

Among the above countries, 11 needed:

4. Assessment in training and research
5. Innovative crime prevention initiatives

Among the same countries, 10 have expressed the need to:

6. Elaborating training modules
7. Disseminating relevant Conventions, including specific UN Norms and Standards
8. Initiating African Conventions
9. Establishing networks, and
10. Dissemination of best and promising practises

Lastly, 9 of them expressed their concern about:

11. Harmonisation of laws

1.2 Programme of Action

The expressed needs by Member States led UNAFRI to refocus its Medium Term Strategy and Plan of Action 2002 – 2006 on a Programme of Action clustered around (1) training, (2) sensitisation campaigns and (3) strengthening mechanisms for subregional cooperation. UNAFRI's Programme of Action relates largely to the more detailed Programme of Action of UNODC (with 7 clusters of action), endorsed by Member States (See UNODC, 2005). The assistance UNAFRI offers to Member States aims, inter alia, at implementing the United Nations Crime Programme in the Member States, taking into consideration the socio-cultural realities of the region.

Cluster I: Training

- 1.1. Training of senior officers
- 1.2. Elaborating training modules
- 1.3. Assessment in training and research
- 1.4. Innovative crime prevention initiatives
- 1.5. Dissemination of best and promising practices (an item related to all three clusters).

Cluster II: Sensitisation campaigns

- 2.1. Public awareness about UN Conventions (and standards)

Cluster III: Cooperation

- 3.1 Active cooperation with neighbouring countries
- 3.2. Dissemination of relevant Conventions
- 3.3. Initiating African Conventions
- 3.4. Establishing of networks, and
- 3.5. Harmonisation of laws

It is worth noting that training activities are a means to (1) developing the capacity of the Criminal Justice System personnel; (2) assisting Member States internalise and implement UN Conventions and Standards; in so doing (3) sensitising the concerned officials and the public; and (4) strengthening cooperation among countries, which should lead to harmonising regional legislations.

Different UNAFRI's activities in Member States cover mainly three domains of action. This is to say that, in response to the needs expressed by Member States, the offered activity should cover the aspects of training, sensitisation and cooperation with other countries (See Diagram 1 below).

