

# Global Agenda Council on Illicit Trade & Organized Crime 2012-2014



## Understanding/Context

Fuelled by the same forces that have expanded trade, communication and information exchange worldwide, illicit trade and criminal syndicates undermine the competitiveness of companies and the security of nations and communities. Organized crime preys on every aspect of society, with football, banking secrecy and endangered species being its most high-profile victims in the past year. Criminal networks have expanded into multi-billion dollar syndicates, harnessing the illicit trade of people, goods, drugs, money, intellectual property and environmental resources. Estimates of the shadow economy place the scale of the issue at US\$ 650 billion, or a staggering US\$ 2 trillion including money laundering.

## Shaping the Agenda

To raise awareness on the issues of illicit trade and organized crime, the Council is creating a narrative to inform global communities on why it matters to combat illicit trade and organized crime. The Council will share the information at the Annual Meeting 2014 in Davos-Klosters.

The Council is also addressing a fundamental weakness in policy-making and collaboration in this field: the lack of good data and information on the impact of organized crime and illicit trade. Policies and strategies to combat organized crime and illicit trade may miss the mark without reliable, replicable and sound data on the scale and nature of the problem. To help improve the measurement of illicit trade, the Council has the support of key international agencies that have agreed to provide data and lend resources to the project. The Council will identify targeted resources and funding to begin the methodology exercise and collect data on corruption, intellectual property rights crimes, counterfeits,

environment crime, human trafficking and other illicit trade. Following this initial exercise, the Council would like to expand its methodology project to combat other areas of illicit trade in the 2014-2016 term, including illicit finance, narcotics and arms.

The development of a multistakeholder approach that engages the private sector, governments and civil society is essential to enforce regulatory frameworks, monitor supply chains and raise awareness. The objective is to present the findings of the data project and launch a public-private partnership for dialogue at the Annual Meeting in Davos-Klosters in 2015. In parallel, the Council is working to provide a platform to foster multistakeholder collaboration and awareness of human trafficking specifically. It will examine the connections between the illegal movement of people, and provide a safe place for dialogue for businesses that want to cooperate on the issue. The Council will also publish a white paper on human trafficking.

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## Contact Information

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