

MEM

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism

Inter-American Drug Abuse
Control Commission
(CICAD)

Secretariat for
Multidimensional
Security
(SMS)

Belize

**EVALUATION OF
PROGRESS IN
DRUG CONTROL**

2007-2009



Organization of
American States

2010



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ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)
Governmental Expert Group (GEG)

BELIZE

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- National Drug Abuse Control Council (NDACC)
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Belize Police Department
- Financial Intelligence Unit
- Attorney General's Ministry, Solicitor General's Chamber



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

Belize has a total area of 23,000 km² and shares a border with Guatemala (266 km) to the south and west, and Mexico (250 km) to the north. It is bordered by the Caribbean Sea to the east, with 386 km of coastline. The country has a population of 307,889 (July 2010). The main ethnic groups in the country are Mestizo, Creole, Maya, and Garifuna. The literacy rate is 76.9%. Belize is a parliamentary democracy, member of the Commonwealth, and is divided into 6 administrative regions. The country has a GDP per capita of US\$8,300 (2009) and an inflation rate of 0.3% (2009). Belize's exports total US\$385 million (2009), relying on the principal exports of sugar, bananas, citrus fruits, wood, molasses, clothing and fish-related products. The principal sectors of the economy are agriculture, agro-processing, and services, which primarily consist of tourism.

I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

A. National Anti-drug Strategy

Belize reports that its National Anti-Drug Strategy (1999–2004) was extended and updated in 2004, and expired in 2007. The country indicates that, after the Strategy expired, it has been carrying out its anti-drug activities based on individual strategic and operational plans from agencies that carry out anti-drug related activities.

The country reports that it carries out anti-drug efforts under a decentralized approach, with regional and provincial local authorities (6 districts), each having one anti-drug plan per district office with benefits extending to 298,000 inhabitants. A budget was allocated to cover anti-drug activities totaling US\$174,892 in 2006, US\$185,651 in 2007, US\$196,872 in 2008 and US\$178,710 in 2009.

The National Drug Abuse Control Council (NDACC), established in 1988 and legally constituted by the Misuse of Drugs Act of 1990, is the national anti-drug authority of Belize. The NDACC Central Office was established by and remains under the supervision of the Ministry of Health. The National Advisory Council of NDACC and the Ministry of Health are the agencies that comprise the governing level of the national authority. The NDACC coordinates the areas of demand reduction and sustainable development programs, the drug observatory, international cooperation, and program evaluation. It does not cover supply reduction or control measures.

B. International Conventions

Belize has ratified the following international conventions with no reservations:

- The Inter-American Convention against Corruption, 1996;
- The Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials (CIFTA), 1997;



- The United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol;
- The United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971;
- The United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988; and
- The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000, and its Protocols against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; and to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.

The country has not acceded to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003, the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 1992, or the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

C. National Information System

Belize does not have a centralized office that organizes, carries out studies, compiles or coordinates drug-related statistics and other drug-related information. The country gathers and reports drug-related statistics through the National Drug Abuse Control Council and national security agencies such as the Police, the Coast Guard and the Army.

The country reports that it has not carried out any demand reduction studies during the period under evaluation.

Belize reports the availability of the following supply reduction information for years 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	

* In 2006, the country provided information only on persons charged with the possession of illicit drugs.

II. DEMAND REDUCTION

A. Prevention

Belize reports that it has implemented a number of school-based drug abuse prevention programs which are compatible with the principles set out in CICAD's Hemispheric Guidelines on School-based Prevention. There are currently no prevention programs being implemented for key population groups including pre-school, university/tertiary education, street children, street youths, adults, family, gender (men/women), community, indigenous groups, migrants and refugees, workers in the workplace and incarcerated individuals.



Population group	Estimated Coverage		Name of program	Type of program
	Target population	% coverage		
Primary school students	10,000	75%	Drug Education Programme School Liaison Programme Drug Education Quiz Contest	Universal
Junior high & high school (secondary school) students	8,000	80%	Drug Education Programme School Liaison Programme Peer Mediation Programme Student Assistance Programme	Universal

During the years 2006-2009, regional and international programs were offered in drug abuse prevention and treatment as well as technical, non-university training, continuing education courses for university graduates and diplomas. Capacity to provide training increased in 2008-2009 and up to 10 staff of the National Drug Abuse Control Council received training. There are no courses in Belize on prevention and treatment in the curricula for courses of study leading to an undergraduate degree, or graduate/postgraduate specialization.

During the years 2006-2009, Belize did not carry out any evaluations of drug abuse prevention programs or any other research studies of drug use prevention programs.

B. Treatment

The National Drug Abuse Control Council (NDACC) is the agency responsible for designing and executing public policies regarding treatment, as well as the control and regulation of treatment services, program supervision and human resources training.

Belize reports that there are no official operating standards in place for specialized facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use. The country has no official licensing procedure established to authorize the operation of specialized facilities that provide treatment services. The country does not have an official register of specialized facilities that provide treatment services or a monitoring system for specialized facilities providing treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use.

Likewise, the country's Primary Health Care facilities (PHC) do not perform specific activities to address problems associated with drug use.

The country reports that there are no data on the number of cases treated for problems associated with drug use.

Belize reports that there are only unlicensed treatment facilities in the country, and most of their staff members are not trained or qualified. No data are provided to assess the quality and effectiveness of treatment with regards to qualified treatment staff, cases completing treatment or client satisfaction.



C. Statistics on Consumption

Belize reports that it has not conducted drug use surveys in the general population or specific populations for the period 2006-2009.

Belize reports that it does not maintain records on alcohol- or drug-related traffic accidents, nor on alcohol- or drug-related accidents in the workplace. There are no established guidelines, norms or regulations on prevention activities relating to alcohol and drug-related accidents.

III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

A. Drug Production

Belize reports that it has detected cannabis crops. No cannabis plants grown indoors have been detected.

Belize reports that all plants found are counted and destroyed through forced manual eradication. The country destroyed 126,490 plants in 2006, 27,873 plants in 2007, 50,050 plants in 2008, and 144,235 plants in 2009.

Belize reports that no illicit laboratories for organic drugs have been found. In 2007, two illicit laboratories for synthetic drugs were found and dismantled; one was producing amphetamines while the other was producing methamphetamines. No illicit laboratories for synthetic drugs have been found in 2006, 2008 or 2009.

B. Control of Pharmaceutical Products

Belize reports that it controls all pharmaceutical products listed in the international conventions, in accordance with the Misuse of Drugs Act of 1991, the Antibiotic Act and the Chemist and Druggist Act, and Statutory Instrument #72 of 2008, which prohibits the importation of pseudoephedrine and restricts the importation of ephedrine. The authorities responsible for coordinating these controls are the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of National Security and Customs.

Controls applied in the health sector include monitoring, distribution, control and monitoring of prescriptions, and inspections. They do not include register control, administrative sanctions or the transfer of unusual cases detected by administrative authorities to judicial authorities.

Controls applied in the private sector include the activities of import/export control, register control, manufacturing control, monitoring distribution, inspections and registry of licenses. Not



included is the registry of quantities of pharmaceutical products sold or manufactured, free trade zone control and administrative sanctions.

The country informs that it has a mechanism through which members of the health sector can share information with law enforcement or judicial authorities to report and prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products and apply sanctions. There is a task force established comprising of representatives from Customs, the Police and the Ministry of Health.

The country has a system to compile information on administrative and regulatory activities related to controlled pharmaceutical products. In this evaluation period, Belize reports that no licenses were issued to regulated activities, 157 importation permits were issued, and 65 inspections of pharmacies and 37 inspections of importers were conducted.

Belize does not offer training courses for personnel in the public or private sector involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products. The country does not have any automated management systems to facilitate the control of pharmaceutical products.

The country reports that it has not made significant progress in the control of pharmaceutical products, and indicates that the number of importers has increased, but not the capacity to effectively control them.

National laws provide for the imposition of penal sanctions for the illicit production, diversion and trafficking of pharmaceutical products. Penal sanctions include 3 to 10 years of prison and fines for US\$5120.14 to US\$102,402.80.

Belize reports that, for 2006-2009, no data are available to report on penal sanctions applied for the illicit trafficking of pharmaceutical products.

Belize reports that no seizures or disposal of pharmaceutical products were carried out during the period 2006-2009. The country destroys confiscated pharmaceutical products by incineration.

C. Control of Chemical Substances

Belize reports that no specific national laws or regulations are in place for the control of chemical substances, in accordance with international conventions. However, the country reports that all controlled chemical substances listed in the international conventions are controlled. This control relates to the need for the items to be declared prior to exportation.

The country reports that it has a task force whose members comprise the Ministry of Health, the Police, and Customs to prevent and impose sanctions for the diversion of chemical substances and to share information.

Belize reports that it carries out activities to prevent the diversion of chemical substances that include import/export control, inspections, and transport control. However, it does not include a



national registry of licensees, transaction audits, control of distribution, control of the final commercialization, pre-export notifications or imposition of sanctions. The country reports that its administrative system for the control of chemical substances includes one drug inspector, three custom officials and their team, and two anti-drug unit policemen.

The country reports that it provides training courses in the control of the diversion of chemical substances offered to administrative, police and customs officers. Additionally, the Health Ministry carried out a sensitization campaign on the trafficking of pseudoephedrine to over 75 participants, namely Customs, the Police, the Fire Department, the Courier System, Postal Services, the Ministry of Health's management team, and the Coast Guard.

The country reports that it does not have an automated information management system to facilitate the secure and efficient handling of information on the control of the diversion of chemical substances.

Belize indicates that there is no domestic law that imposes sanctions for substances listed under The United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988. However, the country reports that the Ministry of Health can deny a company to operate if their activities are suspicious and that this information is supported by the International Narcotics Control Board when alleged suspicious transactions are detected.

Belize reports that it does not export chemical substances, and reports two controlled chemical substance imports in 2008 and none in 2009. The country does not handle controlled chemical substances in transit.

The country reports that data on pre-export notifications for controlled chemical substances received by the country and responded to are not available. Belize does not have a computerized information system or software such as the UNODC National Drug Control System (NDS) or Pre-Export Notification System (PENS) or a similar system to process pre-export notifications. Also, the country is unable to provide the number of pre-export notifications it has received and to which it has responded. However the country reports that, in 2008, 12 pre-export notifications were not approved and 6 investigations were initiated. There were no such activities reported for years 2006, 2007 or 2009.

Belize reports seizures of pseudoephedrine in 2008, totaling 10,540,000 tablets (60mg and 120mg), which were disposed of by incineration, and no seizures in 2009. Seizure information for 2006 and 2007 is not available.



IV. CONTROL MEASURES

A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

Belize reports the following quantities of drugs forfeited in 2006-2007. No information was provided for 2008 or 2009.

Type of illicit drugs	Quantities of drugs forfeited		
	Unit of Measure	2006	2007
Cocaine HCl	gr	82,785.30	32,698.70
Crack	gr	8,004.10	360.20
Cannabis plants	units	126,490	27,873
Leaf Cannabis (grass)	gr	684,952.20	483,369.40
Cannabis Seed	gr	1,706.50	114.90

In 2006, 407 persons were formally charged with illicit drug trafficking, 278 in 2007, 310 in 2008 and there were no data for 2009. No information is provided on the number of persons convicted of drug trafficking; or on the number of public officials formally charged and convicted of offenses related to illicit drug trafficking.

Belize has laws criminalizing the illicit possession of drugs (Misuse of Drugs Act chapter 103 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, revised Edition, 2000). The country reports that 1,165 persons were formally charged with illicit drug possession in 2006. However, it did not report information for 2007-2009.

The country reports having a First Time Offenders Program which provides alternative sentencing measures for illicit drug possession. There is no indication as to the number of persons to whom the program has been applied and there has been no evaluation of this program.

The Belize Police Department is the national authority responsible for controlling illicit drug trafficking. Multi-agency meetings are being used to promote and facilitate the timely exchange of information and collaboration between national authorities responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking.

The country reports that it has a mechanism of international cooperation to facilitate the timely exchange of operational information and collaboration with national authorities of foreign countries responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking.

Belize reports that, as part of the specialized training, law enforcement officers participated in a training course to address illicit drug trafficking in 2008. The course was offered to law enforcement officers from a number of Central American countries. No courses were offered to customs officers, prosecutors or the judiciary.



The country has implemented the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code in all its ports. The Ministry of National Security is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the ISPS and Customs, the Anti-Drug Unit, and the Belize Defense Force participate in these activities. The country has a mechanism to gather, analyze, exchange and share information and intelligence among national and public entities involved in counter drug control activities in ports.

Belize has a methodology to determine which vessels, cargo or containers should undergo a more complete inspection or examination in person.

The country reports that it carries out maritime counter-drug detection, monitoring and interdiction activities, but does not provide information on the number of counter-drug interdiction and operations undertaken during 2006-2009. The Belize Coast Guard along with other agencies carries out constant patrolling of all of Belize's water territory and causeways.

The following national agencies are involved in monitoring and interdiction activities, both as coordinators and participants: Customs, the National Police, the National Guard, the Coast Guard and the Navy. The Public Prosecutor's Office also participates in monitoring activities as a coordinator and participant.

Belize did not provide information on aerial interdiction for illicit drug trafficking.

Belize does not have legislation or regulations in place to control the trafficking of illicit drugs via the Internet.

B. Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials

Belize reports that the Police Department is the official entity that regulates and authorizes the manufacture, importation, exportation, transit, purchase, sale, shipment, movement, transfer, registration, marking, transport, possession, carrying, storage, and marketing of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. Current laws establish administrative controls for these activities. The country also reports that laws and regulations regulate and authorize commercial transactions (purchase-sale) of firearms, ammunition explosives and other related materials.

Belize reports that national law requires, in accordance with the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials, that firearms be marked at the time of manufacture, for their importation, and for official use after confiscation or forfeiture.

Belize does not provide information on the national laws or regulations that criminalize the trafficking in and illicit production of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials and applicable sanctions; or whether current laws establish administrative controls for transactions between persons or legal entities.



Belize has a mechanism for information exchange and cooperation between national institutions or similar institutions in other countries regarding activities for the control of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

The country reports that it does not manufacture or export firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials.

For the years 2006-2009, Belize reports that there were no instances where the entrance of shipments of firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials have not been authorized due to the absence of the necessary licenses or permits. The country reports that it does not have a database or national registry of the importation, exportation, and transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials.

The country reports it does not have a database to collect statistics on the seizures and forfeitures of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

The country did not provide information on the tracing of illicitly trafficked, diverted and seized firearms.

C. Money Laundering

The Money Laundering and Terrorism (Prevention) Act, 2008 is the current legislation criminalizing money laundering and related crimes. Article 54 of the Act provides that someone guilty of money laundering shall be punishable on conviction, in the case of a natural person, with a fine of US\$25,583 to US\$102,332 or with imprisonment of 5 to 10 years or both. In the case of a legal person, a fine of US\$51,166 to US\$255,830 is applied.

Belize has established the following crimes as predicate offences for money laundering: illicit drug trafficking, illicit trafficking of migrants, trafficking in human beings, kidnapping, extortion, corruption, fraud, and Illicit trafficking in stolen and other goods (including firearms).

Belize reports that it is not necessary for a person to be convicted of a predicate offence in order to be convicted of laundering the proceeds of that offence. The country also indicates that laws exist that permit the perpetrator of the predicate offense to be convicted for money laundering. The use of informants, sentence reduction for cooperating witnesses, undercover investigations, electronic surveillance, controlled deliveries and other special investigative techniques are permitted under national law in money laundering investigations.

Belize belongs to the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF). The most recent evaluation was carried out in 2006.

Under the Money Laundering and Terrorism (Prevention) Act of 2008, the following sectors and activities are obligated to submit suspicious transaction reports to prevent money laundering: the banking sector, offshore banks, the currency exchange sector, stock exchanges, the insurance



sector, transfers of funds, cash or valuables, real estate, lawyers, notaries, accountants, casinos and gambling. All of these institutions are obligated to submit objective information reports for transactions in the amount equal or above the sum of US\$5,255 or US\$7,882, pursuant to Sections 15 and 16 of this Act.

Belize reports that it has an autonomous Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) responsible for money laundering prevention which is a member of the Egmont Group and has access to the Egmont Group's secure network. The FIU has an operating budget.

Belize reports that there are no limitations on obtaining financial documents and registers in money laundering cases, or on obtaining financial documents in money laundering cases subject to secrecy, confidentiality or reserve agreements.

The Belize Confiscated and Forfeited Assets Fund is the entity for the management and disposition of assets seized and forfeited for illicit drug trafficking and money laundering offences.

The country's constitutional legislation includes mechanisms concerning the legal disposition of goods associated with illicit drug trafficking activities. National legislation permits the presale and disposition of seized goods.

Belize reports that in 2009, nine investigations were initiated through a Financial Intelligence Report, four penal proceedings were initiated for money laundering offences, nine persons were formally charged in money laundering investigations and the number of persons convicted was not provided. Data for 2006-2008 were not available.

D. Judicial Cooperation

In Belize, under national laws, extradition is possible for illicit drug trafficking and money laundering crimes, including extradition of nationals. The country has designated The Attorney General's Ministry to receive, respond to and transmit extradition requests. National laws provide for persons whose extradition has been denied in a money laundering case (not in an illicit drug trafficking case) to be tried for the offense in Belize.

Belize reports that its national laws permit the provision of reciprocal judicial assistance in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988. Reciprocal Legal Assistance for Belize is limited to bilateral treaties with the USA and CARICOM countries.

The country reports that bank secrecy or other confidentiality laws are not an obstacle to providing reciprocal judicial assistance.

Belize has a mechanism to recover assets forfeited abroad, through the Money Laundering Terrorism (Prevention) Act, 2008.



The country reports there were no active extradition requests made regarding illicit drug trafficking or money laundering cases during the years 2006-2009, and in 2007, one passive extradition request was answered for illicit drug trafficking and one for money laundering. No passive requests were answered in 2008 or 2009.

The country provides, in the following table, the number of requests for reciprocal judicial assistance made and answered regarding illicit drug trafficking and money laundering cases.

Requests for reciprocal judicial assistance made regarding illicit drug trafficking cases				Requests for reciprocal judicial assistance made regarding money laundering cases			
2006	2007	2008	2009	2006	2007	2008	2009
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Requests for reciprocal judicial assistance answered regarding illicit drug trafficking cases				Requests for reciprocal judicial assistance answered regarding money laundering cases			
2006	2007	2008	2009	2006	2007	2008	2009
2	4	3	5	3	2	8	3



EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

In the area of institutional strengthening, CICAD notes that Belize continues to carry out its anti-drug activities. However, CICAD views with concern that the country has no national anti-drug strategy.

CICAD views with concern that Belize has not acceded to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003; the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 1992; or the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000.

CICAD views with concern that the country does not have a centralized office to carry out studies, compile or coordinate drug-related statistics and other drug-related information.

In the area of demand reduction, CICAD notes that Belize has implemented school-based prevention programs for primary and secondary school students. However, there were no prevention programs implemented for any other key populations. Furthermore, CICAD views with concern that the programs carried out by the country have not been evaluated.

CICAD notes with concern that the country has not established official operating standards of care or an official licensing process for specialized facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use. CICAD also observes that primary health care is not involved in treatment activities that are carried out in the country.

CICAD observes that the country did not carry out drug use studies during the evaluation period.

In the area of supply reduction, CICAD notes that Belize carried out eradication activities of cannabis crops, and that it detected and dismantled illicit synthetic drug laboratories.

CICAD notes that the country does not have health register controls, and does not control free trade zones, or monitor quantities of pharmaceutical products manufactured and sold. CICAD also observes that the country does not have an automated system to manage the information generated by regulatory activities, or have procedures for the transfer of unusual cases detected by administrative authorities to police and judicial authorities, or apply administrative sanctions.

CICAD notes that the country does not have specific national laws or regulations for the control of chemical substances in accordance with international conventions, that include a national registry of licensees, transaction audits, control of distribution, control of the final commercialization, pre-export notifications or the imposition of sanctions. Belize does not have a computerized information system to process pre-export notifications. This limitation precludes the capture and reporting of this information in support of the control of chemical substances.



CICAD recognizes that the country implemented the Statutory Instrument #72 to control pseudoephedrine and ephedrine. CICAD also observes that the country has provided training for personnel involved in chemical control.

In the area of control measures, CICAD views with concern that the country has not provided information on illicit drug forfeitures for 2008-2009, on the number of persons convicted for illicit drug trafficking during the period 2006-2009, or on aerial interdiction anti-drug activities. CICAD also notes that Belize does not have regulations or specific mechanisms in place to prevent and control the illicit traffic of drugs via the Internet.

CICAD observes that the country did not provide details on the legal framework to control firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, or on the mechanisms used for information exchange and cooperation in this area. CICAD also notes that the country did not provide statistics on seizures and forfeitures of these materials. Therefore, there is not sufficient information to carry out an evaluation in this thematic area.

CICAD views with satisfaction that Belize has passed its Money Laundering and Terrorism (Prevention) Act, 2008. CICAD also notes that the country established a wide range of offenses as predicate to money laundering, allows for special investigative techniques for money laundering investigations, has an autonomous Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), and established a Confiscated and Forfeited Assets Fund for the disposition of assets seized and forfeited in illicit drug trafficking and money laundering cases.

CICAD views with satisfaction that Belize has a legal framework for judicial cooperation which makes extradition for drug trafficking and money laundering possible. CICAD also notes that the country has a mechanism to recover assets forfeited abroad.

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



RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are assigned to Belize 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:

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

1. APPROVE A NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN THAT SERVES AS THE FRAMEWORK FOR ALL ANTI-DRUG ACTIVITIES.
2. ACCEDE TO THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS, 1992, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
3. ACCEDE TO THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS, AND AMMUNITION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME, 2000, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001-2002.
4. ACCEDE TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION, 2003, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.
5. ESTABLISH A NATIONAL CENTRALIZED OFFICE THAT CARRIES OUT STUDIES, ORGANIZES, COMPILES, AND COORDINATES DRUG-RELATED STATISTICS AND OTHER DRUG-RELATED INFORMATION, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.

DEMAND REDUCTION

6. CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF RESULTS OF SCHOOL-BASED DRUG PREVENTION PROGRAMS CURRENTLY IN PLACE, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.
7. ESTABLISH OFFICIAL OPERATING STANDARDS FOR SPECIALIZED FACILITIES THAT PROVIDE TREATMENT SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003-2004.
8. CARRY OUT A DRUG USE SURVEY AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

SUPPLY REDUCTION

9. IMPLEMENT AN AUTOMATED SYSTEM FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF INFORMATION RELATED TO THE CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
10. ENACT LEGISLATION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF THE DIVERSION OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS RATIFIED BY THE COUNTRY.



CONTROL MEASURES

11. CARRY OUT RESEARCH AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF ILLICIT DRUGS VIA THE INTERNET, WHICH WILL ENABLE THE COUNTRY TO IDENTIFY ITS REGULATORY AND OPERATIVE NEEDS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.
12. IMPLEMENT A MECHANISM TO REGISTER ILLICIT DRUG FORFEITURES.
13. IMPLEMENT A MECHANISM TO REGISTER THE NUMBER OF PERSONS CONVICTED OF ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING.

Antigua
and Barbuda Argentina

The Bahamas Barbados Belize Bolivia
Canada Chile Colombia Costa Rica Dominica
Republic Ecuador El Salvador Grenada Guatemala
Honduras Jamaica Mexico Nicaragua Panama Paraguay
and Nevis Saint Lucia Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Tobago United States of America Uruguay Venezuela
Bahamas Barbados Belize Bolivia Brazil Canada
Republic Ecuador El Salvador Grenada Guatemala The Bahamas Barbados

Panama Paraguay Peru Saint Kitts and Nevis Saint Lucia Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Trinidad and Tobago United States of America Uruguay Venezuela

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Uruguay Venezuela Antigua and Barbuda Argentina

Costa Rica Dominica Dominican Republic Ecuador El Salvador Grenada Guatemala Guyana Haiti Honduras
Nicaragua Panama Paraguay Peru Saint Kitts and Nevis Saint Lucia Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Suriname

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