

MEM

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)

Ecuador

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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ECUADOR

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- National Council for the Control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (CONSEP)
 - National Bureau of Drug Demand Control
 - National Bureau of Legal Counsel
 - National Bureau for the Management of Assets in Custody
 - National Bureau of Control and Monitoring
 - National Bureau of Financial Management, Budget Department
 - Ecuadorian Drug Observatory
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade, and Integration
 - Legal Counsel Bureau
- National Judiciary Council, Registration and Control Department
- Supreme Court of Justice
 - Legal Counsel Bureau
- Ministry of Education
 - National Program for Education to Prevent Drug Abuse
 - Statistics Unit
- Ministry of Public Health
 - Mental Health Bureau
- Office of the Attorney General
 - School of Prosecutors
- Ministry of the Interior
 - Assistant Secretariat for Internal Security
 - National Police
 - National Anti-Drug Department (DNA)
 - Anti-Drug Information and Prevention Department
 - Traffic Accident Investigation Service of Pichincha (SIATP)
 - National Traffic Department (DNT), Statistics Area
- Ministry of Defense
- Joint Command of the Armed Forces (CC.FF.AA.)
 - General Bureau of Arms Control CCFFAA
 - General Bureau of Military Intelligence
- Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)
- Superintendency of Banks



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

Ecuador has a surface area of 256,370 km². Its coastline on the Pacific Ocean extends for 773 km. The country has 2,010 km of borders (Colombia 590 km and Peru 1,420 km). The population totals 13,547,510 (July 2006). The principal ethnic groups are: 65% mestizos (mix of indigenous and Spaniards), 25% Amerindians, 7% whites and others, and 3% Afro-Ecuadorians. The literacy rate is 92.5%. Ecuador is a republic divided into 24 provinces. Per capita gross domestic product (GDP) for 2008 was US\$4,300, and annual exports totaled US\$9 billion. The main exports are: oil, bananas, shrimp, coffee, cacao, wood, hemp, fish, and flowers. Imports total US\$8 billion and include industrial materials, perishables, and agricultural products.

I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

A. National Anti-drug Strategy

During the evaluation period, Ecuador had the National Plan for Drug Prevention and Control 2004–2008, which was approved by Presidential Decree No. 1777. The National Plan for Integral Drug Prevention and Control 2009-2012 is pending approval.

Ecuador reports that its municipal and provincial authorities do not have jurisdiction in anti-drug policies, but indicates that anti-drug plans are carried out in its 23 municipalities, benefitting 1,363,901 inhabitants.

The country provides the approximate annual total budget of the National Plan for Drug Prevention and Control 2004–2008:

Plan’s Approximate Total Annual Budget

2006 (US\$)	2007 (US\$)	2008 (US\$)	2009 (US\$)
507,880	500,000	0	0

Ecuador did not have a Management Control System to perform monitoring and follow-up during the evaluation period.

Ecuador reports that the National Council for the Control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (CONSEP) was the country’s national anti-drug authority through 2008, and was created in 1990. CONSEP is chaired by the Attorney General of Ecuador and comprised of seven Ministers of State.

CONSEP’s executive board is made up of the Ministries of Justice and Human Rights and Worship; Foreign Affairs; Interior; Economic and Social Inclusion; National Defense; Public Health; Education; and the Office of the Attorney General.



CONSEP has a legal basis and coordinates the following areas: demand reduction, supply reduction, alternative, integral, and sustainable development programs, control measures, drug observatory, international cooperation, program evaluation, and management of seized assets.

Ecuador reports that CONSEP has an annual budget. That budget is independent and its sources of financing are government allocation, self-financing, and international cooperation. The country presents the amounts allocated for fiscal years 2006-2009:

CONSEP Annual Budget, 2006-2009

Fiscal year	Total budget received (US\$)
2006	7,920,457
2007	14,037,500
2008	13,914,309
2009	14,473,376

In 2008 Ecuador adopted a new Constitution that requires institutional restructuring. The issue of drug trafficking is included in these reforms, which entail revising the legal framework. As part of this restructuring, in April 2009 the sectoral cabinet, composed of several ministries, authorized the Ministry of the Interior to take responsibility for coordinating policy.

B. International Conventions

Ecuador reports that it has ratified the following international 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 two of its Protocols: Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;
- United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003.

The country reports that the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components, and Ammunition of the 2000 United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime is pending ratification.



The country also reports that, in accordance with the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, it passed the Law to amend the Penal Code in Official Register 427 of 2006.

C. National Information System

Ecuador reports that it has a national drug observatory to organize and carry out studies, and compile and coordinate statistics and other drug-related information, with an allocated budget to carry out these functions.

The country reports that the followings studies related to demand-reduction were carried out during the period 2006-2009: Survey of secondary school students (2008); National household survey (2007); Survey of higher education students (2009); and Survey on the Health of Residents of the Country's Social Rehabilitation Centers (2008). In addition, the country has records of patients in treatment centers for the years 2006 and 2007.

In addition, the country has the following information available on supply reduction for the period 2006-2009: drug availability indicators (2007, 2008); quantities of drugs seized (2006-2009) and quantities of chemical substances seized (2006-2009). However, the country does not have data on the number of persons charged with and convicted of drug use, possession and trafficking, or the number of drug laboratories dismantled.

II. DEMAND REDUCTION

A. Prevention

Ecuador indicates that it is implementing drug abuse prevention programs that target elementary/primary and junior high and high school students, urban communities, workers in the workplace, and incarcerated individuals, as follows:

Drug Use Prevention Programs Implemented

Population group	Estimated Coverage		Name of program	Type of program
	Target population	% coverage		
School children and university students:				
Elementary/primary	83,871	16%	Drug Abuse Prevention	Universal



Population group	Estimated Coverage		Name of program	Type of program
	Target population	% coverage		
Junior high & high school (secondary school)	93,087	16%	Drug Abuse Prevention	Universal
Workers in the workplace	5,806	20%	Preventive Intervention in the Workplace	Selective
Incarcerated individuals	1,000	60%	Pilot Drug Prevention Program in Women's Rehabilitation Centers, in Quito and Guayaquil	Universal

The country does not have programs for preschool students, the street population, families, gender, indigenous groups, or migrants and refugees.

Ecuador's school-based and workplace prevention programs are compatible with the principles set out in the CICAD Hemispheric Guidelines.

During the period 2006-2009, drug abuse prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation training was provided for community professionals; teachers; incarcerated individuals; technical, administrative, and security personnel; families and visitors at women's rehabilitation centers; psychologists; and physicians, in drug prevention, and treatment and rehabilitation, as detailed in the following table:

Training Offered, 2006-2009

Name of training course	Prevention	Treatment/ Rehabilitation	Offered to	Number of participants			
				2006	2007	2008	2009
Diploma in Training Trainers	X	-	Community service professionals in 9 cities in the country	820	500	580	420
Training, refresher training and in-service training for teachers	X	-	Teachers	3,435	2,456	11,917	6,010
Seminars-Workshops on drug prevention	X	-	-	-	-	-	9,085



Name of training course	Prevention	Treatment/ Rehabilitation	Offered to	Number of participants			
				2006	2007	2008	2009
Comprehensive Drug Prevention Trainer	Trainers in Comprehensive Drug Prevention	-	Prison community: incarcerated individuals; technical, administrative, and security personnel; families and guests to women's social rehabilitation centers in Quito and Guayaquil	-	-	-	100
Comprehensive Drug Prevention Outreach Workers	Comprehensive Drug Prevention Outreach Workers	-	Prison community: incarcerated individuals; technical, administrative, and security personnel; families and guests to women's social rehabilitation centers in Quito and Guayaquil	-	-	-	1,890
Diploma in Drug Addiction	1	1	Psychologists, physicians	-	20	-	-
Major in drug addiction and family (Manabí Univ.)	-	-	Psychologists, social workers	-	-	-	44

In social work studies, the country includes courses or subject matter on prevention and treatment in the curriculum of its programs of study leading to undergraduate university degrees. The country also offers a five-year specialization program in Drug Addiction Issues at Laica Eloy Alfaro University and a 720-hour diploma program at Federico Villarreal National University in Peru.

With respect to participation in regional and international training programs on drug abuse prevention, treatment, and research, the country reports its participation in the following:

- Working group on demand reduction and Drug Observatory in Chile;
- Traineeships at the European Drug Observatory;
- University of El Salvador – Traineeship program on drug abuse prevention and treatment in Latin America;



- Refresher training on organizational, technical, scientific, and legal aspects of doping control and prevention activities;
- Synthetic drug use prevention and treatment;
- Methods applied to research on the problem of illegal synthetic drugs, quantitative and qualitative methodologies, DROSICAN Project.

Ecuador carried out evaluations of drug abuse prevention programs during the years 2006-2009, as follows:

Evaluations of Drug Use Prevention Programs, 2006-2009

Program evaluated	Title of evaluation performed	Type of evaluation performed	Years of program evaluation
Preventive intervention in urban communities in the cities of Manta, Ambato Loja	Programmatic evaluation conducted by the UNODC	-	2008
Preventive intervention in urban communities in the cities of Esmeraldas and Santa Cruz			2009
Drug Abuse Prevention	Evaluation of execution of prevention projects	Coevaluation	All
Early intervention for synthetic drugs	Evaluation of intervention processes and results	External	
Project for prevention through student participation	Evaluation of start, processes, and results	Internal	

The country reports that it has conducted an *ex ante* evaluation determining the feasibility of the pilot program, “Drug Prevention in Women’s Rehabilitation Centers in Quito, Guayaquil, Esmeraldas and in the Virgilio Guerrero Center for Adolescent Offenders,” which will be subject to ongoing monitoring and supervision. It has provided for a monitoring process that will include periodic verification of progress in implementing the project, fulfillment of the work plans, identification of limitations, and implementation of corrective measures.

B. Treatment

Ecuador reports that with regard to treatment for problems related to drug use, the Ministry of Public Health has responsibility for the design and execution of public policy, control and regulation of treatment services, program supervision, and human resources training. In addition, CONSEP has responsibility for the control and regulation of treatment services, program supervision, and human resources training, and the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion, in turn, has responsibility for control and regulation of treatment services and program supervision.

The country presents the following figures for the amount of public financing allocated for treatment activities:



Estimated amount of the national budget for financing treatment programs (US\$)			
2006	2007	2008	2009
US\$50,000	US\$50,000	US\$60,000	US\$130,000

The country observes that the amount was allocated by CONSEP to cover professional outpatient services in its clinics, with participation by professionals in private consultations during 2009.

The official operating standards for specialized facilities that provide treatment services in Ecuador for persons with problems associated with drug use are the Regulations on the Control and Operation of Public and Private Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration Centers for Drug Dependents and Abusers.

The official licensing procedure in Ecuador that authorizes the operation of specialized facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use is set forth in the technical qualifications issued through a CONSEP resolution. The country reports that it has a nationwide Directory of Treatment Centers, which is the official register of specialized facilities, and also has a monitoring system for these facilities.

To address problems associated with drug use, Primary Health Care (PHC) facilities in the country carry out specific activities, including screening, guidance, and inpatient intervention. Ecuador reports that from 2006–2008, 100 PHC facilities in the country delivered specialized care for problems associated with drug use, and reported 130 for the year 2009.

The country reports that in 2006, 5,017 cases were treated in officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for problems associated with drug use, referred from PHC facilities (outpatient or hospitals) but the data for the years 2007, 2008 and 2009 is not available.

In terms of geographic coverage, Ecuador reports that it has officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for problems associated with drug use in 11 of its 24 provinces.

Regarding overall annual coverage of the population potentially in need of care, the country reports cases related to problems associated with drug abuse that were treated at officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities, but does not provide the estimated number of persons potentially in need of care. It provides the following data from the SIDUC Study in Treatment Centers Nationwide:

**Cases Treated in Officially-Licensed Specialized Treatment Facilities
for Problems Associated with Drug Use, 2006-2009**

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of cases treated in officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for drug problems	996	3,552	208	242



Regarding specific annual coverage, the following cases were treated in officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for drug use problems:

	Number of cases treated in officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities			
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Male	972	3,392	200	156
Female	23	157	8	1
Total cases treated	996	3,552	208	157
Under 18 years old	83	356	n.av.	n.av.
19 - 25 years old	271	952	n.av.	n.av.
Over 25 years old	642	2,209	n.av.	n.av.
Total cases treated	996	3,552	n.av.	n.av.
Alcohol	528	2,098	n.av.	n.av.
Cannabis	38	190	n.av.	n.av.
Heroin	5	14	n.av.	n.av.
Morphine (*)	0	6	n.av.	n.av.
Methadone (*)	0	0	n.av.	n.av.
Opioids	0	0	n.av.	n.av.
Cocaine hydrochloride	50	264	n.av.	n.av.
Crack	1	17	n.av.	n.av.
Inhalants	4	21	n.av.	n.av.
LSD	0	0	n.av.	n.av.
Benzodiazepines (*)	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Barbiturates (*)	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Amphetamines	0	2	n.av.	n.av.
Methamphetamines and other derivatives	0	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Anorexigenics	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Total cases treated	996	3,552	n.av.	n.av.
Outpatient	9	35	n.av.	n.av.
Residential	929	3,351	n.av.	n.av.
Total cases treated	996	3,552	n.av.	n.av.

n.av = not available

In addition, the country indicates that there are no data on the total number of cases treated in unlicensed specialized treatment facilities for drug problems.

The country indicates that 10 treatment centers offer social reintegration programs.

The country does not provide information regarding the number of officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for drug use problems that have professional staff with specific training on the subject in charge of patient care.



C. Statistics on Consumption

Ecuador provides the following statistical data on prevalence in the general population from a survey conducted in 2007:

Prevalence in the General Population, 2007

Year of last survey: 2007	Age group surveyed: 12-65								
	Lifetime (percentage)			Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	84.1	69.8	76.9	68.0	40.8	54.4	45.6	17.7	31.7
Tobacco	63.6	29.9	46.8	39.1	11.2	25.2	30.4	6.4	18.4
Solvents & Inhalants	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Hashish	0.3	0.2	0.3	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Marijuana	7.7	7.0	4.3	1.4	0.1	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.4
Hallucinogens	0.2	0.0	0.1	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Heroin	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Morphine*	0.0	0.0	0.0	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Opium	0.0	0.0	0.0	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Cocaine HCl	2.1	0.4	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Others Specify: Coca paste	1.4	0.2	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1
Tranquilizers / Sedatives / Depressants	1.6	2.4	2.0	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.3
Stimulants	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
MDMA (Ecstasy)	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.
Any drug	8.6	1.2	4.9	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.	n.av.

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.

n.av = not available

The country indicates that it has an estimate of drug use in the student population and provides statistical data on prevalence and incidence of drug use among secondary school students (ages 12-17) obtained from a 2008 survey:



Prevalence among Secondary School Students, 2008

Year of last survey: 2008	Age Group Surveyed: Secondary Students Ages 12 to 17 Representative sample: Yes				
Type of drug	Lifetime (percentage)			Last 12 months (percentage)	Last 30 days (percentage)
	M	F	Total	Total	Total
Alcohol	81.0	78.1	79.4	57.5	35.5
Tobacco	57.0	37.0	46.0	24.9	14.4
Solvents & Inhalants	6.9	4.8	5.7	2.5	1.3
Marijuana	10.2	3.3	6.4	4.2	2.2
Cocaine HCl	3.6	1.1	2.2	1.5	0.7
Others Specify: Coca paste	1.5	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.3
Tranquilizers / Sedatives / Depressants	10.6	12.2	11.5	3.4	1.8
Stimulants	7.5	7.0	7.2	2.4	1.4
MDMA (Ecstasy)	1.9	0.7	1.3	0.7	0.4

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.

Incidence among Secondary School Students

Year of last survey: 2008	Target population of the study: 12-17 Representative sample: Y	
Type of drug	Last 12 months (percentage)	Last 30 days (percentage)
	Total	Total
Alcohol	47.6	18.7
Tobacco	13.3	3.4
Solvents or inhalants	1.4	0.5
Marijuana	2.4	0.8
Cocaine HCL	0.8	0.2
Base paste	0.4	0.1
Tranquilizers / Sedatives/ Depressants	2.1	0.5
Stimulants	1.5	0.4
Ecstasy (MDMA)	0.4	0.1
Any drug	3.4	1.0

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.



Ecuador indicates that the Survey of Middle School Students is conducted every three years.

The country does not provide data on the incidence of drug use in the general population or in specific populations. Moreover, it did not provide data on abuse and dependence in relation to the number of users and total population surveyed.

The average age of first use of different drugs in the general population (12-65 years) in Ecuador is indicated in the following table:

Population: 12-65 yrs	2007
Type of drug	Average
Alcohol	18.1
Tobacco	18
Solvents or inhalants	14.2
Marijuana	18.6
Cocaine HCl	20.2
Coca paste	19.6
Ecstasy	17.9

The percentage of young people who perceive drug use as harmful to their health and well-being, according to a 2008 study of the school population, is indicated in the following table:

Age group to which this applies: 12-17 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	14.7
Often smoke cigarettes	72.7
Often drink alcoholic beverages	74.4
Get drunk	65.6
Occasionally take tranquilizers for non-medicinal purposes	30.6
Occasionally take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	n.av.
Often take tranquilizers for non-medicinal purposes	67.9
Often take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	n.av.
Occasionally inhale solvents	38.8
Often inhale solvents	76.4
Occasionally smoke marijuana	23.0



Age group to which this applies: 12-17 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):
Often smoke marijuana	77.4
Occasionally take cocaine HCl or crack	31.8
Often take cocaine HCl or crack	75.8
Occasionally take ecstasy	33.1
Often take ecstasy	68.2
Occasionally take other types of Methamphetamines	n.av.
Often take other types of Methamphetamines	n.av.

The country does not provide data from studies of the general population for young people ages 12 to 25. With regard to university students the following risk perception data is provided:

Percentage of University Students who Perceive Drug Use as Harmful

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	84.4
Often drink alcoholic beverages	82.5
Occasionally smoke marijuana	43.8
Often smoke marijuana	77.7
Occasionally take cocaine HCl or crack	57.1
Often take cocaine HCl or crack	84.6
Occasionally use other substances that contain cocaine	61.7
Often use other substances that contain cocaine	81.5
Occasionally take ecstasy	35.4
Often take ecstasy	67.6
Occasionally other types of Methamphetamines	37.5
Often other types of Methamphetamines	60.6

The country reports that it has studies that would permit an evaluation of the relationship between drugs and crime. The last nationwide studies carried out among the prison population and recent detainees were in 2008. The country indicates that the July 2008 Social and Demographic Penitentiary Census by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights is the last study carried out that allows an evaluation of the relationship between drugs and crime.



Ecuador notes that it does not have records on alcohol- or drug-related traffic accidents. It adds that it does not have records on workplace accidents related to alcohol or drug use, or norms and regulations on prevention activities relating to alcohol or drug use.

III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

A. Drug Production

Ecuador reports that it has cultivated areas of coca, poppy, and cannabis and a system for monitoring and detection of crops cultivated for illicit purposes.¹ However, the country reports that it does not have information on the total area of coca cultivation.

Detection and Quantification Systems

Name of the system	Type of system	Type of crop	Description
UNODC illicit crop monitoring program	Monitoring	Coca	Through satellite imagery, aerial imagery, geo video, and on-site verification
Border patrols and police operations	Estimation	Coca, cannabis, and poppy	Police and Military units, by detecting illicit crops and destroying them in coordination with the Office of the Public Prosecutor

Ecuador does not have a system to follow-up on the replanting of crops, nor to measure the potential production of coca, poppy, and cannabis.

The country has not detected marijuana plants grown indoors.

Ecuador has a forced manual crop eradication program for coca, poppy, and cannabis. The country informs that it does not have information on the total area of crops eradicated. However, the country provides the number of plants eradicated in 2008 and 2009:

Number of Plants

	Forced Manual Eradication	
	2008	2009
Cannabis	8,675	307
Coca	270,060	57,765
Poppy	74,555	115,580

¹ Within the framework of the forty-eighth regular session of CICAD, December 6–8, 2010, Ecuador reported that the monitoring and detection system for illicit cultivation has allowed the country to identify as “incipient” the coca, poppy and cannabis cultivation activities in the country, as informed in the Monitoring Coca Cultivation Report, 2009, published by UNODC in June 2010.



Illicit laboratories for drugs of natural origin have been found in Ecuador, but not for drugs of synthetic origin. The country provides the following figures:

Illicit Laboratories for Drugs of Natural Origin Dismantled, 2006-2009

Illicit Drug	Number of illicit laboratories dismantled			
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Cocaine HCl (coca paste to cocaine)	0	1	3	10
Other substances that contain cocaine	2	0	4	0

B. Alternative, Integral, and Sustainable Development

Ecuador reports that it has the conditions to carry out alternative, integral, and sustainable development, including preventative, and that it is carrying out activities and programs of this type.² In that regard, it is carrying out a project in Hacienda Las Delicias (2009) which will run for three years and the Program to Support the Border Community, which is an ongoing project and consists of leasing the farms for community agricultural development.

The country does not have a mechanism or internal system to evaluate the progress or impact of alternative, integral, and sustainable development programs. Nonetheless, it reports that 121 families benefited directly from these types of programs.

C. Control of Pharmaceutical Products

Ecuador has the following laws and regulations of national scope in place for the control of pharmaceutical products, in accordance with international conventions:

Legislation for the Control of Pharmaceutical Products

Title	Date of entry into force
Codified Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Act	September 17, 1990
Regulations for enforcement of the Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Act	January 29, 1991
Regulations for the control of controlled substances and drugs containing them	November 27, 2008
Interagency Coordination Agreement between CONSEP and the Ministry of Public Health	August 2008

The country indicates that all the pharmaceutical products listed in the international conventions are controlled.

² Within the framework of the forty-eighth regular session of CICAD, December 6–8, 2010, Ecuador reported that its alternative, integral and sustainable development programs include a preventative component.



The competent authorities responsible for coordinating activities related to the control of pharmaceutical products in Ecuador are the Ministry of Public Health (Leopoldo Izquieta Pérez National Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Institute) and the National Council for the Control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (CONSEP).

To control pharmaceutical products and prevent their diversion, within the health care sector Ecuador carries out the following: health register control, monitoring distribution, control and monitoring of prescriptions, inspections, audits, administrative sanctions, and transfer of unusual cases detected by administrative authorities to judicial authorities.

In the private sector, the country carries out: import/export control, health register control, manufacturing control, monitoring distribution, inspections, administrative sanctions, registry of licensees, registry of quantities of pharmaceutical products sold or manufactured, and free trade zone control.

Ecuador has an integrated procedure in place to monitor and prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products. The country indicates that, as part of the activities planned in Phase I of the Project to Prevent the Diversion of Controlled Pharmaceutical Products, it conducted a training process for control mechanisms used by the Ministry of Public Health and CONSEP, and the results of the Situational Diagnostic Assessment on management of narcotic and psychotropic drugs in Ecuador were disseminated.

To fulfill this activity, nine workshops were held in 14 cities in the country, targeting 970 legal representatives and technicians from pharmaceutical laboratories, distribution companies, pharmaceutical distributors and pharmacies. In addition, in 2008, CONSEP, in coordination with the Ministry of Public Health, conducted the First National Training Workshop on Proper Handling of Drugs that Contain Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances, targeting professionals who prescribe controlled medicines (psychiatrists, physicians, dentists, obstetricians, and veterinarians), as well as legal representatives and technicians from pharmaceutical facilities. Forty-four workshops were carried out, with a total of 5,090 participants.

The country indicates that there is an automated information system to facilitate the control of pharmaceutical products and notes that CONSEP has an online system for control of importation and wholesale distribution of controlled substances and medicines.

Regarding the mechanisms used by members of the health sector to communicate and share information with law enforcement and judicial authorities to control the diversion of pharmaceutical products, Ecuador has the Interagency Coordination Office in the Ministry of Health (INH), CONSEP, Public Prosecutors Offices, and the police.

The country has a system to compile information on administrative and regulatory activities and sanctions imposed in connection with controlled pharmaceutical products.



Regulatory Activities Related to Pharmaceutical Product Control, 2006-2009

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Regulated Activities				
Number of licenses issued to:				
Importers	22	21	24	30
Exporters	0	0	0	2
Manufacturers	3	3	4	10
Distributors	54	40	69	99
Number of permits issued for:				
Importation	643	771	662	576
Exportation	0	0	6	15
Regulated Entities				
Number of inspections conducted of:				
Importers	4	0	10	8
Exporters	0	0	0	0
Manufacturers	0	0	0	0
Distributors	2	1	5	8
Pharmacies inspected by CONSEP		2,487		

Regarding training courses for personnel in the public and private sector involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products, the country reports that it offers training at the national level on the dissemination of legal standards for the control and handling of controlled medicines.

In 2009, the National Bureau of Control and Monitoring had 40 control and monitoring specialists who carried out activities in ports, airports, and border posts.

The country reports that CONSEP has an automated system online, through which authorized persons or those who have obtained a license (pharmaceutical laboratories, representatives, and pharmaceutical distributors) report all transactions involving controlled substances, or medications containing them, monthly.

Ecuador makes provision for penal, civil, and administrative sanctions for the illicit production, diversion, and illicit trafficking of pharmaceutical products. The following penal sanctions are applicable:

Illicit production and trafficking
Special long-term imprisonment of 12 to 16 years and a fine of 60 to 8,000 times the minimum living wage.
Diversion
Regular medium-term imprisonment of 3 to 6 years and a fine of 15 to 3,000 times the minimum living wage.

The country reports that it does not have information on the number of penal or civil sanctions imposed. Regarding the number of administrative sanctions, the country reports that 115



sanctions were imposed in 2008 and 296 sanctions were imposed in 2009. Data for 2006 and 2007 are not available.

Ecuador seized the following quantities of pharmaceutical products in 2008 and 2009:

2008	
Pharmaceutical products	Quantities seized
	Tablets/ capsules
Lorazepam (Ativan)	90
Clonazepam	19
Total	109

2009		
Pharmaceutical products	Quantities seized	
	Tablets/ capsules	Powder (kilograms)
Clonazepam	18,860	0.17
Total	18,860	0.17

In terms of confiscated pharmaceutical products that were disposed of during the years 2006–2009, the country reports that no medications were destroyed. It notes that confiscated pharmaceutical products are stored until a judge orders their destruction.

D. Control of Chemical Substances

Ecuador has the following laws and regulations of national scope in place for the control of chemical substances, in accordance with international conventions:

Laws and Regulations for the Control of Chemical Substances

Title	Date of entry into force
Codified Law on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances	September 17, 1990
Regulations for the implementation of the Law on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances	January 29, 1991
Regulations for the control of controlled substances and drugs that contain them	November 27, 2008

The country indicates that it controls all of the substances listed in the international conventions, as well as calcium chloride, which is not listed in the conventions.

Ecuador reports that it has a mechanism through which institutions responsible for controlling the diversion of chemical substances communicate and share information. The national authorities



responsible for the enforcement of laws and regulations for the control of chemical substances in Ecuador are the National Council for the Control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (CONSEP) (with administrative responsibilities); the Office of the Public Prosecutor of Ecuador, the Superior Court of Justice, and the Supreme Court of Justice (with judicial responsibilities); the Ecuadorian Customs Corporation (with customs-related responsibilities); and the Chemicals Sections of the National Anti-drug Office.

The country reports that these actions are carried out as part of an integrated procedure that is applicable to individuals and entities authorized to handle these substances.

For transport control, CONSEP issues authorizations to qualified persons or those that have an authorization to purchase controlled substances and sends a report daily to the National Anti-drug Office of the National Police.

Ecuador has a regulatory system for the control of chemical substances. The country reports that CONSEP's National Control and Monitoring Office has staff that carry out inspection and investigation activities.

Ecuador reports that it offers training courses in the control of the diversion of chemical substances. As part of these activities, the country carried out seven activities during 2008 with a total of 293 participants. In 2009, training was offered to 1,336 individuals and agencies, and to 98 government officials.

Ecuador reports that it has an automated information system in place to facilitate control of the diversion of chemical substances, and adds that CONSEP has improved the information system for the control of controlled substances, which has enabled it to provide the following services online: renewal of qualification and submittal of monthly reports and transport guides. Various controls have been implemented for users, enabling them to conduct transactions solely with authorized persons. The system also issues various reports, such as those on qualification, renewal of qualification, importation, increasing allotments, and inclusions, that facilitate the work of control and monitoring specialists, increasing the amount of time they are available to conduct inspections.

Ecuador makes provision for penal and civil sanctions for the illicit production, diversion, and illicit trafficking of controlled chemical substances in accordance with international conventions. The country does not provide for administrative sanctions.

The country reports that the penal sanction applicable for the illicit production, diversion or illicit trafficking of controlled chemical substances is regular long-term imprisonment of 8 to 12 years and a fine of 40 to 6,000 times the minimum living wage. Ecuador imposed 22 penal sanctions in 2007, 823 in 2008 and 296 in 2009.

Ecuador exports controlled chemical substances. During the period 2006–2009, the country made 7 exports to Colombia in 2006, 8 in 2007, 6 in 2008 and 10 in 2009. The same number of pre-export notifications was issued.



Ecuador imports controlled chemical substances, but does not control these substances in transit. In the years 2006–2009, the number of imports was as follows:

Number of Controlled Chemical Substance Imports Received, 2006–2009

Year	Number of controlled chemical substance imports
2006	841
2007	1,098
2008	1,044
2009	1,111

The country received and responded to the following number of pre-export notifications in the years 2006–2009:

Number of Pre-export Notifications Received, 2006–2009

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of pre-export notifications received by Ecuador	132	105	143	97
Number of responses sent by Ecuador	132	105	143	97
Number of timely replies sent by Ecuador (maximum of 15 days)	132	105	143	97

The country reports that the difference between the number of imports and the number of pre-notifications is due to the fact that not all countries issue pre-notifications.

Ecuador has been using the online Pre-Export Notification System of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) to process pre-export notifications since August 2008.

The country seized the following controlled chemical substances during the years 2006–2009:

Quantity of Controlled Chemical Substances Seized, 2006–2009

Controlled chemical substances	Unit of measure	Quantities seized			
		2006	2007	2008	2009
Acetone	l	107.20	-	-	2,285
Sulphuric acid	l	16,950	200	143	1,378
Hydrochloric acid	l	4,737.96	443	571.75	3,984
Acetic acid	l	52.38	-	-	-
Isopropyl alcohol	l	660	23,076	3,686	475
Ammonia	kg	2,500	-	192	2
Sodium bicarbonate	kg	47.10	2,860	1,025	1,325
Calcium chloride	kg	7,817.50	1,000	1,737	28,966



Controlled chemical substances	Unit of measure	Quantities seized			
		2006	2007	2008	2009
Petroleum ether	l	134,920	5,836	123,260	8,111
Hexane	l	6,860	1,000	836.50	8,050
Sodium hydroxide	kg	11,445.18	5,450	3,163.65	250
Methyl ethyl ketone	l	28,050	500	-	15,356
Potassium permanganate	kg	300	-	775	480.45
Toluene	l	-	-	449.20	-
Xilene	l	2,763.25	-	-	4,400

Ecuador reports that the method used for the destruction of seized substances is technical destruction, which, in the case of solvents, consists of controlled incineration, and in the case of acids, neutralization. The country does not provide the quantities of seized substances that were disposed of.

IV. CONTROL MEASURES

A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

Ecuador indicates the quantities of drugs forfeited to law enforcement agencies during the years 2006–2009 in the following table:

Type of illicit drugs and raw materials	Unit of measure	Quantities of drugs forfeited			
		2006	2007	2008	2009
Poppy Plants	un	-	-	74,355	115,580
Poppy Seeds	un	-	-	1,350	1,080
Heroin	kg	233.42	180.83	114.07	177.01
Coca Leaf	gr	564	-	44,038	0
Cocaine HCl	kg	27,054.46	17,634.94	27,266.71	63,976.57
Coca plants	un	64,000	130,000	140,060	64,150
Coca paste	kg	7,194.64	7,668.32	966.09	1,102.40
Cannabis Plants	un	12	8,675	-	307
Leaf Cannabis (grass)	kg	1,030.30	848.77	1,968.41	2,794.26
Cannabis Seed	gr	838	-	28	170
MDMA (Ecstasy) and derivatives	kg	0.68	0.17	0.05	0.04

The country reports that it does not have studies or analysis for the characterization and profiling of seized substances.



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

Year	Number of persons formally charged	Number of persons convicted
2006	645	316
2007	574	375
2008	497	248
2009*	848	659

*through July 2009

The country does not have information on the number of public officials formally charged with and convicted of offenses related to illicit drug trafficking.

Ecuador informs that its legislation decriminalizes the holding and illicit possession of narcotic and psychotropic substances when, based on a minimum quantity, they are intended for personal use. In the following table, the country indicates the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug possession for personal use during the years 2006–2009:

Year	Number of persons formally charged	Number of persons convicted
2006	128	36
2007	112	38
2008	95	35
2009	129	78

*through July 2009

Regarding the legislation that establishes the offense of illicit possession, the country reports that the Law on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances prohibits holding or illicit possession of controlled substances without legal authorization or a prior medical prescription, and the penalty established for holding and illicit possession is 12 to 16 years in prison and a fine of 60 to 8,000 times the minimum living wage.

Below is the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug possession during the years 2006–2009:

Year	Number of persons formally charged	Number of persons convicted
2006	1,659	619
2007	1,333	529
2008	1,379	612
2009	1,385	989

*through July 2009



The country indicates that its domestic legislation does not provide for alternative sentencing measures for holding or illicit possession of drugs.

Ecuador reports that the responsible authorities for control of illicit drug trafficking are the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of the Interior, the National Police of Ecuador, and the National Council for the Control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (CONSEP).

Regarding the mechanisms used to promote or facilitate the timely exchange of information and collaboration between authorities responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking, the country indicates that, through interagency agreements, efficient, optimal information-sharing has been achieved for drug trafficking investigative processes. Coordination meetings are also held with the intelligence community, composed of members of the Armed Forces, National Police, Customs Agency, and others.

With respect to mechanisms of international cooperation national authorities responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking use to promote or facilitate the timely exchange of operational information and collaboration with national authorities of foreign countries responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking, the country indicates that it utilizes bilateral information-sharing and also has international drug-related cooperation agreements, police liaison officers in different countries, and uses electronic means of communication.

Ecuador reports that during the years 2006-2009, it developed specialized training courses on the fight against illicit drug trafficking. Anti-drug courses have been offered on money laundering, basic intelligence operations, handling of human sources, and control, customs inspections, machines and elements used for synthetic drugs.

Ecuador reports that 85% of the country's ports have implemented the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code developed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The country adds that, since this is a mandatory port security program, Ecuadorian ports complied with this provision, based on the regulations, which are evaluated periodically. Regarding additional port security programs, Ecuador reports that it has the Business Alliance for Secure Commerce (BASC), Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT), and other programs based on the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS).

The entities responsible for coordinating the implementation of the counterdrug port security program are the National Aquatic Spaces Office, the National Anti-drug Police, and the Ecuadorian Customs Corporation. The country has a mechanism to gather, analyze, exchange, and share information and intelligence among national and public entities involved in counterdrug control activities in ports.

Ecuador reports that it has a manual control mechanism to record commercial movement of vessels in its ports. For non-commercial vessels it has manual records. The system is operated by the National Maritime Authority, the Port Harbormasters' Offices, and the Customs Monitoring Service. For both commercial and non-commercial vessels, the information is gathered through observation and monitoring and reporting by the vessel to the responsible entity in the port. The



National Maritime Authority and the Port Harbormasters' Offices have access to this information. The country has a mechanism to determine which vessels, cargo, or containers should undergo a more complete inspection or examination in person.

Ecuador carries out maritime counterdrug detection, monitoring, and interdiction activities with the collaboration of the Ecuadorian Navy, through the use of airplanes for aero-maritime exploration and unmanned aircraft, use of Coast Guard units and interception craft. Underwater inspections of suspicious ships and boats are done by the National Police with the collaboration of the Ecuadorian Navy.

The country does not inform which entity or entities are responsible for coordinating monitoring activities, but the Public Prosecutor's Office, the National Guard and the Navy participate in said activities, and at-sea interdiction operations are carried out by the Public Prosecutor's Office, Customs, the National Police and the National Guard, with the participation of the Coast Guard and the Navy.

The country reports that with regard to the seizure of vessels related to maritime interdiction carried out by authorities during the years 2006-2009, 10 vessels were seized in 2006, 10 in 2007, 3 in 2008 and 2 in 2009.

The country reports that it carried out maritime counterdrug operations in partnership with the United States, in accordance with Article 17 of the 1988 Vienna Convention during the years 2006-2009: 7 in 2006, 3 in 2007, 3 in 2008 and 2 in 2009.

The country reports that the Ecuadorian Air Force (FAE) coordinates and participates in surveillance and aerial interdiction operations, and that the country carried out aerial drug interdiction operations during the evaluation period.

Ecuador has provisions in general laws and regulations that can be applied to control the sale of drugs via the Internet, but does not indicate the authorities involved or their area of jurisdiction. In addition, the country has not carried out activities or programs to increase awareness among administrative, judicial, customs, law enforcement, postal, and other authorities regarding illicit sale of drugs through the Internet. Likewise, it has not established mechanisms for citizens to report the illicit sale of drugs through the Internet.

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

Ecuador reports that the government agencies or offices that regulate and authorize licit activities (manufacture, importation, exportation, transit, purchase, sale, shipment, movement, transfer, marking, registration, transport, possession, carrying, storage, and marketing) for firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials are the Ministry of National Defense, through the Joint Command of the Armed Forces, the National Police, the Customs Monitoring Service or Ecuadorian Customs Corporation, and the Guayas Transit Commission.



The regulations of the Law on the Manufacture, Importation, Exportation, Sale and Ownership of Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Accessories establish administrative controls for the manufacture, importation, exportation, transit and licit transfers or transactions of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. This law also criminalizes the trafficking in and illicit production of these materials.

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

Ecuador has mechanisms for information exchange and cooperation between national and international institutions for control activities related to all forms of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.

The National Arms Control Information System (SINCOAR) of the Joint Command of the Armed Forces of Ecuador is the national registry for the importation, exportation, and transit of firearms, ammunition, and explosives. All the records have been computerized and kept indefinitely since 2006, when SINCOAR began operating. In addition, SINCOAR is the database or national registry for confiscation of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.

The country provided the following table on the quantity of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials seized in relation to drug trafficking in the period 2006-2009:

Quantities seized				
Year	Firearms	Ammunition	Explosives	Other related materials
2006	113	1,484	29,549	1
2007	101	3,399	1,483	0
2008	143	14,931	786	0
2009	231	15,349	1,152	1

The country did not provide the quantity of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials forfeited in connection with drug trafficking during the period 2006-2009.

The quantity of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials seized in relation to the number of arrests for drug trafficking is provided in the following table:

Year	Number of arrests	Quantity of firearms	Quantity of ammunition	Quantity of explosives	Quantity of other related materials	Number of operations
2006	7	2	129	-	29,500 CAPS	4
2007	6	-	1,784	423	1,000 CAPS	5
2008	21	40	3,389	179	500 CAPS	13
2009	37	86	12,093	721	518 CAPS	32



The country did not provide information on the quantity of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials forfeited in relation to the number of arrests for drug trafficking during the years 2006-2009.

During the evaluation period, 93 long arms, 305 short arms, 30,883 rounds of ammunition, and more than 32,000 units of explosives were seized from persons formally charged with illicit activities related to firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, linked with drug trafficking.

Ecuador indicates that the Technical Firearms Control Unit of the National Police was created on June 29, 2009. The country reports that it does not have records for the period 2006-2009 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 firearms traces completed.

C. Money Laundering

The Law to Suppress Money Laundering, published in Official Register 127 of October 18, 2005, criminalizes money laundering and sets penalties of between one and nine years in prison. In addition, the Law on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances, Law 025, codified in 2004, Art. 73, sets prison terms of between 12 and 16 years.

The country reports that illicit trafficking and all serious offenses are considered predicate offenses for money laundering. It is not necessary for a person to be convicted of a predicate offense in order to be convicted for laundering the proceeds of that offense. In addition, legal norms exist that permit the perpetrator of a predicate offense to be convicted for money laundering.

Ecuador observes that its money laundering investigation legislation does not provide for special investigative techniques. In addition, Chapter II, "Functions and Powers of the Law to Suppress Money Laundering," identifies the investigative powers of the Financial Intelligence Unit. It establishes the sharing of intelligence on money laundering with public and private sector entities.

Ecuador is a member of the South American Financial Action Task Force (GAFISUD). The most recent evaluation of the country was in 2007.

In accordance with Article 3 of Ecuador's Law to Suppress Money Laundering, the sectors required to submit suspicious transaction or objective information reports to prevent money laundering are those in the financial and insurance system. Notwithstanding, the Financial Intelligence Unit has the legal authority to request information from other sectors. In the case of the transfer of funds, cash, or valuables, money is transferred through the financial system. Nevertheless, the country does not establish administrative controls for the following sectors: stock exchanges, real estate, lawyers, notaries, accountants, and casinos and gambling.

Ecuador has a Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) responsible for money laundering prevention, pursuant to the Law to Suppress Money Laundering. This law established the National



Anti-money Laundering Council as a legal entity under public law; its executing agencies are the Council’s Board and the Financial Intelligence Unit. The Director of Ecuador’s FIU serves as Secretary of the Council’s Board and has legal and judicial representation on the Board. The Council was established to issue the policies needed to prevent, detect, sanction, and eradicate money laundering, in addition to the control and supervision rules issued by the Superintendency of Banks and Insurance, within its area of responsibility.

The FIU reports to the Attorney General of Ecuador, in his capacity as Chairman of the National Anti-money Laundering Council. The country reports that the FIU has its own annual budget, and is not a member of the Egmont Group.

Ecuador reports that it does not have limitations on obtaining financial documents and records in money laundering cases. The competent entities can access documents and records in money laundering cases. Although the General Law on Financial System Institutions provides for bank secrecy and confidentiality for deposits and other types of deposit-taking, Article 91 of that law provides for exceptions to bank secrecy.

The National Council for the Control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (CONSEP) is the entity for the management and disposition of assets seized and forfeited in illicit drug trafficking cases. The National Anti-money Laundering Council is the entity for the management and disposition of assets seized and forfeited in money laundering cases. Both entities report to the Attorney General.

Ecuador’s constitutional legislation includes mechanisms concerning the legal disposition of goods associated with illicit drug trafficking activities. In that regard, the country adds that, pursuant to Article 14, subparagraph 15 of the Law on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances, CONSEP must serve as the depository for substances or goods seized and forfeited and must be involved in destroying controlled substances that have been seized and forfeited. The country reports that its legislation permits the presale or disposition of seized goods.

Ecuador indicates that during the evaluation period, investigations were initiated through FIU Reports: 16 in 2008 and 15 in 2009. The number of penal proceedings initiated for money laundering offenses during the years 2006-2009 is indicated in the following table:

Year	Penal proceedings initiated for money laundering offenses
2006	6
2007	6
2008	10
2009*	21

*through September 2009

The number of persons formally charged and convicted in investigations initiated during the years 2006-2009 appears below:



Year	Number of persons formally charged	Number of persons convicted
2006	18	6
2007	6	2
2008	15	0
2009	27	0

*through September 2009

D. Judicial Cooperation

Ecuador reports that, under its laws, extradition is possible for illicit drug trafficking and money laundering offenses. However, the extradition of nationals is not 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. Its national laws provide for nationals whose extradition has been denied in drug trafficking or money laundering cases to be tried for the offense in Ecuador. In addition, it permits the provision of reciprocal judicial assistance.

The country does not use secure technological resources to facilitate communication among authorities directing criminal investigations. Bank secrecy or other confidentiality laws are not an impediment to providing reciprocal judicial assistance. The basic principles of Ecuadorian domestic law permit granting a controlled delivery request and there are penal and procedural legal provisions that permit the use of controlled delivery.

Ecuador indicates that it does not have a mechanism to recover assets forfeited abroad.

The country reports that it made 4 active extradition requests in illicit drug trafficking cases in 2007, 2 in 2008 and 3 in 2009 (through September). The country made 1 active request in money laundering cases in 2009.

Regarding the number of passive extradition requests answered in illicit drug trafficking cases, the country reports 1 request answered in 2006, 4 in 2007, 1 in 2008 and 1 in 2009 (through September). The country did not provide information on passive extradition requests answered in money laundering cases.

The country did not provide information on requests for reciprocal judicial assistance made regarding illicit drug trafficking and money laundering cases.



EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

In the area of institutional strengthening, CICAD observes that the country has an independent annual budget for the operation of the National Council for the Control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (CONSEP), that the national anti-drug plan is pending approval, and that the Ministry of the Interior was recently designated to lead coordination of drug trafficking policy.

CICAD notes that, in accordance with the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, Ecuador passed legislation related to the Penal Code in 2006. However, the country has not ratified 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 observes that Ecuador has a national drug observatory and a budget allocation for its functions related to organizing and conducting studies, compiling and coordinating statistics, and other drug-related information, and notes that the country carried out a household survey in 2007. In addition, CICAD observes that the country does not have information related to the number of persons charged with and convicted of drug use, possession and trafficking, or the number of drug laboratories destroyed.

Regarding demand reduction, CICAD observes that during the evaluation period, the country offered drug use prevention programs targeting some sectors of the population. CICAD takes note that such programs have not been initiated targeting other specific populations, such as preschool students, out-of-school youth, street children/abandoned children, and indigenous groups. CICAD notes with satisfaction that Ecuador has carried out various types of evaluations of its prevention programs.

CICAD observes that during the evaluation period, the country offered training for professionals on prevention and treatment and rehabilitation. However, CICAD notes that universities in the country do not include subject matter on prevention or treatment in the general curriculum for students.

CICAD views with satisfaction that the country has official operating standards for specialized treatment facilities for persons with problems related to drug dependence and abuse and that there are institutions responsible for supervising their enforcement. CICAD also recognizes that the country has a methodology for licensing treatment programs, as well as a system to register and monitor treatment centers.

CICAD notes that the country has implemented studies to determine drug use in the general population and among high school students. Ecuador conducted a study in 2008 to evaluate the relationship between drugs and crime, through a social and demographic census in prisons.

CICAD notes that Ecuador does not keep records on traffic or workplace accidents related to alcohol or drug use.



With regard to supply reduction, CICAD notes that Ecuador has detected illicit cultivation and has a system to monitor coca cultivation. CICAD takes note that forced manual eradication is used to destroy illicit crops.

CICAD observes that the country implements alternative, integral and sustainable development programs. However, CICAD notes that Ecuador does not have an internal system or mechanism to evaluate the progress or impact of these programs.

CICAD observes that Ecuador has legislation for the control of pharmaceutical products and has an automated information management system to facilitate the control of pharmaceutical products. CICAD notes with satisfaction that Ecuador offers training for personnel in the public and private sectors that are involved in handling pharmaceutical products.

CICAD notes that Ecuador has national laws and regulations for the control of chemical substances. CICAD observes that with regard to controlling the diversion of chemical substances, the country has mechanisms used by the responsible institutions to communicate and share information, a regulatory system, an automated information system, and provisions that permit the imposition of penal and civil sanctions for the illicit production, diversion and trafficking of controlled chemical substances. In addition, CICAD notes that the country offers training courses on the handling of chemical substances.

However, CICAD notes that the country does not have provisions that permit the imposition of administrative sanctions, and does not provided data regarding the quantities of controlled chemical substances seized and disposed of.

Regarding control measures, CICAD recognizes that Ecuador has a mechanism to control illicit drug trafficking. In addition, the country has offered training in the control of illicit trafficking; however, the country does not provide the number of persons trained. CICAD observes that the country maintains a database of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug trafficking, but notes with concern that it does not included data on public officials. The country does not have specific legislation for controlling drug trafficking over the Internet and has not established mechanisms for the general public to report the illicit sale of drugs over the Internet.

CICAD recognizes that Ecuador has official agencies that regulate and authorize legal firearms activities and national laws and regulations in place that establish administrative controls for the manufacture, importation, exportation, and transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. In addition, CICAD observes that the country provided information on seizures of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, but does not have information regarding forfeiture of these materials.

However, CICAD observes that Ecuador does not have records 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 firearms trace requests completed. The country also lacks records of firearms seized during activities related to drug trafficking.



With respect to money laundering, CICAD observes that Ecuador has legislation that criminalizes money laundering and establishes sanctions. Ecuador is a member of the South American Financial Action Task Force (GAFISUD) and has a Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) with jurisdiction in money laundering. CICAD takes note that the country does not have limitations for obtaining financial documents and records in money laundering cases.

CICAD also observes that Ecuador has an entity for the administration and disposal of assets seized and forfeited in cases of illicit drug trafficking, and its constitutional laws contain mechanisms related to the judicial disposition of assets related to illicit drug trafficking activities.

CICAD notes with concern that Ecuadorian law does not permit special investigation techniques for money laundering cases, and the obligation to report suspicious transactions to prevent money laundering does not include lawyers, notaries, accountants, real estate, the insurance sector, and casinos and gambling.

CICAD observes that Ecuador has designated a competent authority, in accordance with regulations, to receive, respond to and process extradition requests. CICAD notes that it is not possible to extradite Ecuadoran nationals for illicit drug trafficking and money laundering offenses; however, domestic law does allow for nationals whose extradition for drug trafficking or money laundering has been denied to be prosecuted for those crimes in its territory. The country does not use secure technological resources to facilitate communication among authorities directing criminal investigations, and there is no mechanism for recovering assets forfeited abroad.

CICAD recognizes Ecuador'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 Ecuador 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. RATIFY THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION, OF THE 2000 UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME.

DEMAND REDUCTION

3. EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF EXISTING PREVENTION PROGRAMS, BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THE EVALUATIONS CARRIED OUT.

SUPPLY REDUCTION

4. IMPLEMENT MECHANISMS TO EVALUATE THE PROGRESS OF ALTERNATIVE, INTEGRAL AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.
5. DEVELOP AN AUTOMATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TO FACILITATE THE SAFE, EFFICIENT HANDLING OF INFORMATION ON CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES THAT ARE CONFISCATED AND DISPOSED OF.

CONTROL MEASURES

6. DEVELOP INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN PLACE TO CONTROL THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF DRUGS AND CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES VIA THE INTERNET.
7. EXPAND THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR'S STATISTICAL DATABASE TO INCLUDE DATA ON PUBLIC OFFICIALS FORMALLY CHARGED WITH AND CONVICTED OF OFFENSES RELATED TO ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.
8. EXPAND THE EXISTING REGISTRY IN ORDER TO INCLUDE THE NUMBER OF FIREARMS FORFEITED IN ILLICIT ACTIVITIES RELATED TO FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS, LINKED WITH DRUG TRAFFICKING.
9. INCORPORATE IN THE RESPECTIVE LEGISLATION, SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES, SUCH AS



UNDERCOVER AGENTS, USE OF INFORMANTS, AND CONTROLLED DELIVERIES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.

10. EXTEND THE OBLIGATION TO SUBMIT SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTION REPORTS TO PREVENT MONEY LAUNDERING TO INCLUDE LAWYERS, NOTARIES, ACCOUNTANTS, REAL ESTATE, THE INSURANCE SECTOR, AND CASINOS AND GAMBLING.

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