UNODC’s Country programme for Nigeria addresses drug and crime control priorities and focuses on partnerships with key stakeholders. CONIG’s expanding programme portfolio centers around judicial and prison reform, anti-corruption, drug control and the fight against other transnational organized crime. It also aims at better services for victims of human trafficking, drug abusers, and HIV-AIDS risk groups. UNODC Nigeria is located at Old Central Bank of Nigeria, Prefab 5, P.M.B. 2851, Garki, Abuja.

We welcome comments and feedback. Please contact CONIG.Newsletter@unodc.org

**ANTI – CORRUPTION**

**Phase 2 of Support to the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) Launched**

According to the BPP, Nigeria has lost several hundred billion Naira over the last decade, due to rampant abuse of procedures for the award of public contracts, inflation of contracts, lack of transparency, lack of competence-based evaluation, and lack of merit, which are the fundamental criteria for the awarding of public contract. This fact has made urgent reform of the procurement system in Nigeria an imperative of the BPP, which is the national institution charged with the mandate to ensure efficient and integrity-based monitoring of the implementation of all Federal Government capital projects. In September 2010, BPP tasked UNODC through its Information and Technology Service (ITS) to provide technical solution to the current and foreseen future needs of the Bureau by updating, modernizing and elaborating on instruments related to public procurement. Phase I of the project entailed the deployment of a distributed Information Technology and Data Communications Infrastructure, based on the ICT Infrastructure and Data Centre Model (goIDM), comprising of (i) a Data Centre, Local Area Networks (LAN), PCs, Internet data connectivity; and a collaborative tool comprising of email, corporate portal, and administrative applications; (ii) a website; and (iii) end-user IT training.

After successful completion of Phase I, implementation of Phase II of the project would run through 2012-2013 and its major deliverables are (i) the design and deployment of the Public Procurement Review Software (goPRS); (ii) IT Capacity Building for specialized IT courses and end-users; and (iii) Handover and Sustainability. goPRS is the substantive system that will address the monitoring and oversight of public procurement in Nigeria, being designed specifically to automate the complex mandate of BPP. goPRS draws on national legislation (Public Procurement Act 2007) and instruments related to public procurement developed by International Organizations such as Model laws by UNCITRAL, the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Procurement Procedures under the World Bank, the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and EU Directives on Public Procurement, etc.. For further details, please visit: http://goprsp.unodc.org.

**JUSTICE SECTOR REFORM**

**UNODC Pays Courtesy Visit to the Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN)**

On 31 January 2012, a team led by UNODC’s Representative, Ms. Mariam Sissoko paid a courtesy call to the Chief Justice of Nigeria Hon. Justice Dahiru Musdapher CON, CFR, FCARB, FNIALS. Receiving the team in his chambers, Hon. Justice Musdapher acknowledged the commendable support that UNODC provided to the judiciary of ten states, through the completed European Union funded project “Support to the Economic and Financial Commission and the Nigerian Judiciary”. Hon. Justice Musdapher remarked that focus will be placed on improving the integrity of the judiciary in the coming months, through the adoption of a case management system that will ensure speedy disposal of cases and set up evaluation and oversight mechanisms to plug loopholes that impinge on the integrity of the judiciary. On her part, Ms. Mariam Sissoko briefed the CJN on three upcoming European Union (EU) funded projects targeted at, among other things, improving integrity and capacity of the Nigerian judiciary. A copy of a recent UNODC publication “Resource Guide on strengthening Judicial Integrity and Capacity” was presented to the CJN. The Resource Guide aims to support stakeholders tasked with reforming and strengthening the judiciary as well as International Organizations, development partners and other providers of technical assistance to justice reform processes. For a copy of the publication please visit - http://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/ResourceGuideonStrengtheningJudicialIntegrityandCapacity/11-85709_ebook.pdf

**News in Brief**

On 13 January, the management and staff of UNODC and the National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters had a coordination meeting to plan and strategize on the joint implementation of two ongoing projects.

On 31 January, UNODC paid a courtesy call to the Chairman of the Independent and Corrupt Practices Commission to brief him on an upcoming EU funded project in the area of anti-corruption.

**Upcoming Events in February 2012**

14 February: Roundtable on gender awareness and sensitivity in Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants
21-23 February: Stakeholders consultation to review three new EU funded projects