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**MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM**

**DRAFT HEMISPHERIC REPORT**

**SIXTH ROUND**

**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)**

**Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)**

**Inter-American Drug Abuse  
Control Commission (CICAD)**

**Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)**

**DRAFT  
HEMISPHERIC REPORT  
SIXTH EVALUATION ROUND**

**EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL**

**2015**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

CHAPTER I: INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

- A. National Drug Authorities
- B. National Drug Strategies
- C. National Drug Observatories

CHAPTER II: DEMAND REDUCTION

- A. Demand Reduction Plans
- B. Prevention
- C. Treatment and Rehabilitation
- D. Alternative Measures to Incarceration
- E. Inter-agency Relations
- F. Demand Reduction Training

CHAPTER III: SUPPLY REDUCTION

- A. Drug Supply Reduction Measures
- B. Drug Supply Reduction Information and Studies
- C. Alternative, Integral, and Sustainable Development
- D. Measures to Reduce the Impact of Drugs on the Environment

CHAPTER IV: CONTROL MEASURES

- A. Illicit Production of Drugs
- B. Control of Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical Products
- C. Drug Trafficking
- D. Exchange of Intelligence Information
- E. Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials
- F. Money Laundering

CHAPTER V: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- A. International Instruments and Measures to Enforce Them

CONCLUSIONS

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## INTRODUCTION

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) was implemented in 1988 pursuant to the mandate of the Second Summit of the Americas, held in Chile. Since then, the MEM has been the instrument by which the Organization of American States (OAS), through the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)<sup>1</sup>, to measure the progress of actions undertaken by the member states to address the drug problem in the Hemisphere. The Sixth Evaluation Round is based on a set of 27 standard recommendations derived from the 2011-2015 Plan of Action of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy, 2010.

As a diagnostic tool, the MEM adopts an intrinsically multilateral approach in its evaluation and promotes cooperation to support member states to address the multifaceted drug problem effectively. The methodology used in the MEM process includes the analysis of the information received from member states and the establishment of a dialogue for preparing national evaluation reports.

The findings of the reports of the Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM identify both the efforts undertaken by countries and the challenges they still face. These reports were presented and approved at the 56<sup>th</sup> regular session of CICAD, held in Guatemala in November 2014.<sup>2</sup>

This Hemispheric Report covers the period from 2013 to mid-2014 and provides an overview of the findings, reflecting the new methodology adopted in the Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM. It also contains a general review of member states' performance with respect to their drug control policies. To conduct the evaluation, a scale was devised for rating compliance with the recommendations. This report includes an executive summary, analysis of each of the five thematic areas of drug control, and the conclusions reached for each of those areas.

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<sup>1</sup> The Inter-American Drug Abuse Commission (CICAD) is comprised of Principal Representatives appointed by each of the 34 OAS member states.

<sup>2</sup> The national reports are available at:

[http://www.cicad.oas.org/Main/Template.asp?File=/mem/reports/6/ronda\\_6\\_eval\\_eng.asp](http://www.cicad.oas.org/Main/Template.asp?File=/mem/reports/6/ronda_6_eval_eng.asp)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report highlights the level of implementation of the 2010 Hemispheric Drug Strategy, through the evaluation of compliance of its Plan of Action 2011-2015. Moreover, indicates the strengths and challenges to the Hemisphere's approach to the drug problem, based on the 34 national evaluation reports on drug control of the Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM, published in December 2014.

The evaluation is based on information provided by the countries and reviewed and analyzed by the 34 experts in the Governmental Expert Group (GEG), who prepare all the draft reports, with the exception of their own national report. Those reports are thus the product of collaboration between the Mechanism and the member states and they identify both the challenges countries face and their efforts to address them.

The evaluation process is based on a set of 27 standard recommendations derived from the 2011-2015 Plan of Action of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy, 2010 (HDS-2010) and used to evaluate the 34 member states. The evaluation instrument used included the 27 recommendations, an evaluation survey, a handbook on evaluation criteria, a procedures manual, an evaluation cycle, and an evaluation scale. The five thematic areas considered for the evaluation are the same as those used as section headings in the HDS-2010: Institutional Strengthening, Demand Reduction, Supply Reduction, Control Measures, and International Cooperation.

The categories used to evaluate implementation of the recommendations were: completed, mostly completed, partially completed, started, not started, not applicable and not applied, according to each country's level of compliance. The "not applicable" category was used, precisely, when the evaluation criteria for one or more of the recommendations did not apply to the reality of the country. The "no applied" category was circumscribed to the recommendations referring to illicit crops and reflects that, taking into consideration the reality of the country, CICAD agreed to not apply any evaluation category given that the country does not have significant illicit crops.

For the Hemisphere as a whole, the findings regarding the implementation of recommendations were the following: completed 41%; mostly completed 22%; partially completed 15%; started 4%; not started 4%; and not applied/not applicable 14%.

The figures for overall compliance with recommendations by thematic area were 52% for Control Measures, followed by 47% in International Cooperation, and 45% and 39% in Institutional Strengthening and Demand Reduction, respectively. The rate of compliance with recommendations in the Supply Reduction area was 62%, bearing in mind, only to those countries with significant cultivation of illicit crops.<sup>3</sup> The highest percentage (41%) of mostly completed implementation was found in the area of International Cooperation, while the areas

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<sup>3</sup> The level of compliance was 16% in this area that took into account the 34 member states.

of Institutional Strengthening, Demand Reduction, and Control Measures had an average of 25% of recommendations in that evaluation category. Partially complete implementation of the recommendations ranged between 25% (Institutional Strengthening) and 12% (International Cooperation). Finally, the area with the highest percentage of recommendations that have not started implementation is in Demand Reduction (8%). In the other thematic areas, implementation was deemed not to have started for between 1% and 5% of recommendations.

Analysis of the level of compliance with recommendations by subregion showed that: North America had the highest level of completed implementation of recommendations at 84% and 11% were assessed as mostly completed. Only 5% of recommendations in that region were assessed as partially completed, started or not started. The Caribbean subregion has the lowest level at 28% of completed recommendations. The mostly completed and partially completed evaluation categories each registered at 21%. For 13% of recommendations, implementation was assessed as barely or not started. It should be pointed out that 17% of recommendations were not applicable to the Caribbean region. The Southern and Central American subregions showed very similar outcomes with respect to having completed the implementation of recommendations (48% and 40%, respectively). Their figures in the partially completed category were 26% and 24%, respectively. In South America, 12% of the recommendations were not applicable and 15% were not applicable in Central America. In these two subregions, implementation of between 4% and 6% of recommendations had barely started or had not begun.

The most relevant findings of this evaluation were the following:

In the area of Institutional Strengthening, most countries: have national drug authorities coordinating national drug policies; have approved national drug plans or strategies covering all key areas; involve relevant actors in the design, drafting, and execution of their respective plans or strategies; and have recent data on the scope of drug use among the population. Although the vast majority of the member states have drug observatories or similar technical offices, five still do not. Almost half the countries have conducted studies into the economic and social costs associated with drugs in the past 10 years.

In the area of Demand Reduction, most countries have comprehensive demand reduction plans and programs and systems for monitoring and following-up on treatment and rehabilitation programs provided by their public health systems. They also facilitate access to initial training and ongoing education programs on demand reduction for personnel engaged in related activities. On the other hand, most countries have not monitored or evaluated the demand reduction plans and/or programs they implement. Moreover, half of the countries still lack an accreditation process for their treatment centers. Finally, only a few member states have drug use prevention programs, differentiated according to the risk factors involved.

With regards to the area of Supply Reduction, all the countries evaluated in this thematic area are developing and implementing illicit crop eradication measures. In addition, a large majority of the countries have policies or plans on the reduction of the illicit supply of drugs; they

compile and analyze operational data to reduce illicit crops used to produce drugs; and they have the capacity to estimate the cultivation and illicit production of drugs, with a view to their eradication. Finally, almost half the countries do not promote research or studies on the environmental impact of illicit production of drugs.

With respect to the area of Control Measures, all the member states have a Financial Intelligence Unit as required by international instruments, and almost all the member states have formal or informal mechanisms for exchanging intelligence information among the agencies responsible for enforcing laws against illicit drug trafficking and related offenses. Other notable findings are that most countries undertake needs assessments to ensure the availability of narcotics for medical and scientific use. They also keep records of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials seized during drug trafficking operations. However, most countries lack a national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking. Finally, there are some countries that have not fully implemented the pre-export notification mechanism for controlled chemical substances and still lack a national agency to administer and dispose of seized or forfeited assets.

In the area of International Cooperation, all of the countries have measures authorizing the confiscation of proceeds derived from drug trafficking, or property of equal value, as well as materials and equipment or other instrumentalities used in drug trafficking. Likewise, almost all the countries have legal provisions for extradition for money laundering offenses or for trying an individual whose extradition is denied by virtue of his or her nationality. They also envisage permitting the provision of reciprocal judicial assistance to third party States in drug trafficking and money laundering cases. Finally, some member states still lack legislation permitting extradition for drug trafficking or the prosecution of an individual whose extradition has been denied on the basis of nationality or territoriality criteria.

The decision by CICAD to use the MEM to evaluate the 2011-2015 Plan of Action of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2010 testifies to its complete trust in the validity of the Mechanism. The methodology was successfully employed by the MEM has yielded results and the reports coming out of this Round will serve as guidelines to the member states as they continue to improve their policies and programs for addressing the drug problem in the Hemisphere.

## BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

### A. BACKGROUND

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) was based on the 2011-2015 Plan of Action of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy of CICAD, 2010 (HDS-2010).

The evaluation relies on information provided by the countries through their National Coordinating Entities (NCEs). That information is reviewed and analyzed by the Governmental Experts Group (GEG), comprised of 34 experts in their respective drug control areas, who prepared all the draft national reports, except the report on their own country. These reports are the product of collaboration, cooperation, and mutual review of the contents by the GEG and the member states. The findings of the reports of the Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM identify both the efforts undertaken by countries and the challenges they still face.

The Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), responsible for optimizing the MEM process, developed a new methodology for the Sixth Round evaluation process that differs from that used in previous rounds. The process was based on a set of 27 standard recommendations derived from the 2011-2015 Plan of Action and used to evaluate the 34 OAS member states. The IWG established an evaluation instrument that included the 27 recommendations, an evaluation survey, a handbook on evaluation criteria, a procedures manual, an evaluation cycle, and an evaluation scale. The five thematic areas considered for the evaluation are the same as those used as section headings in the HDS-2010, namely:

- Institutional Strengthening - 3 recommendations (10 criteria)
- Demand Reduction - 7 recommendations (17 criteria)
- Supply Reduction - 5 recommendations (15 criteria)
- Control measures - 11 recommendations, and (40 criteria)
- International Cooperation - 1 recommendation (5 criteria)

At the same time, the Handbook on Evaluation Criteria provided guidelines to the GEG for determining the degree of compliance by the member states with the recommendations, based on essential criteria and associated activities to be taken into account when analyzing fulfillment of each recommendation. Implementation of the recommendations was evaluated, based on the following scale:

- **Completed** - The country demonstrated that it met all the criteria identified for the recommendation. All criteria were met (or, if the recommendation had only one criterion, that criterion was met).
- **Mostly completed** - The country met most of the criteria, or, in the case of a single criterion, most of the activities associated with that criterion. Most of the criteria



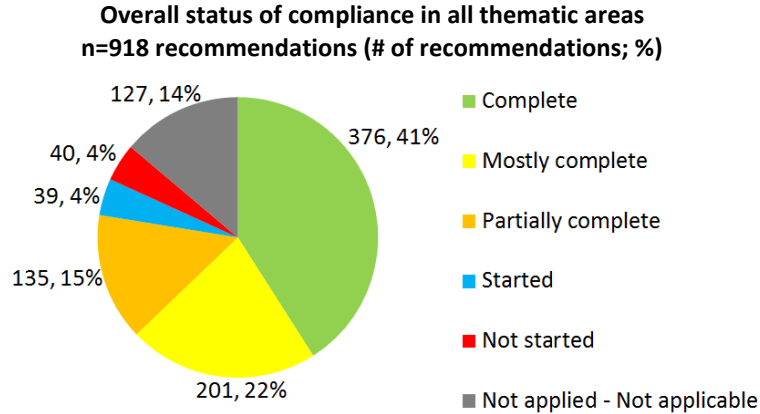
were met (or, if the recommendation had only one criterion, most of the activities were completed).

- **Partially completed** - The country met some of the criteria, or, in the case of a single criterion, some of the activities associated with that criterion. Some of the criteria were met (or, if the recommendation had only one criterion, some of the activities were completed).
- **Started** - The country took initial steps to comply with the recommendation. None of the criteria were met (or, if the recommendation had only one criterion, none of the activities was completed).
- **Not Started** - The country indicated or demonstrated that it had not begun any of the activities needed to comply with the recommendation. None of the activities had started.
- **N / A** - The recommendation does not apply to the country's circumstances.

Guided by IWG decisions, the GEG agreed, at its first drafting meeting, on an evaluation process in which, based on their specialties, the experts were assigned among the five thematic areas. Accordingly, the GEG split into five thematic working groups: one for each area. With support from the Executive Secretariat's MEM Section, the GEG evaluated the implementation of 27 recommendations for each of the 34 member states which included a total of 918 recommendations (2,958 criteria). The information was presented to the countries for clarifications and updates. The national evaluation reports were approved at the 56th regular session of CICAD in November 2014 and published in December of that same year.

## **B. OVERVIEW**

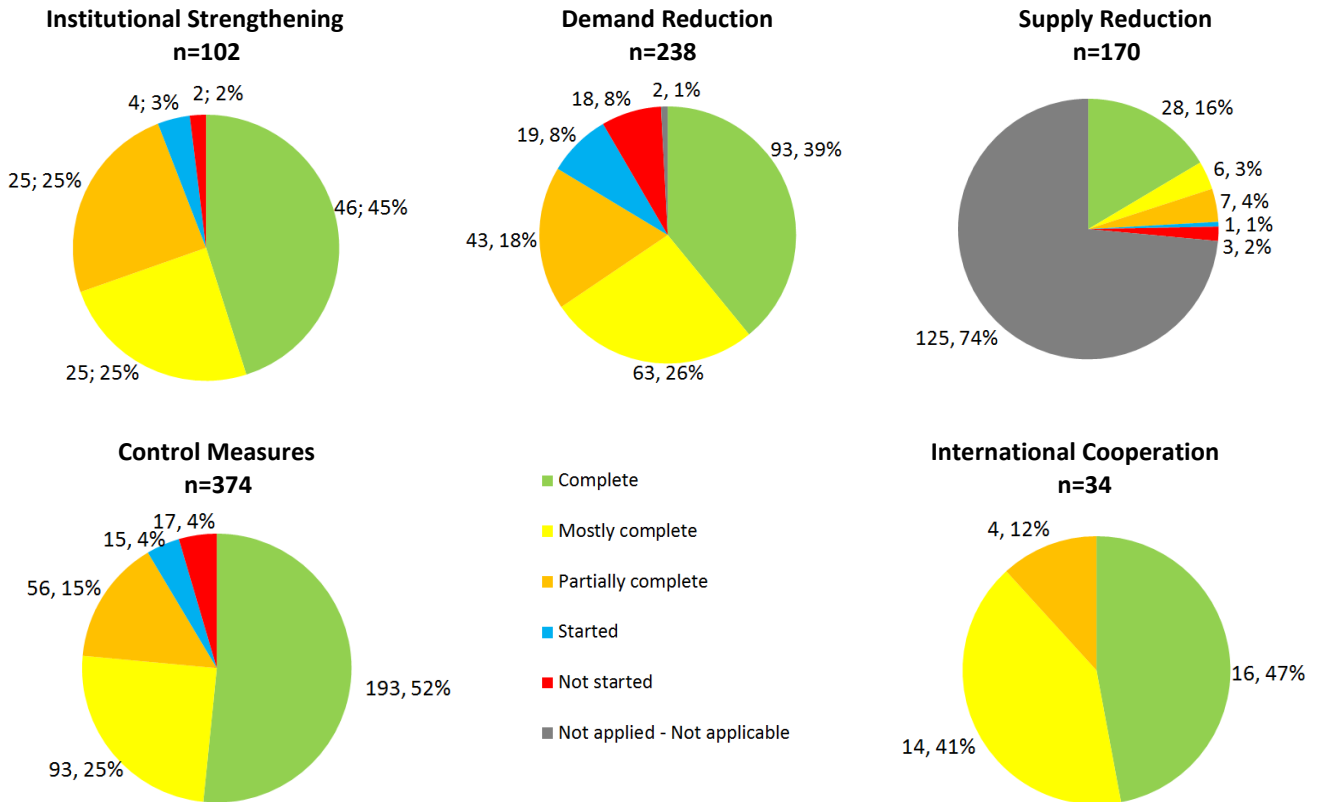
Based on the evaluation scale applied to the 34 member states in the Sixth Evaluation Round, the status of implementation of the recommendations was as follows: 41% completed; 22% mostly completed; 15% partially completed; 4% started; 4% not started; and 14% not applied/not applicable.



The figures for overall compliance with recommendations by thematic area were 52% for Control Measures, followed by 47% in International Cooperation, and 45% and 39% in Institutional Strengthening and Demand Reduction, respectively. The rate of compliance with recommendations in the Supply Reduction area was 62%, bearing in mind, only to those countries with significant cultivation of illicit crops.<sup>4</sup> The highest percentage (41%) of mostly completed implementation was found in the area of International Cooperation, while the areas of Institutional Strengthening, Demand Reduction, and Control Measures had an average of 25% of recommendations in that evaluation category. Partially complete implementation of the recommendations ranged between 25% (Institutional Strengthening) and 12% (International Cooperation). Finally, the area with the highest percentage of recommendations that have not started implementation is in Demand Reduction (8%). In the other thematic areas, implementation was deemed not to have started for between 1% and 5% of recommendations.

<sup>4</sup> The level of compliance was 16% in this area that took into account the 34 member states.

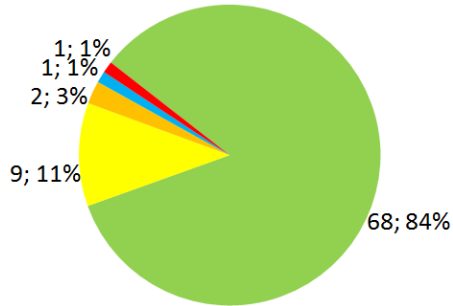
**Status of compliance by thematic area  
(# of recommendations; %)**



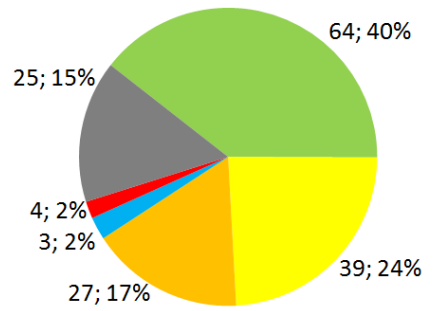
Implementation of the evaluated recommendations also varied greatly among sub-regions in the Hemisphere. North America had the highest overall level of completed implementation of recommendations (84%) and 11% were assessed as mostly completed. Only 5% of recommendations in that region were assessed as partially complied with, just started or not started. Completed implementation of the recommendations was at its lowest level in the Caribbean subregion (28%). The mostly completed and partially completed evaluation categories each registered 21%. For 13% of recommendations implementation was assessed as barely or not started. It should be pointed out that 17% of recommendations were not applicable to the Caribbean region. The Southern and Central American subregions showed very similar outcomes with respect to completed implementation of recommendations (48% and 40%, respectively). Their figures in the mostly completed category were 26% and 24%, respectively. In South America, 12% of the recommendations were not applicable and 15% were not applicable in Central America. In Central America, 17% of recommendations were partially implemented; in South America, 8%. In the two subregions, implementation of between 4% and 6% of recommendations had barely started or had not begun.

Status of compliance by subregion  
(#of recommendations; %)

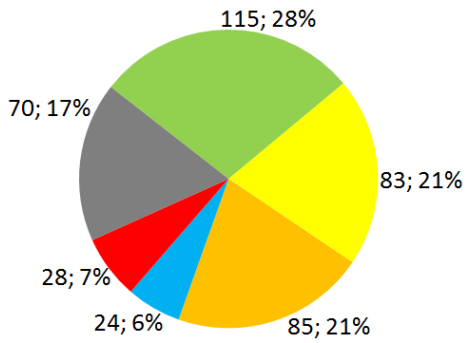
**North America**  
n=81



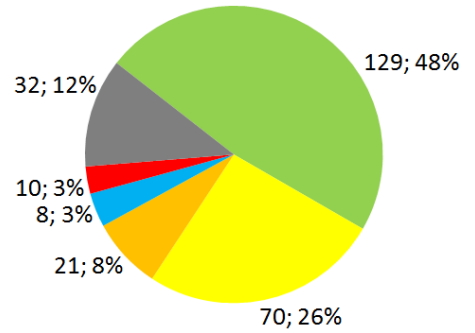
**Central America**  
n=162



**Caribbean**  
n=405



**South America**  
n=270



## CHAPTER I – INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### PRINCIPAL FINDINGS IN THE HEMISPHERE

- A large majority of countries (27) have **national drug authorities** that coordinate national drug policies.
- Most countries (24) have adopted **national drug plans or strategies** covering all key areas.
- Most countries (24) involve **relevant actors in the design, drafting, and execution of their respective plans or strategies**.
- Although the vast majority of the member states (29) have **observatories on drugs or similar technical offices**, five still do not.
- Most countries (20) do not have **key data on the scope of drug use among the population**.
- Within the past 10 years, almost half the countries (15) have conducted **studies into the economic and social costs** associated with drugs.

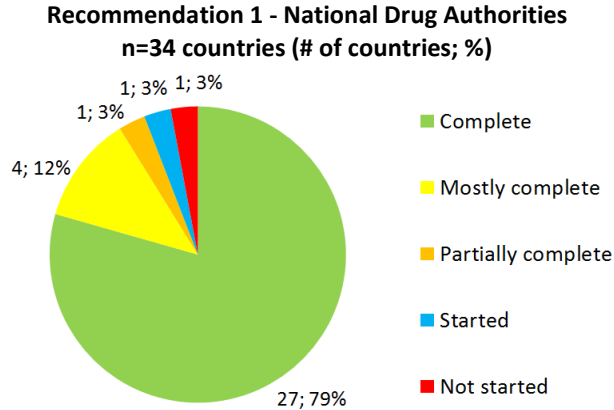
#### A. NATIONAL DRUG AUTHORITIES

**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.”**

In its Sixth Evaluation Round, the MEM reviewed the existence of authorities coordinating national drug policies. This Round shows that 27 of the 34 countries (79%) have a national drug authority placed at a high political level endowed with legal basis and a budget. Those authorities coordinate the demand reduction, supply reduction, observatory on drugs, international cooperation, and program evaluation areas. The countries possess a coordination mechanism for planning and effectively executing policies.

Four countries were deemed to have mostly completed implementation of this recommendation because, although they had made significant progress toward meeting the evaluation criterion, among some of these the national authority is not responsible for the supply control and control measures areas. There is also one country that does not coordinate the work of the observatory; another in which the national authority lacks legal basis; and another in which the national authority does not coordinate international cooperation.

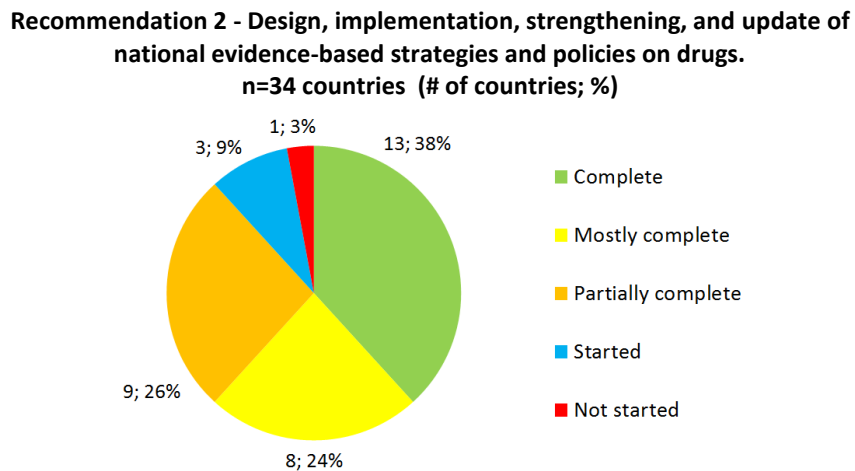
Finally, for three countries, implementation of this recommendation was evaluated as partially completed, started, or not started, respectively.



## **B. NATIONAL DRUG STRATEGIES**

### **Recommendation 2: “Design, implement, strengthen and update national evidence-based strategies and policies on drugs.”**

The Sixth Round of Evaluation of the MEM revealed that 13 countries (38%) completed implementation of this recommendation in respect of all the established evaluation criteria; eight (24%) mostly completed implementation; nine (26%) did so partially; three (9%) were deemed to have started implementation; and one country (3%) was deemed not to have started activities to implement this recommendation.



During the evaluation period, it transpired that 21 countries (62%) have a national drug plan or strategy that encompasses the demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, and international cooperation areas, as well as a budget to facilitate their implementation. Twelve countries (35%) mostly meet this criterion; in one case (3%), compliance is only partial.

In addition, 24 of the countries (70%) involve relevant actors in the design, drafting, and execution of the national drug plan or strategy and therefore meet this criterion; for five

countries (15%) implementation of this recommendation was mostly completed, while another five (15%) completed it only partially.

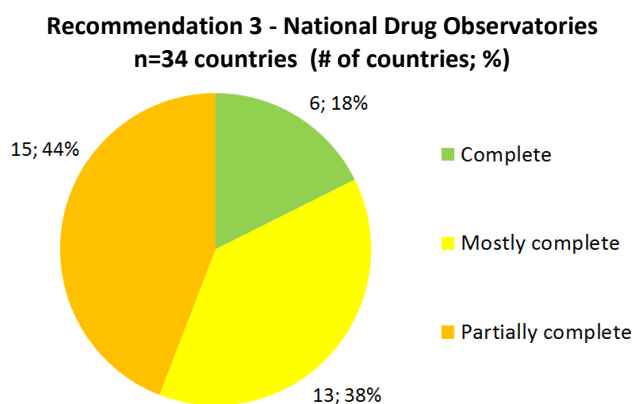
Twenty-one countries (62%) include a monitoring and evaluation component for policies, programs and interventions in their national drug strategies.

Sixteen countries (47%) update their drug policies, plans and programs in accordance with the findings of their evaluations.

### **C. NATIONAL DRUG OBSERVATORIES**

**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.”**

In the Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM, only six countries (18%) met all the evaluation criteria for this recommendation; 13 (38%) mostly met them and 15 (44%) did so partially.



Regarding the existence of a drug observatory or similar technical office that organizes and carries out studies, compiles or coordinates statistics and other information on drugs, 29 of the 34 countries (85%) have such an observatory or office, and five countries (15%) do not.

Twelve of the 34 member states (35%) have periodic data on the scope of drug use among the population and publish those figures. However, 20 countries (59%) only partially meet this criterion and two countries (6%) did not begin to implement the recommendation.

Fifteen countries (44%) compile all priority drug supply data each year, 17 (50%) partially meet this criterion, while two (6%) fail to meet it.

With respect to studies in the past 10 years of the economic and social costs associated with drugs, 15 countries in the Hemisphere (44%) have done such research and 19 (56%) have not.

Thirty-three countries (97%) do disseminate the information on drug demand and supply resulting from studies and the compilation of statistics for use by policy-makers, jurisdictions, and stakeholders.



## CHAPTER II – DEMAND REDUCTION

### PRINCIPAL FINDINGS IN THE HEMISPHERE

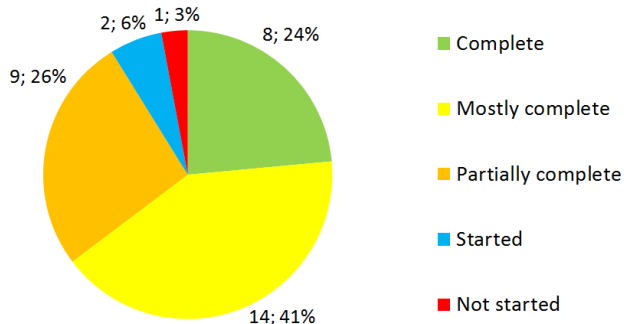
- Most of the countries (23) have **comprehensive demand reduction plans and programs**.
- Most of the countries (20) have **not monitored and evaluated the demand reduction plans and programs** they implement.
- Only 11 member states have **drug use prevention programs, differentiated according to the risk factors involved**.
- Half the countries (17) still lack an **accreditation process for their treatment centers**.
- Most of the countries (21) have a system for **monitoring and following up on the treatment and rehabilitation programs** offered by their public health systems.
- The national drug authority and other important entities in a majority (25) of the member states maintain **cooperative relationships with pertinent academic, research, and civil society organizations** that produce drug use data.
- Most of the countries (24) facilitate access to **introductory training and continuing education programs on demand reduction** for personnel engaged in activities related to this field.
- Nearly half the countries (16) **periodically monitor and evaluate demand reduction training programs**, with a view to improving and updating them and to ensure consistency with the best evidence currently available.

### A. DEMAND REDUCTION PLANS

**Recommendation 4: “Develop and implement comprehensive demand reduction policies, plans and/or programs.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM showed that eight countries (24%) met all the recommendation's criteria; 14 (41%) mostly completed implementation of the recommendation; nine (26%) did so partially; two (6%) started implementation; and one (3%) had not started to implement the recommendation.

**Recommendation 4 - Comprehensive demand reduction plans and programs**  
**n=34 countries (# of countries; %)**



As to the question whether the countries have comprehensive demand reduction plans and programs, practically all of them (91%) have totally or partially completed this criterion. A few (9%) do not.

As for whether the countries monitor and evaluate their demand reduction plans and programs, almost half do (41%); the other half partially meet the criterion (41%). Only a few fail to do so (18%).

With regard to updating demand reduction plans and programs, according to the monitoring and evaluation findings, most countries have fully (73%) or partially (9%) complied with this issue; only a few have not (18%).

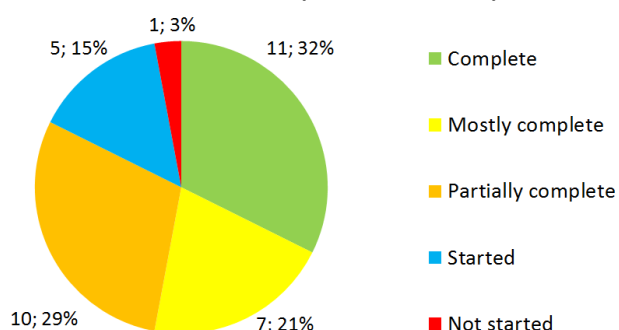
Finally, as regards the question of whether demand reduction plans and programs include a multisectoral approach to the drug use problem, almost all the countries (88%) have implemented this approach; only a few have not (12%).

## **B. PREVENTION**

### **Recommendation 5: “Design, implement, strengthen and update national evidence-based strategies and policies on drugs.”**

On the question of the establishment of a comprehensive prevention system targeting different population groups, 11 countries (32%) have prevention programs differentiated according to the risk factors involved, thereby constituting a comprehensive set of evidence-based universal, selective and indicated prevention programs, with measurable objectives. Additionally, seven countries (21%) have mostly completed the design and implementation of a similar system. The remaining 16 countries (47%) have not or only barely begun to design and install a prevention program system targeting different population groups.

**Recommendation 5 - Comprehensive prevention program systems**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)



### C. TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION

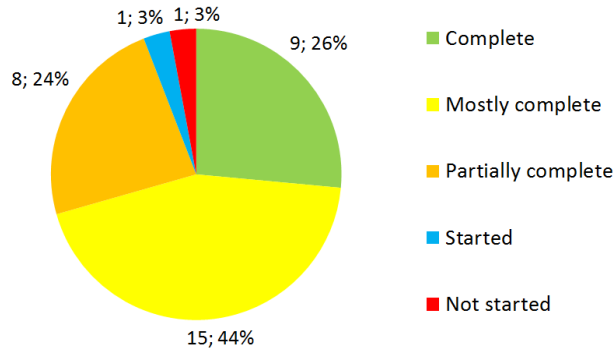
**Recommendation 6: “Promote the integration of treatment and recovery plans and programs into the public health system and address drug dependence as a chronic, relapsing disease.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM shows that nine countries (26%) have implemented the recommendation. These countries have a public health system and carry out early detection for drug use. They offer guidance and brief intervention for persons affected by drug use and systematically refer these persons for treatment. To undertake these actions, such countries have screening instruments in place to detect drug use.

Fifteen countries (44%) have mostly completed implementation of the recommendation because, although they mainly meet the evaluation criteria, several of them lack a system for monitoring treatment and rehabilitation programs, have no screening tools, or fail to evaluate their programs. In addition, two countries (6%) have no network of services specializing in treatment and rehabilitation, while others lack accreditation programs.

Finally, eight countries (24%) have partially completed implementation of the recommendation; one has started; and another has not started.

**Recommendation 6 - Promote treatment and rehabilitation programs that address drug dependence as a chronic, relapsing disease**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)



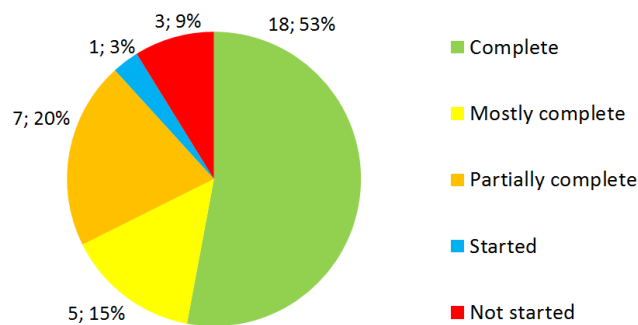
**Recommendation 7: “Facilitate access for drug-dependent persons to a system of drug treatment, rehabilitation, social reinsertion, and recovery services that are evidence-based and follow internationally-accepted quality standards.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM shows that 18 of the 34 countries have implemented this recommendation.

Five countries have mostly completed implementation of the recommendation, but among them some do not have treatment, rehabilitation, and social reinsertion services tailored to the various population profiles needing them. In addition, one country does not conduct social reinsertion activities.

Finally, seven countries have partially completed implementation of the recommendation; one has started to do so; and three have not started.

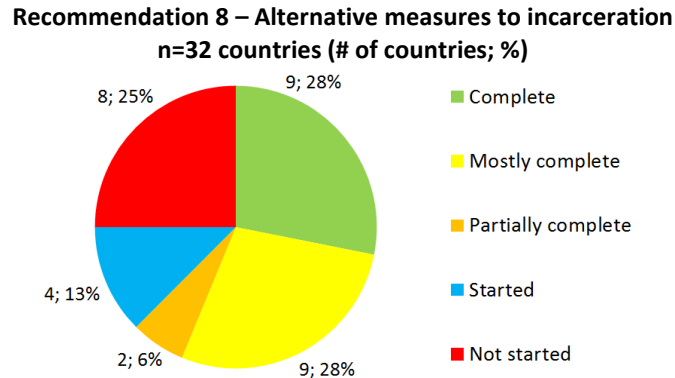
**Recommendation 7 - Access to treatment, rehabilitation, and social reinsertion**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)



## **D. ALTERNATIVE MEASURES TO INCARCERATION**

**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.”**

This is the first time that the subject of this recommendation has been evaluated. The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM revealed that nine countries (28%) implemented this recommendation; nine (28%) mostly completed implementation; two (6%) did so partially; four (13%) started; and eight (25%) had not started. This recommendation was not applicable to two countries.



Seventeen countries (53%) have national and/or regional laws or administrative guidelines that establish and provide for alternatives to incarceration for drug-dependent criminal offenders, whereas seven (22%) only partially implemented this issue and eight (25%) did not, as they do not have such legislation or administrative guidelines.

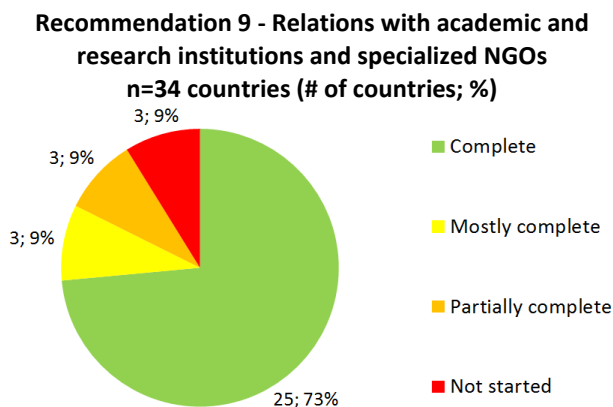
Nine countries (28%) are implementing, monitoring, and evaluating alternatives to incarceration for drug-dependent criminal offenders and three (10%) are doing so partially. Eleven countries (34%) did not comply. For the remaining, this recommendation did not apply since they lack national and/or regional laws or administrative guidelines that establish and provide for alternatives to incarceration.

## **E. INTER-AGENCY RELATIONS**

**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.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM showed that in 25 countries (73%), the national drug authority and other relevant agencies maintain cooperative relationships with academic and

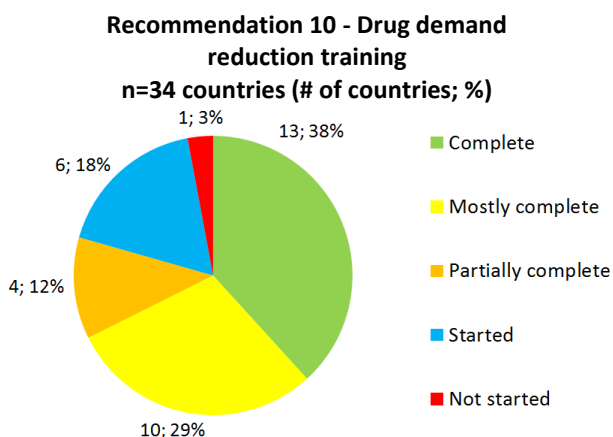
research institutions and relevant civil society organizations that assess and produce data on the use of drugs within and across communities.



## **F. DEMAND REDUCTION TRAINING**

**Recommendation 10: “Promote and strengthen training and continuing education of professionals, technicians and others involved in the implementation of demand reduction activities.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM demonstrated that 13 countries (38%) were deemed to have completed the recommendation to promote and strengthen training and continuing education of professionals, technicians and others involved in the implementation of drug demand reduction activities; 10 (29%) were evaluated as having mostly completed; four (12%) did so partially; six (18%) started; and one (3%) had not started.



Twenty-four countries (71%) provided access to introductory training and continuing education on all aspects of demand reduction for personnel involved in the implementation of drug demand reduction activities. Likewise, 27 countries (79%) offered or took part in advanced, intensive training programs on drug demand reduction for personnel, through regional and/or international organizations, to increase knowledge and strengthen skills in specialized technical or professional fields of expertise.

While 16 countries (47%) monitor and periodically evaluate the demand reduction training programs, they do not use the information generated to improve and update their training programs and ensure consistency with the best evidence available through the monitoring and the evaluation results. The lack of updates to said programs based on new trends is conducive to outdated training and does not meet the real demand reduction necessities.

## CHAPTER III – SUPPLY REDUCTION

For the Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM, it was decided to apply Recommendations 11 to 15 to nine countries: Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Paraguay, and the United States. For the other countries, it was agreed not to undertake any type of evaluation given that they have no significant cultivation of illicit crops.<sup>5</sup>

### PRINCIPAL FINDINGS IN THE HEMISPHERE

Of the nine countries evaluated on this thematic area:

- The vast majority (8) have **policies or plans for the reduction on the illicit supply of drugs.**
- Almost all of the countries (8) **compile and analyze operational information for reducing the illicit crops used in the illicit production of drugs.**
- The vast majority of countries (8) have the **capacity to estimate the extent of cultivation and illicit production of drugs** with a view to facilitating their eradication.
- All nine countries develop and implement **illicit crop eradication measures.**
- Almost half the countries (4) do not **promote research or studies to determine the environmental impact of illicit production of drugs.**

### A. DRUG SUPPLY REDUCTION MEASURES

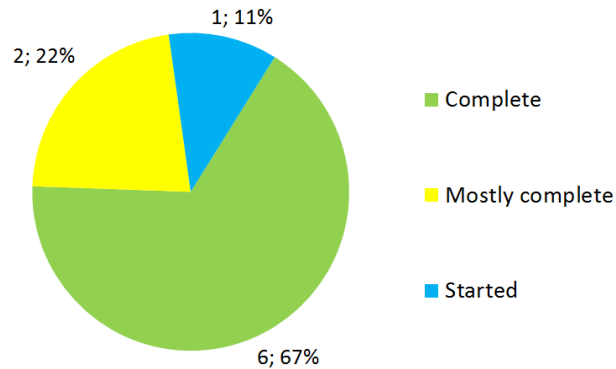
**Recommendation 11: “Adopt and/or improve comprehensive and balanced measures aimed at reducing the illicit supply of drugs.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round revealed that, of the nine countries to which this recommendation applied to, six fully implemented it, two mostly completed, and one was started.

<sup>5</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.



**Recommendation 11 - Comprehensive and balanced measures aimed at reducing the illicit supply of drugs**  
n=9 countries (# of countries; %)



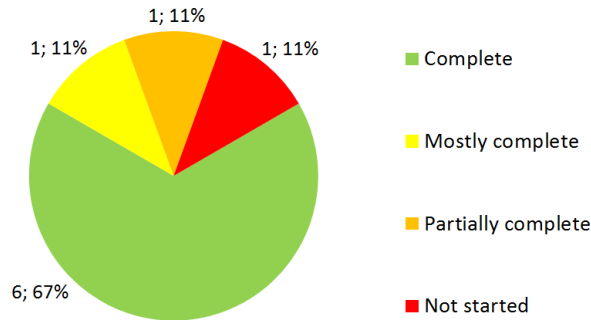
Eight of the countries have policies and/or plans for the reduction of the illicit supply of drugs, tailored to the current national reality, while one has not met this criterion.

Six countries have drawn up evidence-based supply reduction policies and/or plans, and/or have information obtained from assessments that identify the national dynamics of the illicit supply of drugs; two partially meet this criterion; and for one it was not applicable as that country lacks the policies referred to. Moreover, the policies, and/or plans developed by six countries take risk factors into account, based on a comprehensive crime prevention approach; one partially completed this recommendation; one did not; and in one case it was not applicable, as the country lacks the policies referred to.

**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 drug supply reduction."**

During the Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM, of the nine countries evaluated in this thematic area, six completed this recommendation; one mostly completed it; one did so partially; and one did not start implementing it.

**Recommendation 12 - Information mechanisms for carrying out assessments that will facilitate the development of public policies aimed at illicit drug supply reduction**  
n=9 countries (# of countries; %)



The competent entities responsible for implementing public policies for the reduction of the illicit supply of drugs in eight of the countries compile and analyze operational information needed to reduce the illicit crops used for the production of drugs, while one did not implement this issue.

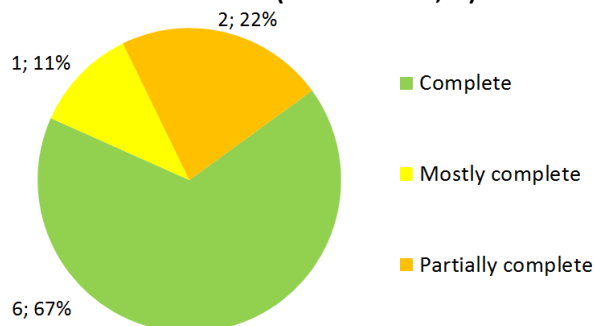
Six countries have consolidated findings resulting from the execution of policies, plans, and/or programs for the reduction of the illicit supply of drugs; two partially met this criterion; and one did not. Finally, eight countries have the capacity to estimate the extent of illicit drug cultivation and production in order to facilitate their eradication, while one did not implement this issue.

## **B. DRUG SUPPLY REDUCTION INFORMATION AND STUDIES**

**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.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round revealed that, of the nine countries to which this recommendation was applied to, six completed, one mostly completed it, and two did so partially; leading the countries to conduct studies and situational analyses on the illicit supply of drugs.

**Recommendation 13 - Studies and research that contribute to the early identification and monitoring of new and emerging trends in order to provide updated information on the illicit supply of drugs**  
n=9 countries (# of countries; %)



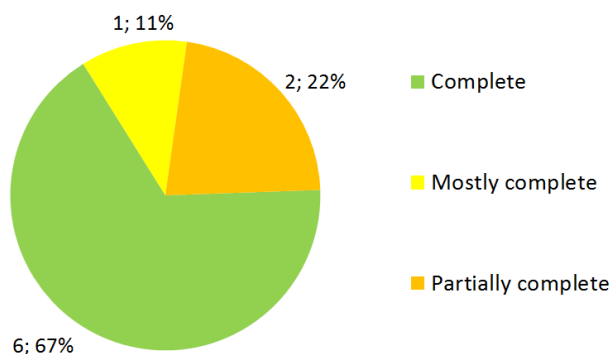
Six countries carry out studies of new trends regarding the crops used in the illicit production of drugs; one partially implemented this recommendation; two did not. Eight countries carry out situational assessments on illicit drug supply at the national level to support the decision-making process, taking into account, where appropriate, its interaction with other forms of transnational organized crime, and one did not implement this recommendation.

### **C. ALTERNATIVE, INTEGRAL, AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**Recommendation 14: "According to the needs of each country, adopt comprehensive measures, such as integral and sustainable alternative development and law enforcement initiatives."**

The Sixth Evaluation Round revealed that, of the nine countries to which this recommendation applied, six fully implemented it, one mostly completed implementation, and two were deemed to have partially implemented it.

**Recommendation 14 - Integral and sustainable alternative development measures and law enforcement initiatives**  
n=9 countries (# of countries; %)



All nine countries develop and implement illicit crop eradication measures. Four countries adopted measures to foster a secure environment that facilitates the implementation of

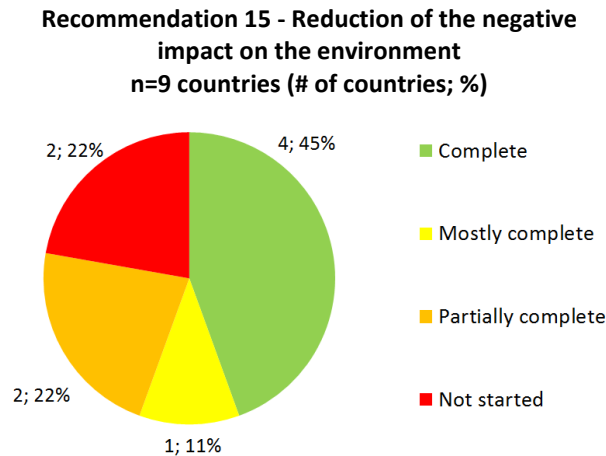
alternative, integral and sustainable development programs and/or projects; two did not implement this issue; and for three countries it did not apply.

Four countries promote the participation and/or coordination of civil society with governmental authorities, taking into account the political and administrative organization of the member states, in the design and implementation of projects and activities in areas of integral and sustainable alternative development intervention; two did not implement this recommendation; and for three countries it did not apply. At the same time, two countries promote integral and sustainable alternative development policies and programs that favor social inclusion and poverty reduction; one partially completed this recommendation; three did not; and for three countries it did not apply.

#### **D. MEASURES TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF DRUGS ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

**Recommendation 15: “Promote actions to reduce the negative impact on the environment caused by the world drug problem, in accordance with national policies.”**

During the Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM, of the nine countries for which the implementation of this recommendation was evaluated, four fully met the criteria; one mostly completed implementation; two did so partially; and two had not begun to address the recommendation.



Five countries promote research or studies to determine the environmental impact of illicit production of drugs, while four did not implement this issue.

Likewise, six countries, in accordance with their circumstances, use environmental management tools that enable them to address the negative impact of the world drug problem on the environment, while three countries do not have such tools. Finally, five countries promote, when applicable and in accordance with their national priorities, the implementation of international cooperation programs or projects to reduce the negative consequences of the world drug problem on the environment; while four did not implement this activity.

## CHAPTER IV – CONTROL MEASURES

### PRINCIPAL FINDINGS IN THE HEMISPHERE

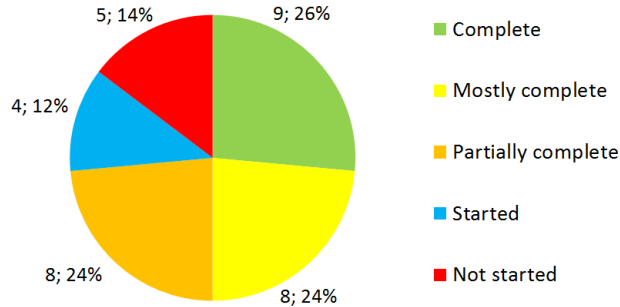
- Only 11 member states have **protocols for the dismantling of laboratories for the illicit production of drugs**.
- Most of the countries (26) have mechanisms for **issuing and responding to pre-export notifications of controlled substances**. However, in some cases, they could be improved operationally. Moreover, in some countries (8), this mechanism is still not fully up and running.
- Most of the countries (20) **assess needs to ensure the availability of narcotics** for medical and scientific use.
- Almost all the member states (32) have formal or informal mechanisms for **exchanging intelligence information** among the agencies responsible for enforcing laws against illicit drug trafficking and related offenses.
- Most countries (25) lack a **national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations related to drug trafficking**.
- Nearly all countries (30) keep **records of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials** seized during drug trafficking operations.
- All the member states (34) now have a **Financial Intelligence Unit** in compliance with international standards.
- Some countries (7) still lack a **national agency to administer and dispose of seized or forfeited assets**.

### A. ILLICIT PRODUCTION OF DRUGS

**Recommendation 16: “Implement programs to prevent and reduce the illicit production of plant-based and synthetic drugs.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM revealed that, of the 34 countries, nine (26%) completed this recommendation by implementing programs to prevent and reduce the illicit production of plant-based and synthetic drugs, while others were at various stages of program execution. Eight countries (24%) mostly completed implementation; eight (24%) did so partially; four (12%) started implementing this recommendation; and five (14%) had not begun to implement any program.

**Recommendation 16 - Programs to prevent and reduce the illicit production of drugs**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)



The evaluation showed that 19 countries (56%) have mechanisms for detecting laboratories for the illicit production of synthetic and plant-based drugs; three (9%) have made some efforts to develop them; and 12 (35%) have not introduced mechanisms for detecting laboratories.

With regard to the dismantling of any laboratories for the illicit production of drugs that may be detected, 11 countries (32%) developed and implemented protocols for such procedures, and 23 (68%) did not.

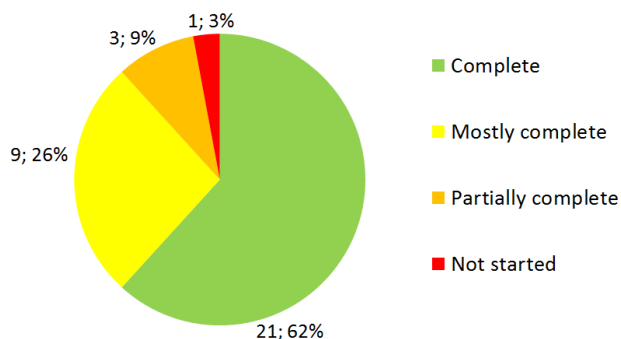
Finally, 21 countries (62%) run continuous training programs for agents responsible for control operations relating to the dismantling of laboratories for the illicit production of drugs; two countries (6%) have introductory programs; and 11 (32%) do not provide such training.

## **B. CONTROL OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES AND PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS**

**Recommendation 17: “Adopt or strengthen control measures in order to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM showed that, in recent years, almost all countries in the Hemisphere (33 out of 34) have adopted or strengthened control measures to prevent the diversion of precursors and other chemical substances toward the illicit manufacturing or production of drugs. Thus, 21 countries meet all the criteria evaluated; nine meet most of them; and three do so partially.

**Recommendation 17 - Control measures to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances to illicit activities**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)



Among the measures adopted, 32 countries (94%) have legally defined crimes for punishing the diversion of precursors and controlled chemical substances and criminalized conduct conducive to it; while 30 countries (88%) either have legal provisions or have made progress toward promulgating them, in order to control international trade in those substances.

Nevertheless, with respect to implementation of the pre-export notification mechanism, this tool has proved to be highly effective in preventing diversion in this kind of trade is not yet fully operational in eight countries (24%) and some countries that do participate in the mechanism do not issue pre-export notifications of all shipments of controlled substances. Nor do they respond in a timely manner to all the international trade transactions provided to them by other countries.

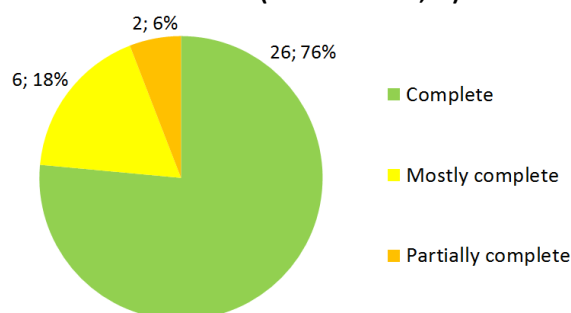
As for the domestic market in precursors and other controlled chemical substances, 26 countries (76%) have legal provisions regulating them, at the manufacturer and wholesale distributor level; and 33 countries (97%) have an authority responsible for coordinating control actions regarding precursors and other controlled chemical substances.

**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.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM showed that, as regards the adoption or strengthening of control measures to prevent the diversion of narcotics, psychotropic substances and pharmaceutical products, 26 countries (76%) met all the evaluation criteria, six countries (18%) meet most of them, and two meet only some of them.

With respect to narcotics and psychotropic substances for medical use, all 34 member states (100%) have issued legal provisions for controlling these products in keeping with United Nations drug control conventions; 33 countries (97%) have authorities responsible for coordinating control activities. However, five countries (6%) lack mechanisms for systematically estimating requirements and most countries base their calculations only on use, a practice that could perpetuate an inaccurate estimate (too high or too low) of actual requirements. Thirty countries (88%) have administrative and/or civil penalties aimed at preventing and correcting infractions of these regulations by medical professionals, administrators, and legal representatives of establishments that work with controlled products, as one of a number of efforts to keep those products in the spheres in which they are licit.

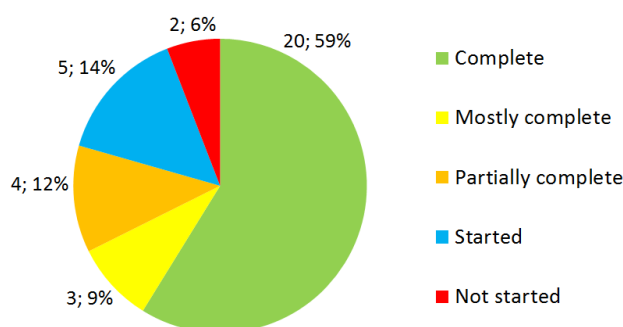
**Recommendation 18 - Control measures to prevent the diversion of narcotics, psychotropic substances and pharmaceutical products to the production of synthetic drugs.**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)



**Recommendation 19: “Ensure the adequate availability of narcotics needed for medical and scientific use.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM revealed that 20 countries in the Hemisphere (59%) have taken steps to ensure the adequate availability of narcotics required for medical and scientific uses and thereby meet the evaluation criterion, while three countries (9%) mostly completed implementation of the recommendation; four (12%) did so partially; five (14%) only started to take some steps; and two (6%) have not started on implementation.

**Recommendation 19 - Availability of narcotics for medical and scientific use**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)



Ensuring adequate availability of narcotics and psychotropic substances for medical use for the patients that need them is a core concern recognized in international conventions. Thus, 20 countries (59%) have, to a greater or lesser extent, implemented concrete measures, including, among others, the recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO). Twelve countries (35%) have made some progress, while two countries (6%) have not started implementation.

It is important to accurately assess requirements, in order to ensure adequate availability, analyze possible impediments to such availability, and adopt measures to overcome such impediments.

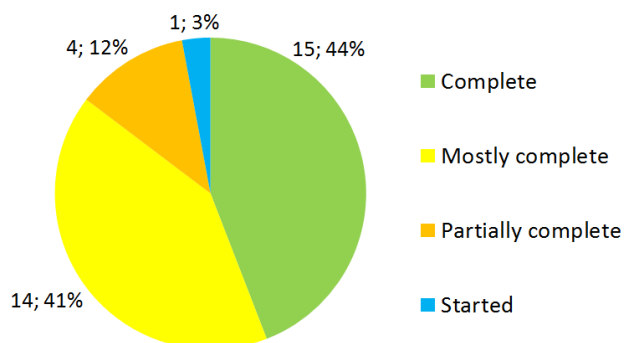


### **C. DRUG TRAFFICKING**

#### **Recommendation 20: “Strengthen national organizations for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM revealed that 15 countries (44%) completed this recommendation; 14 (41%) mostly completed it; four (12%) did so partially; and one (3%) started it.

**Recommendation 20 - Strengthen national agencies responsible for the control of drug trafficking and related crimes**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)

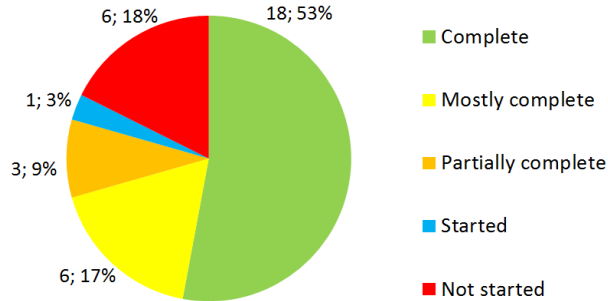


It also showed that with respect to control of drug trafficking and related offenses, 29 countries (85%) were assessed as having completed and mostly completed the following aspects of the recommendation: ongoing training programs for the stakeholders; formal and informal information exchange mechanisms among agencies; regulatory frameworks and regular plans to address the prevention of drug trafficking; and institutionalized regulatory frameworks for the final and secure disposal of seized drugs. Nevertheless, only 23 countries (68%) carried out periodic evaluations of the capacities and shortcomings of control agencies.

#### **Recommendation 21: “Identify new trends and patterns regarding illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM revealed that 18 countries (52%) completed this recommendation; six countries (18%) mostly completed it; three (9%) did so partially; one (3%) started it; and six (18%) did not start activities to address this recommendation.

**Recommendation 21 - Identify new trends and patterns in connection with illicit drug trafficking and related crimes**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)

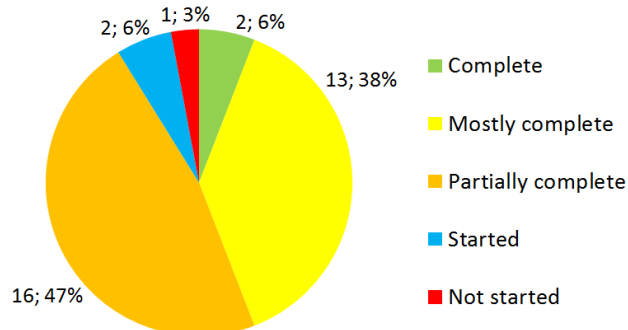


As regards the existence of studies on recent trends in drug trafficking and related crimes, 28 countries (82%) met this benchmark and six (18%) do not. Likewise, 18 countries (52%) met the criterion related to the existence of regulatory updates based on the identification of new trends in drug trafficking and related crimes, while 16 (48%) do not.

**Recommendation 22: “Promote improvements in information systems on illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM revealed that only two countries (6%) completed this recommendation; 13 (38%) mostly completed; 16 (47%) did so partially; two (6%) started and one did not start actions to promote improvements in these information systems.

**Recommendation 22 - Improvements in information systems on drug trafficking and related crimes**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)



This Round showed 29 countries (85%) have a consolidated national statistical information system on law enforcement operations for drug trafficking and related crimes.

Nine countries (26%) have a national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations related to drug trafficking, while 25 countries (74%) do not have this system.

Another finding was that 16 countries (47%) have conducted studies and technical research on drug trafficking and related offenses, while 18 countries (53%) did not.

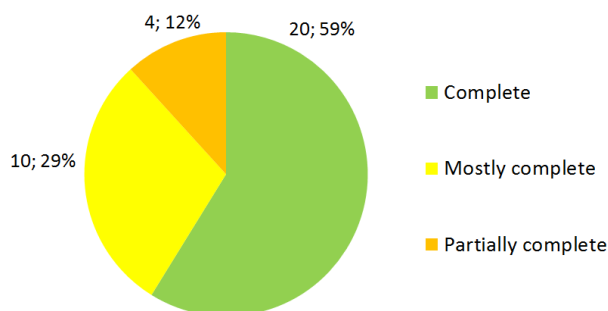
Eight countries (24%) have studies on impurity profiles and characterization of drugs; three countries (9%) partially completed this criterion, while 23 (67%) did not.

#### **D. EXCHANGE OF INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION**

**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.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM ascertained that 20 countries (59%) complied with this recommendation, ten countries (29%) mostly completed it, and four (12%) did so just partially.

**Recommendation 23 - Measures for effective cooperation among countries**  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)



During the evaluation period, 32 countries (94%) were found to have mechanisms for the secure and effective exchange of intelligence information in the investigation of cases involving drug trafficking and related crimes. Such mechanisms may be in the form of committees and commissions, periodic meetings, I.T. systems, and other informal bodies/arrangements. Only two countries (6%) lack the above-mentioned mechanisms.

The Sixth Round revealed that 23 countries (68%) have coordination and information exchange mechanisms and best practices for the prevention, investigation, and control of activities related to drug trafficking via the Internet. These mechanisms enable the competent authorities to investigate the illicit sale of drugs via this medium, with a view to filing suit when the Internet is used for the illegal sale of internationally controlled substances. Only one country (3%) has partially met this criterion and ten (29%) lack the health authorities, law enforcement agencies, or mail services needed to coordinate and exchange the aforementioned information.

During the period of evaluation, all 34 countries (100%) implemented or participated in training workshops on intelligence information exchange in the investigation of cases involving drug trafficking and related crimes on an ongoing basis.

The Sixth Round demonstrated that 30 countries (88%) carry out or participate on an ongoing basis in training activities on the application of special investigation techniques and management of the chain of custody for evidence in cases of drug trafficking and related crimes.

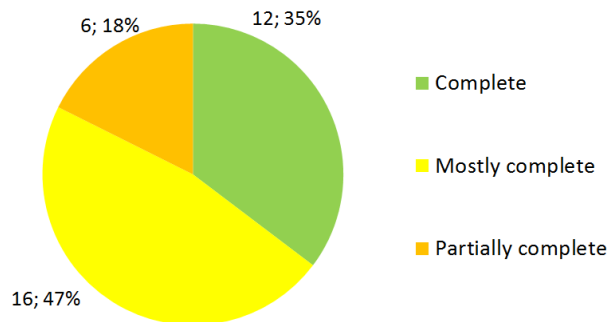
During the period of evaluation, 30 countries (88%) were found to have laws and regulations that establish provisions for the investigation of all assets during drug trafficking cases. These provisions aim to guide the investigation process, both in law enforcement and judicial settings, on matters relating to property connected with specific crimes that are being investigated; that is, they enable the identification and pursuit of assets, instruments, and other elements related to the crime under investigation. However, four countries (12%) have no regulatory frameworks or operational guidelines on this matter.

### **E. FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS**

**Recommendation 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.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round revealed that 12 countries (35%) have fully complied with this recommendation, 16 (47%) mostly completed it, and six (18%) did so partially.

**Recommendation 24 - Adopt or strengthen, where appropriate, control measures for trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials associated with drug trafficking.  
n=34 countries (# of countries; %)**



Twenty-seven countries (79%) have adopted the necessary legislative or other measures to establish as criminal offenses under their domestic law the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, pursuant to Article IV.1 of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials, of 1997. The purpose is to eliminate loss or diversion of these materials and to adopt the necessary measures to ensure their security while being imported into, exported from, or in transit through their respective territories, pursuant to Article VIII of this Convention. Nevertheless, seven countries (21%) have done so partially.

Regarding the manufacture of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, 14 countries (41%) marked them appropriately with the name of the manufacturer, place of manufacture, and serial number; use appropriate markings on imported firearms permitting the identification of the importer's name and address; and make appropriate markings on any firearms confiscated or forfeited pursuant to Article VI of that Convention. Likewise, in accordance with Article IX of the aforementioned Convention, the countries "maintain an effective system of export, import, and international transit licenses or authorizations for transfers of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials." However, 20 countries (59%) meet this criterion only partially.

During the evaluation period, 28 countries (82%) were found to have a national authority responsible for coordinating controls on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, including the measures contemplated in Article VIII of the aforementioned Inter-American Convention, and those provided for in Article 13 (Exchange of Information), Article 14 (Cooperation), and Article 15 (Exchange of Experience and Training). However, compliance with this criterion was partial in the case of three countries (9%), and three countries (9%) failed to meet it.

Another finding was that 30 countries (88%) have records of the number of operations in which seizures were made, the number of people arrested, and the volume of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials seized in operations involving drug trafficking and related offenses. However, four countries (12%) did not meet this criterion.

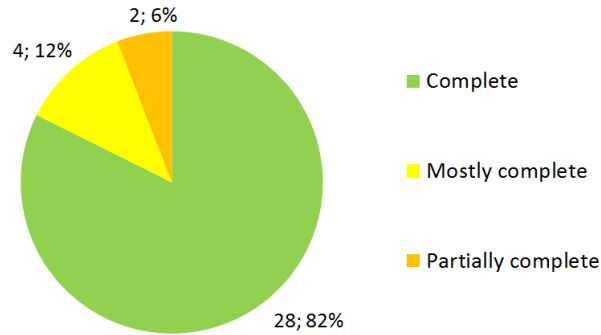
## **F. MONEY LAUNDERING**

**Recommendation 25: "Establish, update, or strengthen legislative and institutional frameworks in matters of prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering."**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM assessed the existence and current status of national legislative and institutional frameworks in matters of prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering in respect of the proceeds from trafficking in drugs and other serious offenses.

Twenty eight countries (82%) were found to have met all the benchmark criteria for this recommendation, four (12%) mostly completed them, and two (6%) did so partially.

**Recommendation 25 - Update or strengthen legislative and institutional frameworks with respect to money laundering**  
**n=34 countries (# of countries; %)**



Twenty-nine countries (85%) have legislation that criminalizes money laundering in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000. In 28 countries (85%), money laundering offenses are applied to all serious crimes, with a view to covering the widest range of predicate offenses.

Thirty-two countries (94%) have regulations for the prevention and control of money laundering, including customer due diligence measures by obligated parties, the keeping and availability of records for reasonable periods at the disposal of duly authorized local competent authorities, in addition to the obligation to report suspect operations.

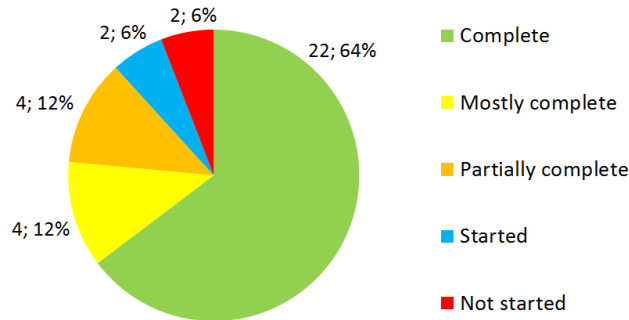
All 34 countries (100%) have a Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) or Financial Analysis Unit (FAU) in compliance with the principles of the Egmont Group and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

Thirty-two countries (94%) have legislation that authorizes embargo and forfeiture related to money laundering in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000.

**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.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round assessed the existence and strengthening of competent national organizations for the management and disposal of seized or forfeited assets in cases of drug trafficking, money laundering and other related offenses. During the evaluation period, 22 countries (64%) meet all the benchmark criteria for this recommendation, four (12%) mostly meet the criteria, four (12%) do so partially, and two (6%) have started actions. Only two countries (6%) fail to meet any of the criteria evaluated.

**Recommendation 26 - Create or strengthen, the competent national organizations for the management of seized and/or forfeited assets**  
**n=34 countries (# of countries; %)**



Twenty-seven countries (79%) have an agency to administer or dispose of seized or forfeited assets as a mechanism to ensure that they are properly managed. Seven countries (21%) did not meet this evaluation criterion, although one of them partially meets it in that it has a system for keeping records of the assets managed by the various authorities involved in these activities but lacks an agency for handling forfeited assets.

In 29 countries (85%) there are regulations on the administration and disposal of seized or forfeited assets that envisage guidelines for the proper handling of those assets. One country (3%) has made some progress, and four (12%) do not have regulations regarding guidelines for the administration of assets.

As regards the implementation of training programs aimed at strengthening technical capacities for the management and disposal of seized/forfeited assets, 23 countries (68%) have such programs; ten countries (29%) have not implemented them; and in one country, implementation is partial. These data highlight the need for greater effort to implement the measures recommended.

## CHAPTER V - INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### PRINCIPAL FINDINGS IN THE HEMISPHERE

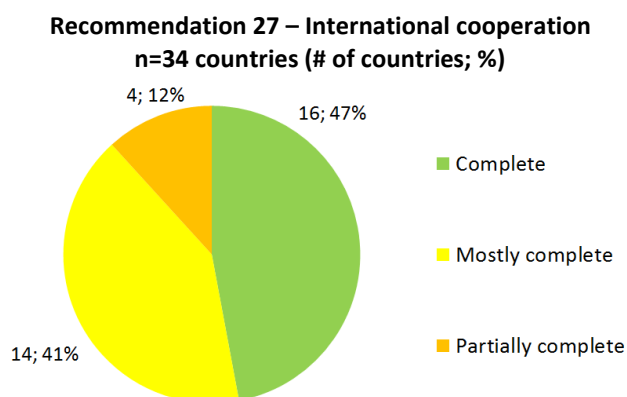
- Four member states still lack legislation permitting **extradition for illicit drug trafficking** or the trial of an individual whose extradition has been denied on the basis of nationality or territoriality criteria.
- Almost all the countries (33) have legislation permitting **extradition for money laundering** or the trial of an individual whose extradition has been denied on the basis of nationality criteria.
- The vast majority of the countries (31) have legislation providing for **reciprocal judicial assistance to third party States in drug trafficking or money laundering**.
- All 34 countries have measures authorizing the **confiscation of proceeds from the trafficking of drugs**, or property of equivalent value, as well as material and equipment or other instrumentalities used for drug trafficking.

The member states recognize that international cooperation is one of the foremost tools for addressing the world drug problem and CICAD has built this into the Hemispheric Drug Strategy, 2010 and its Plan of Action 2011-2015.

### A. INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS AND ACTIONS TO ENFORCE THEM

**Recommendation 27: “Reaffirm the principle of cooperation contained in international instruments to address the world drug problem, through actions to ensure compliance and effectiveness.”**

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM analyzed the benchmark criteria in order to determine the level of States' commitment to the principle of cooperation upheld in a number of international instruments and found that 16 countries (47%) had fully complied with this recommendation, 14 (41%) had mostly completed, and just four countries (12%) had partly completed it.





The existence of legislation permitting the extradition or -- if extradition is not possible by virtue of nationality or territoriality criteria -- the trial of individuals involved in drug trafficking and money laundering offenses supplements the Hemisphere's efforts to dismantle criminal organizations and their support networks.

The Sixth Round showed that 30 countries (88%) have these kinds of legal provisions in respect to drug trafficking offenses and only four countries fail to fully meet this criterion. On the other hand, for money laundering offenses, 33 countries (97%) have legislation permitting extradition or trial and only one (3%) does not provide for the extradition of its citizens.

The transnational dimension of drug trafficking and money laundering is undeniable, so that it is vital that member states include in their legal systems mechanisms enabling them to implement reciprocal judicial assistance in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings, with a view to achieving a more effective response to these offenses. By the end of the Sixth Evaluation Round it transpired that 31 countries (91%) in the Hemisphere have such mechanisms. However, three countries (9%) lack the tools to enable them to cooperate during investigation and trial phases, as well as during criminal proceedings involving the most serious drug trafficking and money laundering offenses.

Ever since the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988), countries have recognized the importance of confiscating and seizing proceeds derived from, used in, intended for, or related to drug trafficking and other related offenses, as part of the measures strengthening the capacity of States to prevent and effectively and efficiently address this problem. All 34 countries (100%) in the Hemisphere have implemented measures authorizing the confiscation of such assets.

The adoption of other specific measures provided for in this Convention further testifies to the Hemisphere's commitment to combat the world drug problem, based on the principles of international law and shared co-responsibility.

In addition to the actions described in earlier sections, the promotion and strengthening of joint or coordination operations, technical assistance, controlled delivery, and the expeditious exchange of operational information and of best practices and lessons learned are all measures that boost international cooperation and highlight the importance that the member states of the Hemisphere attach to the coordination of efforts to respond convincingly to drug trafficking and related crimes.

According to the findings of the Sixth Evaluation Round, 21 countries (62%) have adopted specific measures envisaged in the 1988 Convention to strengthen international cooperation in combating drug trafficking. However, 12 countries (35%) did so only partially and one (3%) has not taken any steps in that direction.

## CONCLUSIONS

The Sixth Evaluation Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) successfully reviewed the 27 recommendations put forward pursuant to the Plan of Action 2011-2015 of the CICAD Hemispheric Drug Strategy, 2010.

The evaluation of the status of compliance in the five thematic areas shows that, in the Institutional Strengthening area, more than 62% of the member states have national drug commissions, national drug observatories, and national drug plans. However, there are some member states that lack not only these institutions but also a comprehensive system for compiling and managing reliable data.

In the Demand Reduction area, the evaluation showed progress made with respect to drug demand from a public health perspective; the increase in the number of accredited treatment centers; the adoption of alternatives to incarceration; the provision of better prevention programs; and improved relations between government, academic and research institutions, and specialized nongovernmental organizations. Member states are encouraged to step up accreditation of treatment centers to ensure the highest level of care for persons needing it. Approximately half the member states still need to develop specialized interventions to address the profiles of the persons they are attending to. Also needed is improved monitoring and evaluation of demand reduction programs in general.

The recommendations relating to Supply Reduction were applied to 26% of the member states, based on the significant volume of illicit cultivation in their territories. With regard to these member states, it was found that all of them engage in eradication efforts and that the largest producers have integral and sustainable alternative development programs. The progress made in the aforementioned efforts and programs by most countries in this area is a model that the region should continue to pursue.

The area with the largest number of recommendations evaluated (347) is Control Measures. In this area, it was noted that the member states continue to accord high priority to the emerging issues of clandestine laboratories, new psychotropic substances, and new difficulties surrounding the control of chemical products and precursors. Considerable attention has also been devoted to the control of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. Ongoing improvements were also found in the area of money laundering, and the interested member states to continue working assiduously on further improvements in this critical area.

International Cooperation scored top marks in this evaluation round, given that 75% of the member states have completed or mostly completed this recommendation. And no country was evaluated as having just started or not started implementation.

In its deliberations in the course of the evaluation, the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) indicated that the new process adopted for the Sixth Evaluation Round functioned satisfactorily. However, some issues were identified that need to be reviewed by the

Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) when the Sixth Round is reviewed and preparations for the Seventh Round begin. These issues were noted by the MEM Section and will be communicated to the IWG, when the latter is convened.

Finally, it is noteworthy that the decision by CICAD to use the MEM to evaluate the 2011-2015 Plan of Action of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2010 testifies to its complete trust in the validity of the Mechanism. The methodology developed by the MEM has functioned well and the change in the evaluation process has been welcomed and supported by the IWG, the NCEs, and the GEG. These bodies have also enjoyed the continued support of the CICAD Executive Secretariat, through the MEM Section, and together they produced the reports that will guide the member states as they continue to develop their policies and programs for addressing the drug problem in the Hemisphere.