



### Mr. Alan Cole

Head of the Global Maritime Crime Programme,  
UNODC

Alan Cole joined UNODC in 2009 to run UNODC's work to disrupt Somali piracy. That programme, which has since expanded to tackle other maritime crime, provided a full range of criminal justice support to those states tackling Somali piracy.

He heads a team of 50 staff in Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Senegal, Seychelles, Tanzania and in five locations across Somalia addressing the full range of maritime crime including terrorism, people trafficking, migrant smuggling, narcotics trafficking and piracy. This has been done through the establishment and improvement of coastguard, judicial and prosecutorial capacity. The team also delivers a substantial prison programme across Somalia and has built three new prisons in this most challenging environment and continues to ensure their operation to international standards. Currently the Global Maritime Crime Programme is focussing on its response to piracy in West Africa, the Indian Ocean Forum on Maritime Crime which is proving most effective in ensuring a coherent response to maritime crime between South Africa and Australia and the establishment of Mogadishu Prison and Court Complex which forms a corner stone of the international effort to improve rule of law in Somalia.

Prior to joining UNODC, Alan served for 18 years in the UK Royal Navy, initially in frigates and submarines before training as a barrister and moving to legal work. He served as the UK's senior military advisor for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, with particular focus on detention operations and targeting law. He drew on this experience as co-author on the International Institute for Humanitarian Laws "San Remo handbook on Rules of Engagement".