NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

Presenter

CHANDRA ALGOE

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INTRODUCTION

- The Republic of Suriname with capital Paramaribo is a Constitutional Democracy.
- It has a population of 481,267 (2008) on an area of 63,037 square miles.
- Official language is Dutch, but Sranang Tongo (Creole), Hindustani, Javanese, Chinese and English are spoken together with 15 other languages.
- Suriname has the highest percentage of tropical forest cover of any other country in the world. Almost 95% of Suriname is forested.
- Suriname is the 17th richest country regarding to its natural resources. (source: Suriname Geography 2010)
Exports of natural resources, especially timber, gold, nickel, and silver, as well as rice, bananas, shrimp, and other fish, dominate the economy. Bauxite deposits are among the world’s richest, and alumina accounts for nearly half of exports.

Prospects for the onshore oil industry are positive.

Suriname is independent since 25 November 1975.

Since independence, the country has experienced political and economic threats.

The democracy has been restored and several government institutions are strengthened and pending improvements.

Security is an universal concept; it is applicable to State, city, community, individuals, on food, health, fire but also on natural disasters.

The security is affected in different ways by traditional threats and new threats, concerns and other challenges such as organized crime, corruption, man-made disasters, HIV/AIDS and other health risks.

The responsibility for security is divided: on world level, on a regional level, on the level of a nation, and also on the individual level.

Security should not be based on statistics only but also on security feelings in the society.
IMPACT OF THREATS TO SECURITY

- **Political (international)**
  - Drugs business to sponsor organized crime and terrorism
  - Association between drugs organization and terrorist organizations

- **Globalization**
  - Unification of economical markets
  - Disappearance of borders
  - Free movement of persons and goods

- **Communication**
  - Is fast and easy
  - Modern and secure
  - Data communication
  - Very often uncontrollable

CONT’D

- **Transport**
  - Easy and fast
  - Cheaper
  - Liberalized

- **Policy [national]**
  - Developing legislation
  - Lack of resources to combat
  - Capacity problems

- **Criminal factors**
  - Presence criminal factors and motives in the country

- **Greed**
  - Attitude to become easily and quickly rich

- **Power**
  - Deriving of power through money
  - Can be utilized in several sectors
Is essential condition for the healthy development of mankind, community and nation.

A community that live in fear will not unfold mentally.

Security should guarantee a stable society for future generations.

The developments of the nation and the investment climate shall depend on the existence of a sustainable security.

What is threatening the security?

Drugs

Corruption

Money laundering

Organized crime

Trafficking in person

Environmental threat

Health threat
TO MONITOR THE SECURITY AND TO COMBAT THE THREATS

- We need to have an integral approach;
- A comprehensive approach
- A sustainable approach
- And effective approach

Therefore we need to analyze all the threats.

We need to identify the causes, the factors and circumstances of the threats.

Based on that we need to design a National Strategic Plan.

NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN

- The first Action Plan for control of the interior dated December 2005 and came from a multidisciplinary Task Force.
- In 2008 and 2009 a Working Group produced several reports to give body to the NSP.
- In December 2009 the NSP was presented to the government and was approved by the Council of Ministers in July 2010.
- The implementation is now in process and will be subjected to the new insights and priorities of the new Government.
The following security fields were identified in the NSP:
1. Security of the government system;
2. Security against criminality;
3. Security of energy supply;
4. Security of nature and environment;
5. Security of food supply and food insurance;
6. Security of health;
7. Security against fire;
8. Security in and around schools;
9. Security in traffic;

To create sustainable security as a main goal:
The Strategy of this NSP is to improve integrality, it shows involvement and continuing partnership between the community, the government departments and non-government organizations and its aim is on implementation.

To built the future that we all want requires changing the present.
**NATION BUILDING**

- The NSP is based on the idea of nation building by:
  - Strengthening the institutional base of the government;
  - Proactive implementations of measures;
  - It regards all ministeries;
  - And a great number of private and social organizations;
  - This gives the NSP the body of a NATIONAL PLAN.

- The NSP is also meant for improvement of the living standard:
  - Improvement of security means better international status;
  - A better international status means more business on the international level; and this means a growing economy.

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**INTEGRAL IMPLEMENTATION**

- The NSP is proposing 77 actions/measures based on 3 sources:
  - The documents of the past years;
  - Interviews with many internal and external stakeholders;
  - Own knowledge and views of the Working Group and the Project team.
SECURITY OF THE GOVERNMENT SYSTEM

- Institutional, legislative and capacity imperfections in the government system create threats to security;
- To fight against these threats 16 actions are recommended.
- The most important ones are the proposal to install a Thematic Commission on Security in the National Assemble of Suriname and the implementation of an Institute for Security.
- There is also need for proper laws to enhance security on state level.

SECURITY AGAINST CRIMINALITY

- To fight these threats 10 actions are recommended.
- Within these actions new measures to tackle the drug problem are mentioned; an integrated and comprehensive method to fight the criminality threat from the interior of Suriname, that has its impact on the capital city and also measures to create more jobs and better living standards.
- A survey carried out by the IMWO, a scientific institution under the framework of the University of Suriname concluded that 80% of the population say they feel safe in their home and 60% stated that they feel safe on the street (source: IMWO).
SCENARIOS TO BE WORKED OUT

- Threat for coups and political warfare and the replacement of Civilian government by military government.
- Terrorist attack at the international airport, sea ports and utility factories.
- Sabotage at strategic junctions in infrastructure and energy supply.
- Natural disasters—earthquakes, flooding, landslides.
- Dambreaking of the reservoir.
- Flooding of the capital city.
- Increase of the sealevel.
- Fire in important government buildings.
- Fire in hospitals;
- Collapse of the bridge over the Surinameriver.
- Outbreak of diseases.
- Mercury poisoning in the interior.

BRINGING IT INTO PRACTICE

- POLICY

Policyplan on Legal Protection and Security 2006-2010; this plan has a expanded analyses of the criminality issues and mentions specialized projects/measures (e.g Opa Doeli; Security Project Latour; Bureau for Human Rights).

The National Drugs Masterplan 2006-2010; with integral and structural measures to tackle the drug problem in Suriname (e.g. Detox clinic).

National Strategic Plan 2010-2015; implementation of integral measures are pending.
CONT’D

**Structure**
- The national security policy will be structured at the highest political level.
- The department of National Security will imbedded in the structure of the Cabinet of the President.
- The national security policy will be coordinated by this department.
- The NSP is the basic input to develop a national strategy.

The spearheads of the policy will be:
**Inter-agency cooperation**

- Inter-agency cooperation
- Coordinated intelligence and operations
- Drugs control
- Firearms control
- Combat organized crime
- Combating Human trafficking and smuggling
- Combating terrorism and threats against the state
- Combating corruption
- Immigration and border control
- International cooperation
SOME MEASURES AT STATE LEVEL:

- Better control of green borders and territorial sea by the Marine and the implementation of a Coast Guard is in progress.
- Investment in intelligence to tackle organize crime, potential acts of terrorism and border disputes and border crime.
- The installation of a Thematic Commission on Security in the National Assemble of Suriname.
- The implementation of an Institute for Security on the highest level *in the future*.

SOME MEASURES AT COMMUNITY LEVEL

- *Local solution to local problems*; Creation of the Community managers (policeman as vocal point for the community)
- *Special focus on drug addiction*; Comprehensive prevention and intervention, which address the drug, the person and the environment.
- The Governments approach recognizes the likelihood of drugs being supplied, misused and causing harm
- Increase of control (JAP Team; roadblocks) prevent drug from leaving the country.
- Evaluation of the lessons learned on drugs prevention and implementing these methods on other security issues.
IN CONCLUSION

- To control the security effectively, structurally and sustainable:
  - We need to have an integral and comprehensive national security strategy;
  - Based on country’s reality;
  - Within the framework and spirit of the “Declaration on security in the Americas”;
  - We need to have the security institutions and mechanisms in place and strengthened;
  - The implementation should be based on priority and policy matrix;
  - The implementation should be evaluated periodically;
  - The results and effects should be measured regularly;
  - We need to have a proper budget.

THANK YOU QUESTIONS