

MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)
EIGHTH EVALUATION ROUND

Outline of the Introductory Document
to the MEM Evaluation Questionnaire

The introductory document to the MEM eighth round questionnaire is essential in the evaluation process. This document offers countries the opportunity to provide information that was not requested in the relevant thematic questionnaire, but offers valuable insight and relevant context of the country's reality. It is necessary that the MEM National Coordinating Entity (NCE) of each member state drafts and submits this document, along with the responses to the evaluation questionnaire within set deadlines.

NCEs should submit an introductory document for each year of the eighth evaluation round, focusing on the thematic area under evaluation during each of the first three years of the round. In the fourth year, the introductory document would offer a general overview of the country's situation.

This document also allows evaluators to better understand the context and characteristics under which the drug phenomenon develops at the national level, offering the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) additional information to take into account during their evaluations, based on the reality of the drug policies in the corresponding thematic area of evaluation in each country and the strategy implemented to address it.

To ensure that the GEG has the most relevant information, it is suggested that the introductory document be no more than **two pages** and take into account the following outline:

I. Overview

This section would be included only for the first year and updated as needed during the following years. It may include the following elements:

1. Brief summary of the geographic, economic, and social reality of the country and the political - administrative system.
2. Brief description of the national drug plan and/or strategy¹ objectives.

¹ Please attach the document or web link to your national drug plan and/or strategy and other related materials.

II. Current Situation

This section may include the following elements:

1. Brief description of the specific objectives of the drug plan and/or strategy within the thematic area that is being evaluated, highlighting those that are currently being prioritized.
2. Specific challenges in the formulation and/or implementation of public policies on the subject corresponding to the thematic area being evaluated, including the gender and human rights perspectives.
3. Emerging challenges in addressing the problem in the corresponding thematic area of evaluation, including the impact of COVID-19, natural disasters, and major socio-economic events, among others.
4. Additional information that the country deems relevant to bear in mind that is not part of the responses to the MEM evaluation questionnaire for the corresponding thematic area being evaluated.