

**Memorandum of Understanding  
between**

**The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)  
and**

**The United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP)**

**I. BACKGROUND**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to set up the cooperation between the EMCDDA and UNDCP in consistency with the principles of the United Nations Charter and as foreseen for the international organizations in Article 12 of the Council Regulation setting up the EMCDDA (EEC Regulation 302/93 of 8 February 1993: OJ No L 36/1-8; 12.2.93).

Cooperation between the two agencies shall be based on the principles of appropriateness, reciprocity and work sharing based on complementarity.

UNDCP has the responsibility for coordinating and providing effective leadership for UN drug control activities and is the main focus for concerted international action to tackle the global drug problem.

One of the UNDCP's main functions is to ensure greater unity of purpose and coherence of action in drug control by the international community, including coordination, complementarity and non-duplication across the UN System.

Three of the six UNDCP's priority objectives aim at anticipating phenomena which could create or aggravate illicit drug production, trafficking and abuse and mobilizing and supporting remedial measures in a timely fashion; being a worldwide centre of expertise and repository of information by collecting, analyzing and disseminating data, information and experience in all fields of drug control; and providing technical assistance through expertise and training to help governments in setting up adequate drug control structures and to elaborate comprehensive national and regional drug control strategies and programmes.

The EMCDDA's overall task is to produce objective, reliable and comparable information at European level concerning drugs and drug addiction and their consequences and to help provide the European Community and its Member States with an overall view of the drug and drug addiction situation when, in their respective areas of competence, they take measures or decide on action (Article 1 of the EEC Regulation).

The EMCDDA has the responsibility of establishing and coordinating in cooperation with European Union Member States, a European Network on Drugs and Drug Addiction (REITOX); the network will make use of, *inter alia*, an autonomous computer system linking the national drug information networks, the specialized centres in Member States and the information systems of the international or European organizations or bodies cooperating with the Centre (Article 5 of the EEC Regulation).

The EMCDDA will promote the incorporation of data on drugs and drug addiction gathered in the Member States or emanating from the Community into international monitoring and drug control programmes, particularly those established by the United Nations organizations and its specialized agencies.

## II. OBJECTIVES

Without prejudice to European Union Member States and European Community obligations under the provisions of the United Nations Conventions, the EMCDDA and UNDCP shall cooperate to improve the collection and analysis of data, to develop and promote data comparison methods and to intensify the dissemination of information. They shall also coordinate their efforts to achieve the best use of available information and to ensure the most effective utilization of their resources to this end.

Without prejudice to relations which the European Commission may maintain pursuant to Article 229 of the European Community Treaty, UNDCP and EMCDDA shall consult regularly and keep each other informed of any relevant issues in the field of drug demand reduction, epidemiology and other matters of common interest for the purpose of achieving their respective objectives, implementing their respective mandates and coordinating their respective activities.

Subject to such restrictions and arrangements as may be considered necessary by UNDCP or the EMCDDA to preserve the confidential nature of certain information and documents, full and prompt exchange of information and documents concerning matters of common interest shall be made between them.



UNDCP and EMCDDA may seek the other's technical expertise and cooperation in the interest of their respective activities and may conclude, as required, specific agreements to this purpose.

UNDCP and EMCDDA shall also collaborate in identifying appropriate consultants and experts to implement joint programmes and to assist technical programmes undertaken by either organization.

UNDCP and the EMCDDA shall consult each other to ensure the greatest possible degree of coordination in regard to the organization of meetings and missions of technical experts concerning questions in which both Parties have an interest.

### III. WORKING RELATIONSHIP

The EMCDDA and UNDCP will each designate a member of their staff for the maintenance of close, direct and continuing contacts with a view to ensuring the implementation of the provisions of the present Memorandum of Understanding.

These regular working contacts shall be complemented by coordination review meetings between senior officials of the two Organizations, at a frequency established by them.

Within their legal framework, the Parties shall invite each other to attend meetings convened under their respective auspices and which consider matters in which the other Party has an interest or technical competence.

### IV. WORK PROGRAMMES

Cooperation between the EMCDDA and UNDCP at the strategic level shall be undertaken with reference to each party's respective multi-annual work programmes.

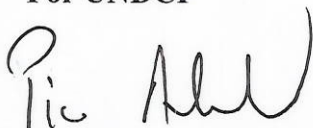
The implementation of specific work projects shall be subject to the annual work programme of each party approved by the policy-making bodies of the parties and to the availability of adequate resources to be determined for each activity by UNDCP and the EMCDDA in accordance with their respective relevant regulations and rules.

**V. DECISION-MAKING**

As far as possible decisions shall be taken at an operational level between the contact points referred to in Section III. Where necessary, decisions shall be referred to the Executive Director of UNDCP and the Executive Director of the EMCDDA.

The present Memorandum of Understanding shall take effect upon signature by both Parties and shall remain in force unless terminated by mutual consent or by either Party giving six months' written notice of termination to the other Party. Its terms shall be reviewed in 2000.

For UNDCP

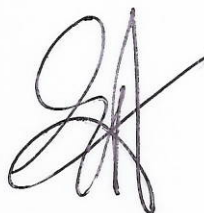


**Pino Arlacchi**  
Executive Director

13. MAR. 1998

Date:.....

For EMCDDA



**Georges Estievenart**  
Executive Director

13. MAR. 1998

Date:.....