HEMISPHERIC DRUG STRATEGY

Plan of Action 2011 - 2015

With an introduction by OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza
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A Comprehensive Approach to Dealing with the World Drug Problem

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Drug trafficking, and all of its related ills, presents one of the most potent threats to democracy and stability in the Western Hemisphere today. Growing drug-related violence in Mexico has claimed over 5,000 lives in the past year alone. This week, the government of Jamaica captured an accused drug kingpin after a month-long search resulting in a state of emergency and dozens of deaths. Colombia continues a decades-old struggle against armed groups principally financed by the production and sale of cocaine. And the United States is mobilizing 1,200 additional National Guard troops to confront gang and drug-related violence along its southern border.

The outbursts of violence and use of force only tells part of the story. Drug trade-related violence is linked directly to the rising levels of drug use around the hemisphere. While progress has been made in recent years in disrupting the production and flow of illicit drugs, more needs to be done to curb drug use, which represents an increasing social and economic cost to our societies.

This month, the member countries of the Organization of American States (OAS) adopted a new hemispheric drug strategy that will help countries develop policies to focus not only on supply and control, but also on drug dependence. The strategy explicitly recognizes that drug dependency is a chronic, relapsing disease that must be dealt with as a core element of public health policy. It is a disease on par with diabetes, hypertension or asthma that requires proper medical care to treat the underlying causes.

This new OAS strategy goes hand in hand with the recent shift in drug policy announced by the United States. President Barack Obama's pledge to allocate more resources to drug
prevention and treatment parallels the hemispheric view that drug abuse and dependence are public health issues, and not just criminal acts. We welcome this evidence-based policy shift, which is guided by sound principles of public health, safety and the respect for human rights.

Similarly, among its recommendations, the new OAS drug strategy promotes treatment as an alternative to incarceration. It includes the establishment of drug courts where recovery is closely supervised by a judge with the power to reward progress and rebuke relapses. This approach, now fairly widespread in the United States but less common elsewhere, has proven successful in reducing repeat offenses and relapse into drug use.

However, other efforts that consider the possibility of relapse are also necessary. In this regard, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission, a specialized OAS agency, is successfully training drug treatment counselors and therapists to help certify these experts, thereby enhancing the quality of services throughout Latin America.

As a first step of a comprehensive approach to confront the intertwined challenges of drug trafficking and drug dependency, it is crucial that nations of the Americas include an emphasis on the root cause of the problem— the consumption of illicit drugs. Approximately 20 percent of drug users account for nearly 80 percent of drug use. By progressively reducing dependence among hard core drug users, our programs not only help reduce the demand for drugs but they also affect the profitability of the transnational criminal organizations that threaten the economies, the security, and the democratic governance of our hemisphere.

Recurring drug-related violence throughout the region reminds us that a multilateral approach is fundamental to address the complex and dynamic drug problem. A combination of logistical resources, intellectual capital, and political will are needed if we are to stem the tide of this border-less scourge. Lives are being destroyed, governments are being challenged, and economies are being pressured at an ever-increasing level. The time has come for our member states, and nations throughout the world, to make this moral imperative a top strategic priority. The time has come for new ideas, for a more forward-thinking dialogue, and for ever more proactive action.
Hemispheric Drug Strategy

Adopted by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)
at its forty-seventh regular session, Washington, DC

May 3, 2010

Adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS)
at its fortieth regular session, Lima, Peru

June 5, 2010

INTRODUCTION

The world drug problem1, including its political, economic, social and environmental costs, constitutes a complex, dynamic and multi-causal phenomenon that presents a challenge to States and their governments. Far from being a local or regional issue, this problem demands a comprehensive, balanced and multidisciplinary approach that requires common and shared responsibility among all States.

Likewise, the world drug problem constitutes a global challenge that negatively impacts on the public health, security and well-being of all humanity. It also undermines the bases of sustainable development, the judicial systems, political and economic stability and democratic institutions, representing a threat to security, democracy, good governance and the rule of law.

Member states thus recognize the importance of efforts made to address the world drug problem; acknowledge at the same time the need to strengthen and improve strategies and actions related to this subject, and, taking into consideration the findings of the various reports of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the process of review of the goals set by the United Nations General Assembly Special Session, adopt the present Strategy, which is based on, and will be applied according to, the following principles:

1. Full compliance with international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, observing the principles of sovereignty and the territorial integrity of States, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, fundamental liberties, inherent human dignity, and equal rights and mutual respect among States.

2. In addressing the world drug problem, its impact on poverty and exclusion must be given special emphasis.

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1 The world drug problem is defined in the Political Declaration of the twentieth special session of the United Nations General Assembly (1998) and in the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs Political Declaration on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (2009), and includes the illicit cultivation, production, manufacture, sale, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotics drugs and psychotropic substances, including amphetamine-type stimulants, the diversion of precursors and related criminal activities.
While encouraging the implementation of policies and actions that foster social inclusion and a reduction in those vulnerabilities.

3. Policies, measures and interventions to address the world drug problem should take gender issues into account.

4. Member states are responsible for providing the resources required for effective implementation of their national drug policies, and for maintaining an appropriate balance between demand reduction and supply reduction activities in accordance with the characteristics of the problem in each State.

5. The principle of common and shared responsibility is fundamental to strengthening hemispheric and regional cooperation in all its forms. Cooperation should be based on collective and coordinated efforts to address the world drug problem, with the goal of continual improvement of member states’ policies on drugs.

6. The participation of civil society is of great importance, as it may offer experience and knowledge, as appropriate, in the development and implementation of drug policies and programs to address the world drug problem. In this regard, member states should encourage a broad and open debate so that all sectors of society may become aware of the diverse aspects of the phenomenon and thus contribute to strengthening national drug strategies.

7. CICAD is the competent regional forum to follow up on the implementation of this Strategy. Its Executive Secretariat will execute programs and actions in support of this Strategy as requested by the Commission, in coordination, if necessary, with other specialized organizations.

8. The MEM is the appropriate mechanism to monitor, evaluate and improve national and hemispheric policies and actions to address the world drug problem. Member states will actively participate in this Mechanism in order to keep it up to date by reviewing it periodically.

In consideration of the foregoing, the present Strategy covers the following areas:

**INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING**

With regard to the institutional strengthening needed to address the world drug problem, member states will use the following guidelines:

9. They shall establish and/or strengthen national drug authorities, placing them at a high political level, with the mission to coordinate the effective planning and implementation of national drug policies.

10. They shall design and implement a national drug policy, subject to periodic update, covering all aspects of the problem, assign responsibilities among the institutions involved, and define programs and lines of action with the goal of addressing the problem in a comprehensive manner, including, where appropriate, the decentralization of public policies on drugs.

11. They shall develop and implement national drug policies that are evidence-based. Such evidence, whenever possible, should allow for the comparison of data among countries.

12. They shall establish and/or strengthen national observatories on drugs, or similar technical offices, to develop national drug information systems and promote scientific research to generate, collect, organize, analyze and disseminate information for the purpose of contributing to decision-making and to implementing evidence-based drug policies and strategies that reflect the situation in each country.

13. They shall promote periodic, independent evaluations of their policies, programs and interventions in the areas of demand and supply reduction. The results of these evaluations should serve as a guide for the allocation of resources and for the execution of sustainable activities.
DEMAND REDUCTION

Member states will pursue demand reduction activities under the following guidelines:

14. Demand reduction is a priority component in guaranteeing a comprehensive, balanced approach to the world drug problem, given that the abuse of drugs is a social and health problem that requires a multisectoral and multidisciplinary approach.

15. Demand reduction policies should include as essential elements universal, selective and indicated prevention, early intervention, treatment, rehabilitation and related recovery support services, with the goal of promoting the health and social well-being of individuals, families and communities, and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse.

16. Demand reduction policies should be supplemented by methods to disseminate information on the risks associated with drug use, through the use of new information technologies and through the mass media, to inform the general public and the various target populations about available prevention and treatment services.

17. Demand reduction requires, in accordance with the situation and magnitude of the drug problem in each country, the implementation of a variety of evidence-based prevention programs, aimed at distinct target populations, which together constitute a comprehensive system. From a methodological and design standpoint, these programs should be systematic, with specific measurable objectives.

18. It is necessary to invest in and provide a response to the specific needs of at-risk groups, including children, adolescents and youth, both within and outside the educational system and in other contexts, territories and communities. These higher vulnerability groups should be provided with education and skills development opportunities that promote a healthy lifestyle.

19. Prevention efforts should also be aimed at the adult population through family, community and workplace prevention programs, including those that address emerging issues such as driving under the influence of drugs and drug-related accidents in the workplace.

20. Drug dependence is a chronic, relapsing disease that is caused by many factors, including biological, psychological or social, which must be addressed and treated as a public health matter, consistent with the treatment of other chronic diseases.

21. Access to treatment systems that offer a range of comprehensive therapeutic intervention models that are evidence-based and follow internationally-recognized quality standards should be facilitated. Treatment models should consider the needs of different populations, taking into account factors such as gender, age, culture and vulnerability.

22. It is necessary to explore the means of offering treatment, rehabilitation and recovery support services to drug-dependent criminal offenders as an alternative to criminal prosecution or imprisonment.

23. Recognizing that recovery from substance abuse and dependence is essential to the successful transition between incarceration and release, re-entry and social reintegration, treatment services should be made available as far as possible to offenders in corrections facilities.

24. Governments’ relationships with academic and research institutions as well as specialized non-governmental organizations should be strengthened in order to foster scientific research and studies that will generate evidence on the various aspects of the demand for drugs, in order to contribute to the formulation of public policies and increased knowledge on the subject.

25. Continuing education and training for professionals, technicians and others involved in implementing drug demand reduction activities should be promoted and strengthened.

26. Drug demand reduction programs should be subject to ongoing monitoring and scientific evaluation.
SUPPLY REDUCTION

To reduce the illicit supply of drugs, member states will use the following guidelines:

27. The illicit supply of drugs continues to be a serious problem for the hemisphere and requires the adoption and improvement of comprehensive, balanced measures aimed at reducing the availability of these substances.

28. To address the illicit supply of drugs, it is essential to adopt and/or improve the mechanisms needed to gather and analyze information in order to prepare assessments that will facilitate the development of public policies in this field.

29. National programs to reduce the supply of illicit plant-based drugs should include the adoption of comprehensive measures, such as integral sustainable alternative development and law enforcement measures, in accordance with the situation in each country.

30. Given their importance to the reduction of illicit cultivation, integral sustainable alternative development programs that create conditions that contribute to addressing the world drug problem should be promoted, when appropriate.

31. It is necessary to conduct studies and research that contribute to the early identification and monitoring of new and emerging trends that could provide updated information on the illicit supply of drugs.

32. Actions to reduce negative consequences to the environment caused by the world drug problem should be promoted in accordance with the national policies of member states.

CONTROL MEASURES

In applying control measures, member states will use the following guidelines:

33. Supply reduction programs should focus on preventing the illicit manufacture of both synthetic and plant-based drugs, including the adoption of appropriate domestic controls over precursors, measures to control the international trade in precursor chemicals, consistent with the framework established in the United Nations Drug Conventions, and law enforcement measures aimed at preventing the manufacture and trafficking of such substances.

34. Legal and institutional frameworks for the effective monitoring of essential precursors and chemical substances should be strengthened in order to prevent diversion of these substances to illicit activities. Bearing in mind the use of new chemical substances for illicit drug manufacturing, member states should periodically update their lists of controlled chemical substances as appropriate.

35. The steps needed to prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products with psychoactive properties to illicit uses should continue to be taken.

36. Measures to prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products that could be used in the production of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) should continue to be strengthened, as appropriate.

37. In applying control measures to limit the use of narcotic drugs exclusively to medical and scientific purposes, the availability of adequate supplies should be ensured. Availability exists when sufficient quantities are on hand and are accessible in accordance with international treaties.

38. It is necessary to strengthen national agencies for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

39. Mechanisms for the control of drug trafficking and all types of related crimes, including the development of capabilities for identifying and restricting emerging modalities, should also be optimized.

40. One of the main objectives of the suppression of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes should be the dismantling of criminal organizations and their support networks. In this regard, law enforcement measures must address not only the prosecution of those engaged in illicit activities, but also the tools used
for such activities and the profits derived from them. Given the rapid evolution of criminal organizations, control agencies must be proactive and adapt to the dynamic nature of the problem of drug trafficking and related crimes, and thus develop specific intelligence gathering systems in order to detect routes and methods used by criminal organizations.

41. In the context of investigations into illicit drug trafficking and related crimes, the exchange of intelligence information through the appropriate institutions should be promoted, in accordance with specific national legislation.

42. To facilitate the prosecution and conviction of leaders and members of criminal organizations and their support networks, the adoption of measures for effective cooperation in criminal investigations, investigation procedures, the collection of evidence, and the exchange of information among countries should be considered, assuring due respect for the various national legal systems.

43. Noting with concern the violence associated with the activities of criminal organizations involved in illicit drug trafficking and related crimes, it is necessary to prevent these organizations’ access to any kind of weapons. To prevent the diversion of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, measures aimed at regulating and monitoring international trade therein should be strengthened, where appropriate.

44. Legislative and institutional frameworks on the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and control of the laundering of proceeds from illicit drug trafficking, the diversion of controlled chemical substances to illicit channels, and other serious transnational crimes, should be established, updated or reinforced, as appropriate, in accordance with the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

45. National entities responsible for the management and disposition of assets seized and/or forfeited in cases of illicit drug trafficking, money laundering, and other related crimes should be established or strengthened, as appropriate.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

To achieve effective international cooperation, member states acknowledge the need to:

46. Reaffirm the principle of cooperation contained in the international instruments to address the world drug problem, through actions that guarantee their enforcement and effectiveness.

47. Stress the importance of ratifying, acceding to and complying with, as appropriate, the following conventions:
   - the United Nations Convention against Corruption (2003);
     - the Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,
     - the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and
     - the Protocol Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition;
   - the Inter-American Convention Against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) (1997);
   - the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption (1996);
   - the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (1992);
   - the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances
(1988);

- Member states also recognize the importance of observing the agreements reached in the Political Declaration on the World Drug Problem adopted by the 20th United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on drugs in 1998, and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (Vienna, 2009).

48. Foster international cooperation programs aimed at strengthening national policies to address the world drug problem based on the individual needs of each member state.

49. Promote the harmonization of national legal norms, regulations and internal procedures in order to implement hemispheric judicial cooperation mechanisms and mutual legal assistance in connection with drug trafficking and related crimes.

50. Strengthen member states’ institutional capacity to prevent and effectively address drug trafficking, while recognizing the particularities of the challenges, harm and negative impact that producing, transit and consuming states face, by promoting and strengthening joint or coordinated operations and exchanging information and best practices.

51. To encourage and promote technical assistance as well as the exchange of best practices and lessons learned to address the world drug problem in regard to institutional capacity, demand reduction, supply reduction, and control measures.

52. To strengthen CICAD’s institutional capacity to promote international cooperation aimed at the implementation of the recommendations that emanate from the MEM evaluation process, as well as the objectives of this Strategy and of its Action Plan.
HEMISPHERIC PLAN ACTION
ON DRUGS 2011-2015

Preamble

**Purpose:** The main purpose of this Action Plan is to support implementation of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy. On the basis of the principles and tenets of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy, the Plan identifies the objectives and sets priorities for the activities to be carried out during the period 2011-2015.

The member states of CICAD recognize this Plan as a reference guide for the implementation of national projects and programs designed to give effect to the Hemispheric Drug Strategy. The Action Plan is also a tool for constructing the hemispheric agenda of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) and its subsidiary organs, in order to align them and create synergies. Member states also recognize that in many cases, the objectives and actions identified in the Plan are designed to generate basic capacities upon which gradual progress will be made toward implementation of the Strategy. Accordingly, the Plan will be reviewed and updated at the end of the five-year period.

**General comments:** The Action Plan consists of objectives and actions. The objectives represent guidance stemming from the Hemispheric Strategy. The actions are the concrete activities, both joint and individual, designed to achieve each objective; these actions are prioritized and sequenced according to the level of development required and take into account differences in the dimensions of the problems in member states. At times, they refer to an initial stage or basis upon which to move incrementally toward full implementation of the Strategy.

**Cross-cutting issues:** The member states of CICAD recognize that financing and training are cross-cutting issues throughout this Action Plan. The importance of these issues requires that they be fully addressed in order to carry out the actions and thereby achieve the proposed objectives.

**Coordination:** In order to enhance the scope of the activities included in the Action Plan, the Executive Secretariat of CICAD will promote appropriate coordination among the pertinent areas of the General Secretariat.

**Follow-up:** The Commission will be responsible for evaluation and monitoring of the Action Plan via the MEM, ad hoc instruments, and other tools that it may identify. For this purpose, the Chair of CICAD, with the support of the Executive Secretariat, will prepare an annual report to be presented to the Commission at its spring session on CICAD’s progress in carrying out the priority actions and achievement of the objectives set out in the Plan.

In addition, a virtual forum will be maintained for information related to the activities organized by the Executive Secretariat and Expert Groups that are related to the implementation of the Plan. Relevant information will be exchanged through this forum, on-line training will be offered, and secure data bases will be established, among other activities.
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

OBJECTIVE No. 1 - INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING
Establish and/or strengthen national drug authorities, placing them at a high political level, with the mission to coordinate the effective planning and implementation of national drug policies.

Actions
a) Establish and/or strengthen National Drug Authorities (NDAs) at a high political level through the necessary measures that guarantee their adequate functioning.

b) Introduce and strengthen the necessary mechanisms that guarantee the effective coordination of the planning and implementation of national policies on drugs.

OBJECTIVE No. 2 OBJECTIVE No. 1 - INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING
Design, implement, strengthen and update national evidence-based strategies and policies on drugs.

Actions
a) Conduct needs assessments that observe scientific and methodological rigor in order to inform the design, strengthening and updating of comprehensive national policies on drugs.

b) Promote, where appropriate, the participation of civil society actors in the process of designing, implementing and updating national drug policies and programs, where applicable, thus encouraging a broad and open dialogue that contributes to their strengthening.

c) Adopt measures, when appropriate, for the decentralization of national drug policies.

d) Design and implement a plan of action with all actors, direct and indirect, that are involved in the process of assigning roles, responsibilities and resources.

e) Promote relations with the scientific community that contribute to the design, implementation, updating and evaluation of national drug policies.

OBJECTIVE No. 3 - INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING
Establish and/or strengthen national observatories on drugs or similar technical offices to develop national drug information systems and foster scientific research on this subject.

Actions
a) Establish or strengthen National Drug Observatories (NDOs) or other similar technical offices.

b) Establish and/or strengthen national drug information systems for the generation, collection, organization, analysis and dissemination of information.

c) Promote the development and adoption of methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that, whenever possible, allow for the comparison of data among countries.

OBJECTIVE No. 4 - INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING
Promote periodic, independent evaluations of policies, programs and interventions.

Action
a) Design, develop, and strengthen monitoring and evaluation mechanisms which show the progress and fulfillment of programs and other drug interventions that make up national drug policies.
DEMAND REDUCTION

OBJECTIVE No. 1 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Develop and implement comprehensive demand reduction policies, plans and/or programs, as appropriate, that include elements of universal, selective and indicated prevention, early intervention, treatment, rehabilitation and related recovery support services.

Actions
a) Update demand reduction policies, plans and programs based on the results of monitoring and evaluation.
b) Promote and support demand reduction programs and policies that guarantee a multispectral approach to the consumption, abuse and dependence on drugs.
c) Implement demand reduction policies and programs that take into consideration the political and administrative realities of each State.
d) Consider, as appropriate, the guidelines and/or recommendations approved by intergovernmental organizations of which the country is a party/member in the design and implementation of public policies on demand reduction.

OBJECTIVE No. 2 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Develop methods to disseminate information on the risks associated with drug use, through the use of new information technologies and the mass media; and inform the general public and various target populations about available prevention and treatment services.

Actions
a) Generate a database on drug prevention and treatment services available throughout the country and establish mechanisms to ensure that this information is easily accessible.
b) Develop communications strategies and community awareness and sensitization programs on the drug problem.

OBJECTIVE No. 3 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Design and implement a comprehensive system of evidence-based universal, selective, and indicated prevention programs, with measurable objectives, aimed at distinct target populations, including at-risk groups.

Actions
a) Design and conduct needs assessments to identify particular needs and risk and protective factors of specific populations to be targeted with substance abuse prevention programs.
b) Develop tailored interventions and monitoring and evaluation methodologies to address the needs of each target group.
c) Generate opportunities in education and develop skills that promote healthy lifestyles.

OBJECTIVE No. 4 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Incorporate into family, community and workplace prevention programs modes of intervention that address the specific needs of the adult population, paying particular attention to situations such as driving under the influence of drugs and drug-related accidents in the workplace.
Actions

a) Promote collaboration among relevant stakeholders to conduct needs assessments, design interventions, and develop evaluation methodologies for specific adult populations.
b) Develop inter-institutional strategies aimed at preventing drugged driving.
c) Promote actions aimed at preventing drug-related accidents in the workplace.

OBJECTIVE No. 5 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Promote the integration of treatment and recovery plans and programs into the public health system and address drug dependence as a chronic, relapsing disease.

Actions

a) Develop drug treatment programs that are integrated into the public health systems, including, among others, services for screening, brief intervention, and social reintegration as part of treatment.
b) Create and implement coordination mechanisms among the stakeholders involved to improve the implementation of plans and programs that address drug treatment and rehabilitation.

OBJECTIVE No. 6 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Facilitate access for drug-dependent persons to a system of drug treatment, rehabilitation, social reintegration, and recovery services that are evidence-based and follow internationally-accepted quality standards.

Actions

a) Ensure that treatment plans and programs include evidence-based protocols tailored to the needs of different population profiles.
b) Adopt the necessary measures to ensure that drug treatment programs are provided by qualified professionals.
c) Promote information systems on drug treatment that include a register of the number of patients treated diagnoses, clinical history and available information on treatment outcomes.
d) Promote collaboration among all the involved stakeholders to provide support services that foster social reentry as part of treatment in an ongoing and sustainable manner.
e) Develop indicators to evaluate the effectiveness of treatment programs that monitor drug use and incorporate psychosocial variables that are considered relevant to establish the status of recovery.

OBJECTIVE No. 7 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Explore the means of offering treatment, rehabilitation, social reintegrations and recovery support services to drug-dependent criminal offenders as an alternative to criminal prosecution or imprisonment.

Actions

a) Consider the possibility of adopting necessary measures to allow for alternatives to prosecution or imprisonment for drug-dependent criminal offenders.
b) Promote the study of other programs that can facilitate the treatment, recovery, and reintegration of drug-dependent criminal offenders.

OBJECTIVE No. 8 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Provide, as far as possible, drug treatment services directed at inmates in correctional facilities.
Action
a) Implement treatment programs in correctional facilities based on documented scientific protocols and minimum quality standards.

OBJECTIVE No. 9 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Strengthen governmental relationships with academic and research institutions and specialized non-governmental organizations (NGOs), in order to generate evidence on the demand for drugs.

Actions
a) Promote and support the inclusion of demand reduction education and research in relevant post-secondary curricula.
b) Establish and/or strengthen the relationship between the National Drug Authorities and academic and research institutions as well as specialized non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
c) Establish or strengthen forums at which drug researchers can present their findings to legislators and policymakers.

OBJECTIVE No. 10 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Promote and strengthen training and continuing education of professionals, technicians and others involved in the implementation of demand reduction activities.

Actions
a) Promote the design and implementation of mechanisms that ensure staff have the necessary competencies to work in drug prevention and treatment programs in accordance with the domestic regulations of each country.
b) Promote collaboration with professional associations, institutions of higher education, and specialized non-governmental organizations (NGOs), among others, with the purpose of promoting programs of continuing education about drug dependence.

OBJECTIVE No. 11 – DEMAND REDUCTION

Monitor and scientifically evaluate drug demand reduction programs.

Actions
a) Develop or strengthen, as appropriate, project monitoring and scientific evaluation mechanisms for demand reduction programs.
b) Carry out training in monitoring and scientific evaluation techniques.
c) Promote agreements with educational institutions with experience in research to conduct long-term studies to measure the impact of prevention and treatment programs.
SUPPLY REDUCTION

OBJECTIVE No. 1 – SUPPLY REDUCTION

Adopt and/or improve comprehensive and balanced measures aimed at reducing the supply of illicit drugs.

Actions
  a) Update supply reduction policies, plans and programs based on the results of monitoring and evaluation.
  b) In cooperation with civil society, complement supply reduction programs with crime prevention initiatives that address risk factors.

OBJECTIVE No. 2 – SUPPLY REDUCTION

Adopt and/or improve data collection and analysis mechanisms with a view to carrying out assessments that will facilitate the development of public policies aimed at drug supply reduction.

Actions
  a) Create and/or strengthen, when necessary, national mechanisms to facilitate the analysis of information on drug supply.
  b) Promote the development and sustainability of a hemispheric information system in the area of illicit drug supply within the framework of CICAD, which would ensure the availability of up-to-date data that are, to the extent possible, comparable.
  c) Improve capacities to estimate illicit drug cultivation and production, and enable effective eradication through training and the implementation of new technologies.
  d) Promote the identification of chemical profiles and characteristics of illicit drugs that will permit an understanding of the dynamics of the supply of drugs.

OBJECTIVE No. 3 – SUPPLY REDUCTION

According to the needs of each country, adopt comprehensive measures, such as integral and sustainable alternative development and law enforcement initiatives.

Actions
  a) Develop and implement sustainable and effective measures to reduce illicit crops.
  b) Adopt measures as necessary to generate a secure environment that facilitates the implementation of integral and sustainable alternative development programs.
  c) Coordinate integral and sustainable alternative development programs with other supply reduction programs and ensure proper sequencing in order to sustain illicit crop reduction.
  d) Incorporate an environmental protection component into integral and sustainable alternative development programs.
  e) Promote the participation/coordination of civil society and governmental authorities, taking into account the political and administrative organization of the member states, in the design and implementation of projects and initiatives in areas of integral and sustainable alternative development intervention.
  f) Promote integral and sustainable alternative development policies and programs that promote social inclusion.
  g) Consider the promotion of synergies among integral and sustainable alternative development strategies and poverty reduction programs.
h) Design and/or improve systems to monitor and assess the qualitative and quantitative impact of integral and sustainable alternative development programs with respect to the sustainability of illicit crop reduction.

i) Develop strategies to disseminate the experiences and successes at the community and national levels in the member states.

**OBJECTIVE No. 4 – SUPPLY REDUCTION**

Promote studies and research that contribute to the early identification and monitoring of new and emerging trends that could provide updated information on the illicit supply of drugs.

**Actions**

a) Promote the generation of updated statistics at the national and hemispheric levels on illicit drug production and alternative development.

b) Promote studies and research on the illicit production of drugs.

c) Develop mechanisms for the exchange of technical information on new trends in illicit drug production.

d) Carry out situational assessments on illicit drug supply at the national and hemispheric level, to support the decision making process and consider, where appropriate, its interaction with other forms of transnational organized crime.

e) Utilize information on the price and chemical characteristics of raw materials in order to conduct studies on new trends in drug production.

f) Create and/or strengthen national monitoring systems on supply reduction.

**OBJECTIVE No. 5 – SUPPLY REDUCTION**

Promote actions to reduce the negative impact on the environment caused by the world drug problem, in accordance with national policies.

**Actions**

a) Promote research or studies on the environmental impact of drug production.

b) Consider promoting the use of environmental management tools to address the consequences of the world drug problem on the environment, in accordance with the realities of member states.

c) Promote measures to ensure the safety of law enforcement agents and other personnel who participate in activities to reduce illicit drug production.

d) Promote the dissemination of information to the general public on the negative environmental consequences of the world drug problem.

e) Promote, when applicable, in accordance with national priorities, actions with international organizations to reduce the negative impact of the world drug problem on the environment.
CONTROL MEASURES

OBJECTIVE No. 1 – CONTROL MEASURES

Implement programs for the prevention and reduction of the illicit production of synthetic and plant-based drugs.

Actions
  a) Review control measures to prevent the illicit manufacture of drugs and to detect and dismantle laboratories; on the basis of this review, modify programs or introduce new ones as necessary.
  b) Evaluate the results achieved through the implementation of measures and programs aimed at preventing the illicit manufacturing of drugs and the detection and dismantling of laboratories.
  c) Develop an information system on laboratories detected and dismantled that will allow, among other things, the identification of patterns in the use of chemical precursors and essential chemical substances.
  d) Design and implement protocols for the dismantling of illicit drug processing laboratories.
  e) Design and implement training programs on an ongoing basis to enhance the capacities of agents responsible for control activities.

OBJECTIVE No. 2 – CONTROL MEASURES

Adopt or strengthen control measures to prevent the diversion of chemical substances to illicit activities.

Actions
  a) Review existing regulations and control measures to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances to illicit channels, and, on the basis of this review, modify programs or introduce new ones as necessary.
  b) Evaluate the results achieved through the implementation of measures and programs aimed at preventing the diversion of controlled chemical substances to illicit activities.
  c) Promote inter-agency coordination among all government agencies and promote the participation of the private sector in the control of chemicals.
  d) Promote or strengthen methodologies for risk analysis of diversion in foreign trade transactions.
  e) Promote or strengthen the use of non-intrusive inspection equipment at customs.
  f) Promote, when applicable, the estimation of legitimate needs for chemical substances to prevent possible diversion.
  g) Create or strengthen, as appropriate, research centers and/or laboratories that contribute to the strengthening of control activities for controlled chemical substances.
  h) Promote the utilization of pre-export notification information systems.
  i) Strengthen the mechanisms for the exchange of secure information among member states concerning possible cases of chemical diversion.

OBJECTIVE No. 3 – CONTROL MEASURES

Adopt or strengthen control measures that prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products with psychotropic properties to illicit use.

Actions
  a) Review existing regulations and control measures to prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products with psychoactive properties and, on the basis of this review, modify programs or introduce new ones as necessary.
b) Evaluate the results achieved through the implementation of measures and programs aimed at preventing the diversion of pharmaceutical products with psychoactive properties.

c) Promote continuous improvement of information systems that record the movement of pharmaceutical products with psychoactive properties.

**OBJECTIVE No. 4 – CONTROL MEASURES**

Adopt necessary measures, when appropriate, to prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products used in the illicit production of amphetamine-type stimulants.

**Actions**

a) Conduct chemical profiling of seized amphetamine-type stimulants aimed at identifying the pharmaceutical chemicals being used in the production of such substances.

b) Control, when appropriate, products containing pharmaceutical chemicals being used in amphetamine-type stimulant production.

**OBJECTIVE No. 5 – CONTROL MEASURES**

Ensure the adequate availability of narcotics required for medical and scientific uses.

**Action**

a) Periodically evaluate the situation with regards to the availability of narcotic drugs for medical and scientific purposes, and implement, as appropriate, required measures.

**OBJECTIVE No. 6 – CONTROL MEASURES**

Strengthen national organizations for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

**Actions**

a) Carry out periodic assessments of the capacities and deficiencies of control organizations for drug trafficking and related crimes.

b) Increase capacities of the organizations that control drug trafficking and related crimes through ongoing training of the stakeholders involved.

c) Strengthen cooperation and exchange of information among law enforcement agencies dealing with drug trafficking and related crimes.

d) Strengthen law enforcement and interdiction capacities and effective border control measures to prevent drug trafficking by air, land, or sea.

e) Strengthen technical capacities for the investigation, seizures and forfeitures of assets linked to drug trafficking and related crimes.

f) Develop capacities and legal frameworks needed for the final safe disposal of seized drugs.

**OBJECTIVE No. 7 – CONTROL MEASURES**

Identify new trends and patterns regarding illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

**Actions**

a) Conduct and publish national analyses based on available information to identify trends in illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

b) Promote the development of regional analyses based on available information to identify trends in illicit drug trafficking and its related crimes.
c) Promote the development and dissemination of analyses based on national and regional best practices in the prevention and control of illicit drug trafficking and its related crimes.

d) Update national drug control legislation and policy, as pertinent, based on changes in drug trafficking trends and related crimes.

OBJECTIVE No. 8 – CONTROL MEASURES

Promote improvements in information systems on illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

Actions

a) Review the methodologies to validate data on illicit drug trafficking and related crimes, increase the quantity of database variables in order to improve the quality of information, standardize data collection methods, and enrich the analysis.

b) Strengthen information systems on illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

c) Promote and/or strengthen mechanisms for exchanging information in real time which will alert all member states to new behaviors of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking and related crimes.

d) Promote technical studies and research on illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

e) Promote studies on the impurity profiles and characterization of drugs.

f) Promote the use of information on the price, purity, and chemical profile of seized drugs in order to conduct studies on trends in drug manufacturing and trafficking.

OBJECTIVE No. 9 – CONTROL MEASURES

Adopt measures for effective cooperation in criminal investigations, investigation procedures, collection of evidence, and the exchange of intelligence information among countries, assuring due respect for the various national legal systems.

Actions

a) Design and implement specialized training workshops which demonstrate the parameters and advantages of the exchange of intelligence information in investigations of cases related to illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

b) Strengthen mechanisms and/or take the actions needed for the secure and effective exchange of intelligence information in cases related to illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

c) Promote actions aimed at preserving the integrity of intelligence information exchanged on drug trafficking and related crimes.

d) Promote the exchange of information in order to facilitate the interdiction of illegal drug trafficking via air, maritime and land conveyances.

e) Promote the exchange of information in order to facilitate investigations of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

f) Design and implement specialized training workshops on the application of special investigative techniques and the handling of custody chains of evidence in cases of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

g) Promote the strengthening of the control, prevention, research and monitoring activities related to drug trafficking through the internet while ensuring coordinated international action to ensure effective exchange of information, experiences and best practices.

OBJECTIVE No. 10 – CONTROL MEASURES

Adopt or strengthen, where appropriate, control measures for the illicit trafficking of firearms, munitions, explosives and other related materials associated with illicit drug trafficking.
Actions

a) Review control measures for the illicit trafficking of weapons, munitions, explosives and other related materials associated with illicit drug trafficking; on the basis of this review, modify programs or introduce new ones as necessary.

b) Evaluate the results achieved through the implementation of control measures for the illicit trafficking of weapons, munitions, explosives and other related materials associated with illicit drug trafficking.

c) Promote the creation and/or strengthening of databases for firearms linked to illicit drug trafficking that would include, whenever possible, ballistics identification information, with a view to promoting hemispheric mechanisms for information exchange.

OBJECTIVE No. 11 – CONTROL MEASURES

Establish, update or strengthen legislative and institutional frameworks in matters of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and control of money laundering.

Actions

a) Review legislative and institutional frameworks in matters of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and control of money laundering; on the basis of this review, modify programs or introduce new ones as necessary.

b) Evaluate the results achieved through the implementation of legislative and institutional measures for the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and control of money laundering.

c) Create or strengthen financial intelligence units to foster successful anti-money laundering prosecutions.

d) Create or strengthen mechanisms of cooperation and exchange of information among agencies enforcing laws on the prevention and control of money laundering.

OBJECTIVE No. 12 – CONTROL MEASURES

Create or strengthen, in accordance with national legislation, the competent national organizations for the administration of seized and/or forfeited assets, and the disposition of forfeited assets.

Actions

a) Establish/strengthen national organizations with responsibility for the administration of seized and/or forfeited assets, and the disposition of forfeited assets.

b) Promote specialized programs to improve systems for the administration of seized and forfeited assets.

c) Strengthen technical capacities for the administration and disposition of assets related to drug trafficking and related crimes.
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

OBJECTIVE No. 1 – INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Reaffirm the principle of cooperation contained in international instruments to address the world drug problem, through actions to ensure compliance and effectiveness.

Actions
a) Promote the enactment of national legislation and/or adopt administrative measures that would reaffirm the principle of cooperation as contained in international instruments to confront the world drug problem.
b) Promote, through the Inter-Governmental Working Group (IWG) of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), the development of evaluation instruments for monitoring the principle of cooperation as contained in international instruments.
c) Promote, when appropriate, the signing of bi-lateral or regional cooperation agreements to address the world drug problem.

OBJECTIVE No. 2 – INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION


Actions
a) Emphasize the importance of ratifying or acceding to those international treaties listed above.
b) Promote the necessary actions for compliance with international treaties that have been ratified or acceded to.

OBJECTIVE No. 3 – INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Promote international cooperation programs aimed at strengthening national policies to address the world drug problem, based on the needs of individual member states.

Actions
a) Mandate that the Executive Secretariat of CICAD conduct and appropriately disseminate an inventory of international cooperation programs in the area of drug control that are currently being carried out by States and international organizations.
b) Promote the participation of member states in international cooperation programs to strengthen their national policies to address the world drug problem based on their individual needs.

**OBJECTIVE No. 4 – INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Promote the harmonization of national laws, regulations and procedures that enable the implementation of hemispheric mechanisms for judicial cooperation and mutual legal assistance in the field of drug trafficking and related crimes.

**Actions**

a) Promote, through the Inter-Governmental Working Group (IWG) of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), the development of evaluation instruments for monitoring measures to implement commitments in the Conventions on judicial assistance in criminal matters.

b) Consider, as appropriate, the adoption of judicial cooperation measures that would facilitate the provision of the widest possible range of mutual legal assistance.

**OBJECTIVE No. 5 – INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Strengthen the institutional capacity of member states to prevent and effectively address drug trafficking, recognizing the details of the challenges, harms, and negative impacts faced by the producing, transit and consumer countries, through the promotion and strengthening of joint or coordinated operations and exchange of information and best practices.

**Actions**

a) Promote, as necessary, joint or coordinated operations and the exchange of information and good practices to prevent and effectively address illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

b) Promote, through the Inter-Governmental Working Group (IWG) of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), the development of evaluation instruments to monitor the promotion and strengthening of joint or coordinated operations and the exchange of information and good practices.

c) Promote the development of a good practices manual on joint or coordinated operations to counter illicit drug trafficking and its related crimes.

d) Promote the development and implementation of secure mechanisms for the exchange of information in real time to enable advances in cooperation to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in drugs and related crimes.

e) Promote the development of mechanisms among applicable agencies and institutions, when possible, for the use of compatible information related to police actions aimed at combating illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

**OBJECTIVE No. 6 – INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Encourage and promote technical assistance and exchange of good practices and lessons learned to address the world drug problem in the areas of institution building, demand reduction, supply reduction and control measures.

**Actions**

a) Mandate the Executive Secretariat of CICAD to develop and implement a secure and up-to-date internet database to disseminate current information on best practices in the areas of institution building, demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures and international cooperation.

b) Mandate the Executive Secretariat of CICAD to publish legislation of the member states in the areas of institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction, and control measures.
c) Strengthen technical horizontal cooperation among countries as well as through pertinent international organizations.

OBJECTIVE No. 7 – INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Strengthen the CICAD’s institutional capacity to promote international cooperation aimed at implementing the recommendations emanating from the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) process, as well as the objectives set out in the Hemispheric Drug Strategy and this Action Plan.

Actions

a) Promote technical assistance, financing, and training to facilitate compliance with the recommendations formulated under the framework of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM).

b) Mandate the Executive Secretariat of CICAD to publish a historical report on the resources of the CICAD Executive Secretariat since the Commission’s founding, including a detailed accounting of funding sources, which programs have been conducted and their status, and the general achievements of completed projects and programs sponsored under the CICAD umbrella.

c) Mandate the Executive Secretariat of CICAD to present a work plan for Commission approval at each spring session that is in accordance with the objectives and actions of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy and this Action Plan. This work plan will be accompanied by a projection of income and expenditure for each program and action.

d) Mandate the Executive Secretariat to present an annual report on all sources of funding and expenditures for programs and actions in accordance with the work plan approved by the Commission.

e) Promote the formation of a special CICAD working group to evaluate the availability of resources of the CICAD Executive Secretariat and propose additional sources of funding.

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2 The working plan to be presented by the Executive Secretariat of CICAD will be in accordance with Articles 19 and 29 of the Statute of the Commission.
The **Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission** (CICAD) was established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) in 1986 as the Western Hemisphere’s policy forum on all aspects of the drug problem. CICAD's core mission is to enhance the human and institutional capacities of its member states to reduce the production, trafficking and use of illegal drugs, and to address the health, social and criminal consequences of the drug trade. CICAD is the OAS agency that:

- Serves as the Western Hemisphere's policy forum on all aspects of the drug problem;
- Fosters multilateral cooperation on drug issues in the Americas;
- Executes action programs to strengthen the capacity of CICAD member states to prevent and treat licit and illicit drug abuse; combat production of illicit drugs, and deny the traffickers their illegal profits;
- Promotes drug-related research, information exchange, specialized training, and technical assistance; and
- Develops and recommends minimum standards for drug-related legislation, treatment, the measurement of both drug consumption and the cost of drugs to society, and drug-control measures, among others; and
- Carries out regular multilateral evaluations of progress by member states in all aspects of the drug problem (MEM).

The **Organization of American States** (OAS) brings together the nations of the Western Hemisphere to promote democracy, strengthen human rights, foster peace and security, and address the shared complex problems caused by poverty, terrorism, drugs and corruption. The OAS is the region’s principal multilateral forum for political dialogue and collective action. The member countries set major policies and goals through the General Assembly, which gathers the Hemisphere’s ministers of foreign affairs once a year for a regular session. Ongoing actions are guided by the Permanent Council, made up of ambassadors appointed by the member states. To carry out the programs and policies set by the political bodies, specialized secretariats coordinate OAS efforts in several broad areas: Multidimensional Security, Political Affairs, Integral Development, External Relations, Legal Affairs, and Administration and Finance, all six under the overall management of the General Secretariat.
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