

# MEM

## Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism

Inter-American Drug Abuse  
Control Commission  
(CICAD)

Secretariat for  
Multidimensional  
Security  
(SMS)

**Dominican  
Republic**

**EVALUATION OF  
PROGRESS IN  
DRUG CONTROL**

**2007-2009**



Organization of  
American States

**2010**





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

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

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

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- National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD);
- Dominican Armed Forces;
- Navy
  - Operations Division (M-3);
- Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (PGR)
  - Anti-Money Laundering Unit of the Public Ministry;
- Ministry of the Armed Forces;
- Ministry of the Interior and Police;
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
  - Legal Department;
- Supreme Court of Justice;
- National Police (PN)
  - Anti-Narcotics Central Directorate;
- Financial Analysis Unit (FAU).





## 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](http://www.cicad.oas.org).







## INTRODUCTION

The Dominican Republic has a surface area of 48,442 km<sup>2</sup>, with 388 km bordering Haiti. The country is surrounded by the Caribbean Sea to the south and the Atlantic Ocean to the north. Jamaica is located to the west and Puerto Rico to the east across the Mona Canal. The coastline of the Dominican Republic is 1,600 km in length. The country has a population of 9,363,652 comprised of the following ethnic groups: caucasian, black and mestizo. Its literacy rate is 83%. The Dominican Republic is a representative democracy divided into 32 provinces and a National District. The country has a per capita gross national product (GNP) of US\$ 9,375 (2008) and an inflation rate of 10.6% (2008). The Dominican Republic exports a total of US\$ 6,495 billion annually and the main exports include: tourism, goods produced in industrial free trade zones, alloys of gold and processed silver, iron alloy, sugar and its derivatives, gold, silver, green coffee, cocoa, black and leaf tobacco, cigars, canned peas, cocoa butter, coconut milk/oil, dried coconut, bananas, sweet oranges, avocados, cocoa seeds, macadamia nuts, ice cream, processed fruit pulp, sugarcane rum, beer, flowers, tropical plants, beef, handicrafts, and chemical fertilizers.

## I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### A. National Anti-drug Strategy

The Dominican Republic reports that the National Strategic Drug Plan, 2008-2012 is in effect and covers the following areas: institutional strengthening, demand reduction, drug observatory, program evaluation, control measures, treatment, rehabilitation, social reintegration, and money laundering. The country lists the following strategic priorities for the period the plan is in effect:

- Update and strengthen the legal and regulatory framework for drug control;
- Establish and develop a National Drug Observatory and conduct drug-related studies to better understand its impact on the population;
- Increase the coverage of prevention programs that benefit the population, to decrease and prevent drug use;
- Develop a national care system for drug users and drug dependents, improving quality and expanding the current coverage, that includes a national system for social recovery in rehabilitation;
- Prevent the illicit production, distribution and sale of narcotics and controlled substances, strengthening the control mechanisms and law enforcement institutions;
- Prevent the use of the national economic and financial system for money laundering activities.

The government entities involved in the execution of the National Strategic Drug Plan are the National Drug Council (CND), Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS), National



Drug Control Directorate (DNCD), Ministry of Education (SEE), Ministry of the Armed Forces (SEFA), and Ministry of the Interior and Police (SEIP).

The National Strategic Drug Plan, 2008-2012 has an assigned budget. This budget is part of the budget assigned to the National Drug Council, and includes funds from the confiscation of goods, products or instruments deriving from narcotrafficking that the National Committee against Money Laundering allocates for the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

The country indicates that the Plan does not include a monitoring and evaluation system.

The National Drug Council (CND) is the national drug authority responsible for coordinating the execution of the National Strategic Drug Plan. It was created in 1988 pursuant to Art. 19 of Law 50-88 of May 30, 1988, and falls under the Executive Branch. The CND is comprised of a Board of Directors with representatives from the Presidency of the Republic, the Catholic Church, the Armed Forces, and the National Commission for Private Enterprise.

The CND coordinates the following areas: demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, drug observatory, international cooperation and program evaluation. The national authority has a technical office responsible for carrying out its mandates and an independent annual budget with funding derived from governmental allocations, self-financing, contributions from civil society and international cooperation. The country provided the following budgeted amounts pertaining to fiscal years 2006-2009:

Fiscal Year	Total Budget Received (US\$)
2006	1,791,044.78
2007	1,933,464.92
2008	2,168,514.66
2009	2,041,758.18

## B. International Conventions

The Dominican Republic reports that it has ratified the following conventions:

- Inter-American Convention against Corruption, 1996;
- Inter-American Convention against the Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials (CIFTA), 1997;
- United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1953, amended by the 1972 Protocol;
- United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971;
- United Nations Convention against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988;
- United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000, and its three Protocols: Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air, Protocol to



Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; and Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition; and

- United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003.

The Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 1992, is pending ratification.

### C. National Information System

The Dominican Republic reports that it has a nationally centralized office that carries out studies, compiles and coordinates statistics and other drug-related information, with an assigned budget to perform its functions.

In the area of demand reduction, the country reports that it carried out a survey of high school students in 2008 and that it has access to patient records in treatment centers throughout the country.

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

Information	2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
<b>Priority Information</b>								
Drug availability indicators	X		X		X		X	
Quantities of seized drugs	X		X		X		X	
Number of persons charged and convicted of drug use, possession and trafficking	X		X		X		X	
Number of drug labs dismantled	X		X		X		X	
<b>Recommended Information</b>								
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



## II. DEMAND REDUCTION

### A. Prevention

The Dominican Republic reports that it is implementing drug use prevention programs as shown in the following table:

Population Type	Estimated Coverage		Name of Program	Type of Program
	Target Population	% of Coverage		
School and university students				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elementary / primary: 7-11 years</li> </ul>	1,764,062	0.045%	Comprehensive Preventive Education	Universal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High school/ junior high: 12-18 years</li> </ul>	577,752	0.35%	Comprehensive Preventive Education	Universal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>University level</li> </ul>	286,954	0.19%	Comprehensive Preventive Education	Universal
Community	7,319,455	1.0%	Community Prevention	Universal
Workers in the Workplace	3,814,381	0.28 %	Prevention in the Workplace	Universal
Athletes	1,500,000	13%	Sports Prevention	Universal

The country did not implement programs for pre-school students, the street population, families, gender-based groups, indigenous groups, migrants or refugees during the evaluation period.

With respect to the school-based prevention programs, the country reports that these are compatible with the principles of CICAD’s “Hemispheric Guidelines on School-based Prevention”, while the prevention programs in the workplace are compatible with the principles of CICAD’s “Hemispheric Guidelines on Workplace Prevention.”

The Dominican Republic reports that during the years 2006-2009, a variety of training was offered in drug prevention for children, adolescents, youth, parents, students, teachers, psychologists, police and the general public. In addition, courses, workshops and conferences on drug use treatment and rehabilitation were offered for doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists, and governmental and non-governmental institution staff who provide care for drug use problems. With respect to the penal population, the country reports that courses and workshops on prevention and treatment are being held for health care, surveillance, administration, and penitentiary treatment personnel and inmates from different prisons nationwide.



In the area of prevention, the country offered the following non-professional technical training courses during the years 2006-2009:

Non-professional technical training degree	Number of participants			
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Teacher training in drug prevention	0	0	0	160
Seminar on the drug use prevention	1,208	440	1,640	1,882
Risk factors and drug prevention	430	1,920	2,320	1,760
Drug use and abuse	180	145	200	720
Prevention in the workplace	7,486	2,830	4,042	9,042

The country reports that the “Universidad Tecnológica de Santo Domingo (UTESA)”, “Universidad Católica de Santo Domingo (UCSD)” and “Universidad Pedro Henríquez Ureña (UNPHU)” offer an elective course in drug dependency as part of their curricula for social work and psychology. With regard to university-level degrees, the country offers a Degree in Drugs, Law and Citizen Security, at the “Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD)”. In 2009, 52 persons from the Treatment and Rehabilitation Directorate of the National Drug Council, specialized treatment centers and non-governmental organizations received training through the “International Prevention and Treatment Degree” program at the “Universidad Católica de Santo Domingo (UCSD)”.

In addition, the country reports the participation of specialists in regional and international training programs on prevention, treatment and research in drug use.

The Dominican Republic has not conducted process, intermediate outcome, or impact evaluations of drug use prevention programs during the evaluation period, 2007-2009.

## B. Treatment

The National Drug Council (CND) and the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS) of the Dominican Republic have specific responsibilities in the design and implementation of public policies on treatment, financing, and human resources training. The SESPAS is responsible for controlling and regulating the treatment services offered, and the CND is responsible for supervising the programs.

With regard to public funding allocated to treatment activities, the country reports an estimated US\$ 1,571,689 for 2009. The country did not provide data for 2007 and 2008.

The Dominican Republic’s official operating standards for specialized facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use are the Minimum Standards of Health Care in Substance Use, Abuse and Dependence. However, although the National Drug Council is responsible for granting authorization to the programs and institutions working in the areas of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, the country reports that it has not defined the official licensing procedure, to authorize the operation of specialized facilities



that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use. The Dominican Republic clarifies that the prevention and rehabilitation services for drug users and drug dependents are carried out by two officially-licensed private entities, through a license granted by the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS) to operate as centers that offer health care services, and by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operating without this license. They are not officially-licensed. Furthermore, the country has no official register of specialized facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use.

The country reports that the National Drug Council supervises the specialized programs that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use.

The facilities belonging to the Primary Health Care (PHC) Network in the country do not perform specific activities to address problems associated with drug use. The country has no data on the number of cases treated in officially-licensed specialized treatment facilities for problems associated with drug use that were referred from the general health care system (outpatient facilities or hospitals).

The Dominican Republic reports that the National Drug Council receives nationwide information on a quarterly basis from the facilities offering drug dependence care services. However, only partial data on cases treated is available. In this regard, the country indicates that it has an ongoing process to improve the mechanism for data collection, recording and systematization.

The Dominican Republic reports that once the prescription treatment plan is completed, patients are monitored.

The Dominican Republic indicates that the two officially-licensed centers from the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS) offering treatment services for those with drug use problems have professionals on staff with specific training in treatment. The country does not have information available on the number of cases completing the prescribed treatment plan in these facilities, nor the number of these cases reporting satisfaction with these plans.

## C. Statistics on Consumption

The Dominican Republic conducts surveys of the school-based population every 4 years. In the table below, the country provides statistical data on the prevalence of drug use from the School Survey on Students in Primary and High School that was carried out in 2008<sup>1</sup>:

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<sup>1</sup> The data presented in the tables are the substances included in the country's survey, and are a subset of the substances suggested by the MEM.



Year of last survey: 2008	Target population of study: Primary and High School Students Representative sample: Y								
	Lifetime (percentage)			Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	61.9	65.4	63.8	45.8	50.9	48.6	28.9	33.4	31.4
Tobacco	12.5	9.7	10.9	4.3	3.4	3.8	2.4	1.5	1.9
Solvents or inhalants	1.7	0.7	1.1	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.2
Cannabis	2.4	1.2	1.7	1.4	0.6	1.0	0.7	0.2	0.4
Hallucinogens	0.2	0.2	0.2	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Heroin	0.1	0.3	0.2	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Cocaine HCL	1.1	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Crack	1.3	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.2
Tranquilizers, sedatives and depressants	11.2	14.0	12.8	4.9	7.2	6.2	2.4	3.9	3.2
Stimulants	8.7	9.5	9.1	3.8	4.5	4.2	2.5	3.1	2.8
Amphetamines *	0.7	0.5	0.6	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Ecstasy (MDMA)	0.6	0.4	0.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Any type of drug	4.1	2.7	3.3	2.3	1.0	1.6	1.2	0.3	0.7

\* Non-prescribed/ non-therapeutic use.

n.a. – Not available

**Note:** 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.

In addition, the country provides the incidence results from the School Survey on Students in Primary and High School:

Year of last survey: 2008	Target population of study: Primary and High school Students Representative sample: Y					
	Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	38.8	42.2	40.6	18.3	21.0	19.7
Tobacco	3.0	2.2	2.5	0.9	0.5	0.7
Solvents or inhalants	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.2
Marijuana	1.2	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.1	0.3
Cocaine HCL	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.1
Crack	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.2	0.1	0.1
Tranquilizers, sedatives and depressants	4.8	6.6	5.8	1.8	2.1	2.0



Year of last survey: 2008	Target population of study: Primary and High school Students Representative sample: Y					
Type of drug	Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Stimulants	3.0	4.1	3.6	1.2	1.9	1.6
Any type of drug	1.3	0.8	1.0	0.4	0.1	0.2

n.a. – Not available

**Note:** 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.

The age of first use of different drugs for the Dominican Republic’s school-based population from the 2008 survey is shown in the table below:

Population: Students from 12 to 20 years of age	2008	
Type of drug	Average	Median
Alcohol	14.31	13.00
Tobacco	13.75	14.00
Solvents or inhalants	13.78	14.00
Marijuana	14.29	14.00
Cocaine HCl	14.40	15.00
Crack	14.12	14.00
Ecstasy	14.24	14.00
Tranquilizers	14.54	13.00
Stimulants	14.24	13.00
Hallucinogens	14.90	15.50
Heroin	14.29	13.50
Amphetamines	13.75	14.00

The percentage of youth in the country who perceive drug use as harmful to their health and well being according to the 2008 school-based survey is shown in the following table:

Age group: 12 to 20 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	32.0
Often smoke cigarettes	77.7
Often drink alcoholic beverages	74.0





Age group: 12 to 20 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):
Get drunk	74.8
Occasionally take tranquilizers for non-medical purposes	45.5
Often take tranquilizers for non-medical purposes	6.8
Occasionally inhale solvents	39.6
Often inhale solvents	65.7
Occasionally smoke marijuana	45.1
Often smoke marijuana	82.0
Occasionally take cocaine HCL or crack	50.9
Often take cocaine HCL or crack	81.2
Occasionally use other substances that contain cocaine	52.8
Often use other substances that contain cocaine	78.1
Occasionally take ecstasy	49.6
Often take ecstasy	78.2

The country has not conducted studies of the general or university populations.

The Dominican Republic reports that no records are kept on alcohol or drug-related traffic accidents. In addition, it has no record of alcohol or other drug-related accidents in the workplace, nor norms or regulations on prevention activities relating to alcohol or other drug-related accidents.

### III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

#### A. Drug Production

The Dominican Republic reports that although no significant cultivated areas have been identified, illicit cannabis cultivation has been detected and follow-up steps have been taken on the replanting of eradicated areas.

In addition, the country reported the seizure of 99 cannabis plants grown indoors in 2006, 10 in 2007, 20 in 2008, and 8 in 2009.



The Dominican Republic has a formal forced manual eradication program in place for cannabis cultivation. The country reports having eradicated one hectare per year during the period 2006-2008 and three hectares in 2009.

Illicit laboratories for drugs of natural origin have not been found in the Dominican Republic, while those for drugs of synthetic origin have been detected. Furthermore, the country indicates that a ketamine laboratory was dismantled in 2007.

## **B. Control of Pharmaceutical Products**

In accordance with international conventions, Dominican Republic Law 50-88 on Drugs and Controlled Substances of May 30, 1988, and Law 42-01 on General Health, March 8, 2001, regulate the production, transport, traffic, distribution and use and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, integrate the efforts to combat drugs in all fields and create institutional mechanisms and agencies for this purpose.

The Dominican Republic controls all pharmaceutical products listed in the international conventions on narcotic drugs. While nalbuphine, sibutramine and ketamine are pharmaceutical products not listed in international conventions, they are controlled nationally.

The authorities responsible for the coordination of activities related to the control of pharmaceutical products in the country are the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS) and the National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD).

To control pharmaceutical products and prevent their diversion, within the health sector the Dominican Republic is taking actions to control health records, monitor distribution, control and monitor prescriptions, carry out inspections, impose administrative sanctions, and transfer suspicious cases detected by the administrative authorities to the judicial authorities. Similarly, in the private sector, the country is taking measures to control importation and exportation, health records, and manufacturing, monitor distribution, carry out inspections, impose administrative sanctions, register licensees, register quantities of pharmaceutical products sold and manufactured, and impose controls in free trade zones.

The Dominican Republic has an integrated procedure to monitor and prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products. The National Drug Control Directorate has a database which records the approved import and export permits and reports submitted periodically by the import/export companies, manufacturers, distributors, pharmacies, clinics, hospitals and health professionals that handle pharmaceutical products. This database allows the monitoring of controlled pharmaceutical products and detects irregular situations that lead to the initiation of investigations to determine any mishandling of these products.

The country has a regulatory system in place for the control of pharmaceutical products, including three inspectors from the National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD).



The country reports that information exchange with the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS) functions as the channel through which health sector members can communicate and share information with judicial and police authorities to control the diversion of pharmaceutical products.

The following table shows information on the number of licenses and permits issued, as well as the number of inspections carried out in the area of controlled pharmaceutical products in the country:

**Regulatory Activities Related to the Control of Pharmaceutical Products, 2006–2009**

	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>Regulatory Activities</b>				
<b>Number of licenses issued to:</b>	64	69	66	64
Importers	3	3	5	5
Exporters	22	26	30	25
Manufacturers	38	40	46	49
Distributors	1,390	1,364	1,536	1,873
<b>Number of permits issued for:</b>	270	257	244	244
Importation	3	2	0	2
Exportation	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
<b>Regulated Entities</b>				
<b>Number of inspections conducted:</b>				
Pharmacies	Not available	Not available	Not available	18
Importers	Not available	Not available	19	38
Exporters	Not available	Not available	14	22
Manufacturers	Not available	Not available	9	9
Distributors	Not available	Not available	5	3

With regard to training courses for public and private sectors staff who are involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products, the country reports that it does not offer such training.

The automated control of pharmaceutical products covers the entry of raw materials, finished products and delivery, which may include the prescribing doctor, the consuming patient, the distributor, manufacturer, importers and exporters, health institutions and any entity that markets and handles controlled substances.

The Dominican Republic has provisions that provide for penal and civil sanctions for the illicit production, diversion and trafficking of pharmaceutical products. The penal sanctions applied are the following:



Illicit Production
2 to 5 years imprisonment and a fine of US\$ 279 to US\$ 1,390.
Diversion
One-year suspension of the permit or import license and a fine of US\$1,390 to US\$ 2,790.
Illicit Trafficking
5 to 20 years imprisonment and a fine of no less than US\$ 6,970.

Under the country's laws and regulations, administrative sanctions were imposed 10 times in 2007; no administrative sanctions were imposed in the years 2006, 2008 or 2009. Furthermore, no civil or penal sanctions were imposed during the 2007-2009 evaluation period.

The amounts of seized pharmaceutical products reported by the country were, in 2006, 3,413 tablets/capsules of oxycodone; in 2007, 2,498 liters of ketamine; in 2008, 819,500 units of pseudoephedrine/phenmetrazine, and 13.7 kg of pseudoephedrine; and in 2009, 560 kg of codeine, 1,332,299 tablets/ capsules of pseudoephedrine/ phenmetrazine, and 560 kg of pseudoephedrine. Regarding disposal of seized pharmaceutical products, the country reports that all were disposed of using the method of incineration.

### C. Control of Chemical Substances

The Dominican Republic has Law No. 50-88 on Drugs and Controlled Substances, of May 30, 1988, for the control of chemical substances, in accordance with international conventions.

The country controls all chemicals substances that are listed in international conventions. The institutions responsible for controlling the diversion of controlled chemical substances use information exchange between different institutions as a means of communicating and sharing information. The national authorities that have jurisdiction over the enforcement of laws and regulations for the control of chemical substances are: at the administrative level, the National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD) and the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS); at the judicial level, the Attorney General's Office and the Supreme Court of Justice; and at the customs level, the General Directorate of Customs.

The country undertakes the following activities to control the diversion of chemical substances:

Activities	Responsible Entities
National registry of license holders	National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD) Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS)
Licensing control (manufacturing, distribution)	DNCD/SESPAS
Import/export control	DNCD/SESPAS
Inspections	DNCD/SESPAS
Transaction control	DNCD/SESPAS
Distribution control	DNCD
Pre-export notifications	DNCD
Imposition of sanctions	DNCD/SESPAS



The country reports that control activities are carried out under an integrated procedure that includes individuals and entities that are authorized to handle these substances. This integrated procedure works through import and export permits that allow for private sector participation, in addition to the various state agencies that are involved in the manufacturing and control process. However, there are no control activities for final marketing or transport.

The Basic Course on the Identification of Drugs and Controlled Chemical Substances is aimed at officers working on controlling the diversion of chemical substances that enter the National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD).

The registration of licenses for export/import, distribution, and for companies that use controlled substances, reports on use and sale of such substances, and pre-notifications received or sent through the PEN On-line program, form part of the automated system for the safe and efficient handling of information to control the diversion of chemical substances.

The Dominican Republic has provisions that allow for the imposition of penal, civil and administrative sanctions for the illicit production and diversion of controlled chemical substances. The country does not report on the sanctions of illicit trafficking. With regard to penal sanctions applicable to the production, diversion or illicit trafficking of controlled chemical substances, the country has established a 1 year suspension of the permit or import certificate and a fine of US\$ 1,390 to US\$ 2,780.

During the evaluation period, the country reports that there were 3 penal sanctions imposed in 2008 and 1 in 2009.

The Dominican Republic exports controlled chemical substances. During 2006–2009, the following number of exports was made:

Importing / transshipment countries	Number of controlled chemical substance exports made			
	2006	2007	2008	2009
ARUBA	2	0	2	1
BARBADOS	0	0	0	1
COSTA RICA	0	7	7	1
GRENADA	0	1	0	0
GUYANA	0	0	1	3
GUATEMALA	0	3	5	3
HONDURAS	0	0	0	8
JAMAICA	7	26	22	10
PUERTO RICO	5	14	28	25
PANAMA	0	0	7	4
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	15	42	54	25
U.S.A.	0	0	0	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>82</b>



Moreover, during 2006–2009, the country sent the following number of pre-export notifications to importing or transshipping countries:

Importing / transshipment countries	Number of pre-export notifications issued			
	2006	2007	2008	2009
ARUBA	2	0	2	1
BARBADOS	0	0	0	1
COSTA RICA	0	7	7	1
GRENADA	0	1	0	0
GUYANA	0	0	1	3
GUATEMALA	0	3	5	3
HONDURAS	0	0	0	8
JAMAICA	7	26	22	10
PUERTO RICO	5	14	28	25
PANAMA	0	0	7	4
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	15	42	54	25
U.S.A.	0	0	0	1
TOTALS	29	93	126	82

With respect to the number of pre-export notifications issued by the country that were rejected by importing countries, the country reports 1 in 2007 and 1 in 2009.

The Dominican Republic imports chemical substances and controls such substances in transit. During 2006–2009, the following number of imports was received:

Year	Number of imports of controlled chemical substances
2006	345
2007	381
2008	375
2009	395

During 2006–2009, the country received and answered the following number of pre-export notifications:

Number of pre-export notifications received and answered	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of pre-export notifications received by the Dominican Republic	11	37	59	122
Number of responses sent by the Dominican Republic	11	24	59	113
Number of timely responses sent by the Dominican Republic (maximum 15 days)	11	24	59	113



During 2006–2009, the country did not approve the following number of pre-export notifications received from other countries:

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of pre-export notifications not approved by the Dominican Republic	1	2	1	1
Number of investigations initiated by the Dominican Republic	0	0	0	1

Since August 2008, the Dominican Republic has been using the PEN On-line system to process pre-export notifications.

The country provides the following figures regarding the quantities of controlled chemical substances seized: 62 kg of pseudoephedrine in 2008 and 160 kg in 2009. The competent authorities share information on seizures and confiscations in cases of diversion of controlled chemical substances through the commission comprised of the Board of the National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD) and representatives of official and civilian authorities. The country reports that the pseudoephedrine seized in 2008 and in 2009 was disposed of by means of incineration.

## IV. CONTROL MEASURES

### A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

The Dominican Republic reports the quantities of drugs forfeited to the agencies responsible for drug control and interdiction during the years 2006-2009 in the following table:

Type of illicit drug	Quantities of drugs forfeited				
	Unit of measure	2006	2007	2008	2009
Heroin	kg.	257.6	53.7	120.3	38.6
Cocaine HCl	kg.	5,091.8	3,789.5	2,698.4	4,655.7
Crack	gr.	13,465.5	15,263.8	14,463.6	14,987.1
Cannabis plants	un.	175	3,159	3,649	23,906
Cannabis (grass)	kg.	429.2	735.2	378.3	1,405.3
Cannabis resin (hashish)	gr.	1,360.9	29.4	1.5	20.5
Cannabis seeds	un.	480	954	7	72
MDMA (ecstasy) and derivatives	un.	121,882	20,861	17,885	10,166

The Dominican Republic reports that, as of 2009, improvements in the data collection system on persons formally charged and convicted, were thereby allowing for differentiation between the



different types of crimes. Therefore, only the data corresponding to that year was submitted. In this regard, the Dominican Republic indicated that 1,648 persons were formally charged with and 916 were convicted of illicit drug trafficking in 2009.

The country does not have information on the number of public officials formally charged with and convicted of crimes related to illicit drug trafficking during the years 2006–2009.

The illicit possession of drugs for personal use is penalized with imprisonment, ranging from 6 months to 2 years, and with fines of approximately US\$ 40 to US\$ 70. Law 50-88 on Drugs and Controlled Substances (Articles 57, paragraph 1, and 75) is the legal regulation in force. Regarding the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit possession of drugs for personal use, the country reports 3,488 charged and 11 convicted in 2009.

Article 75 of Law 50-88 on Drugs and Controlled Substances criminalizes illicit drug possession. The number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug possession for 2009 was 7,805 and 1,244, respectively.

The competent authorities in charge of controlling illicit drug trafficking are the National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD), in conjunction with the National Police, the various national military institutions (National Army, Navy and Dominican Air Force), the General Directorate of Customs, Port Authority, Port Security Authority (CESA), National Bureau of Investigations (DNI), the Attorney General's Office and the Office of the Prosecutor General. Through joint operations and training and vis-à-vis interinstitutional information network systems, these entities have succeeded in promoting or facilitating the timely exchange of information and internal cooperation among the authorities responsible for controlling illicit drug trafficking

During 2006-2009, the Dominican Republic reports that it carried out training courses on Prevention and Risk Management for Combating Organized Crime, Money Laundering, Corruption and Terrorism, a basic course on Identification and Investigation in Drugs and Controlled Substances, and an advanced course on Drugs and Controlled Substances, and a workshop on Identification and Investigation of Drugs and Controlled Substances for police security forces, customs security forces, prosecutors and judiciary personnel.

Of the ports authorized for international trade, 67% have implemented the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS Code). The entities responsible for coordinating the implementation of the anti-drug port security program are the Port Security Authority, in coordination with the National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD).

The country does not have mutual access to databases to compile, analyze, exchange and share information and intelligence among national and public entities involved in drug control activities in ports. The country uses common interagency databases, standing interagency task forces, and information exchange and sharing between private and public sector, for this purpose.

In addition, the country reports that there is a manual and computerized control mechanism that tracks the movement of commercial and non-commercial vessels at ports. The system is operated





by the Port Security Authority (CESEP) and the information is collected through observation, monitoring and notifications sent by ships to the competent port authority. The CESEP is the entity that has access to this information. The country has a methodology to determine which ships, containers or shipments should be inspected or subjected to a more thorough, physical review.

The Dominican Republic reports that it undertakes maritime detection, surveillance and drug interdiction. The entities responsible for coordinating the monitoring of activities are the National Guard, the Navy and the Coast Guard, with the latter two in charge of coordinating the interdiction operations. Furthermore, the National Police, Customs and Prosecutor's Office participate in surveillance and maritime interdiction activities.

The country reports that as a result of maritime interdiction operations carried out during the evaluation period, 44 ships were seized in 2006, 27 in 2007, 61 in 2008, and 68 in 2009.

In 2006, the country carried out 60 maritime anti-drug operations in collaboration with other countries, as provided in Art. 17 of the Vienna Convention of 1988. The country does not have information for the years 2007, 2008 or 2009.

The Dominican Republic carries out aerial interdiction operations related to narcotrafficking, as well as joint detentions, searches, and seizures. The entities responsible for coordinating monitoring and aerial interdiction operations are the National Police, the National Guard, Coast Guard, Navy and Armed Forces. Moreover, the Prosecutor's Office, Customs, the National Drug Control Directorate and the National Bureau of Investigations (DNI) also participate in these activities.

The country reports that it does not have information on the number of aerial interdiction operations carried out within the evaluation period, 2007-2009, but indicates that 22 aircrafts were seized in 2007, 15 in 2008, and 14 in 2009.

The Dominican Republic has no laws or regulations that could be used to control drug sales via the Internet or that establish jurisdiction or responsibilities for the authorities on this matter. Moreover, the country has not undertaken activities or awareness-raising programs on illicit drug sales via the Internet targeting administrative, judicial, customs, and law enforcement authorities, postal service or other entities. Mechanisms for citizens' complaints regarding illicit drug sales via the Internet have been established electronically and by telephone.

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

The Dominican Republic has Law 36 on Trading, Carrying and Possessing Firearms, Law 262 on Explosive Substances and the Armed Forces Manual of Procedures for the Handling of Firearms, Explosives and Chemicals in force establishing administrative controls for activities involving firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. These laws establish the relevant



monitoring authorities, regulate legitimate transactions between natural person and/or legal entities and other commercial activities, and criminalize illicit trafficking and illicit manufacturing.

The Ministry of the Armed Forces (SEFA) and the Ministry of the Interior and Police (SEIP) are the official agencies that regulate and authorize legitimate activities such as import, transit, purchase, sale, delivery, movement, transfer, marking, registration, transportation, possession, carrying, storage and marketing of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, but they do not regulate their manufacture or export. The Dominican Republic reports that it is not a manufacturer or exporter of firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials.

Violations of the legislation in force on firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials can lead to the application of different sanctions: revocation of licenses, partial or full confiscation, variable fines and prison terms of one month to five years.

In accordance with the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials (CIFTA), the country's legislation requires that firearms be marked at the time of manufacture, for importation and for official use after seizure or confiscation.

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

The country reports that there were no cases in which the authorization of the entrance of a shipment of firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials was not granted because the necessary licenses or permits were not issued, during the years 2006-2009.

The computerized national registry for the import of military equipment and firearms control falls within the Ministry of the Interior and Police (SEIP), where records on import transactions of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials are permanently kept. The Dominican Republic also reports that there is a computerized database on the confiscation of firearms, ammunition and explosives, but not on other related materials. These records on firearms and ammunition are kept permanently, but that is not the case for explosives.

The responsibility for the registration of arms transfers between individuals for follow-up controls from initial sale and beyond rests with the Ministry of Interior and Police.

The country provides, in the following table, the quantities of firearms and other related materials seized and forfeited in narcotrafficking cases during the years 2006-2009. The country did not record any seizure or forfeiture of ammunition and explosives during these years.



Quantities seized		
Year	Firearms	Other related materials
2006	287	Not available
2007	305	Not available
2008	336	Not available
2009	617	34

Quantities forfeited		
Year	Firearms	Other related materials
2006	287	Not available
2007	305	Not available
2008	336	Not available
2009	617	34

The quantity of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials seized in relation to the number of arrests related to narcotrafficking from 2006-2009 is shown in the table below. The country did not seize ammunition and explosives in these circumstances during these years.

Year	Number of arrests	Quantity of firearms	Quantity of other related materials	Number of operations
2006	8,122	287	Not available	7,069
2007	13,840	305	Not available	12,402
2008	17,178	336	Not available	15,628
2009	24,633	617	34	15,277

The quantity of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials forfeited in relation to the number of arrests for narcotrafficking is shown in the table below. No ammunition and explosives were forfeited in these circumstances during these years.

Year	Number of arrests	Quantity of firearms	Quantity of other related materials	Number of operatives
2006	8,122	287	Not available	7,069
2007	13,840	305	Not available	12,402
2008	17,178	336	Not available	15,628
2009	24,633	617	34	15,277

The country reports that it has data on traces requests and investigations launched as a result of international requests since April 2009. During that year, there were 158 international requests for tracing of firearms received, and 9 investigations initiated/assisted and completed.



## C. Money Laundering

The Dominican Republic reports that Law No. 72-02 on Money Laundering Deriving from Illicit Trafficking in Drugs, Controlled Substances and other Serious Offenses, of June 7, 2002, criminalizes money laundering and related offenses and includes the following penalties for noncompliance:

Titles, dates and relevant articles of current national laws that criminalize money laundering and related crimes	Sanction
Law No.72-02, on Money Laundering Deriving from Illicit Trafficking in Drugs, Controlled Substances and Other Serious Offenses provides Article 3 that a person engages in an act of money laundering when, knowing that the property, funds and instruments are the product of a serious infraction:	
a) converts, transfers, transports, purchases, possesses, keeps, uses or manages such property. b) conceals, disguises or impedes the real purpose, nature, origin, location, destiny, movement or ownership of such property or rights related to such property.	Imprisonment of five to 20 years and a fine of 50 to 200 times the minimum wage
c) associates, provides assistance, incites, facilitates, advises in the commission of any of the offenses described in this article, and evades the legal consequences of his/her actions.	Imprisonment of three to 10 years and a fine of 50 to 100 times the minimum wage

In addition, Law No. 267-08 of July 4, 2008 stipulates that money laundering deriving from the commission of terrorist acts will be tried and penalized according to the Law on Money Laundering Deriving from Illicit Trafficking in Drugs, Controlled Substances and other Serious Offenses.

The predicate offenses established by the country for money laundering include serious offenses. Law No. 72-02 stipulates that serious offenses include the following: illicit trafficking in drugs and controlled substances; illicit firearms trafficking; any crime related to terrorism, human trafficking (including illegal immigrants); trafficking in human organs; kidnapping; extortion related to electronic recording and filming by individuals and legal entities; car theft when the aim is to transfer and sell the vehicle in another country; pimping; counterfeiting currency, property titles or securities; state fraud; embezzlement; and extortion and bribery related to narcotrafficking. Moreover, all crimes punishable with a penalty of not less than 3 years are also considered serious offenses.

The country reports that it is not necessary for a person to be convicted of a predicate offense, in order to be convicted of laundering the proceeds of that offense. In that regard, the country adds that under the provisions of Article 5, the violations established in this law as well as cases of financial enrichment derived from criminal activity, shall be investigated, tried, and judged as autonomous offenses, regardless of the predicate offense and independently of whether they were committed in another territorial jurisdiction.

Articles 18 and 19 of Law 72-02 allow for the conviction of the active perpetrator of the predicate offense as the active perpetrator of the crime of money laundering.



The special investigative techniques included in the Dominican Republic's national legislation to investigate cases of money laundering are undercover operations, use of informants, controlled deliveries, wiretapping, electronic surveillance and sentence reduction for cooperating witness.

The Dominican Republic is a member of the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), and the last evaluation was carried out in the country in 2006.

The sectors and activities in the Dominican Republic that are obligated to submit suspicious transaction reports to prevent money laundering are the banking sector, "Off Shore" banks, exchange sector, securities sector, insurance sector, transfers of funds, cash or valuables, real estate, lawyers, notaries, accountants, and casinos and gambling. Additionally, commercial activities are included in these sectors. These activities can call for the regular use of currency and other bearing instruments as a means of recovery, a high unit value of offered items or services, or other relevant circumstances. Without limitation, among these activities are the purchase and sale of firearms, metals, art, archaeological objects, jewelry, ships, planes, and any other commercial activity that, by the very nature of their operations, can be used for money laundering.

All the sectors and activities subject to the obligation of submitting suspicious transaction reports must also submit objective information reports for all cash transactions above the amount of US\$10,000 during a single month. Multiple cash transactions made in one or more offices of the same entity will be grouped and considered as a single transaction, if carried out on behalf of one person.

The Financial Analysis Unit (FAU) in the Dominican Republic was created pursuant to Law No. 72-02, on Money Laundering Deriving from Illicit Trafficking in Drugs, Controlled Substances and other Serious Offenses of June 7, 2002, and is part of the National Committee against Money Laundering. The FAU has an annual assigned budget.

This Unit was not a member of the Egmont during the evaluation period, 2007-2009. The country reports that it cooperates with several relevant authorities in other countries in this regard.

The Dominican Republic reports that it has no limitations on obtaining financial documents and registers in money laundering cases or in obtaining documents in money laundering cases which are subject to secrecy, confidentiality, or reserve agreements.

The country has an Office for Custody and Administration of Seized and Forfeited Assets to manage assets in illicit drug trafficking and money laundering cases. This office forms part of the National Committee against Money Laundering and was created pursuant to Art. 58 of Law No. 72-02 (2002) on Money-Laundering Deriving from Illicit Trafficking of Drugs, Controlled Substances and other Serious Offenses. However, there are no manuals for managing temporarily-seized assets.

The Tax Code allows for the anticipated transfer and/or disposal of seized assets that may depreciate, by auction or public tender, providing that the proprietor of these assets, who is under indictment, does not explicitly oppose.



The Dominican Republic reports that no investigations were initiated in 2006 based on Financial Intelligence Unit reports, while 2 were carried out in 2007, 25 in 2008, and 4 in 2009.

The number of penal proceedings that were initiated for money laundering cases during 2006-2009 was as follows: 1 in 2006, 1 in 2008, and 4 in 2009. There is no information available for the year 2007.

The number of persons who were formally charged and convicted in investigations initiated during the period 2007-2009 is shown in the table below:

Year	Number of persons formally charged	Number of persons convicted
2007	17	0
2008	13	3
2009	1	1

#### D. Judicial Cooperation

The Dominican Republic reports that, according to its laws, extradition on charges of illicit drug trafficking and money laundering and extradition of nationals is permitted. The country has fulfilled the obligation to designate a competent authority, in accordance with the international regulatory framework, to receive, respond to and process requests for extradition.

The domestic legal system provides for the possibility that nationals whose extradition for charges of illicit drug trafficking or money laundering have been denied, may be tried for this crime in their own country. Additionally, it allows for the provision of reciprocal judicial assistance and for such purposes, can take evidence or statements from persons, present legal documents, execute inspections and seizures, examine objects and sites, provide information and evidence, provide original or certified copies of documents and files related to the case, including banking, financial, social and commercial documentation, and identify or trace the proceeds, property, instruments or other elements for evidentiary purposes.

The country uses secure technological resources to streamline the flow of communication between the managing authorities of criminal investigations. Bank secrecy or other confidentiality agreements are not an obstacle or impediment to providing reciprocal judicial assistance. There is no mechanism in the Dominican Republic to recover assets forfeited abroad.

The Dominican Republic reports that it has not made active requests for extradition in cases of illicit drug trafficking and money laundering between the years 2006 and 2009.

The number of passive extradition requests answered in cases of illicit drug trafficking and money laundering is shown in the table below:



Passive extradition requests answered in illicit drug trafficking cases				Passive extradition requests answered in money laundering cases			
2006	2007	2008	2009	2006	2007	2008	2009
n.a.	23	7	18	n.a.	2	1	4

n.a. – Not available

With regard to the number of requests for reciprocal judicial assistance made in cases of illicit drug trafficking and money laundering, the country provides the following:

Requests for reciprocal judicial assistance made in illicit drug trafficking cases				Requests for reciprocal judicial assistance made in money laundering cases			
2006	2007	2008	2009	2006	2007	2008	2009
n.a.	55	37	30	n.a.	55	37	10

n.a. – Not available

Furthermore, with regard to the number of requests for reciprocal judicial assistance answered in illicit drug trafficking and money laundering cases, the country provides the following:

Requests for reciprocal judicial assistance answered in illicit drug trafficking cases				Requests for reciprocal judicial assistance answered in money laundering cases			
2006	2007	2008	2009	2006	2007	2008	2009
n.a.	35	24	28	n.a.	8	6	9

n.a. – Not available



## EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

In the area of institutional strengthening, CICAD observes with satisfaction the existence of the Dominican Republic's National Strategic Drug Plan, 2008-2012 with a budget for its implementation. However, the plan does not have a monitoring and evaluation system to follow-up on the results achieved in the different areas covered.

CICAD notes that the Dominican Republic has a national authority under the Executive Branch responsible for coordinating anti-drug activities. This entity has a legal basis and an independent annual budget for the execution of its duties.

Regarding international conventions, CICAD recognizes the progress made by the Dominican Republic during the evaluation period in ratifying the Inter-American Convention against the Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials – CIFTA (1997); the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air; and 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).

However, CICAD views with concern that the country has not ratified the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (1992).

With reference to a national information system, CICAD notes with satisfaction that the Dominican Republic has established a centralized office to organize, conduct studies, compile and coordinate statistics and other drug-related data, both in the area of demand reduction as well as in the area of supply reduction, and that it has an assigned budget to carry out its responsibilities.

In the area of demand reduction, CICAD takes note that the country has drug abuse prevention programs for various key populations. Additionally, CICAD recognizes that the Dominican Republic is carrying out training on drug use prevention and treatment. However, CICAD views with concern that the country has not conducted process, intermediate outcome or impact evaluations of its drug abuse prevention programs during the evaluation period, 2007-2009.

Regarding treatment, CICAD recognizes that the Dominican Republic offers treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use, and has the Minimum Standards of Health Care in Substance Use, Abuse and Dependence. Nonetheless, CICAD observes that the country has not defined the official licensing procedure to authorize the operation of all specialized facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use. In addition, CICAD notes that the country does not have an official register of specialized facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use.

Regarding statistics on consumption, CICAD observes that the country carried out a study on the magnitude of drug use in the school population during the evaluation period, 2007-2009, and has information on the age of first use of drugs and perceived risk of drug consumption for this population. However, CICAD expresses its concern regarding the lack of information for the general population. In addition, CICAD observes that there are no records on traffic or workplace





accidents related to alcohol or drug use, or norms or regulations on preventive actions for accidents occurring as a result of alcohol and/or drug use.

In the area of supply reduction, with regard to drug production, CICAD takes note of the information provided by the Dominican Republic on the detection, eradication and follow-up on the replanting of illicit cannabis crops, as well as the control of illicit drug laboratories.

CICAD observes that the Dominican Republic has national institutions and legal and administrative provisions to control and monitor pharmaceutical products and prevent their diversion. CICAD recognizes that the country has records of controlled pharmaceutical products seized, as well as mechanisms for the disposal of seized substances. Nonetheless, CICAD notes that the country did not provide specific training for personnel from the public and private sectors involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products during the evaluation period, 2007-2009.

CICAD observes that the Dominican Republic has national institutions and legal and administrative regulations to control and monitor chemical substances and prevent their diversion. However, CICAD observes that the integrated procedure does not control the final marketing or transport of these substances.

In the area of control measures, with respect to illicit drug trafficking, CICAD notes that the Dominican Republic has statistical records on quantities of drugs forfeited during the evaluation period, 2007-2009. CICAD notes that the country has records on persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug possession and illicit drug trafficking. However, CICAD views with concern that these records do not provide information on the number of public officials formally charged with and convicted of crimes related to illicit drug trafficking.

CICAD observes that the Dominican Republic does not have laws and regulations to control the sale of drugs via the Internet.

CICAD recognizes that the country has national laws and regulations in force that establish administrative controls for licit activities involving firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, that regulate licit transactions between individuals and/or legal entities and other commercial activities, that criminalize the illicit trafficking in and illicit manufacturing of these materials and establish the responsible law enforcement entities.

CICAD notes that the country has legislative norms that criminalize money laundering, in accordance with existing international standards. As regards the area of administrative prevention and control, CICAD recognizes that the country has established the obligation of reporting suspicious transactions pertaining to an important number of sectors and activities. Moreover, the country has had a Financial Analysis Unit since 2002 and an entity for the management and disposition of seized and/or forfeited assets.

In the area of judicial cooperation, CICAD notes that the Dominican Republic has legislation that allows for extradition on charges of illicit drug trafficking and money laundering and for extradition of nationals. Moreover, the country has a competent authority designated for such a purpose.



CICAD recognizes that the country's national law allows for reciprocal judicial assistance without limitations, such as bank secrecy or other confidentiality rules.

CICAD recognizes the Dominican Republic'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 the Dominican Republic 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. RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS (1992), A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999–2000.

### DEMAND REDUCTION

2. CONDUCT AN OUTCOME EVALUATION TO MEASURE SCHOOL-BASED PREVENTION PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
3. IMPLEMENT AN OFFICIAL LICENSING PROCEDURE TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF SPECIALIZED FACILITIES THAT PROVIDE TREATMENT SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE.
4. CONDUCT A STUDY TO ESTIMATE THE MAGNITUDE OF DRUG USE IN THE GENERAL POPULATION, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003-2004.

### SUPPLY REDUCTION

5. IMPLEMENT TRAINING ACTIVITIES FOR PERSONNEL FROM THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS INVOLVED IN THE HANDLING OF CONTROLLED PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS, TO PREVENT THEIR DIVERSION.

### CONTROL MEASURES

6. ESTABLISH A JUDICIAL DATABASE CONTAINING INFORMATION ON PUBLIC OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH AND CONVICTED OF CRIMES RELATED TO ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING OFFENSES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
7. CARRY OUT TRAINING AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER 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.



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