

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)

Presentation to Group of Experts on
Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical
Products, Santo Domingo,
25th June 2012



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Background



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- Established in 1998 through a Summit Mandate
- Designed by and agreed to by all 34 member states
- Evaluation of efforts made by countries in addressing the drug problem in 4 key areas: Institutional Strengthening, Demand Reduction, Supply Reduction, Control Measures
- All 34 member states evaluate through their national government-appointed Experts
- Each country is evaluated by 33 member states

The “MEM”



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- Periodic reports produced by the MEM provide a general overview of the situation of drug policies in each country.
- Recommendations assigned are guidelines that indicate critical areas that need to be addressed by countries with regards to drug control.
- Provides each country with information on efforts made and difficulties encountered by countries in the region - opens up possibilities for cooperation.



- First Evaluation Round 1999-2000: 427 recs
- Second Evaluation Round 2001-2002: 325 recs
- Third Evaluation Round 2003-2004: 498 recs
- Fourth Evaluation Round 2005-2006: 453 recs
- Fifth Evaluation Round 2007-2009: 350 recs

Total: 2,053 recommendations



- **Most assigned recommendation in the Fifth Evaluation Round:**
 - Carry out research and training activities related to the prevention and control of illicit traffic of pharmaceutical products and other drugs via the internet, to identify possible regulatory and operational needs.
- **Number of recs. on the control of pharmaceutical products and chemical substances**
 - **22% (77 recs.) of the total (350)**

Resolution on the MEM (CICAD 50-Nov.2011)



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- Revise the current evaluation system (MEM) **developing a new assessment instrument** to replace the current MEM Questionnaire in a FATF-like Methodology Document,
- Since Member States agreed that the Hemispheric Drug Strategy (HDS) sets the framework for their individual and collective efforts in drug control, **the IWG would have to translate the objectives of the HDS into recommendations that would be used as evaluation criteria.**

Resolution on the MEM (CICAD 50-Nov.2011) (contd.)



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- **Creating a Handbook on Evaluation Criteria that should be considered in evaluating a country's progress.** The Handbook would be more focused on substantive issues than on procedure and style.
- The Handbook would describe how a recommendation is to be considered unfulfilled, partially met, mostly met, completely met, etc.

CONTROL MEASURES (PHARM/CHEM) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS



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- **REC. 16:** Implement programs for the prevention and reduction of the illicit production of synthetic and plant-based drugs.
- **REC. 17:** Adopt or strengthen control measures to prevent the diversion of chemical substances to illicit activities.
- **REC. 18:** Adopt or strengthen control measures that prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products with psychotropic properties and those used in the manufacture of synthetic drugs to illicit use.
- **REC. 19:** Ensure the adequate availability of narcotics required for medical and scientific uses.

CONTROL MEASURES (PHARM/CHEM) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS (contd.)



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- **REC. 20:** Strengthen national organizations for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.
- **REC. 21:** Identify new trends and patterns regarding illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.
- **REC. 22:** Promote improvements in information systems on illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.
- **REC. 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.



- **Sixth Evaluation Round to commence in 2013**
- **Countries to collect data for evaluation (2013)**
- **Updating for information (2014)**
- **Proposed date for MEM national reports publication: 2014**
- **Proposed date for MEM hemispheric report: 2015**

Pre-IWG Thematic Groups



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- **Institutional Strengthening**
 - Co-Coord.: Canada, Trinidad & Tobago, Dominican Republic.
- **Demand Reduction**
 - Co-Coord.: US, Chile.
- **Supply Reduction**
 - Co-Coord.: Colombia, Peru, Trinidad & Tobago.
- **Control Measures**
 - Co-Coord.: Argentina, Mexico.
- **International Cooperation**
 - Co-Coord.: Venezuela, Panama

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