

## MEDIA RELEASE

## TRACIT and UNODC bolster cooperation to address illicit trade

**Vienna, 28 September 2021** – The Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) signed today a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to deepen collaboration between the two organizations on illicit trade.

The MoU, which was signed at UNODC's Vienna-based headquarters by UNODC Executive Director Ghada Waly and TRACIT Director-General Jeffrey Hardy, sets the foundation for cooperation between the two organizations to improve the international response to serious transnational organized crime and illicit trade.

The agreement highlights the pervasive nature of illicit trade as a global problem and the need to act collectively to reduce its manifestations, promote awareness of its consequences and aid policymakers to adopt more effective solutions.

Initial priorities include mitigating trade in substandard and falsified medicines, addressing misuse of maritime trade across multiple forms of illicit trade and combatting trafficking in persons for the purpose of forced labor.

## **About TRACIT**

The Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) is an independent, private sector initiative to drive change to mitigate the economic and social damages of illicit trade by strengthening government enforcement mechanisms and mobilizing businesses across industry sectors most impacted by illicit trade.

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