

Trinidad and Tobago

Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control 2005-2006

MEM

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism



Organization of American States - OAS
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission - CICAD



**OEA/Ser.L/XIV.6.2
MEM/INF.2006 Add.31**

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

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

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL
2005–2006**



CICAD wishes to thank the following national institutions of Trinidad and Tobago which provided information for this MEM national Fourth Round report:

- Ministry of National Security
 - National Drug Council (NDC)
 - Strategic Services Agency (SSA)
- National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Legal Department
- Ministry of the Attorney General, Central Authority Unit
- Ministry of Health
- Organized Crime Narcotics and Firearms Bureau (OCNFB)
- Police Administration – Firearms Section
- Drugs Inspectorate
- Chemistry, Food and Drugs Division
- Customs and Excise Division
- Counter Drug Crime Task Force (CDCTF)
- Tobago House of Assembly (THA)
- Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre
- Trinidad and Tobago Police Service – Court and Process Branch



PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is a diagnostic tool designed by all 34 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), 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 the 34 member states, which meets before the onset of each MEM evaluation round to review and improve 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 Fourth Round evaluation period 2005–2006. The follow-up report on the implementation progress of recommendations assigned to Trinidad and Tobago will be published in June 2009. All MEM reports can be accessed through the following webpage: www.cicad.oas.org.



INTRODUCTION

Trinidad and Tobago are the southernmost islands of the Caribbean archipelago. The island of Trinidad is separated from Venezuela by the 11km straits of the Gulf of Paria and Tobago lies northeast of its sister island with its closest neighbors being Grenada to the northwest, Barbados to the northeast and Venezuela on the South American mainland. The country has a total area of 5,128 km² with 362 km of coastline and a population of 1.3 million (2006). The main ethnic groups in the country are African, Indian, Chinese, French, Spanish, English, Syrian, and Lebanese. Its literacy rate is 98.6% (2003). Trinidad and Tobago has a parliamentary democracy and is divided into 9 counties, 2 municipalities and 1 district (ward). The country has a per capita GDP of US\$19,700 (2006) and an inflation rate of 8% (2006). Trinidad and Tobago's exports total US\$12.5 billion annually, relying on the principal exports of petroleum and its byproducts, natural gas, chemicals, steel byproducts, fertilizers, sugar, cocoa, coffee, citrus fruits and flowers.

I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

A. National Anti-Drug Strategy

Trinidad and Tobago's National Anti-drug Plan expired in 2004.¹ While there is no dedicated budget for financing anti-drug activities, these are funded by budget allocations to the agencies and units that participate in the anti-drug initiative. Other sources of financing include direct allocation from the central government, specific budget from other public agencies involved in the anti-drug fight, and civil society and international contributions. Taking into consideration the preceding information, the country indicates that it would be extremely difficult to quantify a specific amount to these various activities.

The National Drug Council (NDC) of Trinidad and Tobago was established in 2000 by Cabinet decision and is the national authority responsible for overall coordination of monitoring and evaluation of national anti-drug policies and actions, development programs related to the prevention or reduction of illicit crop cultivation, drug production and trafficking; control measures; the drug observatory; and institutional cooperation. The NDC has a Secretariat, located within the Ministry of National Security, with responsibility for carrying out the Council's mandates and decision.

Trinidad and Tobago reports the following annual budget for the Council, which is the same budget used by the Secretariat to implement the mandates, and which the country indicates is adequate.

NDC's annual budget, 2004–2006

Year	Proposed budget (US\$)	Approved budget (US\$)	Total budget received (US\$)
2004	\$232,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
2005	\$243,809	\$174,603	\$174,603
2006	\$250,000	\$142,860	\$142,860

¹ The country indicates that a new Plan is being drafted and that approval and implementation of the new plan is not anticipated before March 2008.



CICAD notes with concern that Trinidad and Tobago does not have a National Anti-drug Plan for the current evaluation period, 2005–2006.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT A NEW NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN.

B. International Conventions

Trinidad and Tobago has ratified the following international conventions with no reservations:

- Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 1992 (1 June 2004)
- Inter-American Convention against Corruption, 1996 (15 April 1998)
- Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials – CIFTA, 1997 (23 January 2004)
- United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol (23 July 1979)
- United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971 (14 March 1979)
- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982 (25 April 1986)
- United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988 (17 February 1995)
- United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003 (31 May 2006)

The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, its Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and its Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking of Firearms, its Parts and Components and Ammunition were signed by the country on 26 September 2001, but have not been ratified. In addition, Trinidad and Tobago signed and ratified the Caribbean Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Serious Criminal Matters with other member states of the Caribbean Community in 2005.

CICAD views with satisfaction that Trinidad and Tobago has ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption during the present Fourth Evaluation Round, 2005–2006. However, CICAD notes with concern that the country has not ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols.

RECOMMENDATION:

2. RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME, 2000 AND ITS THREE PROTOCOLS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004:
 - A. PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR.
 - B. PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
 - C. PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION.



C. National Information System

The National Drug Council Secretariat is the centralized office responsible for organizing, compiling and coordinating national drug-related statistics and information. During the years 2004–2006, the country carried out a study on drug abuse among secondary school students (2006), a survey of prison inmates, a study of the Impact of Drugs on the Society of Trinidad and Tobago (2005), a survey of juvenile offenders (2005), and studies on the association of drug consumption with cause of death (2004, 2005 and 2006).

Trinidad and Tobago indicates the availability of the following indicators necessary to carry out a study on the economic and social cost of drugs in the country, during the years 2004–2006: number of convictions and length of sentence for drug trafficking, number of persons undergoing drug treatment, type and length of treatment, and arrests for possession and use of psychoactive substances.

The country distributes information related to the drug problem through web sites, libraries, schools, national journals, the press and media, public education displays, and publications by the national drug authority and other government agencies. The country confirms that it has a budget for the dissemination of publications and materials in this area. In addition, there is a help line that provides drug-related information to the general public. This help line is primarily for the “Eva Goes to Foreign” education campaign, but accepts all drug-related calls. Furthermore, the National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program (NADPP) advises that it receives approximately forty (40) calls per day requesting various types of assistance.

CICAD observes that Trinidad and Tobago has a centralized office responsible for organizing, compiling and coordinating drug-related statistics and information and distributes drug-related materials and publications to the general public. In addition, CICAD notes that Trinidad and Tobago has a help line available.

II. DEMAND REDUCTION

A. Prevention

Trinidad and Tobago is implementing a national system of ongoing drug abuse prevention programs targeting key populations. In some cases, programs are initiated by national entities or organizations, such as the National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program (NADAPP), the Organized Crime Narcotics and Firearms Bureau (OCNFB), Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program (DARE), Rebirth House and the Trinidad and Tobago National Council on Alcoholism and Other Addictions.

The country reports that during the evaluation period, preventive programs targeting the following key populations were conducted: primary school students (ages 5–12), secondary school students (ages 11–19), and university students (over 18 years of age). The Trinidad and Tobago National Council on Alcoholism and Other Addictions, through its volunteers and with the assistance of teachers, conducts a prevention program on a semester basis in high schools. Community-based prevention programs were also implemented for adults, together with programs in the workplace and prevention and remedial programs for incarcerated individuals. The country indicates that coverage percentages of the prevention programs cannot be fully ascertained due to the nature of the delivery of the programs. However, the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit within the Ministry of Social Development was established and within its mandate is the evaluation of substance abuse prevention programmes.



Trinidad and Tobago reports that the Caribbean Institute on Alcoholism and Drugs (CARIAD) offers Basic and Advanced training courses in prevention, treatment and research to all persons working in the area of drug demand reduction. The country advises that between 2004 and 2006, a total of 153 persons participated in these courses: 48 individuals in 2004, 55 in 2005, and 50 in 2006 were from Trinidad and Tobago. Diplomas and undergraduate university-level degrees which contain drug-related issues are offered at The University of the West Indies (UWI) in social work, and at the School of Continuing Studies. The country indicates that these courses partially meet the national demand for professional training in prevention and treatment.

CICAD recognizes that Trinidad and Tobago has carried out drug abuse prevention programmes targeting key populations, such as school populations, university students, adults, workplace populations, and incarcerated individuals. The prevention programme in schools provided by the Trinidad and Tobago National Council on Alcoholism and Other Addictions is noted. CICAD also notes the country's establishment of a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit for the review and evaluation of all its programmes.

CICAD is concerned however, that the country does not have community-based prevention programmes for youths outside the school system, nor does the country offer such programmes for women. CICAD further observes that Trinidad and Tobago does not have a mechanism to determine the coverage percentages of the existing programmes.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

3. ESTABLISH A MECHANISM TO ESTIMATE COVERAGE OF DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMMES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
4. EVALUATE DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMMES IN SCHOOLS TO DETERMINE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS.

B. Treatment

Guidelines or regulations on standards of care for drug abuse treatment have not been established in the country. The country does not keep a national registry of treatment services and programs, nor are there any instruments for accrediting treatment services. Drug treatment personnel receive ongoing training in their specialties at CARIAD, as well as in-house training.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that the following drug treatment modalities are available to adults of both genders: Ambulatory outpatient (four public, eight private), and residential in-patient (three public, seven private). Treatment services in the country include a network for early detection, outreach and referral of cases (four public, three private), and detoxification (two public), all of which offer municipal, regional and national coverage.

There is one treatment facility delivering services specifically to women, called Serenity Place. With regard to prisoners, some limited programmes are available. In addition, male juvenile offenders participate in sensitization and education programmes while at the Youth Training Centre. There is no treatment offered specifically for adolescents nor adolescent offenders.

Regarding demand for drug abuse treatment, the country reports that 885 patients received treatment in 2004, 1,106 patients in 2005, and 861 in 2006. However, the country notes that this information is provided by a limited number of facilities. The total number of persons who received treatment is not known.



CICAD recognizes that a treatment centre exists specifically for women, but not for adolescents or adolescent offenders. CICAD observes with concern that Trinidad and Tobago has no established guidelines for drug abuse treatment, nor does it keep a national registry of treatment services and programmes. CICAD also notes that the country does not have any instruments for accrediting treatment services.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

5. ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE FOR DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
6. CREATE A REGISTRY OF TREATMENT SERVICES/PROGRAMMES AND CENTRES WITHIN THE COUNTRY.

C. Statistics on Consumption

Trinidad and Tobago does not conduct drug consumption surveys on a regular basis. Studies have been conducted in which drug consumption data have been obtained, but these studies were not considered strictly drug consumption surveys. Nevertheless, a National Secondary Schools Survey (2006) has been completed and the results for prevalence, incidence, and youth risk perception are reflected in the following tables:

**National Secondary Schools Survey (2006)
Prevalence of drug abuse**

Year of Last Survey: 2006	Estimate for part of the population or part of the country to which estimate applies: Students 13, 15 & 17 year olds								
	Lifetime (percentage)			Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	82.89	84.40	83.73	70.31	69.90	70.08	54.74	46.18	49.99
Tobacco	34.35	23.73	28.44	13.84	9.16	11.23	7.16	4.17	5.50
Solvents & Inhalants	23.17	28.93	26.42	11.02	15.20	13.38	5.81	8.79	7.49
Marijuana	17.80	7.41	11.97	9.66	4.15	6.55	3.95	1.83	2.75
Morphine*	.94	.48	.68	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cocaine HCL	.92	.76	.83	—	—	—	—	—	—
Crack	.77	.71	.74	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tranquilizers / Sedatives/ Depressants	2.27	2.81	2.58	1.32	1.55	1.45	—	—	—
Stimulants	3.54	3.31	3.41	2.49	1.84	2.12	1.85	1.41	1.60
MDMA (Ecstasy)	1.07	.72	.87	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other drugs	4.33	4.17	4.24	4.37	2.85	3.53	2.29	1.51	1.86
Any illicit drug	35.45	34.15	34.73	19.76	18.50	19.06	9.58	10.69	10.19



**National Secondary Schools Survey (2006)
Incidence of drug abuse**

Year of Last Survey: 2006	Estimate for part of the population or part of the country to which estimate applies: Students 13, 15 & 17 year olds					
Type of drug	Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total Population	M	F	Total Population
Alcohol	56.6	58.2	57.5	36.2	36.6	36.4
Tobacco	9.2	6.3	7.5	3.1	2.0	2.5
Solvents or inhalants	7.7	11.7	9.9	4.9	6.0	5.5
Marijuana	4.8	3.1	3.8	1.6	0.9	1.2
Basuco, coca paste	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2
Cocaine HCL	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.2
Crack	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.05
Tranquilizers / Sedatives/ Depressants	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.3
Stimulants	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.2	0.6	0.9
Other drugs	3.5	3.5	3.5	1.4	1.3	1.4
Any illicit drug	13.9	15.4	14.7	6.9	7.2	7.0



National Secondary Schools Survey (2006)
Percentage of youths that perceive drug use as harmful to their health

Category	% of those surveyed who believe that persons who carry out the following activities are at a moderate or great risk (or who think that it is quite harmful or very harmful):
Occasionally smoke cigarettes	69.4
Often smoke cigarettes	91.3
Often drink alcoholic drinks	77.8
Get drunk	84.2
Occasionally take non-prescribed tranquilizers/stimulants	77.6
Often take non-prescribed tranquilizers/stimulants	80.2
Occasionally inhale solvents	61.3
Often inhale solvents	79.8
Occasionally smoke marijuana	75.7
Often smoke marijuana	87.1
Occasionally take cocaine or crack	86.8
Often take cocaine or crack	88.3
Occasionally use coca paste	62.6
Often use coca paste	66.3
Occasionally take ecstasy	68.4
Often take ecstasy	73.5

The country reports no new drugs or patterns of administration of drugs for the years 2004–2006. Trinidad and Tobago reports four drug-related deaths for the evaluation period: two cocaine-related and two as a result of other substances of abuse. The country keeps records on alcohol- and drug-related traffic accidents, as follows:

**Percentage of traffic accidents in which
alcohol and drugs were a contributing factor, 2004–2006**

2004		2005		2006	
Alcohol	Drugs	Alcohol	Drugs	Alcohol	Drugs
42%	13%	44%	17%	30%	16%

CICAD views with satisfaction that Trinidad and Tobago has carried out a drug consumption study among the school population. In addition, CICAD notes that during the evaluation period, 2005–2006, a number of studies have been conducted targeting specific populations.



III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

A. Drug Production

Trinidad and Tobago has a system to detect and quantify the total area of illicit crops. The detected area planted with cannabis was 8.194 hectares in 2004, 14.28 hectares in 2005, and 16.5 hectares in 2006. The country has not detected cannabis crops grown indoors.

Trinidad and Tobago carries out forced manual eradication programs. The cost of this eradication program was US\$2.5 million for 2004 and 2005, and US \$3 million in 2006.

The country reports that no illicit laboratories for organic or synthetic drugs have been found in Trinidad and Tobago.

CICAD notes that the country has a system to detect and quantify the total area of illicit crops, together with an eradication program.

B. Control of Pharmaceutical Products

Trinidad and Tobago reports that it has the following laws and regulations for the control of pharmaceutical products: The Food and Drugs Act No.8, 1960 (enacted 1965); The Food and Drugs (Amendment) Act No.6 of 2005 (enacted 2005); and The Dangerous Drugs Act No.38 of 1991 (enacted 1981). National laws make provisions for penal and administrative (narcotics) sanctions for the diversion of pharmaceutical products. No sanctions were applied during the years 2004–2006. There is a mechanism in place to monitor and prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products, which is applicable to health professionals. The country has a system to compile information on administrative and regulatory activities and sanctions, and reports the following information for the years 2004–2006:

Number of licenses and permits issued and inspections conducted, 2004–2006

REGULATORY ACTIVITIES	2004	2005	2006
Number of licenses issued to:			
Importers	48	48	54
Manufacturers	1	1	4
Other Pharmacies	477	500	498
Number of permits issued for:			
Importation	250	250	185
Number of inspections conducted:			
Pharmacists	54	83	57
Importers	—	3	0

All activities related to the control of pharmaceutical products are coordinated by the Chemistry Food and Drugs Division of the Ministry of Health. All pharmaceutical products containing substances listed in the international conventions are controlled in Trinidad and Tobago. The responsibilities of the Chemistry Food and Drugs Division in the commercial sector include import/export control,



license control, monitoring distribution, inspection, administrative sanctions, registry of licensees, registry of quantities of pharmaceutical products sold, and storage and disposal. In the health care sector, responsibilities include license control and monitoring distribution.

Training courses are not offered for personnel in the public and private sectors involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products, and there is no automated information management system to facilitate the control of pharmaceutical products.

The country provides the following information on the number of seizures and quantities of pharmaceutical products seized for the years 2004–2006:


Pharmaceutical products seized, 2004–2006

Pharmaceutical products	Number of seizures			Unit of measure	Quantities seized		
	2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006
Methylphenidate	2	-	4	Tabs	63	-	4
Valium 2mg	-	2	7	Tabs	-	1,080	35
Valium 5mg	-	2	-	Tabs	-	452	-
Valium 10mg	-	2	-	Tabs	-	5	-
Valium 10mg/ 2ml	-	-	-	Amps	-	-	-
Bromazepan 1.5mg	1	-	1	Tabs	5	-	1
Bromazepan 3.0mg	-	2	-	Tabs	-	270	-
Clonazepam 2mg	1	2	2	Tabs	80	548	23
Clobazam 10mg	-	1	1	Tabs	-	500	20
Flunitrazepam 1mg	1	1	1	Tabs	7	36	1
Triazolam 0.25mg	3	4	-	Tabs	37	264	-
Ativan 1mg	4	4	5	Tabs	362	189	1,242
Lorazepam 2mg	-	5	-	Tabs	-	966	-
Midazolam 7.5mg	1	5	1	Tabs	28	187	35
Duromine 15mg	3	1	2	Caps	56	23	25
Talacen 25mg	1	-	-	Caps	34	-	-
Zopiclone 7.5mg	2	4	-	Tabs	39	36	-
Phenobarbitone 30mg	2	2	-	Tabs	681	1,020	-
Phenobarbitone 60mg	-	5	5	Tabs	-	2,358	2,070
Sodium Phenobarbital	-	-	1	Tabs	-	-	1
Xanax XR 0.25mg	-	1	-	Tabs	-	40	-
Xanax XR 0.5mg	-	5	-	Tabs	-	112	-
Xanax XR 1mg	-	8	-	Tabs	-	212	-
Xanax 1mg	14	1	8	Tabs	281	10	499
Apo-Alprax 0.25mg	-	1	-	Tabs	-	670	-
Apo-Alprax 0.5mg	-	3	-	Tabs	-	100	-
Apo-Diazepam 2mg	-	3	-	Tabs	-	1,539	-
Bellapront	-	1	-	Tabs	-	10	-
Netrazepam 5mg	-	1	-	Tabs	-	365	-
Ritalin 10mg	-	5	-	Tabs	-	130	-
Tranxene 5mg	3	1	2	Tabs	37	1	39
Tranxene 10mg	-	4	-	Tabs	-	98	-
Chlordiazepoxide	4	-	-	Tabs	38	-	-



Trinidad and Tobago indicates that all of the pharmaceutical products seized during 2004–2006 and described in the above table were disposed of.

CICAD notes that Trinidad and Tobago has laws and regulations in place to control pharmaceutical products. However, CICAD views with concern that the country does not offer training courses for personnel in the public and private sectors involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products.

CICAD notes that the country does not have regulations or specific mechanisms in place to prevent and control the illicit traffic of pharmaceutical products and other drugs via the Internet.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

7. IMPLEMENT SPECIALIZED TRAINING COURSES FOR PERSONNEL IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS INVOLVED IN THE HANDLING OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
8. IMPLEMENT AN AUTOMATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TO FACILITATE THE CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
9. CARRY OUT RESEARCH AND TRAINING 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.

C. Control of Chemical Substances

Trinidad and Tobago reports that The Dangerous Drugs Act (Amendment Act) No.27 of 1994; the Food and Drug (Amendment) Act No. 6 of 2005; the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Act No.42 of 1979; and The Food and Drugs Act No.8 of 1960 are the pieces of legislation in place for the control of chemical substances. Trinidad and Tobago's national laws make provisions for penal sanctions for the diversion of controlled chemical substances in accordance with international conventions, but no penal sanctions were applied during the years 2004–2006.

The country indicates that there is a mechanism in place to monitor and prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances. Responsibility for monitoring the import of chemical substances under Act 27 of 1994; conducting routine inspections of manufacturers, importers and distributors; and, when required, imposing administrative sanctions falls to the Drugs Inspectorate. Trinidad and Tobago also reports that an automated system for pre-export notifications has been implemented. All chemical substances listed in the United Nations international conventions are controlled in Trinidad and Tobago.

The country does not offer training courses for administrators, police and customs officers on the control of the diversion of chemical substances. There are no automated information management systems in place to facilitate the secure handling of information on the control of chemical substance diversion.

Chemical substances are imported, exported and handled in-transit. The country reports that it issued no pre-export notifications during the years 2004–2006 to countries importing or transshipping these chemicals. In 2005, Trinidad and Tobago received 79 pre-export notifications for controlled chemical substances (sending 59 timely replies), and in 2006 it received 48 pre-export notifications



(sending 32 timely replies). The country reports that in 2006, four pre-export notifications were not approved and are being investigated.

No seizures involving controlled chemical substances were made during the years 2004–2006.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Trinidad and Tobago has implemented an automated system to handle pre-export notification requests. However, CICAD notes with concern that the country does not offer training courses for personnel in the public and private sectors involved in the handling of chemical substances.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

10. APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF THE PROVISIONS AND PROPOSALS OF ARTICLE 12 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES OF 1988.
11. IMPLEMENT SPECIALIZED TRAINING COURSES FOR PERSONNEL IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS INVOLVED IN THE HANDLING OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.
12. ESTABLISH ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL MEASURES OVER THE AREAS OF LICENCE CONTROL, MONITORING, DISTRIBUTION, INSPECTION, INVESTIGATION, TRANSPORT, CONTROL, AND PRE-EXPORT NOTIFICATIONS OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.

IV. CONTROL MEASURES

A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

Trinidad and Tobago provides the following data for the quantities of drugs seized and the number of seizures by law enforcement agencies during the years 2004–2006:

Seizures and quantities of drugs seized, 2004–2006

Type of drugs	Number of seizures			Quantities of drugs seized		
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
Heroin	2	4	1	16 Kg	21.58 kg	.162 kg
Cocaine Hydrochloride	23	71	56	590 Kg	189.82 kg	324.75 kg
Leaf Cannabis (grass)	21	33	50	1513 kg	554.65 kg	2200.58 kg



The country reports the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug trafficking for the years 2004–2006 as follows:

Persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug trafficking, 2004–2006

Year	Persons formally charged	Persons convicted
2004	725	84
2005	339	52
2006	113	58

The country indicates that during the years 2004–2006, the number of public officials formally charged with offenses related to illicit drug trafficking was as follows: eight in 2004, three in 2005, and seven in 2006. Nevertheless, no convictions were reported.

Regarding persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug possession during the years 2004–2006, Trinidad and Tobago provides the following data:

Persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug possession, 2004–2006

Year	Persons formally charged	Persons convicted
2004	2,125	84
2005	1,642	1,046
2006	5,486	585

Trinidad and Tobago reports that the possession of drugs is criminalized in the country. There are no laws permitting the possession of drugs for personal use. While the law makes provision for fines and/or imprisonment for this offense, many magistrates also utilize Community Service Orders as an alternative to incarceration. The country reports that 6,711 persons were arrested for illicit possession of drugs in 2004; 3,547 persons were arrested in 2005; and 5,486 persons were arrested in 2006.

In the area of judicial cooperation requests regarding illicit trafficking, the country made no requests to other states in 2004, five in 2005, and 11 in 2006, and all the requests made were granted. The country received seven judicial cooperation requests from other states in 2004 and issued six replies granting the requests. Likewise, the country received four requests in 2005 and 23 in 2006, with the same number of replies granting the requests. These statistics are inclusive of the offenses of drug trafficking and money laundering.

The country reports that the Ministry of the Attorney General is the authority responsible for judicial cooperation and for making and receiving extradition requests. During the year 2004, the country made no extradition requests in illicit drug trafficking and money laundering cases. In 2005, three requests were made, and in 2006 four requests were made. All requests were approved.

Trinidad and Tobago's law permits extradition of its nationals. The country advises that it received nine requests for extradition in illicit drug trafficking cases in 2005, and three in 2006. All were granted.



Specialized training courses have been developed to address illicit drug trafficking. The country reports that its training needs have been satisfied by two courses delivered in Trinidad and Tobago, and specialized training in other countries.

CICAD acknowledges that Trinidad and Tobago has operational as well as regulatory mechanisms in place to control illicit drug trafficking activities. CICAD also notes with satisfaction that the country maintains a record of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug trafficking.

B. Firearms and Ammunition

The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) is responsible for the following control activities related to firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials: issuance of import and in-transit licenses and authorizations; issuance of export licenses; cancellation of licenses and authorizations; and information exchange within the country among relevant national entities (Central Intelligence Unit). The TTPS, Coastguard, T&T Regiment and Customs and Excise Division are the entities responsible for confiscation or forfeiture of illicitly trafficked firearms and ammunition, while the TTPS and Interpol are responsible for information exchange with relevant national entities in other countries. Confiscation or forfeiture of illicitly trafficked explosives and other related materials falls under the TTPS, Coastguard, T&T Regiment and the Special Anti-Crime Unit of Trinidad and Tobago (SAUTT).

The country states that The Firearms Act, the Explosives Act, and the Customs Act criminalize the illicit trafficking in and manufacture of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. Further, these laws establish administrative controls over the illicit trafficking in and manufacture of these materials, including their importation, exportation and in-transit movement.

Regarding the number of persons that were formally charged with illicit possession of and trafficking in firearms and ammunition, Trinidad and Tobago reports 215 persons in 2004, 325 in 2005, and 974 in 2006. Furthermore, the country indicates that 83 persons were convicted in 2004, none in 2005, and 127 in 2006. No persons were formally charged with illicit possession and trafficking of explosives during the evaluation period, 2005–2006.

Trinidad and Tobago reports the following confiscations of firearms, ammunitions and explosives for the years 2004–2006, but no confiscations were made of other related materials during the same period:

Confiscated firearms, ammunition and explosives, 2004–2006

Year	Quantity of confiscated firearms	Quantity of confiscated ammunition	Quantity of confiscated explosives
2004	110	1,673	7
2005	74	3,155	0
2006	208	2,650	0
TOTAL	392	7,478	7



The country provides the following information regarding the quantities of firearms and ammunition confiscated in connection with arrests for illicit drug trafficking offenses:

Firearms and ammunition confiscated in connection with arrests for illicit drug trafficking, 2004–2006

Year	Number of arrests	Quantity of confiscated firearms	Quantity of confiscated ammunition	Number of operations
2004	142	94	1,673	20
2005	24	25	1,598	25
2006	45	8	1612	19

The country has a national database system that maintains a record of the importation, exportation and transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. The records are not computerized, and are kept for a maximum of three years.

The entities in Trinidad and Tobago responsible for information exchange with agencies in other countries regarding control of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials are the Firearms Working Sub-Committee of the Strategic Services Agency, the Organized Crime Narcotics and Firearms Bureau (OCNFB) and Interpol.

The Caribbean Information System Network (CISNET) and the interagency communication system E999 are used by the country to facilitate information exchange and collaboration among the national entities, and written correspondence under the authority of the OCNFB to facilitate information exchange and collaboration with similar agencies in other countries.

CICAD notes that the country has a mechanism to control the import, export and in-transit movement of firearms, explosives, ammunition and other related materials. CICAD views with satisfaction the information system maintained by the country on control activities in this area.

C. Money laundering

The Proceeds of Crime Act 2000 criminalizes money laundering as an autonomous offense. The Act provides for the following predicate offenses: illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in firearms, kidnapping, extortion, corruption, fraud, terrorism, and other specific offenses under the Income Tax Act and the Copyright Act. It does not include trafficking of human beings and human organs. The country reports that during the evaluation period, 2005–2006, two persons were formally charged with money laundering in 2006.

In addition, the Proceeds of Crime Act provides for limited use of special investigation techniques to assist in the suppression of money laundering. The country reports that there are no national laws that authorize undercover investigations, electronic surveillance, use of informants or controlled deliveries. Administrative controls to prevent money laundering apply to banks, stock exchange, insurance, casinos and real estate. However, they do not apply to currency exchanges, lawyers, notaries, accountants, or cross border movement of money and other negotiable bearer instruments.



Control measures exist in the country mandating client identity verification, records preservation, know your clients policies, know your employees policies, and prohibition of anonymous accounts. There are, however, no control measures for the reporting of large transactions; maintaining a client registry or a transaction registry; or the existence of enforcement officials or independent audits.

Trinidad and Tobago has a Financial Investigations Unit (FIU), which is an agency of the Ministry of National Security. The Unit consists of six professionals, has its own budget, and conducts analysis, reports its findings, investigates, and receives and communicates information, but does not regulate or apply sanctions. The FIU is not a member of the Egmont Group; however, the country reports that under its Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 39 of 1997, it can exchange information with designated countries without a signed MOU.

The country reports that it is mandatory for financial institutions and other responsible entities to report suspicious or unusual transactions to the competent authorities. During the years 2004–2006, the number of suspicious transaction reports received and investigated is as follows:

Number of suspicious transaction reports received and investigated, 2004–2006

Year	Number of suspicious transaction reports received	Number of suspicious transaction reports investigated
2004	88	88
2005	95	95
2006	110	110

Bank documents and financial records can be requested in accordance with the existing law for the purposes of financial intelligence and indictment. The country reports that Act 55 of 2000 provides for information to be obtained from financial institutions through production orders granted by a judge. The bank and other financial documents obtained during the years 2004–2006 are as follows:

Bank and other financial documents obtained, 2004–2006

Year	Number of money laundering cases	Number of requests for bank or other financial institution documents	Number of cases in which bank documents and financial records were provided
2004	2	18	18
2005	0	18	18
2006	0	6	6

Trinidad and Tobago's national law authorizes the sharing of forfeited goods in cases involving more than one country. The Ministry of Finance is the entity responsible for the management and disposition of assets seized and forfeited for both illicit drug trafficking and money laundering offenses. No property was reported as having been forfeited during the evaluation period, 2005–2006.

The authority responsible for making and receiving international cooperation requests is the Central



Authority Department of the Ministry of the Attorney General. The country reported that no requests were made or received to freeze assets in money laundering cases during the evaluation period, 2005–2006.

Money laundering is an extraditable offense in Trinidad and Tobago and the country permits extradition of its own nationals. The Central Authority Department of the Ministry of the Attorney General is the authority responsible for making extradition requests in money laundering cases, as well as receiving extradition requests. During the years 2004–2006, the country made one extradition request in 2006, and received one in 2005 and two in 2006. The request received in 2005 was granted, while the 2006 requests are pending.

CICAD recognizes that Trinidad and Tobago has legislation on money laundering, but views with concern that trafficking of human beings and human organs are not considered predicate offenses. Other gaps also exist with regard to the lack of administrative controls on currency exchanges, lawyers, notaries, accountants, and cross border movement of money and other negotiable bearer instruments, and special investigation techniques such as undercover operations, telephone tapping, and controlled deliveries.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

13. EXPAND THE LIST OF PREDICATE OFFENSES FOR MONEY LAUNDERING TO INCLUDE ALL CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES CONSIDERED SERIOUS CRIMES UNDER THE PALERMO CONVENTION (PUNISHABLE BY A MAXIMUM PRISON SENTENCE OF AT LEAST FOUR YEARS OR A MORE SERIOUS PENALTY), A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
14. ADOPT LEGISLATION TO EXERCISE TIGHTER ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS OVER CURRENCY EXCHANGES, CROSS BORDER MOVEMENT OF MONEY AND OTHER NEGOTIABLE BEARER INSTRUMENTS, LAWYERS, NOTARIES AND ACCOUNTANTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
15. ADOPT LEGISLATION TO ALLOW SPECIAL INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES, SUCH AS UNDERCOVER OPERATIONS, TELEPHONE TAPPING, AND CONTROLLED DELIVERIES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.



CONCLUSIONS

CICAD views with satisfaction that Trinidad and Tobago has ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption (2003) during the present Fourth Evaluation Round, and has signed and ratified the Caribbean Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Serious Criminal Matters with other CARICOM countries. However, CICAD notes with concern that the country has not ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) and its three Protocols.

CICAD notes with concern that Trinidad and Tobago does not have a National Anti-Drug Plan for the evaluation period, 2005–2006.

CICAD observes that Trinidad and Tobago has a centralized office responsible for organizing, compiling and coordinating drug-related statistics and information, and also notes the availability of a help line.

CICAD recognizes that Trinidad and Tobago has carried out drug abuse prevention programmes targeting key populations, such as school populations, university students, adults, workplace populations and incarcerated individuals. The prevention programme in schools provided by the Trinidad and Tobago National Council on Alcoholism and Other Addictions is also acknowledged. CICAD also notes the country's establishment of a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit for the review and evaluation of all its programmes.

CICAD is concerned however, that the country does not have community-based prevention programmes for youths outside the school system, nor does the country have such programmes for women. CICAD further notes that Trinidad and Tobago does not have a mechanism to determine the coverage percentage of the existing programmes.

CICAD observes that a treatment centre exists specifically for women, but not for adolescents or adolescent offenders. CICAD views with concern that Trinidad and Tobago has no established guidelines for drug abuse treatment, nor does it keep a national registry of treatment services and programmes. CICAD also notes that the country does not have any instruments for accrediting treatment services.

CICAD views with satisfaction that Trinidad and Tobago has carried out a drug consumption study among the school population. In addition, CICAD notes that during the evaluation period, 2005–2006, a number of studies have been conducted targeting specific populations.

CICAD recognizes that the country has a system to detect and quantify the total area of illicit crops, together with an eradication program.

CICAD acknowledges that Trinidad and Tobago has laws and regulations in place to control pharmaceutical products. However, CICAD views with concern that the country does not offer training courses for personnel in the public and private sectors involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products.

CICAD notes that the country does not have regulations or specific mechanisms in place to prevent and control the illicit traffic of pharmaceutical products and other drugs via the Internet.

CICAD views with satisfaction that Trinidad and Tobago has implemented an automated system to deal with pre-export notification requests for controlled chemical substances. However, CICAD expresses concern that the country does not offer training courses for personnel in the public and private sectors involved in the handling of chemical substances.



CICAD acknowledges that Trinidad and Tobago has operational as well as regulatory mechanisms in place to control illicit drug trafficking activities. CICAD also views with satisfaction that the country maintains a record of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug trafficking.

CICAD observes that the country has a mechanism to control the import, export and in-transit movement of firearms, explosives, ammunition and other related materials. CICAD views with satisfaction the information system maintained by the country on control activities in this area.

CICAD recognizes that Trinidad and Tobago has legislation on money laundering, but views with concern that trafficking of human beings and human organs are not considered predicate offenses. Other gaps also exist with regard to the lack of administrative controls on currency exchanges, lawyers, notaries, accountants, and cross border movement of money and other negotiable bearer instruments, and special investigation techniques such as undercover operations, telephone tapping, and controlled deliveries.



SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are assigned to Trinidad and Tobago 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 AND IMPLEMENT A NEW NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN.
2. RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME, 2000 AND ITS THREE PROTOCOLS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004:
 - A. PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR.
 - B. PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
 - C. PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION.

DEMAND REDUCTION

3. ESTABLISH A MECHANISM TO ESTIMATE COVERAGE OF DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMMES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
4. EVALUATE DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMMES IN SCHOOLS TO DETERMINE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS.
5. ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE FOR THE TREATMENT OF DRUG ABUSE, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
6. CREATE A REGISTRY OF TREATMENT SERVICES/PROGRAMMES AND CENTERS WITHIN THE COUNTRY.

SUPPLY REDUCTION

7. IMPLEMENT SPECIALIZED TRAINING COURSES FOR PERSONNEL IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVED IN THE HANDLING OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
8. IMPLEMENT AN AUTOMATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TO FACILITATE THE CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
9. CARRY OUT RESEARCH AND TRAINING 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.
10. APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF THE



PROVISIONS AND PROPOSALS OF ARTICLE 12 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES OF 1988.

11. IMPLEMENT SPECIALIZED TRAINING COURSES FOR PERSONNEL IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVED IN THE HANDLING OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.
12. ESTABLISH ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL MEASURES OVER THE AREAS OF LICENCE CONTROL, MONITORING, DISTRIBUTION, INSPECTION, INVESTIGATION, TRANSPORT, CONTROL, AND PRE-EXPORT NOTIFICATIONS OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.

CONTROL MEASURES

13. EXPAND THE LIST OF PREDICATE OFFENSES FOR MONEY LAUNDERING TO INCLUDE ALL CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES CONSIDERED SERIOUS CRIMES UNDER THE PALERMO CONVENTION (PUNISHABLE BY A MAXIMUM PRISON SENTENCE OF AT LEAST FOUR YEARS OR A MORE SERIOUS PENALTY), A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
14. ADOPT LEGISLATION TO EXERCISE TIGHTER ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS OVER CURRENCY EXCHANGES, CROSS BORDER MOVEMENT OF MONEY AND OTHER NEGOTIABLE BEARER INSTRUMENTS, LAWYERS, NOTARIES AND ACCOUNTANTS, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
15. ADOPT LEGISLATION TO ALLOW SPECIAL INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES SUCH AS, UNDERCOVER OPERATIONS, TELEPHONE TAPPING, AND CONTROLLED DELIVERIES, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.









www.cicad.oas.org

Organization of American States - OAS
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission - CICAD
1889 F Street, N.W. Washington D.C. 20006