

MEM

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)

Argentina

EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL 2007-2009



Organization of American States

2010



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ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
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**Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)
Governmental Expert Group (GEG)**

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2007-2009**

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CICAD wishes to thank the following national institutions of Argentina for providing information for this MEM national Fifth Round report:

- The Headquarters of the Cabinet of Federal Ministers
- The Federal Ministry of Justice, Security, and Human Rights
- The Federal Ministry of Health
- The Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR)



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 of the progress of actions taken by member states and by the hemisphere as a whole, in dealing with the drug problem. The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), of the Secretariat of Multidimensional Security, an OAS specialized agency, implemented this Mechanism in 1998, 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 vehicle for disseminating information on the progress achieved by individual and collective efforts of OAS member state governments, catalyzing hemispheric cooperation, promoting dialogue among member state government authorities and precisely channeling assistance to areas requiring greater attention by optimizing resources. The MEM process itself is assessed by the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), comprised of delegations from all member states, which meets before the onset of each MEM evaluation round to review and strengthen all operational aspects of the mechanism, including the indicators of the evaluation questionnaire.

National evaluation reports are drafted by experts from each member state, with experts not working on their own country's report, guaranteeing the transparent multilateral nature of the MEM. Each chapter is based on countries' responses to a questionnaire of indicators covering the main thematic areas of institution building, demand reduction, supply reduction and control measures as well as subsequent comments and updated information provided by the government-appointed coordinating entities.

This report covers the full country evaluation for the MEM Fifth Round evaluation period 2007-2009. The follow-up report on the implementation progress of recommendations assigned to the country will be published in June 2012. All MEM reports can be accessed through the following webpage: www.cicad.oas.org



INTRODUCTION

Argentina has a total area of 3,761,274 km² and a population of more than 40 million (2009). The people are primarily descendants of Italian and Spanish immigrants, and the literacy rate is 97%. The country is composed of 23 provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. Argentina is a federal republic in which the President is the Chief of State and Head of Government. The country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is US\$306.754 billion, which represents a per-capita GDP of US\$7,472 (2009). Exports in 2009 were valued at US\$55.668 billion, and the main exports are edible oils, fuel and energy, cereals, feed, and motor vehicles.

I. INSTITUTION BUILDING

A. National Anti-drug Plan

Argentina's National Anti-drug Plan (2009–2011) addresses the following areas: demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, international cooperation, national information systems and research on drugs, and program evaluation. In addition, Decree 1225/07 of September 11, 2007, approved the Domestic Agenda for the Fight against Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism 2007–2009, coordinated by the Ministry of Justice, Security and Human Rights.

The national agencies involved in implementing the National Plan are: the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking, the Headquarters of the Cabinet of Federal Ministers; the Federal Ministry of Health; the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Religion; the Federal Ministry of Justice, Safety and Human Rights, and the provincial jurisdictions of Argentina.

The country reports that regional, provincial, municipal, and local authorities have jurisdiction in anti-drug policy matters. Argentina reports that 16 of the country's 24 provincial jurisdictions have their own respective drug plans.

Argentina does not have a budget allocated for its national anti-drug plan. It reports that, as different bodies and provincial jurisdictions are involved in implementing the National Plan, the budget allocated for its implementation consists of the different budget allocations that the aforementioned bodies and governments assign to implementing drug-related activities.

The institution responsible for administering, monitoring and evaluating the National Anti-drug Plan is the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR).

Argentina reports that SEDRONAR is the national anti-drug authority, dependent on the Office of the Argentine President. The areas it coordinates are: demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, the drug observatory, international cooperation, and program evaluation.



SEDRONAR has an independent annual budget and its sources of financing are the following: government allocation, self-financing (law enforcement activities), and international cooperation. The country provides the following information on its annual budget:

Annual Budget of SEDRONAR 2006-2009

Fiscal year	Total budget received (US\$)
2006	5,669,185
2007	6,425,740
2008	9,296,702
2009	11,524,540

1US\$ = 3.85 Argentine\$

B. International Conventions

Argentina has ratified the following conventions:

- Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 1992.
- Inter-American Convention against Corruption, 1996.
- Inter-American Convention against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA), 1997.
- United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol.
- United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971.
- United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988.
- United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000, and its three Protocols:
 - Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air;
 - Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children);
 - Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition;
- United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003.

The country reports that during the years 2006–2008, several laws were enacted in accordance with the aforementioned international conventions, relating to corruption, illicit associations, terrorism, the financing of terrorism, money laundering and control of precursor chemicals.

C. National Information System



The Argentine Drug Observatory, which has an assigned budget for carrying out its functions, organizes and carries out studies, and compiles and coordinates statistics and other drug-related information. The following table shows the studies conducted in the country related to demand reduction during the years 2006–2009:

Studies Conducted on Demand Reduction, 2006–2009

Studies	2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Priority Studies								
Survey of secondary school students		X	X			X	X	
National household surveys	X			X		X		X
Patient registers exist in treatment centers in the country.	X		X		X		X	
Recommended Information								
Cross-section survey of patients in treatment centers		X		X		X		X
Registers exist that show the association of drug use and cause of death		X		X		X	X	
Survey of patients in emergency rooms		X	X			X	X	
Survey of higher education students	X			X	X		X	
Number of drug-related deaths		X		X		X	X	
Others								
Qualitative study on cultural use by adolescents		X		X		X	X	
Evaluation of treatment programs		X		X		X	X	
National study on the link between use and crime in the incarcerated population		X		X		X	X	
Medicalization and childhood: children, schools, and drugs		X		X	X			X
Medicalization and society		X		X		X	X	
Qualitative aspects of cocaine paste use		X	X			X		X
Medicalization of daily life: improper use of psychotropic medications	X			X		X		X
Psychoactive substance use and teen pregnancy		X		X	X			X
Mortality associated with use. Analysis of autopsies in the Province of Mendoza		X		X		X	X	

The country reports that as of 2009, it has used a protocol to estimate mortality directly caused by alcohol and drug use, based on vital statistics.

In addition, the Argentine Drug Observatory, which operates within the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR), prepares additional reports based on data from national studies, including: the labor market and drugs,



analysis of risk factors and protection in adolescent students, multi-variant analysis of the risk factors, report on the drug market in Argentina, and adolescents and tobacco use.

In addition, Argentina reports that studies of the prison population, treatment centers, pharmacology studies, cocaine paste/paco consumption, and illicit drug trafficking, among others, were also carried out during the 2007-2009 period.

The following table shows the information available on supply reduction, for the years 2006-2009:

Information Available on Supply Reduction, 2006–2009

Information	2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Priority Information								
Drug availability indicators	X		X			X		X
Quantities of drugs seized	X		X		X		X	
Number of persons charged with and convicted of drug use, possession, and trafficking	X		X		X		X	
Number of drug labs dismantled	X		X		X		X	
Recommended Information								
Number of persons formally charged with and convicted of money laundering	X		X		X		X	
Number of persons formally charged with and convicted of trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition and related materials		X		X		X		X
Number of persons formally charged with and convicted of diversion of chemical substances	X		X		X		X	
Quantities of chemical substances seized	X		X		X		X	
Sale price of drugs (for consumers)		X		X		X		X

The country indicates that it conducted a “Study on Human, Social and Economic Costs of Drugs” during the years 2006-2007.

II. DEMAND REDUCTION

A. Prevention

Argentina reports that it is implementing drug abuse prevention programs geared toward key sectors of the population, as indicated below:



Drug Abuse Prevention Programs for Key Sectors of the Population

Population group	Estimated Coverage		Name of program	Type of program
	Target population	% coverage		
School children:				
Primary school: 10-11 years Secondary school: 12-14 years	2,928,903	5.88% (172,250 students)	<i>"Quiero Ser"</i> (I Want to Be)	Universal
Street Population:				
Street youths	n.av	3,000 youths	<i>"El futbol es igual que la vida"</i> (Soccer is life)	Selective
Community	20,753,380	1.25% (260,000 people)	Community Prevention Program	Universal
Workers in the workplace	n.av	5,500 workers	On the Job Prevention	Universal
Youth leadership training	n.av	2,500 youths	Youth Participation and Prevention Program	Selective

n.av = not available

The country notes that the information refers only to the prevention programs implemented throughout the country by the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking. Percent coverage refers to the reach of those programs in the period 2007-2009. The country reports that the school-based prevention programs and the workplace prevention programs are compatible with the principles of CICAD's Hemispheric Guidelines.

Argentina reports that it is not carrying out programs for preschools, part of the elementary school population, university students, youth or adult street populations, families, or the prison population.

Given Argentina's federal system of government, each province also implements other prevention programs. Because of the way information is registered, it was not possible to unify data at the national level.

Argentina indicates that impact evaluations and process evaluations are in progress for the period 2006-2008 for the different prevention programs executed by SEDRONAR, addressing the areas of education, community, youth, and at-risk populations.



Regarding specialized training in prevention, treatment and research of drug abuse, Argentina reports that during the years 2006-2009, training was provided to police officers, teachers, counselors, prison guards, monitors, community leaders and others. Other forms of training included non-professional technical training; courses on prevention and treatment in the curricula for courses of study leading to an undergraduate degree; continuing education courses or advanced training for university graduates; diplomas/certificates, post-graduate specialization, master's degrees, doctoral and post-doctoral programs; and regional and international training programs.

The country reports that refresher and in-service training courses have been carried out during the 2006-2009 period:

Name of training course	Prevention	Treatment/ Rehabilit.	Research	Offered to
Basic Tools for Addiction Prevention*	x	-	-	Professionals and technical personnel
Annual Course on Educational Prevention of Addictions*	x	-		Professionals and technical personnel
Course on Community Prevention *	x	-	-	Professionals and technical personnel
Training Course for Community Workers to Prevent Addiction *	x	-	-	Professionals and technical personnel
First Interdisciplinary Seminar: Introduction to prevention and assistance*	x	x	x	Professional, technical, and university
Prevention Seminars for Educational, Sports, and Other Areas *	x	-	-	Professionals and technical personnel, educators
Refresher seminar on the management of toxicological emergencies related to illegal drug use**	-	x	x	Professionals and technical personnel
Annual refresher course on drug addiction*	-	x	-	Employees, professionals, and technical personnel
Seminar "Pharmaceutical-therapeutic updates for addiction treatment" *	-	x	-	Professionals and technical personnel

*number of participants not available

**422 participants in 2008, 1,188 in 2009

In the prevention, treatment/rehabilitation and research areas, Argentina reports that non-university technical training courses were offered, including training for senior-level community prevention technicians, advanced training on addiction treatment, and therapy assistant training at the Universidad de Tucumán. However, the country did not provide data on the number of participants. The medicine, psychology, nursing, public health and pharmacy disciplines include material on prevention or treatment in their general curricula.



The Universidad del Salvador, in conjunction with the Universidad de Deusto, Spain, the Universidad de Buenos Aires, the Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, the Universidad de Tucumán and the Universidad Abierta Interamericana offer postgraduate degrees and certificates in addiction studies, prevention, treatment and research for professionals that work in areas related to these topics.

Name of University	Diploma/ certif.	Specializ- ation	MA	Duration of program		
				Diploma/ certif.	Specializ- ation	MA
Universidad del Salvador, in conjunction with the Universidad de Deusto, Spain	-	-	Master's in drug addiction	-	-	2 yrs.
Universidad de Buenos Aires	-	-	Master's in the problems of illicit drug use	-	-	2 yrs
Universidad Nacional de Córdoba	-	-	Master's in drug addiction	-	-	2 yrs
Universidad de Tucumán	-	Major in drug addiction		-	n.av.	-
Universidad Abierta Interamericana	Diploma course in drug addiction	-	-	1 yr.	-	-
Universidad Nacional de Córdoba	Diploma course in drug addiction, prevention, and treatment	-	-	1 yr.	-	-
Universidad Nacional de Córdoba	Diploma course in addiction	-	-	n.av.	-	-

n.av = not available

With regard to whether specialists from the country have participated in regional and international training programs, the country reports that it participated in the workshop on the creation and development of high-performance teams offered by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organization of American States (OAS) in Buenos Aires in 2006.

B. Treatment

Argentina reports that the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR), the Federal Drug Council (COFEDRO), and the Federal Ministry of Health (CENARESO) are the government agencies responsible for designing and executing public policies related to treatment, control and regulation of treatment availability, program supervision, and human resources training.



In the table below, the country provides the amount allocated for treatment activities:

Estimated amount of the national budget allocated for financing treatment programs			
2006 (US\$)	2007 (US\$)	2008 (US\$)	2009 (US\$)
1,113,246	1,474,085	2,384,460	9,450,584

Argentina reports that the official operating standard for specialized facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use is the Joint Resolution of the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Action (MSyAS) N° 361/97 and the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking N° 153/97.

The country indicates that under the federal system of government, the provinces retain the right to exercise certain powers, which include licensing the operation of drug use treatment centers. Accordingly, each province has its own regulations to authorize the operation of treatment centers in accordance with the established national guidelines.

Argentina has an official National Register of Treatment Centers in SEDRONAR. This system registers institutions licensed by the responsible authority in the jurisdiction where they operate, and that have undergone a selection process pursuant to the guidelines established as minimum operating requirements. In addition, Argentina has a system for monitoring specialized facilities that provide treatment for persons with problems associated with drug use.

In order to address problems associated with drug use, the facilities linked to the Primary Health Care (PHC) network perform different activities, including screening, guidance, psychotherapy, community counseling, and training in addiction prevention. The country indicates that in 2008, treatment activities for problems associated with drug use were carried out in 151 facilities within the PHC network; however, the country did not provide information for 2006, 2007 or 2009.

No data exists on the number of cases treated in officially-licensed treatment facilities for problems associated with drug use referred from the general health care system. Argentina reports that the total number of cases treated in officially-licensed treatment facilities for problems associated with drug use was 17,230 in 2008.

Argentina reports that the 24 provinces in the country have officially-licensed specialized facilities for the treatment of problems related to drug use. In addition, the country has a Continuous Register of Patients in Treatment Centers, which includes data on the types of drug problems treated.

Argentina reports that different types of treatment are provided, namely: outpatient clinic, ambulatory care, day hospital, night hospital, residential, rehabilitation, and detoxification and self-help groups. According to the 2008 National Census of Treatment Centers, Argentina has a total of 294 specialized and general treatment centers, both officially-licensed and unlicensed, that offer social reinsertion programs.



Argentina carries out activities to follow-up on patients discharged after completion of their prescribed treatment plan, through the Post-Discharge Monitoring and Social-Work Rehabilitation Program implemented by SEDRONAR.

In Argentina, there are 100 officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for drug problems in which care is administered by professional staff specifically trained in this area, and 100% of these are supervised by qualified staff.

With regard to the number of cases that received treatment in officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for drug problems that completed their prescribed treatment plan, the country provides the following data:

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of cases that received treatment in officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for drug problems and that completed their indicated treatment plan	159	171	233	307
Number of cases treated in officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for drug problems	785	1,039	1,393	1,420

C. Statistics on Consumption

Argentina carried out two student surveys in 2007 and 2009, but did not carry out any general population surveys during the evaluation period. The country conducts surveys on a regular basis:

Surveys Conducted among the General and Specific Populations

Population surveyed		Frequency (in years)
General population		2
Specific population 1	Secondary school students	2
Specific population 2	Consultations in emergency rooms	2
Specific population 3	Ongoing records of patients in treatment	1
Specific population 4	University students	Irregular

In the following tables, the country provides information on prevalence and incidence in the school population:¹

¹ The data on substances presented in these tables are those included in the survey carried out by the country, and are a subset of those recommended by the MEM.



Prevalence of Drug Use among Secondary School Students

Year of Last Survey: 2007	Target population of the study: Secondary school students: 13 to 17 years Representative sample: Y									
	Type of drug	Lifetime (percentage)			Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	73.8	70.8	71.9	67.7	64.3	65.7	62.6	57.7	59.8	
Tobacco	46.4	46.3	46.3	28.9	31.0	30.1	21.6	22.1	21.9	
Solvents or inhalants	5.0	2.6	3.7	2.9	1.5	2.2	1.6	0.7	1.1	
Hashish	1.2	0.3	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Marijuana	15.1	7.5	10.9	10.6	5.1	7.6	6.4	2.9	4.5	
Hallucinogens	1.9	0.9	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Heroin	1.5	0.5	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Morphine *	1.6	0.7	1.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Opium	1.5	0.4	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cocaine HCl	6.0	2.6	4.1	3.6	1.6	2.5	2.3	0.9	1.5	
Crack	1.3	0.4	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Base paste, <i>paco</i>	3.1	1.4	2.2	1.9	0.9	1.4	1.3	0.5	0.9	
Ketamine *	1.2	0.5	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other tranquilizers, sedatives, depressants *	7.1	7.8	7.5	3.5	3.9	3.8	2.0	2.1	2.1	
MDMA (Ecstasy)	2.7	1.4	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other stimulants *	4.8	3.6	4.2	2.2	1.6	1.9	1.4	0.9	1.2	
Other drugs	2.0	1.1	1.5	3.1	1.9	2.5	2.1	1.1	1.6	
Any illicit drug	18.1	9.9	13.6	12.5	6.6	9.3	7.7	3.7	5.5	

Rate of prevalence of drug use is defined as the number of people who used a drug during a specified period of time divided by the total number of people in the population at that time; and is generally multiplied by 100.

*Non-prescribed/non-therapeutic use only



Incidence of Drug Use among Secondary School Students

Year of Last Survey: 2007	Target population of the study: Secondary school students: 13 to 17		
	Representative sample: Y		
Type of drug	Last 12 months (percentage)		
	M	F	Total
Alcohol	47.5	45.3	46.1
Tobacco	22.8	23.6	23.2
Solvents or inhalants	3.2	1.4	2.3
Marijuana	7.5	3.5	5.3
Cocaine HCl	3.1	1.3	2.1
Base paste, <i>paco</i>	1.7	0.7	1.2
Other tranquilizers, sedatives, depressants *	4.4	4.6	4.5
Other stimulants *	2.6	1.9	2.3
Other drugs	3.2	1.8	2.4
Any Illicit drug	7.9	4.2	5.8

Rate of incidence of drug use is defined as the number of people who began to use a drug during a specified period of time (a year or a month) divided by the number of people who are at risk of using a specific drug for the first time. The "at-risk population" is the total population under study minus those persons who have used drugs prior to the specified time period.

*Non-prescribed/non-therapeutic use only

Prevalence of Drug Use among Secondary School Students

Year of Last Survey: 2009	Target population of the study: Secondary school students: 13 to 17 years								
	Representative sample: Y								
Type of drug	Lifetime (percentage)			Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	72.0	71.1	71.3	60.3	59.7	59.8	47.8	45.3	46.3
Tobacco	44.7	43.5	43.9	28.3	28.0	28.1	20.2	19.4	19.7
Solvents or inhalants	4.8	2.2	3.4	2.4	1.1	1.7	1.3	0.6	0.9
Hashish	1.1	0.3	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marijuana	17.0	7.7	11.9	12.0	5.3	8.4	7.1	2.9	4.8
Hallucinogens	1.9	0.8	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heroin	1.2	0.4	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morphine *	1.5	0.6	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Opium	1.1	0.3	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cocaine HCl	6.0	2.4	4.0	3.6	1.2	2.3	2.1	0.6	1.3



Year of Last Survey: 2009	Target population of the study: Secondary school students: 13 to 17 years								
	Representative sample: Y								
	Type of drug	Lifetime (percentage)			Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)	
M		F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Crack	1.3	0.3	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Base paste, <i>paco</i>	2.6	1.2	1.8	1.3	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.3	0.6
Ketamine *	1.4	0.4	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other tranquilizers, sedatives, depressants *	3.7	3.6	3.7	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.2	1.0	1.1
MDMA (Ecstasy)	3.7	1.7	2.6	1.9	1.0	1.4	1.0	0.5	0.7
Other stimulants *	3.0	2.3	2.6	1.8	1.3	1.5	1.1	0.7	0.9
Other drugs	3.5	1.5	2.4	2.5	1.1	1.8	1.5	0.6	1.0
Any illicit drug	19.2	9.5	14.0	13.5	6.4	9.6	8.1	3.5	5.6

Rate of prevalence of drug use is defined as the number of people who used a drug during a specified period of time divided by the total number of people in the population at that time; and is generally multiplied by 100.

*Non-prescribed/non-therapeutic use only

Incidence of Drug Use among Secondary School Students

Year of Last Survey: 2009	Target population of the study: Secondary school students: 13 to 17 years		
	Representative sample: Y		
	Type of drug	Last 12 months (percentage)	
M		F	Total
Alcohol	48.6	48.4	48.2
Tobacco	19.6	19.3	19.4
Solvents or inhalants	2.4	1.0	1.6
Marijuana	8.4	3.7	5.8
Cocaine HCl	2.7	1.1	1.8
Base paste, <i>paco</i>	1.2	0.5	0.8
Other tranquilizers, sedatives, depressants *	2.0	1.9	2.0
MDMA (Ecstasy)	1.8	0.8	1.3
Other stimulants *	1.6	1.2	1.4
Other drugs	2.4	1.0	1.6
Any Illicit drug	11.0	5.3	7.9

Rate of incidence of drug use is defined as the number of people who began to use a drug during a specified period of time (a year or a month) divided by the number of people who are at risk of using a specific drug for the first time. The "at-risk population" is the total population under study minus those persons who have used drugs prior to the specified time period.

*Non-prescribed/non-therapeutic use only



The country presents information from a 2007 survey of emergency rooms in the following tables:

Prevalence in Specific Populations – Emergency Rooms

Year of last survey: 2007	Representative sample: N		
Type of drug	Consumption in the 6 hours preceding admission to the emergency room (percentage)		
	M	F	Total
Alcohol	24.8	8.2	16.9
Tobacco	34.0	21.6	28.1
Marijuana	2.0	1.2	1.3
Coca paste and Cocaine HCL	0.9	0.2	0.6
Other tranquilizers, sedatives, depressants *	2.3	4.6	3.4

Rate of prevalence of drug use is defined as the number of people who used a drug during a specified period of time divided by the total number of people in the population at that time; and is generally multiplied by 100.

*Non-prescribed/non-therapeutic use only

Incidence in Specific Populations – Emergency Rooms

Year of the last survey: 2007	Representative sample: N		
Type of drug	Last 12 months (percentage)		
	M	F	Total
Alcohol	24.8	8.2	16.9
Tobacco	34.0	21.6	28.1
Marijuana	2.0	1.2	1.3
Coca paste and Cocaine HCL	0.9	0.2	0.6
Other tranquilizers, sedatives, depressants *	2.3	4.6	3.4

Rate of incidence of drug use is defined as the number of people who began to use a drug during a specified period of time (a year or a month) divided by the number of people who are at risk of using a specific drug for the first time. The “at-risk population” is the total population under study minus those persons who have used drugs prior to the specified time period.

*Non-prescribed/non-therapeutic use only

The country provides an updated table with data from a 2009 Emergency Room Patient Survey.



Prevalence in Specific Populations – Emergency Rooms

Year of the last survey: 2009	Representative sample: N		
Type of drug	Consumption in the 6 hours preceding admission to the emergency room (percentage)		
	M	F	Total
Alcohol	19.8	5.6	13.2
Tobacco	29.7	18.4	24.5
Marijuana	2.3	0.4	1.4
Coca paste and Cocaine HCL	1.2	0.2	0.7
Other tranquilizers, sedatives, depressants *	1.5	2.0	2.4

Rate of prevalence of drug use is defined as the number of people who used a drug during a specified period of time divided by the total number of people in the population at that time; and is generally multiplied by 100.

*Non-prescribed/non-therapeutic use only

The country provides the following data on abuse and dependence, in relation to the number of users and total population studied:

Abuse and Dependence in Relation to Number of Users and Total Population Surveyed

Population studied: 12 to 65 years				
Type of drug		2006		
		n	(1)	(2)
Alcohol	Abuse	1,117,633	12.8	6.43
Marijuana	Dependence	329,873	27.7	1.89
Cocaine HCL	Dependence	201,012	45.3	1.16
Other substances that contain cocaine: Base paste	Dependence	52,259	61.5	0.3

(1) Percentage in relation to previous year's users 'qualifying' as abuse or dependence, or either.

(2) Percentage in relation to the total population surveyed 'qualifying' as abuse or dependence, or either.

The country indicates that, with reference to alcohol in the previous table, "Abuse and dependence in relation to number of users and total population surveyed," the data corresponds to users in the previous month. It also specifies the percentage of the total population studied that "qualify" as problematic alcohol users (abuse). The country indicates that it uses the EBBA scale to assess alcohol abuse, and that in the case of cocaine hydrochloride and marijuana abuse, it applies the ICD 10 scale.



Argentina has an estimate of youths that perceive drug use as being harmful to their health and well-being. In the tables below, it provides the percentages, based on type of study:

Study on the School Population, 2007

Age group to which this applies: 13 to 17 years	
Category	% of those surveyed who believe that persons who engage in the following activities are at great risk (or who think that it is very harmful):
Occasionally smoke cigarettes	13.0
Often smoke cigarettes	60.4
Often drink alcoholic beverages	58.4
Get drunk	67.7
Occasionally take tranquilizers for non-medicinal purposes	*
Occasionally take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	*
Often take tranquilizers for non-medicinal purposes	*
Often take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	*
Occasionally inhale solvents	39.6
Often inhale solvents	78.6
Occasionally smoke marijuana	14.7
Often smoke marijuana	70.5
Occasionally take cocaine HCl or crack	26.0
Often take cocaine HCl or crack	78.5
Occasionally use other substances that contain cocaine: Base paste, crack	37.4
Often use other substances that contain cocaine: Base paste or crack	74.9
Occasionally take ecstasy	29.1
Often take ecstasy	75.7

*The country indicates that in this study, tranquilizers and stimulants without medical prescription were evaluated as a single item.

Occasionally take tranquilizers and stimulants without medical prescription: 24.2%

Often take tranquilizers and stimulants without medical prescription: 60.8%

In addition, the country provides an updated table with data from the 2009 National Survey of the Secondary School Population.



2009 Study on the School Population

Age group to which this applies: 13 to 17 years	
Category	% of those surveyed who believe that persons who engage in the following activities are at great risk (or who think that it is very harmful):
Occasionally smoke cigarettes	11.9
Often smoke cigarettes	60.7
Often drink alcoholic beverages	55.1
Get drunk	66.0
Occasionally take tranquilizers for non-medicinal purposes	9.6
Occasionally take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	57.8
Often take tranquilizers for non-medicinal purposes	11.2
Often take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	55.5
Occasionally inhale solvents	27.5
Often inhale solvents	74.2
Occasionally smoke marijuana	11.6
Often smoke marijuana	67.1
Occasionally take cocaine HCl or crack	19.5
Often take cocaine HCl or crack	76.5
Occasionally use other substances that contain cocaine: Base paste or crack	31.6
Often use other substances that contain cocaine: Base paste or crack	76.3
Occasionally take ecstasy	23.6
Often take ecstasy	75.5

General Population Studies: Young People Aged 12 to 25, 2006

Category	% of those surveyed who believe that persons who engage in the following activities are at great risk (or who think that it is very harmful):
Often smoke cigarettes	75.0
Often drink alcoholic beverages	74.9
Occasionally take tranquilizers for non-medicinal purposes	*
Occasionally take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	*
Often take tranquilizers for non-medicinal purposes	*
Often take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	*
Occasionally smoke marijuana	56.7



Category	% of those surveyed who believe that persons who engage in the following activities are at great risk (or who think that it is very harmful):
Often smoke marijuana	82.4
Occasionally take cocaine HCl or crack	73.5
Often take cocaine HCl or crack	91.5
Occasionally use other substances that contain cocaine	81.8
Often use other substances that contain cocaine	87.9
Occasionally take ecstasy	74.5
Often take ecstasy	82.8

*The country indicates that the study considered tranquilizers and stimulants without medical prescription as a single item. Occasionally take tranquilizers and stimulants without medical prescription: 75.2%

Argentina reports that it has a partial study of the prison population from 2006 and a national study on the inmate population from 2009 that permit an evaluation of the relationship between drugs and crime.²

Argentina reports that it does not have records on alcohol- or drug-related traffic or workplace accidents. The country has established norms and regulations on actions to prevent alcohol- and drug-related accidents.

Argentina reports that although it does not record alcohol- or drug-related traffic or workplace accidents, the National Emergency Room Study performed by the Argentine Drug Observatory does register reasons for admission into the emergency room, which includes the two aforementioned variables. Moreover, the National Population Survey of persons ages 12–65 addresses labor absenteeism and accidents related to alcohol or drug consumption.

III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

A. Drug Production

Argentina reports that it does not have significant cultivated areas of coca, poppy, or cannabis. In addition, the country reports that it has not detected cannabis plants grown indoors.

² The studies conducted by the Argentine Drug Observatory under the Drug-Crime Program can be found at the following Internet address: <http://www.observatorio.gov.ar/estudiosdelprograma.html>



For this reason, Argentina does not have a formal crop eradication program for coca, poppy, or cannabis. The country reports that it uses forced manual eradication for cannabis, and eradicated .031 hectares in 2006, .023 hectares in 2007, .026 hectares in 2008, and .023 hectares in 2009.

Argentina provides in the following table the number of illicit laboratories for drugs of natural origin dismantled during the years 2006-2009:

Illicit Drug	Number of illicit laboratories dismantled			
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Cocaine HCL	5	20	18	36
Paco, base paste	6	2	2	0

The country reports that in 2008, one MDMA (ecstasy and derivatives) laboratory and one methamphetamine laboratory were dismantled.

B. Control of Pharmaceutical Products

Argentina has the following laws of national scope for pharmaceutical product control, in accordance with the international conventions:

Laws for Pharmaceutical Product Control

Title	Date entered into force
Law 23737 on Narcotic Drugs	10-10-1989
Law 19303 on Psychotropic Drugs	11-10-1971
Law 17818 on Narcotic Drugs	29-07-1968
Law 16463 on Medications	08-08-1964

In addition to the laws mentioned, on September 5, 2009, Joint Resolution (MS-MJSyDH-SEDRONAR) 932, 2529, and 851/08, of the Federal Ministry of Health, the Federal Ministry of Justice, Security, and Human Rights, and the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR), banned the import of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine as raw material and/or semi-finished products except by certified medical importers in accordance with current regulations.

The country reports that all pharmaceutical products listed in the international conventions are controlled in the country and that it also controls the following pharmaceutical products that are not listed in the conventions: apomorphine, aripiprazole, butorphanol, desipramine, desvenlafaxine, dichloralphenazone (cloral hydrate + phenazone), divalproex, doxepin, duloxetine, ephedrine, ergotamine, escitalopram, eszopiclone, phenylaminopiperidine, fluphenazine, fluvoxamine, levosulpiride, lurasidone, mephentermine, mefexamide, methylergometrine, methyl-lorazepam, methyltestosterone, minalcipran, moclobemide, modafinil, nabilone,



naloxone, nandrolone, norfentanyl, olanzapine, oripavine, reboxetine, risperidone, pseudoephedrine, stanozolol, tiletamine, tramadol, valproic and its salts, zaleplon, and zolazepan.

Argentina reports that the competent authorities responsible for coordinating activities related to the control of pharmaceutical products are the National Drugs, Food, and Medical Technology Administration (ANMAT), which comes under the Federal Ministry of Health, as well as the country's jurisdictional health authorities.

In the health care sector, the country carries out the following actions to control pharmaceutical products and to prevent their diversion: health register control, inspections, administrative sanctions, and transfer of unusual cases detected by administrative authorities to judicial authorities. It does not monitor distribution nor does it control and monitor prescriptions.

In the private sector, the country carries out the following actions to control pharmaceutical products and prevent their diversion: control of imports/exports, health register control, control of manufacturing, inspections, administrative sanctions, records of licensees, records of quantities of pharmaceutical products sold or manufactured, and control in duty-free zones. The country does not monitor distribution.

Argentina reports that controls to monitor and prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products operate through the Federal ANMAT (ex RENAFI), which functions within the Federal Ministry of Health and works in coordination with different jurisdictional health authorities. Argentina has 70 inspectors for the control of pharmaceutical products throughout the country.

Argentina has mechanisms that health care sector officials can use to communicate and share information with police authorities or judicial bodies for reporting or preventing the diversion of pharmaceutical products and to enforce sanctions. In this regard, the country indicates that if any irregularities are detected, the competent responsible authorities (judicial, police, health, others) are immediately informed.

The country has a system for compiling information on administrative and regulatory activities related to controlled pharmaceutical products as well as the corresponding sanctions. The country provides the following information:

System to Compile Information on Administrative and Regulatory Activities

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Regulated Activities				
*Number of licenses issued to:				
Importers, exporters, manufacturers and distributors	161	170	172	190
Number of permits issued for:				
Importation	1,671	2,038	1,993	1,801
Exportation	1,384	1,402	1,279	1,186



	2006	2007	2008	2009
Regulated Entities				
Number of inspections conducted of:				
Importers	25	28	15	12
Exporters	25	28	15	12
Manufacturers	25	28	15	12

* Licenses: Operation of the establishment. Also cover import, export, and distribution together.

Argentina offers training courses for public and private sector personnel involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products. It indicates that ANMAT offers distance-learning courses for inspectors as well as workshops on psychotropic and narcotic drugs for all the jurisdictions of the national territory.

The country reports that it does not have an automated information management system to facilitate the control of pharmaceutical products.

Argentina has provisions for penal and administrative sanctions for the illicit production, diversion, and illicit trafficking of pharmaceutical products. The country does not have civil sanctions for these activities. With regard to penal sanctions applicable to the illicit production, diversion and illicit trafficking of pharmaceutical products, the country has Law 19.303 on Psychotropic Drugs (Chap. VII and VIII) and Law 23.737 on Narcotic Drugs. The country indicates that there is no information available on the number of times sanctions were applied during the years 2006-2009.

Argentina reports that it does not have information on the quantities of pharmaceutical products seized or disposed of during the years 2006-2009.

C. Control of Chemical Substances

Argentina has the following national laws and regulations on the control of chemical substances, in accordance with international agreements:

Title	Type	Effective date
National Register of Precursor Chemicals	Law 26.045	July 6, 2005
Control of Precursors and Essential Chemical Substances for Making Drugs	Decree 1161/00	December 6, 2000
Control of Essential Chemical Precursors for Making Drugs	Decree 1095/96	September 26, 1996



Title	Type	Effective date
Ban on importation of raw material and/or semi-processed products of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine for all not listed in the medicinal registry under current law	Joint Resolution (MS-MJSyDH-SEDRONAR) 932, 2529 and 851/08	September 17, 2008
Chemical precursors – Subcategory of active pharmaceutical ingredients	Resolution 979/08 of SEDRONAR	October 14, 2008
Establishment of the Interagency Committee for Coordination of the Functions of the Register of Precursor Chemicals	Decree 2094/08	December 4, 2008
Ban on manufacture, sale, and use of ephedrine as a monodrug	Resolution 979/08 of SEDRONAR	December 18, 2008

The country reports that it controls all chemical substances listed in the international agreements as well as the following: ergot, xylene, methylene chloride, methyl Isobutyl ketone, acetic acid, ethyl acetate, benzene, hexane, potassium carbonate, sodium carbonate, sodium sulfate, potassium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, anhydrous ammonia, and ammonium hydroxide.

The country reports that Decree 1168/96 created a task force responsible for unifying the operation of various agencies in order to coordinate standards and actions related to the commercialization, transport, importation and exportation of controlled substances that should be considered essential “precursors and chemical products” for the preparation of narcotics. Furthermore, through Decree 2094/08, an Interjurisdictional Committee was created to coordinate the functions attributed to the Chemical Precursors Register. This committee comprises representatives of the Federal Ministry of Health, SEDRONAR, and the Federal Ministry of Justice, Security, and Human Rights.

SEDRONAR, the Federal Ministry of Health, the Federal Ministry of Justice, Security and Human Rights, the Federal Courts, and the General Customs Authority, which operates under the Federal Government Receipts Administration (AFIP), are responsible for enforcing the laws and regulations for the control of chemical substances.

The country has a system for the control of chemical substances that includes inspectors and investigators. Their number varies because of the structure adopted; that is, personnel from different agencies participate jointly in collaboration (SEDRONAR, ANMAT, police forces, customs authority). The country states that trained inspectors and staff become available for this purpose as needs arise.

The National Chemical Precursors Register offers a series of courses every year for agents of the different provincial police forces involved in prior control of individuals who handle controlled chemical substances. More than 400 police officers have received training through these courses since 2006.



It should also be noted that the courses “Operative Assistant in the Fight against Illicit Drug Trafficking” and “Advanced National Specialist in the Fight against Illicit Drug Trafficking,” offered annually by SEDRONAR, have a special module on the control of chemical substances. The number of participants is provided in the following table:

Year	Senior staff	Lower level staff	Total
2006	284	248	532
2007	779	859	1,638
2008	881	667	1,548
2009	996	1,178	2,174

Argentina indicates that a computer program is used in the National Chemical Precursors Register for the secure and efficient management of information on the control of diversion of chemical substances.

Argentina has provisions that permit the imposition of administrative sanctions for the illicit production, diversion, and illicit trafficking of controlled chemical substances. It also has penal sanctions for illicit trafficking, for which Article 6 of the Law on Narcotics (Law 23.737) establishes four to 15 years confinement or imprisonment and fines for introducing into the country manufactured narcotics, or narcotics in any stage of manufacture, or raw materials for their manufacture or production, if a proper declaration is submitted to customs and later the intended use is illegally altered. Argentina reports that 482 administrative sanctions were imposed during the period 2006-2009, and one penal sanction was imposed in 2009.

Argentina exports controlled chemical substances. During the years 2006–2009 the country made the following number of exports:

	Number of controlled chemical substance exports made			
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	379	374	370	288

In addition, during the years 2006–2009, the country issued pre-export notifications for each of these exports. The country indicates that during the years 2006-2009, all pre-export notifications were approved by the importing or transshipment countries.

Argentina reports that it imports chemical substances and handles these substances in transit. The following table shows the number of imports of controlled chemical substances received during the years 2006-2009:

Year	Number of controlled chemical substance imports
2006	1,825
2007	1,774
2008	1,959
2009	2,277



In the table below, the country reports the number of pre-export notifications for controlled chemical substances received in 2006-2009 and the number of responses sent in a timely manner:

Number of Pre-export Notifications Received for Controlled Chemical Substances

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of pre-export notifications received by Argentina and number of timely responses sent by Argentina	112	171	185	63

The country reports that during the period 2006-2009, no pre-export notifications were rejected. However, the country does not have updated information for 2009.

Argentina provides the following information on quantities of controlled chemicals seized in the period 2006-2009:

Quantity of Controlled Chemical Substances Seized, 2006-2009

Controlled Chemical Substances	Unit of measure	Quantities Seized			
		2006	2007	2008	2009
Acetone	l	1,079.10	1,133.50	718.50	504.25
Acetic acid	l	3	0	1	0
Hydrochloric acid	l	162	415	204.85	588.98
Sulfuric acid	l	605.50	28,974.20	659	441.50
Ethyl alcohol	l	3	1.50	8	303
Methyl alcohol	l	15	0	76	26
Ammonia anhydride	l	458	41	2	7
Sodium carbonate	kg	21,765	18.76	681	137.70
Ephedrine	kg	0.96	42	4,341.68	10,439.60
Ethyl ether	l	107.70	144.50	290.05	270.50
Sodium hydroxide	l	67	204	400	50
Kerosene	l	0	2	23	5
Potassium permanganate	kg	122.01	205.30	132	51.58
Preparations with ephedrine	tablets	0	340	150	0
Methyl ethyl ketone	l	0	32	0	12
Ethyl acetate	l	0	0	0	4
Sodium sulfate	kg	550,000	0	0	0

Argentina reports that the competent authorities share information amongst themselves on the volume of seizures and forfeitures made in cases of diversion of controlled chemical substances. SEDRONAR centralizes in a database the information on seizures and forfeitures of controlled chemical substances by the different competent authorities.



With regard to the disposal of controlled chemical substances during the years 2006–2009, the country reports that it does not have the relevant statistics. Argentina does not have specific legislation on the methods to be used for final disposition of such substances; each judicial magistrate determines the methods to be used.

IV. CONTROL MEASURES

A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

Argentina provides the quantities of drugs forfeited to law enforcement agencies during the years 2006-2009 in the following table:

Quantities of Drugs Forfeited, 2006-2009

Type of illicit drugs or raw materials	Quantities of drugs forfeited				
	Unit of measure	2006	2007	2008	2009
Poppy plants	un	0	58	0	0
Morphine	kg	0	0	.09	0
Heroin	kg	32.51	.44	14.74	0
Coca leaf	kg	49,418.11	47,634.04	53,978.42	56,741.02
Cocaine HCl	kg	6,401.97	7,503.54	12,085.19	12,557.22
Crack	kg	.14	.10	.14	.27
Cocaine base	kg	99.90	29.55	27.08	86.04
Cannabis plants	un	2,045	2,036	2,329	3,816
Leaf cannabis (grass)	kg	87,525.58	89,939.99	107,530.42	91,869.39
Cannabis resin (hashish)	kg	2.28	.26	40.34	20.18
Cannabis seed	kg	22.66	21.69	34.28	45.04
LSD	un	1,021	7,020	2,079	4,405
Amphetamine/methamphetamine	un	1,779	22,939	1,259	113
	kg	0	0	29.43	0
Other amphetamine-like stimulants	kg	.45	0	0	0
MDMA (ecstasy) and derivatives	un	23,075	67,755	11,072	136,550
	kg	.02	0	.02	.01
Other psychotropics	un	22,846	15,569	3,793	237,577
Popper	un	13	0	0	108
Psilobe mushrooms	kg	.02	0	0	.46
Paco	un	0	7,004	0	6,970



The country reports that it routinely uses expert studies and analyses in the framework of procedures for dealing with violations of Law y 23.737; it lacks a systematic and standardized register, but has expert studies and analyses.

In the following table, Argentina reports on the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug trafficking during the years 2006–2009:

Number of Persons Formally Charged with and Convicted of Illicit Drug Trafficking

Year*	Number of persons formally charged	Number of persons convicted
2006	2,140	899
2007	2,393	1,494
2008	2,493	885
2009	477	593

* The data provided correspond to 80% of the relevant data sources for 2006, 80.8% for 2007 and 62.3% in 2008. Data for 2009 are taken from only 29.45% of the relevant sources.

In the following table, the country indicates the number of public officials formally charged with and convicted of offenses related to illicit drug trafficking during the years 2006–2009:

Number of Public Officials Formally Charged with and Convicted of Offenses Related to Illicit Drug Trafficking

Year*	Number of public officials formally charged	Number of public officials convicted
2006	56	13
2007	20	33
2008	40	29
2009	12	12

* The data provided correspond to 80% of the relevant data sources for 2006, 80.8% for 2007 and 62.3% in 2008. Data for 2009 are taken from only 29.45% of the relevant sources.

With respect to how the country handles the illicit possession of drugs for personal consumption, Argentina reports that pursuant to Article 14 of the Law on Narcotics (Law 23.737), the illicit possession of drugs is punished with one to six years imprisonment and fines. However, when by the small amount present or other circumstances it is clear that possession is intended for personal use, the sentence is one month to two years in prison. In this case, the sentence can be replaced with a curative measure for the duration necessary for the detoxification and rehabilitation of the relevant person.

In the following table, the country indicates the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit possession of drugs for personal use during the years 2006–2009:



Year*	Number of persons formally charged	Number of persons convicted
2006	2,615	324
2007	2,034	788
2008	938	209
2009	117	34

* The data provided correspond to 80% of the relevant data sources for 2006, 80.8% for 2007 and 62.3% in 2008. Data for 2009 are taken from only 29.45% of the relevant sources.

Argentina’s Law on Narcotics criminalizes the illicit possession of drugs. In the following table, the country indicates the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit possession of drugs during the years 2006–2009:

Year*	Number of persons formally charged	Number of persons convicted
2006	1,721	411
2007	1,394	428
2008	779	306
2009	96	183

* The data provided correspond to 80% of the relevant data sources for 2006, 80.8% for 2007 and 62.3% in 2008. Data for 2009 are taken from only 29.45% of the relevant sources.

The country has alternative sentencing measures (curative and educational) for illicit possession of drug. However, it reports that the number of persons to whom these measures have been applied cannot be determined, and that the results have not been evaluated.

The national authorities responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking are the federal security forces (Federal Police, National Guard, Naval Prefecture, Air Force), the provincial security forces, and the General Customs Authority. The country indicates that it has a mechanism to promote the timely exchange of information and collaboration among authorities responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking.

In addition, the Federal Drug Council (COFEDRO) operates under SEDRONAR, which facilitates the exchange of information and experiences among the different provincial and federal police forces responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking. SEDRONAR also has a centralized database of procedures for violations of the Law on Narcotics (Law 23.737), which can provide statistical information on the number of procedures carried out, narcotics and chemical substances seized, and other relevant variables.

Argentina reports that, concerning the international exchange of information and intelligence, it maintains ongoing communication with authorities in other countries responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking through its participation in various cooperative arrangements. The country also has a National Criminal Intelligence Directorate responsible for analyzing national information on illicit matters, including illicit drug trafficking. It shares this information on an ongoing basis



with the country's different security and police forces, and with agencies in other countries responsible for fighting drug trafficking.

Argentina reports that it has developed specialized training courses or briefings to address illicit drug trafficking for police security forces, customs security forces, prosecutors and judicial officials.

Argentina indicates that all ports of national jurisdiction have implemented the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). It also indicates that the Naval Prefecture is the institution responsible for enforcing the Code.

Argentina has a mechanism to compile, analyze, exchange and share information and intelligence among the national and public entities that participate in drug control activities in its ports and a methodology to determine which ships, containers, or cargos should be subject to more thorough inspections or searches.

Argentina reports that it carries out maritime counterdrug detection, monitoring, and interdiction activities, which include maritime patrols using Coast Guard vessels and aircraft, among others. The Coast Guard is the agency responsible for coordinating monitoring activities and maritime interdiction operations. The country reports that it has not carried out any maritime operations in cooperation with other countries, and has not decommissioned vessels in connection with maritime interdiction during the period 2006-2009.

With regard to aerial mechanisms in place to stop illicit drug trafficking, Argentina reports that although some operations have been carried out involving the seizure of aircraft, the country does not carry out aerial anti-drug interdiction activities.

Argentina does not have laws or regulations in place that can be applied or used in some form to control the sale of drugs via the Internet. The country reports that it does not have a regulatory framework that defines the functions and responsibilities of the authorities responsible for controlling the sale of drugs via the Internet, but has a draft Medications Law that addresses the sale of pharmaceutical products via the Internet. The country has not carried out activities or programs to increase awareness among administrative, judicial, law enforcement, postal, customs or other authorities regarding the illicit sale of drugs through the Internet.

Argentina reports that, as mechanisms for citizens to report the illicit sale of drugs via the Internet, the Federal Police of Argentina offers two options: telephone reporting and a website where the public can report illicit drug sales in general, including the illicit sale of drugs through the Internet.

B. Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials

The National Weapons Register and the National Commission for the Control of Exports of Sensitive and Military Materiel (CONCESYMB) are the Argentine institutions that regulate and authorize licit activities (manufacture, importation, exportation, transit, purchase, sale, shipment,



movement, transfer, registration, marking, transport, possession, carrying, storage and marketing) related to firearms, ammunition, explosives and related materials.

The country has national laws and regulations in force that establish administrative controls for the legal manufacture, importation, exportation, transit, and transfer of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. The provisions criminalize the illicit manufacture of these items. The penalties include up to 15 years in prison.

The country reports that, in accordance with the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials, its legislation requires that firearms be marked at the time of manufacture.

The country has mechanisms for information exchange and cooperation between national and international institutions regarding activities for the control of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, in all forms.

Argentina indicates that it does not have information on the number of times it did not issue an export license or permit because the necessary licenses or permits were not previously issued by the importing country, or on the number of times it did not authorize the exportation of a shipment of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials because the necessary licenses or permits were not previously issued by the transit country, during the years 2006-2009

Argentina reports that it has a national register of the importation, exportation, and transit of firearms, ammunition and explosives. The register is computerized and is kept for an indefinite period of time. In addition, the country has a computerized national database for the confiscation of firearms, ammunition and explosives, maintained for an indefinite period of time.

In the following table the country provides the quantities of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials seized in drug trafficking cases during the years 2008-2009. Data for 2006 and 2007 is not available.

Quantities Seized Linked to Drug Trafficking				
Year	Firearms	Ammunition	Explosives	Other related materials
2008	1,948	9,409	340	0
2009	2,459	21,398	0	0

The country reports that it does not have data on the quantities of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials forfeited in drug trafficking cases during the years 2006-2009.

The country provides in the following table the quantities of firearms, ammunition, and explosives and other related materials seized in relation to the number of arrests for drug trafficking. Data



for 2006 and 2007, as well as data on the quantity of other related materials seized, are not available.

Year	Number of arrests	Quantity of firearms	Quantity of ammunition	Quantity of explosives	Number of operations
2008	7,196	1,948	9,409	340	34,926
2009	8,118	2,459	21,398	0	44,202

Argentina reports that it does not have information on the quantities of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials forfeited in relation to the number of arrests for drug trafficking.

Regarding firearms tracing, the country reports that it does not have data on the number of investigations initiated or assisted as a result of a trace request from another country, the number of international firearms trace requests received, or the number of international traces completed.

C. Money Laundering

Argentina has laws that criminalize money laundering, and establish penalties of two to 10 years in prison. Current Argentine legislation states that any offense criminalized in the penal code or special laws is a predicate offense. Therefore, illicit drug trafficking, trafficking of firearms, illicit trafficking of migrants, trafficking in human beings, kidnapping, extortion, corruption and crimes against public administration, and fraud or financial crimes, among others, are considered predicate offenses for money laundering.

In Argentina, a person does not have to be convicted of the predicate offense in order to be convicted of money laundering. No legal norms exist that permit the perpetrator of a predicate offense to be convicted of money laundering.

Argentina identifies electronic surveillance as a special investigative technique permitted under national law in investigations of money laundering and other crimes. However, it reports that undercover operations, use of informants, controlled delivery, and sentence reduction for cooperating witnesses are not provided for.

Argentina reports that it is a member of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), and the Financial Action Task Force of South America (GAFISUD). The most recent evaluation of Argentina was conducted in 2004. After the evaluation, a follow-up process was carried out, which concluded in 2007.

Argentina indicates that, in accordance with Article 20 of Law 25.246, the following sectors and activities are obligated to submit suspicious transaction reports to prevent money laundering: the banking sector, currency exchange sector, stock exchanges, insurance sector, transfers of funds,



cash or valuables, notaries, accountants, casinos and gambling. Lawyers and real estate agents are not covered by this law.

The sectors and activities required to submit objective information reports to prevent money laundering include registered professionals whose activities are regulated by Professional Councils of Economic Sciences, individuals or legal persons who operate gambling services as a regular activity, fund remitters, and loan companies or concessionaires of postal services that issue bank drafts in foreign exchange or that exchange different types of currencies or bills, and notaries.

Argentina has a Financial Information Unit (FIU) responsible for the area of money laundering, pursuant to Article 5 of Law 25.246 of 2000 to amend the Penal Code and criminalize money laundering. The Financial Information Unit is functionally autonomous within the Federal Ministry of Justice, Security, and Human Rights.

The FIU establishes through objective guidelines the methods, timeframes, and limits of compliance with the obligation to report suspicious transactions for each category of obligated party and type of activity. In addition, the FIU is a member of the Egmont Group, and has access to its secure network. In the table below, the country indicates the number of requests for information received and answered through the Egmont Group's secure network:

Year	Information requests received	Responses to information requests sent
2006	28	28
2007	40	40
2008	44	44
2009	55	48

The country reports that the Financial Information Unit shares information with analogous units of the Egmont Group, as well as with others that are not members of the group. Moreover, Memoranda of Understanding have been signed with counterpart units in member countries of the Egmont Group and with other countries, that ensure the principles of confidentiality, security, reciprocity, and rapid processing of the information exchanged.

Argentina reports that, while it does not have limitations on obtaining documents and records in money laundering cases, it does have limitations on obtaining documents in money laundering cases subject to secrecy, confidentiality or reserve agreements. The Federal Government Receipts Administration (AFIP) may only lift tax secrecy when the suspicious transaction report was prepared by that agency and for the persons or legal entities directly involved in the reported operation. In all other cases the Financial Information Unit must request that confidentiality be lifted by the federal judge competent in criminal matters in the location where the information is to be provided or in the office of the Financial Information Unit, and which must be issued within a period not to exceed thirty days.



Argentina's Mixed Commission for Registration, Administration and Disposal is the entity responsible for the management or disposition of assets seized and forfeited in illicit drug trafficking offenses. It is comprised of permanent members of the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR) and the Federal Supreme Court of Justice. Argentina reports that the entity does not have manuals for the management of assets temporarily seized. The country's constitutional legislation does not include mechanisms concerning the legal disposition of goods associated with illicit drug trafficking, nor does national legislation permit the presale or disposition of seized goods.

In the following table, Argentina indicates the number of investigations initiated through a Financial Intelligence Report submitted by the FIU during the years 2006-2009:

Year	Investigations initiated through a Financial Intelligence Report
2006	29
2007	160
2008	303
2009	233

Partial data

In the following table, the country indicates the total number of penal proceedings initiated for money laundering offenses during the years 2006-2009:

Year	Penal proceedings initiated for money laundering offenses
2006	0
2007	58
2008	20
2009	38

Partial data

The country indicates that eight persons were formally charged and one person convicted in 2006, and three persons convicted in 2009.

D. Judicial Cooperation

Argentina reports that, in accordance with its legislation, extradition is possible for the crimes of illicit drug trafficking and money laundering, and the extradition of nationals is permitted. The country indicates that it has complied with the obligation to designate, in accordance with the international legal framework, a competent authority to receive, respond to, and transmit extradition requests. The country's domestic legislation permits a national whose extradition has



been denied in an illicit drug trafficking or money laundering case to be tried for the offense in Argentina.

Argentina's domestic legislation allows for the provision of reciprocal judicial assistance. In that regard the country can take evidence or statements from persons, effect service of judicial documents, effect searches and seizures, examine objects and sites, provide information and evidentiary items, provide original or authenticated copies of relevant documents and records, including bank, financial, corporate and business records, and identify or trace proceeds, property, instrumentality or other items for evidentiary purposes.

The country reports that it does not use secure technological resources to facilitate communication among authorities directing criminal investigations.

The country indicates that bank secrecy or other confidentiality laws are not an obstacle or impediment to providing reciprocal judicial assistance. Argentina reports that the basic principles of its national law permit the granting of controlled delivery requests, and that substantive and procedural laws exist that allow for the appeal of controlled delivery requests.

The country does not have a mechanism for recovering assets forfeited abroad.

The country reports that in 2007 it made one active extradition request in a money laundering case, and information is not available regarding active extradition requests in drug trafficking cases. Information regarding the number of passive extradition requests answered in drug trafficking cases is not available for the evaluation period.

Argentina indicates that three reciprocal judicial assistance requests were made in money laundering cases in 2007 and one was made in 2008. However, information for 2006, 2008 and 2009 regarding requests made in drug trafficking cases is not available.

The country reports that in 2007, two reciprocal judicial assistance requests were answered in drug trafficking and money laundering cases. However, information for 2006, 2008 and 2009 is not available.



EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

In the area of institutional strengthening, CICAD notes with satisfaction that Argentina has a National Anti-drug Plan for the period 2009-2011, and that during the evaluation period it had a National Agenda for the Fight against Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism, 2007-2009.

CICAD recognizes that Argentina has ratified all of the international instruments recommended by the MEM. In addition, it recognizes that the country has approved national legislation in accordance with these international instruments.

CICAD notes that the country has the Argentine Drug Observatory, which has a budget to carry out its functions. In addition, CICAD observes that the country has carried out various studies during the evaluation period related to demand and supply reduction, as well as a study on the human, social and economic costs of drugs during the years 2006-2007.

With regard to demand reduction, CICAD notes that Argentina is implementing drug use prevention programs for key sectors of the population, including youths, secondary school students, street youth and workers. However, CICAD observes that during the evaluation period, prevention programs have not been developed for preschool students and for part of the primary school population, for the prison population, university students, or street children. CICAD notes that the country is carrying out evaluations of its prevention programs.

CICAD takes note that Argentina has treatment programs and activities designed to treat patients with drug dependence problems. In addition, CICAD notes that the country has official operating standards and a monitoring system for specialized treatment facilities. However, CICAD observes that data does not exist on the number of cases treated in officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for problems associated with drug use referred from the general healthcare system.

CICAD notes that Argentina has studies on drug use in the student population and among emergency room patients. However, it does not have register of traffic or workplace accidents related to alcohol and drug use.

Regarding supply reduction, CICAD observes that Argentina does not have significant cultivated areas of coca, poppy or cannabis, and that the country carried out eradication activities during the evaluation period. CICAD notes that between 2006 and 2008, 79 cocaine hydrochloride laboratories were dismantled.

CICAD notes that Argentina has legislation to control and manage pharmaceutical products, and administrative and penal norms that establish sanctions for their diversion. CICAD notes with concern that Argentina does not have data on the quantities of pharmaceutical products seized or disposed of for the period 2006-2009, or information regarding the application of penal and administrative sanctions for their diversion. In addition, the country does not have an automated information system to facilitate the control of pharmaceutical products, nor does it carry out follow-up activities for distribution, or control and follow-up on prescriptions.



CICAD observes that Argentina has legislation for the control of chemical substances and penal and administrative norms that establish sanctions for their diversion. However, CICAD notes with concern that the country does not have data on the final disposition of controlled chemical substances and does not have specific legislation regarding the method of destruction for these substances.

With regard to control measures, CICAD recognizes that Argentina has a legal framework that criminalizes illicit drug trafficking and illicit drug possession, and has the necessary mechanisms to exchange relevant information, particularly in illicit drug trafficking cases, at the national and international level.

CICAD notes with concern that Argentina does not have laws or regulations that can be applied or used in some manner to control the sale of drugs via the Internet. In addition, no legal framework exists to define authorities' responsibilities and competencies in controlling Internet drug sales. In addition, the country has not carried out activities or programs for administrative, judicial, and customs officials, law enforcement, the postal service or others to raise awareness of illicit drug sales via the Internet.

CICAD recognizes that the country has national legal norms and regulations that establish administrative controls for the manufacture, importation, exportation, and transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, and has regulations in place that criminalize the trafficking in and illicit production of these materials. However, CICAD notes that the country does not have information on the quantities of firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials forfeited, related to the number of drug trafficking arrests.

CICAD recognizes that Argentina has laws that criminalize money laundering and establish any offense criminalized in the Penal Code or the special laws as a predicate offense. In addition, it recognizes that the country has a Financial Information Unit. CICAD observes that the country has norms that regulate the sectors and activities subject to the obligation to submit suspicious transaction reports to prevent money laundering. However, CICAD notes that lawyers and the real estate sector are not subject to this obligation.

CICAD notes that Argentina identifies electronic surveillance as a special investigative technique permitted under national law in investigations of money laundering and other crimes. However, special techniques do not include undercover operations, use of informants, controlled delivery, or sentence reduction for cooperating witnesses.

CICAD recognizes that in accordance with Argentina's national law, extradition, including extradition of nationals, is possible in both money laundering and drug trafficking cases. In addition, a national whose extradition is denied in a money laundering or drug trafficking case may be tried for that crime in Argentina. CICAD recognizes that Argentina's national law permits the provision of reciprocal judicial assistance, and that bank secrecy and other confidentiality laws are not an obstacle to the provision of such assistance.

CICAD recognizes Argentina's efforts within the context of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) encourages the country to continue to participate actively in the process.



RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are assigned to Argentina in order to assist the country in strengthening its policy to combat the problem of drugs and related activities and increase multilateral cooperation in the Hemisphere.

DEMAND REDUCTION

1. EXPAND PREVENTION ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE THE ENTIRE EDUCATION CYCLE, FROM PRESCHOOL THROUGH SECONDARY SCHOOL.

SUPPLY REDUCTION

2. IMPLEMENT A REGISTER ON THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES AND QUANTITIES OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS SEIZED, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.
3. IMPLEMENT A REGISTER ON THE NUMBER OF PENAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS IMPOSED IN CASES OF THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.
4. IMPLEMENT AN AUTOMATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TO FACILITATE THE CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.
5. ADOPT LEGISLATION TO ALLOW FOR THE DETERMINATION OF THE FINAL DISPOSITION OF SEIZED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, WHICH INCLUDES A REGISTER OF INFORMATION ON THE QUANTITIES OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES DISPOSED OF.

CONTROL MEASURES

6. APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT LAWS TO CONTROL THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER DRUGS OVER THE INTERNET, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.
7. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO RECORD THE NUMBER OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS SEIZED IN RELATION TO THE NUMBER OF ARRESTS FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING.
8. EXPAND THE OBLIGATION TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTIONS TO PREVENT MONEY LAUNDERING TO INCLUDE LAWYERS AND REAL ESTATE AGENTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
9. INCLUDE IN THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES FOR MONEY LAUNDERING INVESTIGATIONS UNDERCOVER OPERATIONS, USE OF INFORMANTS, CONTROLLED DELIVERY AND SENTENCE REDUCTION FOR COOPERATING WITNESSES.



ADDENDUM

Within the framework of the forty-eighth regular session of CICAD, December 6–8, 2010, the Republic of Argentina made the following observations to its national report:

With respect to prevention programs carried out by the country, Argentina reported that, in addition to the programs included in the report, it is also implementing a community drug use prevention program, “Prevenir,” which targets the general population of the municipalities in which it is offered, as well as a key population group, youths ages 10 to 24.

With regard to Recommendation 1, to “Expand prevention activities to include the entire education cycle, from preschool through secondary school,” Argentina informed that during the evaluation period, it carried out a prevention program directed toward primary school students ages 10–12 and secondary school students ages 12–14, covering a large portion of the education cycle. In addition, the country carries out general prevention activities, which include children and youths throughout the entire school cycle, from preschool through secondary school.

Regarding Recommendation 7, to “Implement a system to record the number of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials seized in relation to the number of arrests for drug trafficking,” Argentina reported that it already has a National Register of Seized and Forfeited Firearms and Controlled Materials, in which information regarding the seizure and forfeiture of firearms, their parts and components, ammunition, and other controlled materials in any type of offense is centralized.

In addition, Argentina informed that it has information regarding the number of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials seized, in the procedural framework for infractions of the Narcotics Law, which is obtained through data provided by the country’s various security and police forces, and is available in judicial settings.

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