

AN APPRAISAL OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE EXISTING THEORIES AND BEST PRACTICES IN DEVISING EFFECTIVE DRUG TRAFFICKING CONTROL MECHANISMS IN TANZANIA

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ABSTRACT

Drug trafficking is an illicit business that involves various players including wealthier and the poor people. The reason for involvement of the traffickers in this business is much influenced by diverging interests or motives; hence control or intervention measures cannot be uniform. There are various theories which help to understand why people engage in the illicit drug business. Governments need to devise and implement drug control mechanisms taking into account the nature of drug network, available theories, and best practices from other countries. This article critically assesses the contribution of the theories and best practices in designing effective drug trafficking control mechanisms in Tanzania. The article is purely descriptive and is based on doctrinal sources.

DRUG TRAFFICKING AS A GLOBAL PHENOMENON

Ideally, drug trafficking is a problem which affects all the states in the world. During the 2019 reporting period, it is reported that about 200 million people (4% of the global population) used cannabis,ⁱ 20 million people (0.4 of global population) used cocaine and around 62 million people (1.2% of global population) used opioids for non-medical purposes.ⁱⁱ The increasing rate of drug use in the world is associated with COVID 19 due to larger shipment size, increased use of private aircrafts, waterway routes, and use of internet –based networks to deliver drugs to consumers.ⁱⁱⁱ Every continent has exhibited an increase in drug trafficking incidence. During the 2018 reporting period about 60 million people from 15-64 years were reported to have used drug in Africa. This number is expected to rise by 40 percent by 2030.^{iv} Kenya, Nigeria and some other Western and Northern African countries have high incidences of drug use.^v

Whereas about 42 million people aged 15-64 used drugs in Europe, the number which is likely to decrease to 39 million people by 2030,^{vi} North America marked 66 million people drug users, a number which could rise to 68 million people by 2030.^{vii} Similarly, Asia reported 80 million drug users in the same period, a number which is expected to rise to 83 million people by 2030.

The data above implies that Africa, Asia, and North America are expected to experience an increase in drug trafficking incidences; hence requiring immediate intervention measures by states and non-state actors. The situation is not different among EAC countries, particularly Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda where drug trafficking incidences has been reported in the major cities and in the coastal regions.^{viii} The 2017 Report showed that Kenya's provinces with high rates of drug trafficking incidence included the Coast Province with 101 incidents, Nairobi with 81 incidences and Central Province with 14 incidents.^{ix} Similarly, Tanzania's drug trafficking incidences were reported in Dar es Salaam (63 incidences), Kilimanjaro (11 incidences) and Arusha (9 incidences). Uganda's record is not different whereby Central Region Province reported 65 incidents, Western province 10 incidences, and Northern Province with 6 events.^x The above statistical information signifies that most states continue facing the problem of drug trafficking. Thus, there is a need to strengthen the laws and institutions in order to minimize or reduce drug trafficking for the best interest of the current and future generation.

NATURE OF DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ITS NETWORK

Drug trafficking is a system or chain in which prohibited drugs are moved from manufacturers, growers, traffickers, wholesalers or middlemen (retailers) to drug users. Basically, drug traffickers operate their illegal business like any other genuine business with specified networks, products, players and markets. Generally trading in drug trafficking requires one to possess knowledge and skills on how to transact without being detected by the state authorities. Traffickers need to have reliable connection, trusted associates, and a network of customers who purchase and use the product on regular basis.^{xi} This means that drug trafficking is done along defined social networks in which several persons (natural and legal) engage in an illicit drugs as a commercial activity for profit.

Basically, drug trafficking involves high level traffickers who purchase illicit drugs and distribute them to wholesalers and finally to retailers at a profit. Given its ability to generate super profits but also face risk of being arrested by the state organs, drug trafficking is usually done in collaboration with politicians, members of the security forces, the judiciary, clergymen and traditional leaders.^{xii} This is what makes countering drug trafficking to be more complicated since it involves group of businessmen, political leaders and some scrupulous military officers who acquire high incomes and power from drug trafficking. However, the lower level traffickers including street level dealers who are subjected to high risks make little money or no money at all.^{xiii}

By nature drug trafficking is organized along networks whereby criminal syndicate comprising of high level traffickers is established at the top of the hierarchy. This group comprising of businessmen (manufacturers and distributors) possess money and power to do anything they want, including ability to influence the legal and policy decision making fora. They are usually organized and have established systems of information sharing. The middle group comprising of retailers is less organized as they work independently, and the lower groups comprising of street vendors who deliver drugs to the consumers are not organized. This is why they are easily identifiable by the police, prosecuted and convicted for drug trafficking. It can thus be argued that beneficiaries of drug trafficking are not subjected to any risks whereas the poor street vendors and drug users are exposed to legal risks.

The above business relationship makes control of drug trafficking more difficult because drug related offences do not have a victim per se. The drug business is done by consenting buyers

and consenting sellers; hence there can't be a complainant to inform the police about the incidence. Therefore, it is crucial for enforcement organ to understand key players of drug business, the social networks used to perfect the transaction and the economic motive behind involvement by each perpetrator. Without proper planning, it is impossible to relinquish the problem of drug use which affects the lives of consumers and the economies of states. The following section addresses the effects of drug trafficking to the users, community, and the nation at large.

IMPACTS OF DRUG TRAFFICKING

Drug trafficking is the crime which benefits drug traffickers at the detriment of drug users, family members and the nation at large. On one hand, use of drugs contributes to mental health disorders, HIV infection, liver cancer and cirrhosis associated with hepatitis C and finally leads to untimely death. Basically, use of heroin and other opiates, cocaine, barbiturates and amphetamine-type stimulants, contribute to the death of drug users. The Global Burden of Disease Study of 2017 shows that in the year 2017 there were 585,000 deaths and 42 million years of healthy life was lost due to use of drugs.^{xiv}

Nevertheless, use of drugs has increased number of road crashes due to violation of drink and driving laws. It is estimated that a driver under influence of drugs such as cannabis, cocaine, opioids, is at risk of death three times higher than an ordinary person.^{xv} Similarly, use of illicit drugs particularly use of stimulants has led to sexual transmission of HIV because of inconsistent use of condoms and prostitution.^{xvi} Apart from health problems, there are linkages between drug trafficking, violence and extremism. As explained earlier, drug trafficking networks involves high government leaders and military officers; hence conflicts may arise as struggle for power among participants, or competition for access to routes and product sometimes may lead to political instabilities. For example, it is reported that a series of assassinations and arrests in Guinea-Bissau between 2009 and 2010 involving the army chief of staff and the president were related with struggles over drug trafficking control.^{xvii} Similarly, civil wars, insurgency operations, and military coup in the West African countries are associated with drug trafficking criminal networks which threaten political stability in the region.

Furthermore, drug trafficking affects production process at individual, family and national levels. An individual who becomes a drug addict cannot participate in the development process because the body weakens; hence being susceptible to physical and mental disorders. Such person becomes dependent to the family members and excessively utilizes family resources for treatment. On the other hand, drug addicts are usually unable to provide essential needs to the children including food, shelter, and clothing, and education, mental and psychological support leading to child neglect and exposure to abuse .^{xviii}. The effect of the above on the economic development of the state cannot be overemphasized. The state budget that could have been used to invest in development projects is now used to provide medical care and treatment to drug victims. This increases the burden on the state funding for health services; hence disrupts economic progress.

Similarly, use of drugs has impact on education system because it contributes to school delinquency and school dropout of children who use or sell drugs. Basically, school children who use drugs often suffer from short-term memory and damage of other intellectual faculties, weakened tracking ability in sensory and perceptual functions, anxiety with acquiring drugs, adverse emotional in social development. The reduced intellectual efficiency leads to poor academic performance and decrease in self-esteem, and ultimately leading to multiple uses of drugs.

On the other hand, drug business has adverse effect on environmental conservation as it involves clearing of forests, processing of harvested plants into drugs and the use of environmentally dangerous chemicals without taking necessary precautions. Similarly drug use affects the society's morality due to exposure of youths to bad behaviours such as prostitution and sodomization which are common to drug users. Therefore, it is important that Tanzania and other states take serious legal measures to eliminate the problem of drug trafficking for sustainable development of the people.

THEORIES GOVERNING DRUG TRAFFICKING AND THEIR RELEVANCE IN DESIGNING DRUG TRAFFICKING LEGISLATIONS

Drug trafficking is one of the lucrative business in the world. It is estimated that between 426USD and 652USD is generated from drug trafficking. This raises one critical question: Why does drug trafficking continue to grow despite its criminalization by most states and the

international community? The answers to this question rests on theories governing drug trafficking. Basically, there are four theories which best explain drug trafficking phenomenon, namely: network theory, social learning theory, strain/anomie theory and rational choice theory.

The network theory concern analysis of how drug trafficking takes place in an illicit market. Basically, drug trafficking networks are linked to criminal associations, friendships, ethnicity, or business contacts that operate on confidentiality basis.^{xix} Essentially, drug dealing involves movement of drugs from manufacturers or growers through distributors to end users in a network. A feature of a network is that it is an assemblage of points linked in pairs by line no matter how large or complicated it becomes. It captures only very basic relational patterns among the individual components of a whole system. This means there is a safe link between one person and another along the drug chain.

With the development of science and technology, drug trafficking business is done on safer grounds since there is no physical contact between the buyer and the seller. This reduces legal risks and promotes active participation by each player since everyone is guaranteed of personal security. By enlarge, the network limit flow of information; hence protecting participants above and below in the distribution system. That is why arresting of one of the participants does not jeopardize or affect the drug business. Thus, fighting drug business would require the state to study and understand all criminal networks available domestically and globally. Since networks involve participants from various countries, it is necessary for states to join efforts in combating drug trafficking. One country cannot fight drug trafficking network alone as participants to this illegal business come from different countries; hence a need for international cooperation.

On the other hand, a social learning theory provides that criminal contacts, skills and opportunities are obtained through interaction with others. This theory developed by B.F Skinner and Albert Bandura insist on the role of observation towards learning behaviour of drug dealers (known as role models). Principally, behaviour develops through four processes: attention to what is done, retention of what is done, reproduction and finally motivation. Basically, the social learning theory works on three assumptions: (i) people learn through observation (ii) reinforcement and punishments have indirect effect on behaviour and learning and (iii) learning does not necessarily lead to change.^{xx} From practical point of view, this theory

suggests that aggressiveness in the drug business can be transferred through observing what one's role model is doing and then implement accordingly.

The social learning theory is relevant to drug trafficking in the sense that every participant in the drug business is likely to be the role model to another person with interest in the business. Generally, a person develops an interest in the drug business if he witnesses how business is done and the way it affects participants. For example, if a trafficker is making a lot of money and supports the family and other members, it is possible that children of that particular trafficker would develop an interest and participate in the business in the near future. Similarly, a person who witnesses close family member or relative getting arrested, beaten, prosecuted and convicted due to drug trafficking, it is possible that he or she may refrain from doing the same in the future. In this case reinforcement and punishment partly influence behaviour of a person.

The above suggests that one would imitate behaviour that he or she witnesses depending on what their role models face in life. This is what Albert Mandula has called 'learning by direct experience' and 'learning through modelling.'^{xxi} Applying the theory to drug trafficking, it can be argued that drug trafficking business is continuing to develop from one generation to another because skills and knowledge associated with drug trafficking pass from one trafficker to the other. To this type of participants, a state must devise stern intervention measures in order to deter them from engaging in drug trafficking business, including long term imprisonment, death penalty (where appropriate); payment of fines and confiscation of proceeds of crime (properties).

Thirdly, strain/anomie theory provides that certain groups of people especially those in the lower class consider crime as alternative means for obtaining money. This theory applies to persons that act as middlemen for transportation of drugs to ultimate consumers. Since most of these participants are not employed in the formal sectors, they opt to drug trafficking business as the means to survive. Hence, initial motive for engaging in drug trafficking is to make more money which could not be acquired through legitimate means. Accordingly, every trafficker engages in this business with such a high level of morality so as to maximize profit.^{xxii} Thus, preventing people in this group from engaging in drug trafficking, a state needs to refrain from imposing long term imprisonment or other harsh penalties as a mechanism to punish the offenders, who appear to be youths. Instead, states ought to impose alternative punishments

and encourage them to participate in development activities. This may involve providing them with alternative sources of income, including provision of soft loans.

Further, states should provide evidence-based drug education based on life skills that offer personal, social, resistance and communication skills, as well as information about the short-term effects of drugs through a series of sessions offered by trained personnel. These measures should also be supplemented by family strengthening programs such as skills training on parent supportiveness of children, parent-child communication, and parental involvement in monitoring and supervision of children. Moreover, these programs should be supported with other community prevention programs reaching populations in multiple settings including schools, clubs, faith based organizations and the media. This would be helpful in dissemination of information to all members of the community concerning risk factors and protective measures.

The last but not least is the Rational Choice Theory which is built on the idea that individuals have preferences from which they make their own personal choices. Ideally, preferences denote positive or negative evaluations individuals attach to possible outcomes of their actions. Principally, rational choice theory proceeds on three assumptions: individuals have selfish preferences; individuals maximize their own utility and act independently based on full information.^{xxiii} It means that people decide to engage in drug trafficking after critically analyzing the available benefits and risks. Where one sees a business opportunity in drug trafficking, then they would take the opportunity, invest money, and time in expectation of reward.

Similarly, one may refrain from engaging in drug business after looking at the negative side of the business, including penal sanctions.^{xxiv} For example, in countries where drug trafficking is penalized by death there are few criminal incidences related to drugs compared to countries with lesser sanctions. This means to deter commission of drug trafficking, a state may impose stricter penal sanctions which would act as a means to discourage people from engaging in drugs. Thus, designing an effective drug control legislation requires critical appreciation of theories governing drug trafficking which tend to describe motive and people likely to engage in drug trafficking. The following section underlines experience from other countries that have been able to combat the problem of drug trafficking, which may be helpful in Tanzania.

EXPERIENCE FROM OTHER JURISDICTIONS

As explained earlier, drug trafficking is a global problem. However, some countries have been able to reduce drug trafficking incidences in and out their territorial boundaries. A first good case scenario is Cuba which has continued to implement a ‘zero tolerance policy’ against drug trafficking. Since 1950s to date Cuba has continued to fight for a drug-free world by continuing an anti-drug strategy that combines prevention, treatment, confrontation, and collaboration. It has signed forty (40) bilateral counter-narcotics agreement, ratified UN conventions relating to money laundering and it is party to UN drug control conventions. Further, it has tough drug laws by any standard. For example, Articles 190 (1) 191, 192(1) and 193 of Cuba’s 1987 Penal Code punishes “production, sale, demand, trafficking, distribution, and possession of illicit drugs, narcotics, psychotropic substances, and others of similar effects. The individuals who are convicted of international drug trafficking would be sentenced from 15 to 30 years of incarceration and even death.

Domestic cultivation, production, and transit of illicit drugs are punishable between four and 20 years of prison, depending on the quantity, through thresholds are not specified. Low quantity possession of cocaine for personal use is punishable by one to three years, of cannabis from six months to two years, and of other psychotropic substances from three months to one year. Furthermore, Cuba is a member of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), the body charged with organizing, negotiating, and applying international drug control resolutions. Similarly, Cuba has a special department known as LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program) whose goal is to reduce harm caused by drug use and drug related incarceration by diverting low level, non-violent drug offenders from criminal justice system to community based treatment and support such as access to housing, healthcare, job training, drug addiction treatment and mental health support. This is helpful in transforming an offender into a responsible citizen in the society.

On the other hand, Cuba has an effective drug use prevention systems aligned with international standards which require cross sectoral coordination by a strong leading agency that implement evidence-based interventions which target vulnerable population in various set up. The National Drug Commission (NDC) created in 1989 is an interagency coordinating body in Cuba on drug use prevention and rehabilitation. Basically, NDC is comprised of the following ministries: Justice, Internal Affairs, General Customs of the Republic; General Prosecutor of

the Republic; Foreign Affairs, Higher Education, Public Health and Ministry of Education. *The NDC oversees the implementation of the National Integrated drug Use Prevention Plan of 1999. This means all main stakeholders in the drug prevention take active role in implementing the policies and plans, including provision of treatment to all drug addicts.*

Furthermore, the Ministry of Health through its Operative Group of Mental Health and Addiction (GOSMA) implements National Substance Abuse Program in provinces and municipalities by providing information, counseling and psychological support for drug users and their families.^{xxv} Cuba has about 113 community mental health centres and various drug addiction treatment clinics which require drug addicts to sign therapeutic contracts that require them to remain drug free as a condition for treatment. Generally, there is wide community policing and high public trust in the police institutions which promotes collaboration between the people and various state organs.

Similarly, China has taken significant steps towards prevention and control of drug trafficking. Generally, smuggling, trafficking, transporting, or making 50 grams of heroin or more is punishable by 15 years in jail, life imprisonment or the death by shooting as the case may be. The China National Narcotics Control Commission was able to arrest about 1,268 foreign drug traffickers in the year 2018. The incidences appear to be increasing due to increase of online drug sales and package deliveries, whereby the Government was able to seize 67.9 tons of drugs and had 109,600 drug-related cases in the year 2017/2018, arresting a total of 137,400 suspects. Article 347 of the Criminal Code provides for an offence no matter how many drugs one person smuggles, traffics, carries, and/or manufactures in China. This means any person who smuggles, transports or manufactures narcotic drugs in China regardless of the quantity will be criminally liable.

However, in judicial practice the court usually sentence people to death to any person who commits above said crimes to the amount of over 1 kilogram. This is because there are so many criminals dealing with drugs; hence the court would convict many people to death if it strictly complied with standard of 50 grams. Further, where one person commits above said crimes to the amount of less than 10 grams, he shall be sentenced to a period not exceeding seven years depending on the situation of the case; but if convicted of trafficking drugs exceeding 10 grams but less than 50 grams, he shall be sentenced to a period exceeding 7 years to 15 years. Thus, China has the most stringent law governing drug trafficking which contains capital punishment, including life imprisonment, death by shooting and fines. This has helped very much in

detering people from neighbouring countries and other foreign countries from trafficking drugs in China.

Similarly, Singapore has similar law which imposes death penalty for anyone convicted of trafficking more than 15g of heroin contrary to the Misuse of Drugs Act.^{xxvi} Drug trafficking, like other crimes such as murder, terrorism, and the possession of unauthorized firearms, ammunition or explosives are punishable by death. Initially, drug trafficking offence would be committed even when the offender was not aware of the fact that he is misusing drugs. A mandatory death penalty was based on the amount of drugs in possession by the offender, whereby the greater the amount of drugs being trafficked the greater is the culpability of the offender and the harm caused to the community. Following mandatory death penalty, various international organizations and human rights defenders petitioned for amendment of the law in order to impose lesser sentence to those offenders who did not intend to commit an offence. Despite critics, the contribution of death penalty towards maximum deterrence of commission of drug trafficking cannot be overemphasized.^{xxvii}

Nevertheless, in the year 2012 the Misuse of Drugs Act was revised to remove the mandatory death penalty in certain cases of drug trafficking and murder cases where there were no intentions to kill. Sections 17 and 18 of the Misuse of Drugs Act provides for presumption of trafficking, presumption of possession and knowledge of controlled drugs which if proved may lead to conviction by the court. The Act imposes imprisonment for a term of not less than 6 months and not more than 30 years if a person violates provision of section 33 of the Misuse of Drugs Act. More importantly, s.33B of the Misuse of Drugs Act vests discretionary powers to the court not to impose death penalty under certain circumstances, especially when culpability of the offender is not so high.

For example, when the involvement of the offender is restricted to transporting, sending or delivering a controlled drug; offering to transport, send or deliver a controlled drug; or where the offender assists the Central Narcotics Bureau in disrupting drug trafficking activities within or outside Singapore; or where the offender was suffering from such abnormality of mind. Upon successful proof of the above factors on the balance of probabilities, the court may sentence the offender to life imprisonment and 15 strokes. This is a good practice which allows the trial judge or magistrate to assess the *mens rea* of the offender and mitigating factors in the sentencing process.

On the other hand, Malaysia law provide for death penalty for the offence of drug trafficking under the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952. It is reported that since Independence in 1957, half of the 469 executions in Malaysia are linked to drug trafficking. In 2018, Amnesty International reported that 136 out of 195 death penalty sentences imposed related to drug trafficking.^{xxviii} This is considered to be contravention of Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights ('ICCPR'). Moreover, Malaysia is one of the 35 countries in the world that imposes death penalty for drug offences. Basically, trafficking of drugs contrary to s.39B of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952 attracts mandatory death penalty, whereas trafficking in dangerous drugs where prosecutorial assistance is provided attracts death penalty subject to discretionary powers of the court. Despite challenge of the mandatory death penalty, the Court of Appeal upheld the constitutional validity of the mandatory death sentence in the case of *Christin Nirmal vs. Public Prosecutor*.^{xxix}

It could be argued that a good numbers of countries in South East Asia and America have been able to reduce the problem of drug trafficking in their territories by imposing death penalty to drug traffickers. This means intentional drug trafficking is one of the capital offences punishable by death. This is expected to create maximum deterrence to drug trafficking. Moreover, scholars argue that drug trafficking is not one of the serious crimes that reasonably attract death penalty under international law. Principally, the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966 imposes an obligation on states to abolish death penalty in their laws. However, all states that still execute offenders for capital offences have not ratified this important protocol; hence not bound by it.

Conversely, states are encouraged to regard drug trafficking as a public health issue and not a criminal matter; hence adopt prevention systems such as public education, compulsory treatment, and counseling of drug addicts. A good example of countries that have been successful in reducing drug trafficking problem through prevention and treatment systems include Portugal, Germany, and Netherlands.^{xxx} Portugal further imposes administrative penalties such as suspension of business or professional licenses, ban on visiting some places, and revocation of gun licenses. Generally, these three states have promoted treatment of drug users who voluntarily submit themselves for treatment or through court order. However, cultivation of prohibited drugs is still an offence in those countries. Tanzania, being a democratic state should see to it that drug trafficking is curbed in a way that respects right to

life of offenders. The following section presents set of measures that can be taken into account in devising anti-drug trafficking mechanisms in Tanzania.

CONCLUSIVE REMARKS

Drug trafficking is one of the organized transboundary crime which has irreversible effects on the life of the user and the nation at large. There are various reasons as to why people engage in drug trafficking business. While traffickers at the top and the middle levels acquire wealth from drug trafficking, the middlemen who actually deliver drugs to consumers are apparently poor, get little money and are highly exposed to risk. This suggests that the law should provide intervention mechanisms which are appropriate to the offender's act and state of mind. Similarly, the laws should be progressive enough to prevent and punish offenders in a way that regards drug trafficking as a public health concern. This could be realized if the following measures are taken into account.

First, the government should consider of imposing death penalty or life imprisonment to any person who traffics into the country drugs exceeding 15 grams. The discretion to impose death penalty should be vested into the trial judge after consideration of the evidence tendered in court and the aggravating factors. Further, the court should be able to order payment of fine and confiscation of proceeds of crimes. Such punitive measures are expected to discourage commission of drug trafficking offence in Tanzania. Secondly, the government should strengthen the existing Drugs Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) by establishing regional and district offices. This implies that the Authority should be established in all Local Government Authorities so as to ensure effective administration of the drug trafficking enforcement laws. The Authority should also comprise of non-state actors such as Civil Society Organizations, professional associations, religious institutions and other development partners. Furthermore, the Authority must be provided with adequate human resources for implementation of the laws and policies.

Thirdly, the Government should see to it that persons found in possession of drugs for personal use or otherwise have already been drug addicts, are convicted accordingly but sentenced to community service, subject to attending compulsory treatment and counseling. As discussed earlier, prevention measures such as provision of education, counseling, and life skills studies is important in curbing the problem of drugs in the society. Thus, rehabilitation centres should

be established in every district and be financed from *inter alia* money confiscated as proceeds of crime and budget allocated by the Parliament. Alternatively, the Government may allocate budget to the existing Drug Control Fund established under s.56 of the Drug Control and Enforcement Act for purposes of financing prevention strategies. It is always believed that prevention is better than cure. It is high time that the Government invest designs and implements comprehensive prevention strategies.

Fourth, the Government of Tanzania must adopt the Drug Trafficking Control Policy which clearly stipulates the magnitude of drug trafficking problem in Tanzania, the policy objectives, intervention strategies, actions to be taken, performance indicators, relevant stakeholders and coordination framework of drug trafficking control. To date, Tanzania does not have specific policy governing drug trafficking. This means there is no instrument governing drug control in the respective Ministry, except the strategic plan. Usually, the law must be framed from the policy; hence it is high time that the Government of Tanzania adopt the policy which would define specific national agenda on drug control.

Finally, the Government should develop an integrated community based prevention, treatment and recovery plans. As earlier explained criminalization of drug trafficking is not effective in combating the problem of drugs. The UNODC International Standards on Drug Use Prevention calls upon states to devise mechanisms for involvement of the people in designing, planning, and implementation of evidence-based prevention systems. This would promote public ownership of the anti-drug trafficking prevention and control processes at the family, school, community, workplace, and ministerial levels. A holistic and inclusive approach on combating drug trafficking should be taken whereby both state and non-state actors participate in implementation of drug prevention mechanisms. Principally, involvement of the people in the decision making process improves quality of decision, promotes accountability and transparency, ensures equal distribution of resources and promotes public acceptability of projects and plans.

ENDNOTES

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- ^v See <https://wdr.unidoc.org/wdr2020/>
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