



**ORGANIZATION OF  
AMERICAN STATES (OAS)**



**MEM**  
**MULTILATERAL EVALUATION  
MECHANISM (MEM)**

**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE  
CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)**

**SECRETARIAT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL  
SECURITY (SMS)**

# The Bahamas

(COMMONWEALTH OF)

Evaluation Report on Drug Control

2014





Organization of  
American States

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**Organization of American States (OAS)  
Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)  
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)**

**Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)**

# The Bahamas

(COMMONWEALTH OF)

**EVALUATION REPORT ON DRUG CONTROL  
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## PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is a diagnostic tool, designed by all member states of the Organization of American States (OAS), to periodically carry out comprehensive, multilateral evaluations on the implementation level of the Plan of Action of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy of member states of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD). As part of the Secretariat of Multidimensional Security (SMS), CICAD is the OAS specialized agency responsible for the implementation of this Mechanism, pursuant to a mandate from the Second Summit of the Americas held in Santiago, Chile in 1998.

The MEM is not only an evaluation instrument, but has also become a valuable source of information on the progress achieved by the individual and collective efforts of the governments of OAS member states, thus strengthening hemispheric cooperation, promoting dialogue among governmental authorities of member states and precisely channeling assistance to areas requiring greater attention by optimizing resources. The MEM process in itself is assessed by the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) comprised of delegations from all member states, which meets before the onset of each evaluation round to review and strengthen all operational aspects of the mechanism.

The national evaluation reports for the Sixth Round collect the results of the level of implementation of the 27 recommendations, emanating from the Plan of Action 2011-2015 of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2010, and were drafted by experts in the different areas, assigned by each member state. Experts do not work on their own country's report, guaranteeing the transparent, objective and multilateral nature of the MEM. Each chapter is based on countries' responses to a survey covering the main thematic areas of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy: institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction<sup>1</sup>, control measures and international cooperation, as well as additional and updated information, provided by the government-appointed coordinating entities.

This report covers the country evaluation for the MEM Sixth Evaluation Round, which covers the 2013 to mid-2014 period. All MEM reports are available through the following webpage: <http://www.cicad.oas.org>.

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the CICAD Commissioner's agreement at their fiftieth regular session (November 2011), the supply reduction chapter refers exclusively to the topic of illicit crops. For this reason, the CICAD Commissioners decided, at their fifty-fourth regular session (December 2013), that the recommendations in this chapter (11 to 15) would only be applied to those countries that have significant illicit crops.





## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### RECOMMENDATION 1

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.

**Evaluation:** Complete

The Bahamas' national drug authority is the National Anti-Drug Secretariat (NADS) which functions in the Ministry of National Security. NADS has a budget. It coordinates the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, alternative, integral and sustainable development programs, control measures, drugs observatory, international cooperation and program evaluation. The country has a coordination mechanism to carry out the effective planning and implementation of national drug policies.



## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### RECOMMENDATION 2

DESIGN, IMPLEMENT, STRENGTHEN AND UPDATE NATIONAL EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES AND POLICIES ON DRUGS.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Bahamas has a National Anti-Drug Strategy 2012-2016 which includes the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, and international cooperation. Relevant actors were involved in designing, drafting and implementing the National Anti-Drug Strategy. The Strategy has a monitoring and evaluation framework.

The Bahamas has not updated its drug policies, plans and programs based on its evaluations and outcomes.





## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### RECOMMENDATION 3

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.

**Evaluation:** Partially complete

The Bahamas has a technical office which serves the purpose of a National Observatory on Drugs. The country has some priority information on drug supply reduction. Drug supply reduction information is disseminated to all relevant parties.

The Bahamas does not have priority drug demand reduction studies within the past 5 years for secondary school students; national households and access to patient registers of treatment centers. The country does not have the following priority drug supply reduction information: number of seizures of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production; quantities of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production seized; number of seizures of controlled chemical substances (precursors); quantities of seized controlled chemical substances (precursors); number of seizures of pharmaceutical products; quantities of seized pharmaceutical products; number of laboratories producing illicit plant-based drugs and number of laboratories producing illicit drugs of synthetic origin. The country has not carried out a study on the economic and social cost of drugs in the past 10 years.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 4

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT COMPREHENSIVE DEMAND REDUCTION POLICIES, PLANS AND/OR PROGRAMS.

**Evaluation:** Partially complete

The Bahamas has comprehensive demand reduction programs in the areas of prevention, early intervention, treatment and rehabilitation, social reinsertion and related recovery support services. The programs in prevention and treatment have been designed using available evidence from recognized organizations. Demand reduction programs include a gender perspective and have adopted a multisectoral approach with the participation of various population sectors.

The Bahamas does not monitor, evaluate or update the implementation of its demand reduction programs.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 5

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.

**Evaluation:** Partially complete

The Bahamas has universal and selective prevention programs addressing drug use. Selective prevention programs are designed in accordance to the presence of risk factors in the targeted population.

The Bahamas does not have indicated prevention programs and has not implemented a comprehensive prevention system.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 6

PROMOTE THE INTEGRATION OF TREATMENT AND RECOVERY PLANS AND PROGRAMS INTO THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM AND ADDRESS DRUG DEPENDENCE AS A CHRONIC, RELAPSING DISEASE.

**Evaluation:** Partially complete

The Bahamas has a network of public health system facilities that are responsible for health needs within its territory. These facilities carry out drug use screening and have screening instruments in place for early detection of drug use, offer guidance and brief intervention in drug use cases, and systematically refer persons affected by drug use to treatment in public and private health services. The public health system, which coordinates with other sectors, along with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private and religious institutions, provide outpatient and residential treatment, aftercare, rehabilitation and recovery support services for persons affected by drug use.

The Bahamas does not have an accreditation process for its drug treatment centers. The public health system facilities that offer treatment and rehabilitation for persons affected by drug use do not include monitoring systems for their programs.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 7

FACILITATE ACCESS FOR DRUG-DEPENDENT PERSONS TO A SYSTEM OF DRUG TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, SOCIAL REINSERTION, AND RECOVERY SERVICES THAT ARE EVIDENCE-BASED AND FOLLOW INTERNATIONALLY-ACCEPTED QUALITY STANDARDS.

**Evaluation:** Complete

The Bahamas takes actions to facilitate access to treatment, rehabilitation, and social reinsertion for different populations affected by drug use. Treatment, rehabilitation and social reinsertion interventions are tailored to the population profiles being served.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 8

EXPLORE THE MEANS OF OFFERING TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, SOCIAL REINSERTION AND RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES TO DRUG-DEPENDENT CRIMINAL OFFENDERS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION OR IMPRISONMENT.

**Evaluation:** Started

The Bahamas judiciary system allows, at the discretion of the magistrates, alternatives to incarceration for repeat offenders.

The Bahamas does not have national legislation or administrative guidelines that create and provide for alternatives to incarceration for drug-dependent criminal offenders.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 9

STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS AND SPECIALIZED NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs), IN ORDER TO GENERATE EVIDENCE ON THE DEMAND FOR DRUGS.

**Evaluation:** Partially complete

The Bahamas' national drug authority maintains cooperative relationships with academic and research institutions and relevant civil society organizations dealing with issues related to drug demand reduction.

The Bahamas has not established a systematic process of data collection with academic and research institutions and relevant civil society organizations.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 10

PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN TRAINING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION OF PROFESSIONALS, TECHNICIANS AND OTHERS INVOLVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEMAND REDUCTION ACTIVITIES.

**Evaluation:** Partially complete

The Bahamas offers introductory training programs on all aspects of demand reduction to personnel involved in the implementation of activities related to this area. The country makes available to its technical experts and professionals advanced drug demand reduction training programs at the regional and international level.

The Bahamas does not offer continuing education on demand reduction to personnel involved in the implementation of activities in this field. The country does not conduct regular reviews, monitoring or evaluations to ensure that training in drug demand reduction meets the needs for personnel in this area.





## SUPPLY REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATIONS 11–15

**Evaluation:** Not applied

In consideration of The Bahamas' situation, CICAD agreed not to apply any category from the evaluation scale to the following recommendations, given that the country does not have significant illicit crop areas:

**RECOMMENDATION 11:** ADOPT AND/OR IMPROVE COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED MEASURES AIMED AT REDUCING THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS.

**RECOMMENDATION 12:** 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 THE REDUCTION OF THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS.

**RECOMMENDATION 13:** 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.

**RECOMMENDATION 14:** ACCORDING TO THE NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, ADOPT COMPREHENSIVE MEASURES, SUCH AS INTEGRAL AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVES.

**RECOMMENDATION 15:** PROMOTE ACTIONS TO REDUCE THE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT CAUSED BY THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL POLICIES.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 16

IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS TO PREVENT AND REDUCE THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION OF PLANT-BASED AND SYNTHETIC DRUGS.

**Evaluation:** Partially complete

The Bahamas has been participating in, and offering ongoing training programs for agents responsible for control operations relating to the dismantling of laboratories for the illicit manufacture of drugs.

The Bahamas does not have protocols for the dismantling of laboratories for the illicit manufacturing of synthetic and plant-based drugs. Also, there are no mechanisms to detect and identify laboratories for the illicit manufacturing of synthetic and plant-based drugs.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 17

ADOPT OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES TOWARDS ILLICIT ACTIVITIES.

**Evaluation:** Complete

The Bahamas has legislation that establishes the criminal offences specified in Article 3.1.a.IV of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. Also for monitoring controlled chemical substances as provided for in Article 12.9 of the aforementioned convention. There is a competent authority to coordinate monitoring of controlled chemical substances activities and an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances. A system of licensing is used to control the distribution of controlled chemical substances and there are regular inspections or audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations that have been authorized to handle controlled chemical substances. Administrative and civil penalties exist to punish infractions or violations by individuals or corporations that handle controlled chemical substances. The Pre-Export Notification (PEN) Online System of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) is used to respond to pre-export notifications supplied by other states.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 18

ADOPT OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF NARCOTICS, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS WITH PSYCHOACTIVE PROPERTIES AND THOSE USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF SYNTHETIC DRUGS.

**Evaluation:** Complete

The Bahamas has legislation for the control of narcotics, psychotropic substances, and preparations containing them in accordance with the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971. There is legislation which authorizes administrative and civil penalties for infractions or violations of the regulations by medical professionals, professional managers, administrators, and legal representatives of establishments that work with narcotics, psychotropic substances, and psychoactive pharmaceutical products. A national authority with an established organizational structure, responsible for coordinating activities for the control of narcotics, psychotropic substances, and psychoactive pharmaceutical products is in place and there are mechanisms to estimate drug requirements.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### **RECOMMENDATION 19**

ENSURE THE ADEQUATE AVAILABILITY OF NARCOTICS NEEDED FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC USE.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Bahamas has a mechanism that periodically evaluates the availability of narcotics and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific use.

The Bahamas does not include any analysis of impediments to adequate availability.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 20

#### STRENGTHEN NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED CRIMES.

**Evaluation:** Complete

The Bahamas participates in ongoing training programs for stakeholders involved in the control of drug trafficking and related crimes including money laundering, and it has formal information exchange mechanisms among all the agencies responsible for the control of drug trafficking and related crimes. There is law enforcement legislation and regulations encompassing issues related to interdiction and border control that provide an adequate framework for the prevention of drug trafficking by air, sea or land. The country also undertakes regular law enforcement activities to prevent drug trafficking, and has laws and regulations that provide for the final and secure disposal of seized drugs. There is a regulatory framework which includes the provision of environmental precautions for different types of seized substances.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 21

IDENTIFY NEW TRENDS AND PATTERNS REGARDING ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED CRIMES.

**Evaluation:** Complete

The Bahamas has updated analyses on recent trends in drug trafficking and related crimes which are done monthly and are disseminated in an informal manner, and appropriate interventions are undertaken when a new trend is identified. The country's existing laws adequately address any new trends that have been identified.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 22

PROMOTE IMPROVEMENTS IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS ON ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED CRIMES.

**Evaluation:** Partially complete

The Bahamas collects statistical information at the national level on drug trafficking and related crimes.

The Bahamas does not have a national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking and related crimes, and it does not carry out studies and technical research in this area. The country also does not have studies on impurity profiles and characterization of drugs.





## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 23

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.

**Evaluation:** Complete

The Bahamas has mechanisms for the secure and effective exchange of intelligence information in the investigation of cases involving drug trafficking and related crimes. It also has formal mechanisms for coordination and exchange of information and best practices for the prevention, investigation, and control of activities related to drug trafficking via the Internet. The country offers and participates in training workshops on intelligence information exchange in the investigation of cases involving drug trafficking and related crime on an annual basis. Also, the country offers and participates, in training activities on the application of special investigation techniques and the management of the chain of custody for evidence in cases of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes. There are regulatory frameworks and operational guidelines for the investigation of all assets during drug trafficking cases.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 24

ADOPT OR STRENGTHEN, AS APPLICABLE, CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS ASSOCIATED WITH ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Bahamas has criminalized the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, as evidenced by their existing firearms laws as well as mechanisms in place to eliminate loss or diversion in instances of licit trade. It has a system of export, import, and licenses for transfers of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, and also makes provision for the marking of firearms. The country also has the necessary controls for the manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials as stipulated in Article 6 and under the terms of Article 9 of the Inter American Convention Against the illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials of 1997. It has a national authority responsible for coordinating controls on the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. There is a registry of firearms, explosives, ammunition and other related materials confiscated during drug trafficking operations.

The Bahamas does not have international transit licenses for transfers of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 25

ESTABLISH, UPDATE, OR STRENGTHEN LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS IN MATTERS OF PREVENTION, DETECTION, INVESTIGATION, AND PROSECUTION OF MONEY LAUNDERING.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Bahamas has criminalized money laundering in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime of 2000. The country has a Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) in accordance with the principles of the Egmont Group and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations on FIUs. There are regulations for the prevention and control of money laundering, financing of terrorism and forfeiture of illicitly derived assets that allows for the possibility of forfeiture of assets related to money laundering.

The Bahamas does not cover the broadest range of predicate offenses in the Proceed of Crime Act.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### **RECOMMENDATION 26**

CREATE OR STRENGTHEN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL LEGISLATION, THE COMPETENT NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF SEIZED AND/OR FORFEITED ASSETS, AND THE DISPOSITION OF FORFEITED ASSETS.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Bahamas has a single national agency for the management of seized and forfeited assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes. The country has regulations on the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets, which include guidelines for the appropriate administration of such assets.

The Bahamas does not have training programs on the management of seized or forfeited assets.



## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### RECOMMENDATION 27

REAFFIRM THE PRINCIPLE OF COOPERATION CONTAINED IN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS TO ADDRESS THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM, THROUGH ACTIONS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Bahamas has ratified the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime of 2000, the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters of 1992 and has designated central authorities in said conventions. There are legal provisions that permit extradition, subject to the existence of a treaty, of citizens for criminal offenses in drug trafficking and money laundering. The country's legislation also provides for bringing to trial a citizen whose extradition has been denied pursuant to the provisions of Article 4.2.a. of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. There are legal provisions for providing broad reciprocal judicial assistance to third party States in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings for drug trafficking and money laundering, and has adopted measures to authorize the identification, detection, preventative embargo, seizure; and finally, confiscation of proceeds derived from drug trafficking or property of equal value. The country has adopted measures to strengthen international cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking and has laws or other legal provisions that permit the use of controlled delivery of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in order to identify persons implicated in the crime of drug trafficking.

In The Bahamas there is no legal obligation to require the proper marking of imported firearms.



## CONCLUSIONS

The MEM Sixth Evaluation Round report reflects the country's internal reality regarding the implementation of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy (2010) and its Plan of Action (2011-2015) from 2013 to mid-2014. CICAD recognizes that among the 27 common recommendations, The Bahamas completed seven, six mostly completed, eight partially completed, one started and five do not apply.

**In the area of Institutional Strengthening,** The Bahamas has a national drug authority that functions in the Ministry of National Security. There is a national anti-drug strategy. The country has a technical office which functions as a national observatory on drugs. There are no priority drug demand reduction studies but there is some priority drug supply reduction information (2 of 10).

**In the area of Demand Reduction,** The Bahamas has comprehensive demand reduction programs, but such programs are not monitored, evaluated or updated. There are universal and selective prevention programs, but not indicated prevention programs or a comprehensive prevention system. The public health system facilities offer early detection screening of drug use and provide guidance, brief intervention, and systematically refer persons to treatment. The public health system has a multisectoral approach to providing outpatient and residential treatment, aftercare, rehabilitation and recovery support services. There is no accreditation process for drug treatment centers. In The Bahamas, there are alternatives to incarceration for repeat offenders. Policies, programs and plans are developed with the support of academic and research institutions and civil society organizations, but no systematic process of data collection with such organizations and institutions has been established. Training is offered for demand reduction personnel ranging from introductory to advanced courses, but there is no continuing education on demand reduction.

**In the area of Supply Reduction,** CICAD agreed not to apply any category from the evaluation scale, given that The Bahamas does not have significant illicit crop areas.

**In the area of Control Measures,** The Bahamas has no mechanisms to detect and identify laboratories for the illicit manufacturing of synthetic and plant-based drugs. Also, there are no protocols in place to dismantle such laboratories.



With regard to the control of chemical substances and pharmaceutical products, the Bahamas has adopted the measures provided in the international conventions in order to ensure their adequate availability for licit purposes and to prevent their diversion to illicit channels. These measures include: laws, administrative controls on international and domestic trade, cooperation with authorities from other countries, and the designation of competent authorities to comply with said obligations. In terms of narcotics and psychotropic substances needed for medical use, additional measures had been taken in order to ensure access and availability for patients requiring them.

There are formal exchange mechanisms among agencies responsible for the control of drug trafficking and related crimes. Also, mechanisms exist for the secure and effective exchange of intelligence information in investigation cases related to this area. There are ongoing training programs for the stakeholders involved in said control. The country has national statistical information in drug trafficking and related crimes. Regulatory updates are done based on the identification of new trends. A regulatory framework exists for the final and secure disposal of seized drugs. There is no national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations.

There is legislation criminalizing the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, ammunitions, explosives and other related materials. A national authority exists for coordinating controls on the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. There is a registry of such elements, seized during drug trafficking operations.

There are regulations for the criminalization, prevention and control of money laundering, as well as regulations and a national agency for the management of seized and forfeited assets, derived from drug trafficking and related crimes.

**In the area of International Cooperation,** The Bahamas has ratified the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime of 2000, the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters of 1992 and has designated central authorities in said conventions. The country has legal provisions to permit the extradition for the crime of drug trafficking and money laundering. There are legal provisions for providing broad reciprocal judicial assistance to third party States in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings for drug trafficking and money laundering.



However, in the country there is no legal obligation to require the proper marking of imported firearms.

CICAD recognizes the Bahamas for its continued participation and commitment during the Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM. In accordance with its national situation, the country is encouraged to fully implement the Plan of Action (2011-2015) of CICAD's Hemispheric Drug Strategy (2010).





## SUMMARY OF THE STATUS OF COMPLIANCE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING		
NO.	RECOMMENDATION	EVALUATION
1	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.	COMPLETE
2	Design, implement, strengthen and update national evidence-based strategies and policies on drugs.	MOSTLY COMPLETE
3	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.	PARTIALLY COMPLETE
DEMAND REDUCTION		
4	Develop and implement comprehensive demand reduction policies, plans and/or programs.	PARTIALLY COMPLETE
5	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.	PARTIALLY COMPLETE
6	Promote the integration of treatment and recovery plans and programs into the public health system and address drug dependence as a chronic, relapsing disease.	PARTIALLY COMPLETE
7	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.	COMPLETE
8	Explore the means of offering treatment, rehabilitation, social reinsertion and recovery support services to drug-dependent criminal offenders as an alternative to criminal prosecution or imprisonment.	STARTED
9	Strengthen governmental relationships with academic and research institutions and specialized non-governmental organizations (NGOs), in order to generate evidence on the demand for drugs.	PARTIALLY COMPLETE
10	Promote and strengthen training and continuing education of professionals, technicians and others involved in the implementation of demand reduction activities.	PARTIALLY COMPLETE



SUPPLY REDUCTION		
11	Adopt and/or improve comprehensive and balanced measures aimed at reducing the illicit supply of drugs.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
12	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 illicit supply of drugs reduction.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
13	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.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
14	According to the needs of each country, adopt comprehensive measures, such as integral and sustainable alternative development and law enforcement initiatives.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
15	Promote actions to reduce the negative impact on the environment caused by the world drug problem, in accordance with national policies.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
CONTROL MEASURES		
16	Implement programs to prevent and reduce the illicit production of synthetic and plant-based drugs.	<b>PARTIALLY COMPLETE</b>
17	Adopt or strengthen control measures in order to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
18	Adopt or strengthen control measures to prevent the diversion of narcotics, psychotropic substances, pharmaceutical products with psychoactive properties and those used in the production of synthetic drugs.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
19	Ensure the adequate availability of narcotics needed for medical and scientific use.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
20	Strengthen national organizations for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
21	Identify new trends and patterns regarding illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
22	Promote improvements in information systems on illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	<b>PARTIALLY COMPLETE</b>
23	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.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
24	Adopt or strengthen, as applicable, control measures for the illicit trafficking of firearms, munitions, explosives, and other related materials associated with illicit drug trafficking.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>



25	Establish, update, or strengthen legislative and institutional frameworks in matters of prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
26	Create or strengthen, in accordance with national legislation, the competent national organizations for the management of seized and/or forfeited assets, and the disposition of forfeited assets.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
<b>INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</b>		
27	Reaffirm the principle of cooperation contained in international instruments to address the world drug problem, through actions to ensure compliance and effectiveness.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>



## GLOSSARY

### I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

**Relevant actors:** includes civil society, scientific community, university based researchers, government at the national, regional and local levels.

### II. DEMAND REDUCTION

**Alternatives to incarceration:** vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, but most involve suspension of the judicial process provided the offender volunteers to participate in a monitored drug treatment program.

**Available evidence:** use of information, from different sources, to support an effect with an adequate degree of confidence, so that it can be used as a basis for a particular recommendation. The quality of the information sources will indicate the level of confidence for the estimate of the effect.

**Comprehensive (prevention) system:** organizations and programs that provide addiction prevention services, and are interconnected with each other and with several organizations, programs and channels that provide support services.

**Indicated prevention programs:** a set of actions targeting persons who use drugs.

**Public health system:** Includes all organizations, institutions and resources whose principal objective is to carry out activities designed to improve health. The majority of national health systems include the public, private, traditional and informal sectors. The four primary functions of a health system include: provision of services, generation of resources, financing and management.

**Selective prevention programs:** a set of actions targeting a specific segment of the population, which, because of personal, social, family, or socio-cultural and related characteristics, is vulnerable to the diverse risk factors leading to drug use.



**Social reinsertion:** any social intervention with the aim of integrating former or current problem drug users into the community. The three ‘pillars’ of social reinsertion are (1) housing, (2) education and (3) employment (including vocational training). May also be referred to as “social re-integration.”

**Universal prevention programs:** a set of preventive actions targeting the entire population independent of risk.

### III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

**Regulatory framework:** the set of established laws and regulations that governs the activities of the institutions responsible for the formulation, development and application of drug supply reduction policies and/or programs.

**Risk factors:** risk factors are those conditions that contribute to the emergence or strengthening of illicit activities and/or to the neutralization of law enforcement activities.

**Social inclusion:** a situation which ensures that all citizens, without exception, are able to exercise their rights, use their skills, and take advantage of opportunities available to them.

**Vulnerable populations:** those sectors or population groups that, due to poverty, ethnic origin, health, age, gender or disability, are unable to develop and improve their circumstances. This vulnerability places such persons at a disadvantage with regard to exercising their full rights and freedoms.

### IV. CONTROL MEASURES

**Drug characterization and impurity profiling:** use of scientific laboratory information in support of law enforcement operation work, aimed at establishing links between drug samples. It consists of the systematic collection and sharing, in a standardized form, of physical and chemical information on a drug seizure, including the analysis and use of trace impurities to link different drug samples.







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