



VIRTUAL MEETING ON THE CONTROL OF PRECURSOR CHEMICALS WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



**Challenges and good practices in the control of precursor
chemicals in the Americas**

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SUPPLY REDUCTION UNIT

MISSION: strengthen the capacities of OAS member states to control the illicit drug production and trafficking, as well as the diversion of chemical precursors used in their manufacture.

MAIN THEMATIC AREAS:

- Counterdrug police intelligence;
- Precursor chemical control;
- Maritime and port narco trafficking control;
- Synthetic drugs and NPS control.





1. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

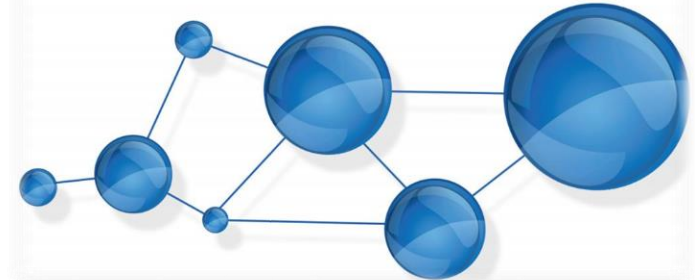
- Use of non-controlled substances

- Alternative solvents and reagents (licit use);
- Designer precursors;
- Generic scheduling.

- Precursor traceability

- Norms that allow the National Control Authority to control the logistical export chain and use of controlled substances;

- Implementation of on line traceability systems that allow reporting the use of controlled substances in real time.





- Foreign trade

- Technical smuggling:
 - Misleading labeling;
 - Missing customs declaration.
- Development of risk profiling or warning systems to strengthen physical inspection of cargo;
- Assignment of specific tariffs for each chemical precursor;
- Establishment of specific points of entry for chemical precursors;



- Creation of specialized inter-agency groups for the inspection and prevention in critical areas;
- Joint work between National Control Authority of importing and exporting countries;
- Estimation of annual legal needs for certain precursors.



- Cooperation with the private sector

- Collaboration agreements between the public and private sectors;
- Publication of voluntary guides or codes of conduct;
- Reports of unusual or suspicious operations involving controlled substances.

- Digitalization of authorization procedures

- The quality of the control measures should not be affected;
- Technological limitations in some countries.



- Inter-agency cooperation

- Two or more agencies with different functions in the administrative control of chemical precursors;
- Need for regulatory guidelines that establish the way in which the work is coordinated;
- Inter-agency agreements.



2. OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- Precursor entry control to countries

- Increased use of postal services for the distribution of chemical precursors;
- Difficulties in controlling technical smuggling
 - Lack of communication with the National Control Authority; or
 - Lack of technological means.

- Growing number of operators and controlled substances

- Difficulties in identifying chemicals

- Dismantling of clandestine laboratories





3. JUDICIAL ISSUES

- Difficulty of demonstrating the crime and the intent of the diversion;
- Need for regulations that facilitate investigative processes and expedite the prosecution process
 - Including the adoption of special investigative techniques (ex. controlled delivery);
- Inter-institutional cooperation (National Control Authority, Customs, security forces, judicial sector, etc.);





4. TECHNICAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

- Suitable technical means for the identification of chemical substances (pure or mixtures)

- Portable equipment
- Forensic laboratories

- Qualified Personnel

- Training in administrative, customs, police and judicial control tasks.





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