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AMERICAN STATES (OAS)**



MEM
**MULTILATERAL EVALUATION
MECHANISM (MEM)**

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

**SECRETARIAT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL
SECURITY (SMS)**

United States of America

Evaluation Report on Drug Control

2014



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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)

United States of America

**EVALUATION REPORT ON DRUG CONTROL
2014**



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 reduction¹, 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>.

¹ 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 United States of America's (U.S.) national drug authority is the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), under the Executive Office of the President. ONDCP has a legal basis and a budget. The national drug authority coordinates in 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: Complete

The U.S. has the National Drug Control Strategy which includes the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, and international cooperation. Relevant actors were involved in designing, drafting and implementation of the Strategy. The Strategy has a monitoring and evaluation framework. The country has carried out activities to update its drug policies, plans and programs based on its evaluation 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: Complete

The U.S. has a National Observatory on Drugs. The country has all the priority drug demand reduction studies and drug supply reduction information. The country has carried out a study on the economic and social cost of drugs. Drug demand and supply reduction information is disseminated to all relevant parties.



DEMAND REDUCTION

RECOMMENDATION 4

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

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. has comprehensive demand reduction plans and programs in the areas of prevention, early intervention, treatment and rehabilitation, social reinsertion and related recovery services. These programs have been designed using available evidence from recognized organizations on prevention, from magnitude and trends in drug use in the population and from demand-related data studies. The country monitors, evaluates and updates the implementation of demand reduction plans and programs in all of these areas based on current monitoring and evaluation results. A gender perspective is included in these programs and a multisectoral approach was adopted with the participation of various population sectors.



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: Complete

The U.S. has universal, selective and indicated prevention plans and programs addressing drug use, implemented for distinct target populations. Selective and indicated prevention programs vary based on the presence of risk factors. The country has 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: Complete

The U.S. has a network of public health system facilities responsible for health needs within the different states. These facilities carry out drug use screening and have screening instruments in place for early detection of drug use, which are validated and standardized instruments for this purpose; offer guidance and brief intervention when drug use is detected; and systematically refer persons affected by drug use to treatment at other care levels, depending on the complexity of the case, to basic outpatient services, intensive services, residential services, and hospitalization. These services are provided by public and private institutions. The public health system provides outpatient and residential services for persons affected by drug use. Private institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and therapeutic communities also provide these services as well as aftercare services. Rehabilitation and recovery support services are provided by governmental, NGOs, religious and secular organizations. The country has an accreditation process for its drug treatment centers and there are several accreditation bodies. The public health system facilities offering treatment and rehabilitation services for persons affected by drug use coordinate with other sectors. The plans and programs of these facilities offering treatment have monitoring systems with trained professionals to implement and manage them, and allow for the collection and organization of information regarding the treatment and rehabilitation plans and 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 U.S. takes actions to facilitate access to treatment, rehabilitation and social reinsertion for the various population groups affected by drug use. Treatment, rehabilitation and social reinsertion interventions are tailored to the population profile 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: Complete

The U.S. has national legislation that creates and provides for alternatives to incarceration for drug-dependent criminal offenders. There is an operative budget for Drug Courts and other criminal justice activities. Various types of alternatives to incarceration are offered. The country has standard operating procedures to identify and select candidates for participation in alternatives to incarceration programs. These programs are monitored through national research and evaluation studies via a government data collection system.



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: Complete

In the U.S., the 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 national drug authority uses information produced by civil society organizations and academic and research institutions in the development of its policies, plans and programs. The country increases the capacity of civil society organizations and academic and research institutions by providing access to a range of evidence-based information and analysis related to substance abuse issues through different channels.



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: Complete

The U.S. has introductory training programs and offers continuing education on all aspects of demand reduction for personnel involved in the implementation of activities in this area. Certificate, undergraduate and graduate level training programs are offered focused on science-based approaches and best practices for drug demand reduction personnel to increase their knowledge and strengthen their skills in specialized technical or professional fields of expertise. Advanced drug demand reduction training programs are offered at the regional and international level to its technical experts and professionals. Specialized training in drug demand reduction includes a gender perspective. The country conducts regular monitoring and evaluations to ensure that training in drug demand reduction meets the needs of its personnel. The results of these evaluations are used to improve and update relevant training programs.



SUPPLY REDUCTION

RECOMMENDATION 11

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

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. has a regulatory framework defining a federal plan for the reduction of illicit supply of drugs, as well as reports and studies which were used as a basis in the drafting of national policies. The country has identified risk factors in the analytical assessment of the dynamics of the illicit supply of drugs identified in the policies for the reduction of the illicit supply of drugs.



SUPPLY REDUCTION

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.

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. has competent agencies that implement illicit drug supply reduction policies, and gather and analyze information for the reduction of illicit marijuana crops used in the production of drugs. The country has consolidated results on the execution of illicit drug supply reduction policies, plans and programs, and estimates illicit crop cultivation and drug production. The country disseminates the information gathered via the web.



SUPPLY REDUCTION

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.

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. has studies which identify new trends in the cultivation of illicit marijuana crops. The country has information on the illicit supply of drugs and its connection with other forms of transnational organized crime.



SUPPLY REDUCTION

RECOMMENDATION 14

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

Evaluation: Complete²

The U.S. develops and implements illicit crop eradication measures. During 2013, the country eradicated 4,395,240 cannabis plants.

Alternative, integral, and sustainable development programs are not applicable to the U.S.

² This recommendation has four evaluation criteria. However, in the case of this country, the criterion that refers to eradication measures for illicit marijuana crops is the only one taken into account. The rest of the criteria refer to the implementation of integral and sustainable alternative development programs and, when the country's situation was taken into account, CICAD considered them not applicable.



SUPPLY REDUCTION

RECOMMENDATION 15

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

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. has carried out research to determine the environmental impacts of activities related to the illicit supply of drugs. The country uses environmental management tools to address the negative impact on the environment of illicit crops in its territory. At the local, national and regional levels, the institutions responsible for the implementation of drug and environmental policies coordinate with each other on the use of environmental management tools to address the negative environmental impacts of the illicit supply of drugs. The country is a signatory to agreements with international organizations to evaluate, prevent, and mitigate the negative environmental impacts of the world drug problem.



CONTROL MEASURES

RECOMMENDATION 16

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

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. has mechanisms to detect and identify laboratories for the illicit manufacturing of synthetic and plant-based drugs. The country has protocols for the dismantling of laboratories for the illicit manufacturing of drugs. There are continuous training programs for control operations relating to the dismantling of laboratories for the illicit manufacturing of 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 U.S. has legislation which criminalizes drug trafficking and diversion of controlled chemical substances as specified in Article 3.1.a.IV of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. The country also has legislation for the control of international trade in controlled chemical substances as stipulated in article 12.9 of the aforementioned convention. There is an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances, and also regulates manufacturers and distributors of these substances. Legislation exists that establishes administrative and civil penalties to punish infractions or violations by individuals or corporations that deal with controlled chemical substances. There is a competent authority to coordinate the monitoring of these chemical substances as well as mechanisms for issuance of timely pre-export notifications of controlled substances to other states and responding to pre-export notifications through its competent authority.



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 U.S. has legislation for the control of narcotics, psychotropic substances, and psychoactive pharmaceutical products. There is a national authority responsible for coordinating activities for the control of narcotics, psychotropic substances, and pharmaceutical products with psychoactive properties. The country has mechanisms to estimate drug requirements as provided in Article 19 of the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961. There is also domestic legislation authorizing 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.



CONTROL MEASURES

RECOMMENDATION 19

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

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. has mechanisms that periodically evaluate and ensure the adequate availability of narcotics and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific use.



CONTROL MEASURES

RECOMMENDATION 20

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

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. has periodic evaluations on the strengths and weaknesses of organizations responsible for the control of drug trafficking and related crimes. The country has ongoing training programs for the stakeholders involved in the control of drug trafficking and related crimes. There are formal and informal exchange mechanisms among agencies responsible for the control of drug trafficking and related crimes. The country has a regulatory framework for the prevention of drug trafficking by air, sea and land, and for the final and secure disposal of seized drugs.



CONTROL MEASURES

RECOMMENDATION 21

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

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. has studies on recent trends in drug trafficking and related crimes. The country's regulations have been updated based on the identification of new trends in drug trafficking and related crimes.



CONTROL MEASURES

RECOMMENDATION 22

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

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. has a consolidated statistical information system at a national level on law enforcement operations for drug trafficking and related crimes. The country has a national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations related to drug trafficking. There are also studies and technical research on drug trafficking and related crimes. The country carries out 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 U.S. has mechanisms for the secure and effective exchange of intelligence information in the investigations of cases involving drug trafficking and related crimes. There are mechanisms for coordination and exchange of information for the prevention, investigations 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 investigations of cases involving drug trafficking and related crimes. Also, training activities have been implemented on the application of special investigation techniques and management of the chain of custody for evidence in the aforementioned cases. There is a regulatory framework and operational guidelines for the investigations 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: Complete

The U.S. has legislation criminalizing the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. There are mechanisms to eliminate loss or diversion in instances of licit trade. The country has controls for the manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. Manufacturers are required to make appropriate markings when manufacturing firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials with the information specified in Article 6 of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials of 1997. The country has a system of export, import, and international transit licenses or authorizations for transfers of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. The U.S. has a national authority responsible for coordinating controls on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. The responsibilities of said agency are to regulate the firearms, ammunition and explosives industry and to enforce the criminal laws and regulations. The country has a registry of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials seized during drug trafficking operations.



CONTROL MEASURES

RECOMMENDATION 25

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

Evaluation: Complete

The U.S. criminalizes 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 Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) in accordance with the principles of the Egmont Group and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations on Financial Intelligence Units (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.



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: Complete

The U.S. has two national agencies for the management of seized and forfeited assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes. There are regulations on the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets, which include guidelines for the appropriate administration of such assets. The country offers training programs on the management of seized and 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: Complete

The U.S. 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 the respective central authorities. The country has legal provisions to permit extradition of foreign nationals for the serious crimes of drug trafficking and money laundering. In the case of U.S. citizens, it does not provide for extradition for those crimes, but rather tries them in accordance with its domestic law. There is legislation for reciprocal judicial assistance to third party States in investigations, trials and legal proceedings on drug trafficking and money laundering. The country has implemented measures to authorize the confiscation of proceeds derived from drug trafficking or property of equal value, and materials and equipment or other instrumentalities used in or intended for use in any manner in the commission of the crime of drug trafficking. The country has taken other specific measures to strengthen international cooperation in fighting drug trafficking. There are laws or other legal provisions that permit the use of controlled delivery of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in order to identify persons involved in the crime of drug trafficking. In addition, there are channels of communication among its appropriate agencies and services to ensure rapid, secure exchange of information on all aspects of international cooperation.



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 United States of America (U.S.) completed all 27.

In the area of Institutional Strengthening, the U.S. has a national drug authority under the Office of the President. There is a national anti-drug strategy. The country has a national observatory on drugs. All of the priority drug demand studies (3 of 3) and priority supply reduction information (11 of 11) exist.

In the area of Demand Reduction, the U.S. has comprehensive demand reduction programs which are monitored, evaluated and updated. There is a comprehensive prevention system. The public health system facilities offer early detection screening of drug use, guidance, brief intervention, and systematically refer persons to treatment. The public health system has a multisectoral approach to provide outpatient and residential treatment, aftercare, rehabilitation and recovery support services. There is an accreditation process for its drug treatment centers. There is a Drug Treatment Court program and alternatives to incarceration for drug dependent criminal offenders. Policies, programs and plans are developed with the support of academic and research institutions, and civil society. Training and continuing education for demand reduction personnel include science-based approaches and best practices ranging from the certificate to the graduate level.

In the area of Supply Reduction, the U.S. has a federal plan to reduce the illicit supply of drugs. Competent agencies implement illicit drug supply policies, as well as gather and analyze information on marijuana crops. From such, estimates are made on illicit crop cultivation and drug production, which is publicly available. The country carries out studies to identify new trends in the illicit cultivation marijuana crops. Research is carried out to determine the environmental impacts of activities related to the illicit supply of drugs. The country develops and implements illicit marijuana crop eradication measures. Institutions responsible for environmental policy use environmental management tools to address the negative impact of illicit marijuana crops in the country. Signed agreements exist with international organizations to evaluate, prevent, and mitigate the negative impact of illicit drug supply on the environment.



In the area of Control Measures, The U.S. has mechanisms to detect and identify laboratories for the illicit manufacturing of synthetic and plant-based drugs as well as protocols in place to dismantle such laboratories.

With regard to the control of chemical substances and pharmaceutical products, the country 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 are taken in order to ensure access and availability for patients requiring them.

There are formal and informal 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 a 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, including mechanisms to eliminate loss or diversion in instances of licit trade. There is a national authority responsible for regulating the firearms, ammunition and explosives industry and to enforce the criminal laws and regulations. There is a registry of these elements seized during drug trafficking operations.

There are regulations for prevention and control of money laundering as well as its criminalization. Two national agencies manage seized and forfeited assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes. There are also regulations for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes.



In the area of International Cooperation, the U.S. 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 the respective central authorities. The country has legal provisions to permit extradition for the crimes of drug trafficking and money laundering. There is legislation for reciprocal judicial assistance to third party States in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings for drug trafficking and related crimes. The country has laws or other legal provisions that permit the use of controlled delivery of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in order to identify persons involved in the crime of drug trafficking.

CICAD recognizes the United States of America 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.	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.	COMPLETE
DEMAND REDUCTION		
4	Develop and implement comprehensive demand reduction policies, plans and/or programs.	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.	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.	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.	COMPLETE
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.	COMPLETE
10	Promote and strengthen training and continuing education of professionals, technicians and others involved in the implementation of demand reduction activities.	COMPLETE



SUPPLY REDUCTION		
11	Adopt and/or improve comprehensive and balanced measures aimed at reducing the illicit supply of drugs.	COMPLETE
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.	COMPLETE
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.	COMPLETE
14	According to the needs of each country, adopt comprehensive measures, such as integral and sustainable alternative development and law enforcement initiatives.	COMPLETE
15	Promote actions to reduce the negative impact on the environment caused by the world drug problem, in accordance with national policies.	COMPLETE
CONTROL MEASURES		
16	Implement programs to prevent and reduce the illicit production of synthetic and plant-based drugs.	COMPLETE
17	Adopt or strengthen control measures in order to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities.	COMPLETE
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.	COMPLETE
19	Ensure the adequate availability of narcotics needed for medical and scientific use.	COMPLETE
20	Strengthen national organizations for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	COMPLETE
21	Identify new trends and patterns regarding illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	COMPLETE
22	Promote improvements in information systems on illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	COMPLETE
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.	COMPLETE
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.	COMPLETE



25	Establish, update, or strengthen legislative and institutional frameworks in matters of prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering.	COMPLETE
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.	COMPLETE
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION		
27	Reaffirm the principle of cooperation contained in international instruments to address the world drug problem, through actions to ensure compliance and effectiveness.	COMPLETE



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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