

HEMISPHERIC PLAN OF ACTION ON DRUGS

2016-2020



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HEMISPHERIC PLAN OF ACTION ON DRUGS

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HEMISPHERIC DRUG STRATEGY

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INTRODUCTION

In the Americas the world drug problem manifests as an increasingly complex, dynamic and multi-causal phenomenon that has adverse effects on health, social cohesion, citizen security, the integrity of democratic institutions, development and economic activities in the countries of the region, with political, economic, social and environmental costs. This requires a comprehensive, balanced, multidisciplinary and evidence-based approach that takes into account the causes of the problem, in full respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In that regard, the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2016-2020 is a supporting guide for continuing the implementation of the established guidelines in the Hemispheric Drug Strategy (2010) and the commitments undertaken by member states in the Declaration of Antigua, Guatemala, “For a comprehensive policy against the world drug problem in the Americas” (2013); in the Resolution of Guatemala, “Reflections and guidelines to formulate and follow up on comprehensive policies to address the world drug problem in the Americas” (2014); and in the outcome document of the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the world drug problem, held from April 19-21, 2016 in New York City, entitled, “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem” (2016), among other relevant resolutions approved in this area during the past four years. Additionally, the Plan of Action acknowledges the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and notes that the efforts made towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing.

Through this Plan of Action, member states reiterate their commitment to continue furthering progress in the Hemisphere, addressing the world drug problem, placing individuals at the core of drug policies and taking into account gender, age and cultural issues, as well as, when appropriate, inputs from civil society and other social actors, and addresses the new challenges faced by countries, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, in full respect of the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

As a supporting guide for the implementation of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy, the Plan of Action sets five strategic areas and identifies objectives and priority actions to be developed by 2020 in each of the 34 member states that make up the Organization of American States, according to the existing reality, domestic legislation and the state of development of the approach to the drug problem in each State. The Plan of Action also includes a cross-cutting perspective on human rights, gender and development with social inclusion, taking into account relevant criteria of culture and age group.

The Plan of Action is a reference guide for designing national drug policies, programs and projects, making it possible to align and generate synergies between the national agendas and the hemispheric agenda being developed through the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD). Also, the Plan of Action requires close and horizontal coordination between CICAD and the various relevant bodies within the OAS with expertise in related issues, particularly in the areas of corruption, money laundering, transnational organized crime and public security, with a view to building a coordinated and consultative framework in areas of common interest, seeking to contribute positively to the efforts of member states to address the challenges and complexities of the world drug problem in our hemisphere.

**Area 1:
Institutional
Strengthening**

Institutional Strengthening

Objectives

1. Establish and/or strengthen national drug authorities, placing them at a high political level and providing them with the necessary capabilities and competencies to coordinate national drug policies in its stages of formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

2. Formulate, implement, evaluate and update national drug policies and/or strategies that will be comprehensive and balanced, based on evidence that include a cross-cutting human rights perspective, consistent with obligations of parties under international¹ law with a focus on gender and emphasizing development with social inclusion.

Priority Actions

1.1 Place national drug authorities at a high political level.

1.2 Provision of the national drug authorities with the capabilities to guide the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the national drug policies and inter-agency coordination in this area.

1.3 Provision of the necessary resources (material, financial and human) for the effective functioning of the national drug authorities.

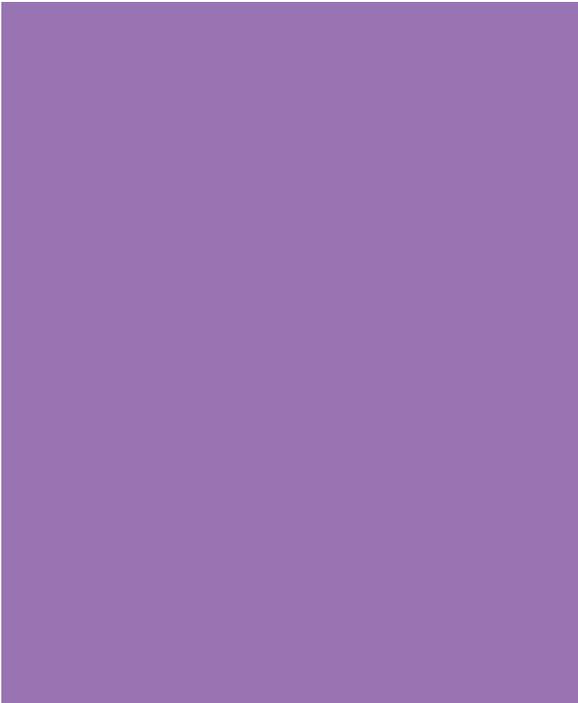
1.4 Design or optimize coordination and collaboration mechanisms among government institutions for the formulation, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and updating of evidence-based national drug policies and/or strategies.

2.1 Collection and use of evidence as a basis for the formulation and updating of national drug policies and/or strategies.

2.2 Promotion and establishment, as appropriate, of collaborative relations with the scientific community, public policy experts, community and/or civil society actors that contribute to the development, implementation, evaluation and updating of national drug policies based on evidence.

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

Objectives

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- 3.** Design and coordinate national drug policies and/or strategies with other public policies and/or strategies that address fundamental causes and consequences of the drug problem.

Priority Actions

2.3 Promotion of territorial/local management of drug policies and/or strategies through greater coordination and/or delegation of responsibilities, as appropriate, between sub-national and national agencies, where appropriate.

2.4 Formulation and/or the updating of national drug policies and/or strategies, taking into account the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2.5 Integration of a human rights perspective, a gender approach and development with social inclusion in the process of formulation, implementation and updating the national drug policies and/or strategies.

3.1 Establishment of policy and technical coordination mechanisms, at the inter-agency and multisectoral levels, for a comprehensive, balanced, and multi-disciplinary approach to the drug problem including all its causes and consequences.

3.2 Design, implementation and evaluation of multisectoral plans and programs aimed at preventing and countering the socioeconomic causes and consequences of the drug problem, from a human rights, public health and development perspective.

3.3 Promotion of the cross-cutting measures that further comprehensive public policies in order to prevent crime, violence, victimization, social exclusion and corruption.

Objectives

- 4.** Establish and/or strengthen national observatories on drugs (or similar technical offices) for the development of national drug information systems and fostering scientific research in this area.

Priority Actions

3.4 Implementation of measures that promote equal access to the administration of justice and due process with a gender sensitive approach.

3.5 Implementation of measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, community cohesion, protection and safety, such as, building a culture of lawfulness, as well as, measures that stimulate social inclusion.

4.1 Provision of the national observatory on drugs (or similar technical office) with training, and financial, human and technological resources.

4.2 Development, as appropriate, of national drug information systems in the areas of demand and supply reduction, as well as, related crimes.

4.3 Development of national and/or regional drug studies and research on the drug problem on general, specific and hidden populations by the observatory and/or other similar technical institutions, encouraging disaggregation by gender and age, among others.

4.4 Strengthening the monitoring and evaluation of drug programs and/or interventions, through results and impact indicators, and tools for evidence-based analysis, in the areas of drug demand and supply reduction.

Objectives

5. Encourage the design, adoption and implementation of alternatives to incarceration for low-level drug-related offenses, while taking into account national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems and in accordance with relevant international instruments.

6. Promote and implement, as appropriate, in accordance with the policies, laws and needs of each country, comprehensive programs that promote social inclusion especially to those vulnerable populations, with different levels and forms of involvement.

Priority Actions

4.5 Creation and strengthening of data collection on treatment for problematic drug use, including the registered number of patients diagnosed, treated and information available on treatment results.

5.1 Assess the feasibility of implementing alternative measures for low-level drug-related offenses to incarceration, where appropriate, safeguarding the sovereignty of States, preventing impunity and respecting human rights.

5.2 Develop mechanisms for the monitoring and evaluation of the various alternative measures to incarceration for low-level drug-related offenses in collaboration, as appropriate, with academic and research institutions.

6.1 Design and implementation of, in accordance with the needs of each country, inter-agency and multisectoral programs that promote the social inclusion of individuals and populations affected by the drug problem, especially those in vulnerable situations.

6.2 Dissemination of best management practices that improve the mechanisms of institutional response to the needs of the population, especially those in vulnerable situations.

Objectives

- 7.** Foster proportionate sentencing, where appropriate, that address the seriousness of drug offenses and safeguarding legal proceedings.

Priority Actions

7.1 Promotion, when appropriate, within the national drug policy framework, respect for the legal sentencing proportionality principle of low-level drug-related offenses.

7.2 Encourage legal reforms, where appropriate, that promote proportional sentencing put forth by member states for low-level drug-related offenses.

**Area 2:
Demand
Reduction**

Reducción de la Demanda

Objectives

- 1.** Establish demand reduction policies with a public health focus that are evidence-based, multidisciplinary, multisectoral and respectful of human rights, considering the guidelines and/or recommendations of specialized international organizations.

Priority actions

- 1.1** Establishment and/or update of programs in the areas of prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and social integration, taking into account gender, age and cultural relevance, as appropriate.
- 1.2** Creation and/or strengthening of dissemination and access mechanisms for drug use related information and evidence and, on the prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and social integration services, for the general public and different target populations, with the participation of universities and research centers.
- 1.3** Carry out processes and results-based evaluations of demand reduction programs.
- 1.4** Implementation, as appropriate, of coordination mechanisms with civil society and other social actors, academic and research institutions for the development and implementation of demand reduction programs.
- 1.5** Promotion, as appropriate, of national prevention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures and programs, in the context of comprehensive and balanced drug demand reduction efforts, effective measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse. Promoting in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS.

Objectives

2. Establish and/or strengthen an integrated system of universal, selected and indicated prevention programs on drug use, giving priority to vulnerable and at-risk populations, evidence-based and incorporating a human rights, gender, age and multicultural approach.

3. Establish and strengthen, as appropriate, a national treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration system for people with problematic drug use, including a human rights and gender-based approach, taking into account internationally accepted quality standards.

Priority actions

2.1 Development and implementation of evidence-based drug use prevention strategies and/or programs in the school, family, work, and community spheres.

2.2 Development of situational assessments to identify particular needs and risk, and protective factors among specific population groups targeted by drug use prevention programs.

2.3 Promotion of the exchange of experiences and best practices to improve prevention programs, taking into consideration the “International Standards on Drug Use Prevention.”

2.4 Implementation of selective prevention programs aimed at boys and girls, adolescents and at-risk youth.

2.5 Development of indicated prevention programs aimed at individuals with problematic drug use.

3.1 Implementation and strengthening of comprehensive care, treatment, rehabilitation, and social inclusion programs and services in the public health care network, and/or social protection, guaranteeing access-free of discrimination.

3.2 Monitor and evaluation of the results of the care, treatment, rehabilitation, social reintegration of programs and comprehensive facilities, taking into account, gender, age and cultural relevance, as appropriate.

Objectives

- 4.** Foster ongoing training and certification of human resources that provide prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration services.

Priority actions

3.3 Promotion of measures to protect the rights of the persons in treatment programs and services.

3.4 Exploring the means of providing treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration services for drug-dependent criminal offenders as an alternative to criminal prosecution or imprisonment.

3.5 Establishment of treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration programs for the prison population with problematic drug use.

3.6 Design and implementation of cooperation mechanisms among the stakeholders to provide social and community support services contributing to the social reintegration of people, particularly the most vulnerable populations, in an ongoing and sustainable fashion.

4.1 Implementation of ongoing competency-based training mechanisms, in collaboration with academic institutions and those specializing in the area.

4.2 Development of basic, intermediate and advanced criteria for certification, by levels and human resources competencies, that provides prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration services.

4.3 Conduct a situational diagnosis to identify the necessities for human resources training working in prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration programs.

Objectives

- 5.** Establish and/or strengthen governmental institutional capacities to regulate, enable, accredit and supervise prevention programs and, care and treatment services.

Priority actions

- 5.1** Establishment and implementation of regulatory measures that include quality criteria for the accreditation of prevention programs and, care and treatment services.
- 5.2** Establishment of supervisory mechanisms to ensure that the quality criteria of the prevention programs and, care and treatment services are met.
- 5.3** Development of assessments on national needs and, care and treatment services offered.
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Area 3: Supply Reduction

Supply Reduction Policies

Objectives

- 1.** Design, implement and strengthen comprehensive and balanced policies and programs, aimed at preventing and decreasing the illicit supply of drugs, in accordance to the territorial realities of each country and respecting human rights.

Priority actions

- 1.1** Design, implementation and update of, as appropriate, national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation and production of drugs.
- 1.2** Establishment of budgetary mechanisms to ensure the sufficient and predictable allocation of resources to illicit supply of drugs reduction programs.
- 1.3** Promotion of illicit supply reduction measures that take due account of licit traditional uses, whenever there is historical evidence of such uses, as well as, environmental protection.
- 1.4** Strengthening of interagency cooperation to provide a comprehensive response to the illicit production of drugs, in the framework of the responsibilities and mandates of each agency, including collaboration among the public and private sectors and the international community.
- 1.5** In cooperation with civil society, as appropriate, supplement supply reduction programs with crime prevention initiatives that address social and economic risk factors.
- 1.6** Promotion of the development and sustainability of a hemispheric information system in the area of illicit supply of drugs within the framework of CICAD, ensuring the availability of current data that are, to the extent possible, comparable.

Objectives

- 2. Develop and implement mechanisms to collect and analyze information for the development of policies and actions aimed at decreasing the illicit supply of drugs.**

Priority actions

- 2.1** Implementation, revision and update of mechanisms or systems used for collecting and analyzing information related to the illicit supply of drugs.
- 2.2** Conducting periodic studies and research that contributes to knowledge on the current situation of the illicit supply of drugs within national borders, such as, structural and socioeconomic factors, as appropriate.
- 2.3** Preparation and update of, as appropriate, scientific studies and research on medicinal uses and other legal use of plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances subject to the international control system.
- 2.4** Establishment of clear and quantifiable indicators on the reduction of illicit supply of drugs.
- 2.5** Promotion of the identification of chemical profiles and characteristics of drugs subject to the international control system, as well as, new psychoactive substances, enabling a better understanding of the dynamics of the supply of these substances.
- 2.6** Promotion of standardized and comparable methodologies for the measurement of illicit crops and drug production, for the design and implementation of policies and programs, as appropriate.

Objectives

3. Design, implement and/or strengthen long-term programs which are broad and aimed at development that includes rural and urban alternative, integral and sustainable development programs, and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in accordance with the policies, legislations and needs of each country, as appropriate.

Priority actions

3.1 Design and implementation of alternative, integral and sustainable development programs, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate.

3.2 Exchange experiences and best practices in the design and implementation of alternative, integral and sustainable development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate.

3.3 Promotion and dissemination of the results of alternative, integral and sustainable development programs, and the benefits they provide to affected communities.

3.4 Design and/or continuous improvement for monitoring and evaluation systems for alternative, integral and sustainable development programs, among others, aimed at reducing illicit crops and improving the well being of communities, through intermediate and final result indicators, to measure the effectiveness they have in the medium and long term.

3.5 Strengthening of the presence of the state in areas affected or at-risk by the illicit cultivation in drug production, where it is implemented, consistent with the circumstances of each State, the alternative, integral and sustainable alternative development strategy, including preventive development, as appropriate, with a focus on inclusive intervention that guarantees conditions allowing for sustainable legitimate economies.

3.6 Promotion, in accordance with the circumstances of each State, of the participation of local communities and relevant organizations in the alternative, integral

Objectives

- 4.** Design and implement plans and/or programs to mitigate and reduce the impact of illicit crops and drug production on the environment, with the incorporation and participation of local communities, in accordance with the national policies of member states.

Priority actions

and sustainable development strategy, in order to take their needs and capabilities into account.

3.7 Design, as appropriate, of urban sustainable development initiatives for those affected by illicit drug-related activities to foster public participation in crime prevention, community cohesion, protection and safety, and to stimulate innovation, entrepreneurship and employment.

3.8 Development and/or adoption, as appropriate, of mechanisms to define illicit cultivation areas using a comprehensive approach to understand the economic, geographic and social multiple factors that determines them.

3.9 Promotion of partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society, among other social actors and international financial institutions to create conditions more conducive to productive investments targeted at job creation in areas and among communities affected by or at-risk of drug cultivation, production and in order to prevent, reduce or eliminate them, and share best practices, lessons learned, expertise and skills in this regard.

4.1 Conduct research and studies on the environmental impact of crop cultivation and illicit production of drugs.

4.2 Design and implementation of specific plans which, based on the results obtained from research and studies, geared to mitigating and reducing the environmental impact of illicit crop cultivation and drug production, with the participation of local communities.

Objectives

- 5.** Establish, as appropriate, and based on evidence the effects caused by small-scale drug trafficking on public health, the economy, social cohesion and citizen security.

Priority actions

4.3 Promotion and strengthening of the use of environmental management tools, as appropriate.

5.1 Development of characterization methodologies with a territorial approach to the phenomena of micro-trafficking.

5.2 Promotion of the exchange of information to better understand the scope of the adverse effects of small-scale drug trafficking, including those on health, society, the economy, and security.

Area 4: Control Measures

Control Measures

Objectives

- 1.** Adopt and/or strengthen comprehensive and balanced programs aimed at preventing and reducing drug trafficking, in accordance with the territorial realities of each country and respecting human rights.

Priority actions

- 1.1** Implementation of procedures and strengthening of human resources capabilities to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities for the illicit manufacture of drugs.
- 1.2** Strengthening of the design, update and implementation of programs aimed at land, riverine, maritime and aerial interdiction, by the national authorities.
- 1.3** Review and update, as appropriate, legal frameworks related to the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques.
- 1.4** Training of personnel involved in interdiction operations linked to regulations, processes and procedures related to drugs and related crimes, as well as, specialized investigative techniques and intelligence.
- 1.5** Review and/or update, as appropriate, the follow-up mechanisms of the evolution of drug trafficking and related crimes, for the purpose of identifying new trends and threats.
- 1.6** Definition and implementation of coordinated actions that make it possible to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes.
- 1.7** Enhancement of the capacity of forensic laboratories or similar entities to analyze chemical substances, precursors and pharmaceutical products, including the new psychoactive substances.

Objectives

2. Adopt and/or strengthen control measures to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities.

3. Adopt and/or strengthen control measures to prevent diversion towards illicit activities of pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances or those containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances, ensuring the adequate availability and access solely for medical and scientific purposes.

Priority actions

2.1 Promotion of inter-agency coordination in order to improve cooperation with industry in preventing diversion of chemical substances.

2.2 Conduct analyses, including the exchange of information through existing mechanisms of substances, their analogs and precursors, which pose a threat to public health in member states, for expedited international control.

2.3 Strengthening of the existing control system to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.

2.4 Promote the participation in the pre-export notification system of controlled chemical substances.

2.5 Training of relevant drug control personnel on the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances.

3.1 Implementation of measures to control pharmaceutical products that contain precursor substances, narcotics or psychoactive substances, in order to prevent their diversion to non-medical purposes.

3.2 Update of existing regulations and control measures to prevent diversion of pharmaceutical products containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances.

Objectives

4. Ensure adequate availability and accessibility of substances subject to international control solely for medical and scientific purposes, preventing their diversion.

5. Strengthen national measures to address the challenge of new psychoactive substances and the threat of amphetamine stimulants.

Priority actions

4.1 Streamlining, in accordance with national legislation, the process for issuing import and export authorizations for controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes.

4.2 Adoption of measures, in accordance with national legislation, to provide capacity building for national competent authorities and health professionals, on the proper access to substances subject to international control solely for medical and scientific purposes.

4.3 Improvement of access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by appropriately addressing existing barriers, including those related to legislation, regulations and health care systems, among others, while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking.

5.1 Establishment and/or strengthening of an early warning system at the national level to promote, as appropriate, collaboration and the exchange of information with other existing regional or global systems.

5.2 Improvement of the capabilities to detect and analyze new psychoactive substances by making resources and tools available for those responsible in this area according to the possibilities of member states.

5.3 Design and implementation of, when appropriate, of national regulatory tools to address the challenges at the onset of new psychoactive substances.

Objectives

6. Establish, update and strengthen, as appropriate, the legislative and institutional frameworks to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking.

Priority actions

6.1 Review the legal, regulatory and operational frameworks in the areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and control of money laundering derived from drug trafficking.

6.2 Development and implementation of specialized ongoing training in areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and control of money laundering derived from drug trafficking.

6.3 Design and implementation of protocols to permit the competent authorities to enable financial and asset investigations to be conducted, in conjunction with investigations related to drug trafficking.

6.4 Establishment and activation of mechanisms for interagency coordination and cooperation, including national anti-money laundering strategies, national coordinating committees, and the use of task forces.

6.5 Optimization of the information systems for the investigation and prosecution of money laundering from drug trafficking including the use of financial intelligence.

6.6 Identification and analysis of money laundering risks, for the purpose of mitigating said risks through public policies to strengthen the regime for preventing and countering this crime domestically, in accordance with international instruments.

7. Establish and/or strengthen agencies for the administration and disposition of seized and/or forfeited assets in cases of drug trafficking, money laundering and other related crimes.

Priority actions

7.1. In accordance with each country's constitutional principles, apply legislative and regulatory measures to facilitate the seizure and forfeiture of assets, instruments, or product of illicit drug-related activities.

7.2 Establishment of specialized agencies and appropriate mechanisms for the transparent administration of seized and forfeited assets, in accordance with international standards.

7.3 Development and implementation of specialized, ongoing training programs, as appropriate, on the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets.

8. Strengthen national information gathering systems and mechanisms for exchanging intelligence information to detect routes and methods used by criminal drug trafficking organizations.

8.1 Enhancement of the capabilities of law enforcement agencies that control drug trafficking and related crimes, through ongoing training of the involved personnel.

8.2 Strengthen cooperation and the exchange of information among the domestic law enforcement agencies.

8.3 Promotion and strengthening of the exchange of information and intelligence on matters of interdiction and effective border control measures to prevent drug trafficking by air, land and sea.

8.4 Improvement to the information systems on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal drug trafficking organizations.

Area 5: International Cooperation

International Cooperation

Objectives

- 1. Promote and strengthen cooperation and coordination mechanisms to foster technical assistance, improve exchange of information and experiences, and share best practices and lessons learned on drug policies and related crimes.**

Priority Actions

- 1.1** Development and implementation of a set of activities for the promotion and strengthening of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states, third States and with relevant international organizations.
- 1.2** Encourage the transfer of technology among countries on the systematization of regulation, studies, research, and bibliographic material produced by countries and international organizations.
- 1.3** Promotion of the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control.
- 1.4** Promotion of the exchange of best practices on training, specialization and professional development of the staff responsible for implementing demand and supply reduction policies.
- 1.5** Fostering and dissemination of best practices and exchange of successful experiences in research among member states.
- 1.6** Participation, as appropriate, in bilateral and international cooperation programs to strengthen policies, programs, institutions and their internal processes.
- 1.7** Strengthening, as appropriate, of mechanisms for the exchange of information and best practices on illicit crop eradication.

Objectives

- 2. Strengthen the multilateral cooperation and coordination mechanisms in the area of forfeiture and management of assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes.**

Priority Actions

1.8 Strengthening of regional coordination measures to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as, firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering and others.

2.1 Review and updating of, as appropriate, the normative frameworks and procedural rules on administrative and judicial cooperation on money laundering derived from drug trafficking and related crimes.

2.2 Creation and/or strengthening of mechanisms and processes to speed up handling of requests for mutual legal assistance on investigation and forfeiture of assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes.

2.3 Use, as appropriate, of information exchange networks in investigations on money laundering derived from drug trafficking, in a secure and rapid fashion among national authorities and competent international organizations.

2.4 Development and implementation of ongoing specialized technical and professional training programs on the forfeiture and administration of assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes.

2.5 Development of policies, protocols and programs for the effective and secure exchange of operational intelligence at the international level.

Objectives

3. Support the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) process, noting the level of progress and compliance of the commitments undertaken by member states.

4. Strengthen international cooperation as defined in the international legal instruments² related to the world drug problem, with respect for human rights.

Priority Actions

3.1 Systematic gathering of updated and quality information to observe the level of implementation of the MEM recommendations.

3.2 Active and timely participation in each of the activities that the MEM carries out, according to the agreed methodology.

3.3 Dissemination of MEM Reports by member states, while adopting, as appropriate, corrective and proactive measures as necessary.

3.4 Increase information sharing on hemispheric cooperation initiatives focused on addressing the world drug problem, to support the implementation of the MEM recommendations.

4.1 Enactment of national legislation and/or adoption of administrative measures and actions, as appropriate, to increase implementation of obligations set forth within these legal instruments.

4.2 Promotion of the accession, ratification and implementation, as appropriate, of the international legal instruments related to the world drug problem and related crimes.

² This objective refers to the following international legal instruments: the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961), amended by the 1972 Protocol, the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971), the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988), the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) and its three Protocols: against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition; the United Nations Convention against Corruption (2003); the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (1992), the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (1996), and the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials (CIFTA) (1997).

Objectives

5. Promote common understanding of national legal norms, regulations, and internal procedures for the implementation of hemispheric judicial cooperation mechanisms and mutual legal or judicial assistance related to drug trafficking and related crimes.

Priority Actions

5.1 Adoption, where appropriate, of international cooperation measures for the provision of broad mutual legal assistance on drug control activities among competent authorities.

5.2 Promotion of law enforcement cooperation, consistent with domestic laws, particularly through established networks or direct contact.

5.3 Adoption of measures, where appropriate, to promote cooperation facilitating extraditions, in accordance with current legislation of each country.



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