



**ORGANIZATION OF  
AMERICAN STATES (OAS)**



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

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

**SECRETARIAT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL  
SECURITY (SMS)**

# Dominican Republic

Evaluation Report on Drug Control

2014





Organization of  
American States

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

**Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)**

# Dominican Republic

**EVALUATION REPORT ON DRUG CONTROL  
2014**

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## PREFACE

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

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

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

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

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





## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### RECOMMENDATION 1

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL DRUG AUTHORITIES, PLACING THEM AT A HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL, WITH THE MISSION TO COORDINATE THE EFFECTIVE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES.

**Evaluation:** Complete

The Dominican Republic's national drug authority is the National Drug Council (NDC), under the office of the President of the Republic, which has a legal basis and a budget. The national authority coordinates the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, observatory on drugs, 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:** Started

The Dominican Republic is in the process of drafting a national drug plan on drugs<sup>2</sup> that includes the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures and international cooperation. The relevant actors from priority areas participate in the designing and drafting.

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<sup>2</sup> During the Fifty-Sixth regular session of CICAD, November 19-21, 2014, the Dominican Republic reported that evaluations and consultations of the national plan were done and such plan is in its last revision phase.





## 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:** Mostly complete

The Dominican Republic has an Observatory on Drugs, which has carried out two priority studies in demand reduction and has priority information supply reduction. The country has carried out on the economic and social cost of drugs. The country disseminates information on demand and supply reduction to all relevant parties.

The Dominican Republic has not carried out a study on the access to patient registers of treatment centers.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 4

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

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Dominican Republic has demand reduction programs in the areas of prevention, early intervention, treatment and rehabilitation and social reinsertion. These programs, except for indicated prevention, have been designed using the available evidence from recognized organizations, and information on the extent of and trends in drug use based on demand related studies. Implementation of the demand reduction programs in universal and selective prevention, early intervention, treatment and rehabilitation, and social reinsertion is monitored. These programs include a gender perspective, and a multisectoral approach has been adopted with the participation of various sectors of the population.

The Dominican Republic does not have programs in the area of recovery support services. It does not monitor the implementation of its indicated prevention programs, nor does it evaluate the implementation of any of its demand reduction programs.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 5

DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF EVIDENCE-BASED UNIVERSAL, SELECTIVE, AND INDICATED PREVENTION PROGRAMS, WITH MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES, AIMED AT DISTINCT TARGET POPULATIONS, INCLUDING AT-RISK GROUPS.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Dominican Republic has universal, selective and indicated prevention plans and programs addressing drug use. The selective and indicated prevention plans and programs vary based on risk factors, and are implemented for specific target groups.

The Dominican Republic has not implemented a comprehensive prevention system.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 6

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

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Dominican Republic has a network of public health system facilities that are responsible for health needs within its territory. Some of these facilities carry out drug use screening and have screening instruments in place to detect drug use, offer guidance and brief intervention and systematically refer persons affected by drug use to treatment. The public health system, which coordinates with other sectors, offers outpatient treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare services, while residential treatment services are provided by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private and religious institutions. The Dominican Republic has an accreditation process for its treatment centers. The public health system facilities that offer treatment and rehabilitation services for people affected by drug use have systems for monitoring their programs, and have staff who are trained to implement and use them, enabling information on the treatment and rehabilitation programs offered to be gathered and documented.

The Dominican Republic's public health system does not provide residential treatment services for people affected by drug use.



## 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 Dominican Republic takes action to facilitate access to treatment, rehabilitation, and social reinsertion by the different groups of the population who are affected by drug use. The treatment and rehabilitation and social reinsertion interventions are tailored to the population profiles being served.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 8

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

**Evaluation:** Complete

The Dominican Republic has national legislation and administrative guidelines that provide for alternatives to incarceration for drug-dependent criminal offenders. The country has a drug treatment court that offers various types of alternatives to incarceration, and has standardized operating procedures to identify and select candidates who meet the requirements for participating in alternatives to incarceration.



## 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

The Dominican Republic has a national drug authority and other relevant institutions that maintain cooperative relations with academic and research institutes and the relevant civil society organizations that deal with topics related to demand reduction. The country uses the information on drug use produced by civil society organizations and academic and research institutions in its demand reduction policies, plans, and programs.



## 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 Dominican Republic offers introductory training programs covering various aspects of demand reduction, and provides continuing education in all aspects for personnel involved in implementing demand reduction activities. Diploma and certificate level training programs are offered, focused on science-based approaches and best practices to increase their knowledge and strengthen their skills in specialized technical or professional fields of expertise. The technical and professional experts have available advanced training at the regional and international levels. Specialized training includes a gender perspective, and the country conducts regular monitoring and evaluation to ensure that training in drug demand reduction meets the needs of its personnel. The results of those evaluations are used to review the programs and to strengthen the applicable training processes.





## SUPPLY REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATIONS 11–15

**Evaluation:** Not applied

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

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

**RECOMMENDATION 12:** ADOPT AND/OR IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS MECHANISMS WITH A VIEW TO CARRYING OUT ASSESSMENTS THAT WILL FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC POLICIES AIMED AT THE REDUCTION OF THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS.

**RECOMMENDATION 13:** PROMOTE STUDIES AND RESEARCH THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND MONITORING OF NEW AND EMERGING TRENDS THAT COULD PROVIDE UPDATED INFORMATION ON THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS.

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

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



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 16

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

**Evaluation:** Partially complete

The Dominican Republic has mechanisms to detect or identify laboratories for the illicit manufacture of synthetic and plant-based drugs, in the form of regulations and procedures.

The Dominican Republic does not have a national information system on laboratories for the illicit manufacture of synthetic and plant-based drugs that have been detected and dismantled. The country has not developed protocols for the dismantling of this type of laboratory and does not implement or take part in ongoing training programs for agents responsible for the control of these activities.



## 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 Dominican Republic has criminalized the acts set out in Article 3.1.a.IV of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. In addition, the country has legislation for the control of controlled chemical substances according to the terms of Article 12 of this Convention. The country has an authority responsible for coordinating activities for the control of these substances, which has clearly defined legal powers. The country maintains an updated register of all natural and legal persons that handle controlled chemical substances; has a licensing system to exercise control over manufactures and distributors; conducts periodic inspections of facilities; and has established a system of administrative, civil and criminal sanctions for infractions or violations by individuals or corporations that handle such substances. The Dominican Republic uses the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) PEN-on line system for the issuance of and response to pre-export notifications for controlled substances.



## 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 Dominican Republic has a framework for the control of narcotics, psychotropic substances and psychoactive pharmaceutical products, as called for in the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971. The country has designated a national authority responsible for coordinating control activities for those substances and products. The functions and powers of this authority are clearly established under law. The Dominican Republic has mechanisms for estimating annual requirements for narcotic drugs, based on usage data and variants. These mechanisms enables it to gather the information called for in Article 19 of the Single Convention of 1961. The country's legislation provides for the application of administrative, civil and criminal penalties in the event of infractions or violations of the regulations by medical professionals, professional managers, administrators, and legal representatives of establishments that handle 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 Dominican Republic conducts periodic evaluations of the availability of narcotics and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific use, based on statistical records on importation, distribution and sales. Also, these evaluations include an analysis of impediments to adequate availability and should such impediments develop, the country has developed actions to resolve the situation.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 20

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

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Dominican Republic implements ongoing training programs for personnel involved in the control of drug trafficking and related crimes and have formal mechanisms for the exchange of information among entities responsible for the control of drug trafficking and related crimes. The country has legal frameworks and regular law enforcement plans for the prevention of drug trafficking. The country also has legal frameworks for the safe and final disposal of seized drugs.

The Dominican Republic does not conduct periodic evaluations of the strengths and weaknesses of the entities responsible for the control of drug trafficking and related crimes.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 21

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

**Evaluation:** Partially complete

The Dominican Republic has studies on recent trends in drug trafficking and related crimes.

The Dominican Republic has not updated its legislation 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:** Mostly complete

The Dominican Republic has national statistics on drug trafficking and conducts technical studies and research in this area. Information that is not confidential is published on the National Drug Control Directorate's (DNCD) webpage. In addition, the country carries out impurity profiles and drug characterization studies, in accordance with priorities based on the specifics of the drug trafficking problem.

The Dominican Republic does not have standardized methods to compile and verify the data provided by the various institutions. The country does not have a national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking.





## 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 Dominican Republic has formal mechanisms for coordination and the exchange of information and best practices for the prevention, research and control of activities related to drug trafficking. The country participates in training workshops on the exchange of intelligence information in the investigation of these kinds of activities and related crimes, which are offered by various national and international organizations. In addition, the country has legal frameworks and operational guidelines for the investigation of all assets in this area.



## 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 Dominican Republic criminalizes the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. In order to prevent losses or diversion, the country takes the necessary measures to ensure the security of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials being imported or in transit. The country requires the appropriate marking of firearms, permitting the identification of the name of the manufacturer, place of manufacture and serial number. The appropriate marking of any firearm confiscated or forfeited is required. The country maintains a system of licenses for the importation and international transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. The Dominican Republic has a national authority responsible for coordinating control activities for the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, which include the measures stipulated in Article 8 of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials of 1997. In addition, the country maintains a register of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials seized in operations related to drug trafficking.

The Dominican Republic is not an exporter of firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 25

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

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

The Dominican Republic criminalizes money laundering in accordance with the United Nations Convention against the Illicit Traffic of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime of 2000. The country has a Financial Analysis Unit (FAU) in accordance with international principles and requirements regarding Financial Intelligence Unit (FIUs). The country has adopted complementary measures regarding the prevention and control of money laundering, terrorism financing and forfeiture of the proceeds of illicit activities, which allow for the possibility of confiscating assets related to money laundering.

The Dominican Republic's law does not include the entire list of predicate offenses established in compliance with international requirements and principles, as the illicit enrichment of public servants is not criminalized.



## 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 Dominican Republic has a single agency responsible for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets in drug trafficking and money laundering cases. The country has legislation that establishes the procedures to be followed to determine the final disposition of seized and forfeited assets; has manuals, regulations and guidelines on asset management; and participates in 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 Dominican Republic 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, and the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters of 1992 and has designated central authorities on the basis of these conventions. The country has legal provisions that permit extradition for the crimes of drug trafficking and money laundering, and that allow for the trial of an individual whose extradition for these crimes has been denied on grounds of nationality or territory. Furthermore, the country has legal provisions for providing reciprocal judicial assistance to third party States in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings for drug trafficking and money laundering. The country has implemented measures to authorize the confiscation of proceeds derived from drug trafficking, or of property of equal value, as well as the materials and equipment or other instrumentalities used in or intended for use in any manner in the crime of drug trafficking. The country has laws or other legal provisions that allow the use of controlled delivery for narcotics and psychotropic substances, to identify persons implicated in the crime of drug trafficking. In addition, the country has communication channels among its agencies and services in order to facilitate the rapid and secure exchange of information on all aspects of the acts criminalized in accordance with Paragraph 1, Article 3 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.



## 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 Dominican Republic has completed 12, seven mostly completed, two partially completed, one started and five do not apply.

**In the area of Institutional Strengthening**, the Dominican Republic has a national drug authority that functions under the President of the Republic. The country does not have a national anti-drug strategy. The country has a national observatory on drugs which has carried most of the priority studies in demand reduction (2 of 3), and has priority information on supply reduction (5 of 10).

**In the area of Demand Reduction**, the Dominican Republic has demand reduction programs in the areas of prevention (universal and selective), early intervention, treatment and rehabilitation, and social reinsertion, which are monitored. However, it does not monitor indicated prevention programs, and does not have recovery support services, and none of the programs are evaluated. The country has not implemented a comprehensive prevention system. The public health system facilities offer early detection of drug use, provide guidance and brief intervention, and systematic referrals to treatment. They also offer outpatient treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare services. NGOs and private and religious institutions offer residential treatment. Treatment centers have an accreditation system. The Dominican Republic's drug treatment court offers various types of alternatives to incarceration. Policies, plans and programs are developed with the support of academic and research institutions and civil society organizations. Training and continuing education at the diploma and certificate levels at the national and international levels are offered to personnel working in demand reduction, focused on the scientific approach and best practices.

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



**In the area of Control Measures**, the Dominican Republic has mechanisms to detect and identify laboratories for the illicit manufacture of plant-based and synthetic drugs; however, it does not have protocols for their dismantling, and does not participate in ongoing training programs for personnel responsible for control activities in this area.

Regarding the control of pharmaceutical products and controlled chemical substances, the country has legislation for the control of such chemical substances and cooperates with other States. The Dominican Republic has regulations regarding the manufacture of and internal distribution channels for controlled chemical substances, and a relevant authority with the powers necessary to coordinate activities to control the diversion of chemical precursors. In the area of narcotics, psychotropic substances and preparations containing them, the country estimates its projected needs, ensuring adequate availability for medical and scientific purposes.

The country has formal mechanisms for the exchange of information among the institutions responsible for the control of drug trafficking and related crimes, as well as for the secure and effective exchange of intelligence information. The country offers ongoing training programs for personnel in this area, and compiles statistical information on drug trafficking and related crimes at the national level. In addition, it has laws that provide for the safe and final disposal of seized drugs. However, the country does not have a national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations, and does not update its legislation based on the identification of new trends.

The laws criminalizing the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials include measures to prevent losses or diversion in the course of licit trade, and a national authority carries out these measures. In addition, the country has a register of these materials seized in operations and activities related to drug trafficking.

The Dominican Republic has legislation that criminalizes, prevents and controls money laundering, as well as a Financial Intelligence Unit. However, its laws do not include the complete list of predicate offenses. Measures for the management and disposal of seized and forfeited assets includes guidelines for their appropriate management, through an agency responsible for carrying out this function.



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

<b>INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING</b>		
<b>NO.</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>EVALUATION</b>
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.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
2	Design, implement, strengthen and update national evidence-based strategies and policies on drugs.	<b>STARTED</b>
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.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
<b>DEMAND REDUCTION</b>		
4	Develop and implement comprehensive demand reduction policies, plans and/or programs.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
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.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
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.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
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.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
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.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
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.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
10	Promote and strengthen training and continuing education of professionals, technicians and others involved in the implementation of demand reduction activities.	<b>COMPLETE</b>



<b>SUPPLY REDUCTION</b>		
11	Adopt and/or improve comprehensive and balanced measures aimed at reducing the illicit supply of drugs.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
12	Adopt and/or improve data collection and analysis mechanisms with a view to carrying out assessments that will facilitate the development of public policies aimed at illicit supply of drugs reduction.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
13	Promote studies and research that contribute to the early identification and monitoring of new and emerging trends that could provide updated information on the illicit supply of drugs.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
14	According to the needs of each country, adopt comprehensive measures, such as integral and sustainable alternative development and law enforcement initiatives.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
15	Promote actions to reduce the negative impact on the environment caused by the world drug problem, in accordance with national policies.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
<b>CONTROL MEASURES</b>		
16	Implement programs to prevent and reduce the illicit production of synthetic and plant-based drugs.	<b>PARTIALLY COMPLETE</b>
17	Adopt or strengthen control measures in order to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
18	Adopt or strengthen control measures to prevent the diversion of narcotics, psychotropic substances, pharmaceutical products with psychoactive properties and those used in the production of synthetic drugs.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
19	Ensure the adequate availability of narcotics needed for medical and scientific use.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
20	Strengthen national organizations for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
21	Identify new trends and patterns regarding illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	<b>PARTIALLY COMPLETE</b>
22	Promote improvements in information systems on illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
23	Adopt measures for effective cooperation in criminal investigations, investigation procedures, collection of evidence, and the exchange of intelligence information among countries, assuring due respect for the various national legal systems.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
24	Adopt or strengthen, as applicable, control measures for the illicit trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials associated with illicit drug trafficking.	<b>COMPLETE</b>



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



## GLOSSARY

### I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

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

### II. DEMAND REDUCTION

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

### III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

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

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

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

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

### IV. CONTROL MEASURES

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







**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)**

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE  
CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)

1889 F STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20006  
202.370.5000  
[WWW.CICAD.OAS.ORG](http://WWW.CICAD.OAS.ORG)