task Force Chair will outline the objectives of the Task Force going forward.

09:15 Session 3: Overview of International organisations involved in fighting illicit trade

This session will provide an overview of research and policy efforts to counter illicit trade undertaken through international organisations. Presenters will focus on what new policies, tactics and technology have proven useful to decrease, deter or otherwise control illicit trade.

11:00 Coffee Break

11:15 Session 2: Mapping Illicit Trade: overview of Task Force progress

Speakers:

- OECD Secretariat, Synthesis paper on mapping illicit trade
- Pierre Delval WAITO International, sub-group leader 'Counterfeit medicines'
- Francis Tuffy (tbc), 'Environmentally Sensitive Goods and Wildlife'

The OECD secretariat will present a synthesis report on the work of the Task Force and its results. Two sub-group leaders will present the details of their sectoral approaches to measuring illicit trade. Discussion will focus on the feasibility and caveats of these approaches to estimating the economic impacts and other harms associated with illicit trade. Participants will be invited to comment especially on the use of proxy measures, and their applicability to different sectors.

12:30 Session 3: Tools to report, visualize and measure illicit trade

Developing tools to better monitor and measure illicit trade supports more efficient prevention and mitigation strategies and provides empirical evidence for the design of public policies. This session will present several new tools and explore conditions for access and broader development.

Speakers:

- AJ Clarke, Thermopylae Sciences and Technology, United States
- Justin Picard, Black market Watch, Switzerland

13:00 Hosted Lunch «Restaurant des Nations»

Afternoon session – Thursday 6 March 2014 – Room CC5

14:15 Session 4: Mapping Illicit Trade: overview of Task Force progress (contd) Speakers:

- Alcohol- Lance Hastings SABMiller and Paul Skehan, European spirits
- Tobacco- Vanessa Neumann, Asymmetrica

Presentations will present overviews on the current state of knowledge about different sectors of illicit trade, highlighting the economic costs and harms to governments, businesses and individuals and examining how each sector intersects with trafficking in different sectors.

Session 5: Trafficking in illegal drugs, persons and environmentally sensitive goodsocio-economic impacts and links to transnational organized crime Speakers:

- Illegal drugs, John Picarelli, United States Department of Justice
- Trafficking in persons, Kristiina Kangaspunta, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- Environmentally Sensitive Goods- Jeannie Cameron, JCIC- and Gretchen Peters (tbc), Booz, Allen, Hamilton

Presentations will provide overviews on the current state of knowledge about different sectors of trafficking in illegal goods, highlighting the economic costs and harms to governments, businesses and individuals and how each sector intersects with trafficking in different sectors.

17:15 Session 6: Cross-cutting issues related to illicit trade

Speakers:

- Janos Bertok, OECD Public Governance Directorate, 'The Nexus between corruption and trafficking in persons'
- Alessandra Fontanna, OECD Development Cooperation Directorate, 'Measuring OECD Responses to Illicit Financial Flows'
 In this session the OECD secretariat will present reports focusing on the measures that OECD countries have taken to counter corruption and outlining how it enables trafficking in persons. OECD will also present its recent report on measuring responses illicit financial flows from developing countries.

18:00 Close of second day

The Task Force Chair will summarize the first day.

Morning session – Friday 7 March 2014 – Room CC5

9:15 Welcome

The Task Force Chair will outline the objectives of the Task Force going forward.

9:30 Session 7: Exploring Future sectors of Illicit Trade

This session will explore recent developments and trends in illicit trade that foretell shifts in the strategies of criminal syndicates in their search for illicit profits. The aim of highlighting these changes is to consider what new partnerships and public policies will be needed to combat the new forms of illicit trade.

10:30 Coffee break

10:45 Session 8: Advancing the TF-CIT agenda in 2014: Quantifying counterfeits

In this session participants will consider the scope of a broader study on the measurement of counterfeit products. To maximize the impact of this study Task Force members will be invited to provide input on how this study can address the nexus between counterfeiting and transnational organized crime as well as the new forms of illicit trade discussed in roundtable 1.

12:00 Session 9: TF-CIT Regional dialogues

Achievement of the Task Force's goals depends on the impact of its outputs on actions by governments and businesses. Countries and organisations are invited to host 'Regional Dialogues' to build cross-sectoral public/private partnerships to counter illicit trade. This session will focus on defining one or more draft agendas for such regional dialogues, and invite Task Force members to volunteer to contribute to these future events.

13:00 Close of meeting

