CHALLENGES TO ADDRES THE PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING AND CONSUMPTION PROBLEM OF METHAMPHETAMINES IN MÉXICO
EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OVERVIEW ON METHAMPHETAMINES CONSUMPTION

SURVEY ON ONCE METHAMPHETAMINES USE AMONG STUDENTS BY SEX, 2000-2003

ONCE ILLEGAL DRUG USE


ONCE ILLEGAL DRUG USE

COMPARISON BETWEEN FIRST USE DRUG AND HARD USE DRUG AMONG PATIENTS ATTENDING NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGO) TREATMENT CENTRES, 1994-2006
1994 - 2006 1st SEMESTER

Source: SISVEA-Non-Governmental Treatment Centers, 2006

ONCE ILLEGAL DRUG USE ON ADMISSION PATIENTS TO TREATMENT AT THE YOUTH INTEGRATION CENTERS FROM TO 1ST SEMESTER 2004

Source: The Youth Integration Centers, Department of Research and Learning, Under Department of Research Institutional Epidemiological Information. System of Drug Use, Mexico, 2005
COMPARATIVE ONCE IN LIFE DRUG USE AND SELECTED SUBSTANCES IMPACT ON ADMISSION PATIENTS TO TREATMENT AT THE YIC DURING THE FIRST SEMESTER 2005

Source: The Youth Integration Centers, Department of Research and Learning, Under Department of Research Institutional Epidemiological Information. System of Drug Use, México, 2005

MEXICAN GOVERNMENT ACTIONS RELATED TO THE PROBLEMS OF METHAMPHETAMINE PRODUCTION AND TRAFFIC
CHEMICAL PRECURSORS TRAFFIC IS LINKED TO METHAMPHETAMINE PROCESSING. THUS, THIS ACTIVITY IS FOUND IN THE STATES OF BAJA CALIFORNIA, SINALOA, JALISCO, MICHOACÁN, AND RECENTLY IN MORELOS Y VERACRUZ.

DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS, THE BEHAVIOR OF PSEUDOEPHEDRINE AND EPHEDRINE TRAFFIC SHOWS A DOWN TREND. RECENTLY, TO EXTRACT PSEUDOEPHEDRINE FOR METHAMPHETAMINE PROCESSING THE DIVERSION OF BRONCHIAL DILATING MEDICATION HAS BEEN FOUND, AS A MEANS TO COUNTER CONTROLS ESTABLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO.

BEHAVIOR OF PSEUDOEPHEDRINE AND EPHEDRINE TRAFFIC

SOURCE: Uniform Statistical System for the Control of Drugs, 2006 (Sistema Estadistico Uniforme para el Control de Drogas - SEUCD, 2006)

*Preliminary Figures-- **As Of August 25, 2006, Preliminary Figures
DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS, PRECURSOR MEDICATION SEIZURES HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT IN THE COUNTRY. THESE PRODUCTS ARE SUED TO MANUFACTURE SYNTHETIC DRUGS. IN THIS PERIOD WE HAVE SEEN AN IRREGULAR BEHAVIOR IN RELATION TO THE AMOUNTS SEIZED. THE YEAR 2004 WAS OUTSTANDING WITH THE SEIZURE OF 21,834,727 UNITS.

THE MOST IMPORTANT MEANS OF TRAFFIC IS THE USE OF COURIER SERVICES. THE STATE OF JALISCO AND THE FEDERAL DISTRICT ARE USED AS RECEIVING AND DISTRIBUTING CENTERS (HUBS) FOR MEDICATION, WITH THE MOST IMPORTANT DESTINATION BEING THE STATE OF SINALOA.
MÉXICO

TRAFFIC TRENDS FOR AMPHETAMINE SHOWS AN IRREGULAR BEHAVIOR AND IS LINKED TO A METHAMPHETAMINE PRODUCING PHASE. SEIZURES FOR THIS DRUG TAKE PLACE AT METHAMPHETAMINE PROCESSING CENTERS.

METHAMPHETAMINE BEHAVIOR SHOWS A GROWING TREND AS OF THE YEAR 2002. METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFIC IS MOSTLY CONCENTRATED IN THE NORTHEASTERN REGIONS, WHICH LATELY HAVE SHOWN HIGH PRODUCTION OF THIS SYNTHETIC DRUG.

SOURCE: Uniform Statistical System for the Control of Drugs, 2006 (Sistema Estadistico Uniforme para el Control de Drogas - SEUCD, 2006)
*Preliminary Figures – **As Of August 25, 2006, Preliminary Figures
FROM 2001 TO 2004, 70 CLANDESTINE LABORATORIES WERE DESTROYED, AND THIS SHOWS A CONSTANT AVERAGE OF 17 LABORATORIES PER YEAR.

DURING 2005 35 SYNTHETIC DRUG PROCESSING LABORATORIES WERE DESTROYED. DURING THE PAST 6-YEAR PERIOD, 2005 HAS BEEN THE YEAR IN WHICH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF LABORATORIES WERE DISMANTLED. NEVERTHELESS, DISTRIBUTION GOES ON THE SITATES IN WHICH THESE PROCESSING CENTERS WERE DETECTED.

IN THE COURSE OF 2006, 6 METHAMPHETAMINE CLANDESTINE LABORATORIES WERE DISMANTLED. BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED LARGE PRODUCTION LABORATORIES, THE FOLLOWING ARE OUTSTANDING:

- JANUARY 6, COL. ALAMO INDUSTRIAL, GUADALAJARA, JAL.
- AUGUST 4, TLAJOMULCO DE ZUÑIGA, JAL.

SOURCE: Uniform Statistical System for the Control of Drugs, 2006 (Sistema Estadístico Uniforme para el Control de Drogas - SEUCD, 2006)

*Preliminary Figures – **As Of May 25 2006, Preliminary Figures
MÉXICO
MÉXICO

METHAMPHETAMINE SEIZURES AND CLAN LABS DESTROYED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Methamphetamine (KGS)</th>
<th>Laboratories</th>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>400.3</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>457.2</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>750.7</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004*</td>
<td>951.5</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005*</td>
<td>979.7</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006**</td>
<td>455.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE: Uniform Statistical System for the Control of Drugs, 2006 (Sistema Estadistico Uniforme para el Control de Drogas - SEUCD, 2006)
*Preliminary Figures
**As Of May 25, 2006, Preliminary Figures

MEXICAN GOVERNMENT STRATEGY TO FIGHT METHAMPHETAMINE PRODUCTION AND TRAFFIC
1. ATTENTION TO METHAMPHETAMINE DEMAND

A. OBJECTIVES

- To strengthen support programs for rehabilitation of substance abusers, with special emphasis on fighting the use of methamphetamine and other designer drugs.
- To create awareness in society on the serious health problems and the social consequences of using methamphetamine and other synthetic drugs.
- To expand the infrastructure of the hospital and health care institutions to make it compliant with the official standards (NOM 28-SSA2-1999).

B. SPECIFIC ACTIONS

- The health secretariat maintains supervision on rehabilitation clinics in order to promote and facilitate this process for substance abusers and drug addicted patients.
- Design a permanent advertising campaign to warn society on the consequences of drug consumption and abuse.
- Organize lectures and conferences that promote the prevention of drug consumption, especially synthetic drugs, among the most vulnerable population.
- Prepare documents to support and teach parents, teachers and health specialists on the early detection of designer drugs consumption.
2. FOSTERING THE CULTURE OF INFORMING LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES

A. OBJECTIVES
- To have the Mexican society participate in fighting drug trafficking for methamphetamine and other drugs, by informing the law enforcement authorities on drug traffickers.
- To inform society on basic awareness to detect activities related to synthetic drugs production.
- To invite society to inform law enforcement authorities on any indication of the possible existence of methamphetamine producing laboratories.

B. SPECIFIC ACTIONS
- To foster a high impact campaign so that the population is made aware of the risks involved by the presence of a clandestine laboratory in their community.
- To strengthen the required actions to increase the trust that society has on our institutions.
- To strengthen the dissemination of TV spots informing on the various means and ways to inform law enforcement authorities.

3. ADEQUATENESS OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A. OBJECTIVES
- To make the applicable regulations adequate so they will be appropriate to control chemical precursors, essential chemicals, and tablet, capsule, and pill producing machines; to make regulations stronger and to avoid diversions that may result in synthetic drugs production.

B. SPECIFIC ACTIONS
- Establish an analysis sub-group to perform an integral revision of the federal law on this issue.
- Call for meetings to analyze the contents and scope of the existing laws on this issue, and to identify the legal loopholes that are to be resolved.
- Prepare inter-agency proposals to reform the federal law on this issue and its regulations.
4. IMPULSE AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

A. OBJECTIVES
- To strengthen strategies related to intelligence to fight the problem of synthetic drugs production and trafficking and the related activities.
- To strengthen inter-agency and international procedures for the timely information exchange and analysis.

B. SPECIFIC ACTIONS
- A data base to coordinate the Mexican government efforts for the control of chemical substances (chemical precursors and essential chemicals), as well as other implements used in the synthetic drugs production (PREQUM), has been created.
- To implement processes to analyze activities related to synthetic drugs production, in order to support the activities of prosecutors.
- To develop procedures for the timely exchange of information at an international level, in order to prevent and identify activities related to the production of designer drugs.
- To train our staff in identification of chemical precursors, essential chemicals, and synthetic drugs.
- To foster tracking, follow-up and/or location of shipments, by means of the exchange of intelligence information.

5. COMBATING DIVERSION AND TRAFFIC OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES

A. OBJECTIVES
- To avoid that chemical substances legally entering the Mexican territory be diverted to be used in the production of methamphetamines.
- To prevent the illicit entry of controlled chemical substances that can be used to produce synthetic drugs in Mexico or in other countries.

B. SPECIFIC ACTIONS
- Follow-up actions have been implemented on corporations authorized to buy and sell chemical precursors.
- A tri-lateral proposal with the United States and Canada will be fostered. This proposal is to identify shipments of pseudoephedrine and ephedrine containing pharmaceuticals, and to implement the pre-notification before the Inter-American Commission for the Control and Abuse of Drugs (COMISIÓN INTERAMERICANA PARA EL CONTROL Y ABUSO DE DROGAS - CICAD).
- To be able to reduce pseudoephedrine imports
- To maintain a continuous supervision on corporations related to chemical precursors imports.
- To cancel pseudoephedrine import permits given to intermediaries (middle-men).
- To promote modifications to the general law on health to control a larger number of chemical substances.
- To modify the customs tariff to control ma huang (ephedra) imports.
6. COMBATING CONTRABAND OF CHEMICALS AND PHARMACEUTICALS

A. OBJECTIVES

- To avoid that chemical substances and pharmaceuticals already existing in the legal market be diverted to obtain the required raw materials for methamphetamine production.
- Prevent that front pharmaceutical corporations be used to divert precursors and/or to produce methamphetamines.

B. SPECIFIC ACTIONS

- To promote the timely exchange of information between international authorities. These actions are necessary to try to identify and detain in Mexico the transnational organizations devoted to the contraband of medication being sent to Mexico.
- To closely supervise corporations applying for authorizations to import pharmaceutical products. This is done to detect possible front corporations.
- To design commercial tracking systems (among others, via satellite) for chemical products (precursors) in order to define their source of origin and to promote identification of criminals.
- To strengthen customs inspections at points of entry, in sites that are authorized to accept the entry of chemical precursors.
- To promote the substitution of pseudoephedrine for other products in the manufacture of medication.
- In coordination with ANIO, CANIFARMA and CANACINTRA, prepare a diagnosis of the true licit consumption of pseudoephedrine by the formally established industry, in order to limit diversions.
- With the use gamma rays and X-ray equipment, to detect sensitive merchandise, among which chemical precursors and pharmaceuticals are included, trying to enter the country via contraband.
- To detect chemical precursors such as pseudoephedrine, by using duly trained canine binomials (K-9 teams).
- To investigate and analyze the risk of foreign trade operations that are carried out by corporations, in relation to the purchase and sale of pharmaceuticals and chemical precursors.
7. FIGHTING METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFIC

A. OBJECTIVES
- To avoid that methamphetamine produced in Mexico reaches consumer markets.
- To stop the traffic of methamphetamine produced in other countries that uses the Mexican territory as traffic route, to reach the United States.
- To combat criminal organizations devoted to retail sales of methamphetamine.

B. SPECIFIC ACTIONS
- To consolidate at PGR, a specialized prosecutors office in SIEDO to provide attention to these crimes, and a specialized area in CENAPI to foster substantive actions by the prosecutors by means of intelligence actions.
- To train operational staff located at the international sea ports and airports on the identification of chemical precursors and synthetic drugs.
- To promote actions so that the mixed units working on retail drug trafficking (UMAN) can develop specific operations to identify and dismantle the sites where synthetic drugs are produced and sold.
- To exchange information to determine the trends and location of critical sites for traffic and production.

8. IDENTIFICATION AND DESTRUCTION OF METHAMPHETAMINE PRODUCING LABORATORIES

A. OBJECTIVES
- To develop intelligence and investigative actions to detect methamphetamine processing laboratories.
- To implement operations that are specific for dismantling methamphetamine laboratories.

B. SPECIFIC ACTIONS
- To privilege the coordination between the legal, intelligence and operational areas in order to implement investigations that have led to the dismantling of criminal organizations devoted to the production of synthetic drugs.
- To train authorities from various areas for dismantling clandestine laboratories.
- To prepare an updated diagnosis on the production methods for synthetic drugs and for the marketing of chemical precursors and essential chemicals.
9. INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

A. OBJECTIVE

- To coordinate the actions developed by the Mexican Government in conjunction with international efforts, that are related to combating synthetic drugs production and traffic, to prevent diversion of chemical precursors, and to combat synthetic drug trafficking to strengthen the image our country has abroad.

B. SPECIFIC ACTIONS

- To participate in the various cooperation and coordination schemes in the international arena, to combat synthetic drugs production and traffic, as well as to prevent chemical precursors and essential chemicals from being diverted, and to prevent related activities.
- To implement international conventions and mandates by the United Nations Organization and the Organization of American States, related to international cooperation on the issue of fighting synthetic drugs production and trafficking, and to prevent diversion of chemical precursors.
- To strengthen bilateral relations with other countries for the exchange of information and intelligence in order to prevent and avoid chemical substances diversion for synthetic drugs production and trafficking.
- To promote initiatives before the international organizations which prevent and combat synthetic drugs production and traffic, as well as to prevent the diversion of chemical precursors and essential chemicals and all other related activities.
- To share, at a bi-lateral level, the experiences related to chemical precursors, essential chemicals, and clandestine laboratories identification.