



**ORGANIZATION OF  
AMERICAN STATES (OAS)**



**MEM**

**MULTILATERAL EVALUATION  
MECHANISM (MEM)**

**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE  
CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)**

**SECRETARIAT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL  
SECURITY (SMS)**

# Argentina

Evaluation Report on Drug Control

2014





Organization of  
American States

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**Organization of American States (OAS)  
Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)  
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)**

**Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)**

# Argentina

**EVALUATION REPORT ON DRUG CONTROL  
2014**

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## 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 on the implementation level of the Plan of Action of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy of member states of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD). As part of the Secretariat of Multidimensional Security (SMS), CICAD is the OAS specialized agency responsible for the implementation of this Mechanism, 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 valuable source of information on the progress achieved by the individual and collective efforts of the governments of OAS member states, thus strengthening hemispheric cooperation, promoting dialogue among governmental authorities of member states and precisely channeling assistance to areas requiring greater attention by optimizing resources. The MEM process in itself is assessed by the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) comprised of delegations from all member states, which meets before the onset of each evaluation round to review and strengthen all operational aspects of the mechanism.

The national evaluation reports for the Sixth Round collect the results of the level of implementation of the 27 recommendations, emanating from the Plan of Action 2011-2015 of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2010, and were drafted by experts in the different areas, assigned by each member state. Experts do not work on their own country's report, guaranteeing the transparent, objective and multilateral nature of the MEM. Each chapter is based on countries' responses to a survey covering the main thematic areas of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy: institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction<sup>1</sup>, control measures and international cooperation, as well as additional and updated information, provided by the government-appointed coordinating entities.

This report covers the country evaluation for the MEM Sixth Evaluation Round, which covers the 2013 to mid-2014 period. All MEM reports are available through the following webpage: <http://www.cicad.oas.org>.

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the CICAD Commissioner's agreement at their fiftieth regular session (November 2011), the supply reduction chapter refers exclusively to the topic of illicit crops. For this reason, the CICAD Commissioners decided, at their fifty-fourth regular session (December 2013), that the recommendations in this chapter (11 to 15) would only be applied to those countries that have significant illicit crops.





## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### **RECOMMENDATION 1**

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL DRUG AUTHORITIES, PLACING THEM AT A HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL, WITH THE MISSION TO COORDINATE THE EFFECTIVE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina has a national drug authority, the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR) which is directly connected to the office of the Presidency of Argentina, and has a legal basis and a budget. The national authority coordinates the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, the drugs observatory, international cooperation and program evaluation. The country has a coordination mechanism to carry out the effective planning and implementation of national drug policies.



## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### RECOMMENDATION 2

DESIGN, IMPLEMENT, STRENGTHEN AND UPDATE NATIONAL EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES AND POLICIES ON DRUGS.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

Argentina has the Drug Dependency Comprehensive Prevention and Control of Illicit Drug Trafficking Federal Plan 2012-2017 which includes the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures and international cooperation. The relevant actors in priority areas participate in the design, drafting and execution of the Federal Plan that has a monitoring and evaluation framework.

Argentina has not updated policies, plans and programs in accordance with the evaluation of the Federal Plan.





## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### RECOMMENDATION 3

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL OBSERVATORIES ON DRUGS OR SIMILAR TECHNICAL OFFICES TO DEVELOP NATIONAL DRUG INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND FOSTER SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ON THIS SUBJECT.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

Argentina has an Observatory on Drugs. The country has two priority studies in drug demand reduction and all of the priority information regarding drug supply reduction. A study on the economic and social costs of drugs was carried out. The country disseminates information on drug demand and supply to all relevant parties.

Argentina has not carried out studies on access to patient registers of treatment centers.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 4

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT COMPREHENSIVE DEMAND REDUCTION POLICIES, PLANS AND/OR PROGRAMS.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

Argentina has comprehensive demand reduction programs that include the areas of prevention, early intervention, treatment and rehabilitation, social reinsertion, and related recovery support services. These programs have been designed using the available evidence in this area. A gender perspective is included in their design, implementation, and evaluation. All the programs are based on relevant data on drug use prevalence and trends, compiled through surveys. Monitoring of said programs is carried out for universal prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, social reinsertion, and related recovery support services. In addition, evaluations are carried out for universal prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, and social reinsertion. Updates to the programs are based on the results of the evaluations, and a multisectoral approach was adopted, with the participation of various sectors of the population.

Argentina does not evaluate the implementation of programs on recovery support services. The country does not monitor nor evaluate selective and indicated prevention programs or early intervention.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 5

DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF EVIDENCE-BASED UNIVERSAL, SELECTIVE, AND INDICATED PREVENTION PROGRAMS, WITH MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES, AIMED AT DISTINCT TARGET POPULATIONS, INCLUDING AT-RISK GROUPS.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina has universal, selective and indicated prevention programs addressing drug use. Selective and indicated prevention programs vary based on risk factors, and are geared to specific population groups. The country has a comprehensive prevention system.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 6

PROMOTE THE INTEGRATION OF TREATMENT AND RECOVERY PLANS AND PROGRAMS INTO THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM AND ADDRESS DRUG DEPENDENCE AS A CHRONIC, RELAPSING DISEASE.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

Argentina has a network of public health system facilities responsible for addressing health issues in its population, ranging from primary health-care centers to hospitals and mental health facilities. These public health system facilities carry out drug use early detection, offer guidance and brief intervention, and systematically refer persons affected by drug use to treatment, in a process that involves the entire national public health system, its clinics and hospitals, and non-governmental organizations and private institutions. The public health system offers residential and out-patient treatment, rehabilitation, aftercare and recovery support services, which are primarily provided by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private healthcare centers, community organizations, and religious and self-help institutions. The country has an accreditation system for treatment and rehabilitation centers, which is coordinated by government agencies. The facilities of the public health system offering treatment and rehabilitation services, work in coordination with other sectors.

Argentina's public health system does not have systems for monitoring treatment and rehabilitation programs nor does it have screening instruments for early detection of drug use.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 7

FACILITATE ACCESS FOR DRUG-DEPENDENT PERSONS TO A SYSTEM OF DRUG TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, SOCIAL REINSERTION, AND RECOVERY SERVICES THAT ARE EVIDENCE-BASED AND FOLLOW INTERNATIONALLY-ACCEPTED QUALITY STANDARDS.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina undertakes actions to facilitate access to treatment, rehabilitation, and social reinsertion for different population groups affected by drug use. The treatment, rehabilitation, and social reinsertion interventions are tailored to the population profiles being served.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### **RECOMMENDATION 8**

EXPLORE THE MEANS OF OFFERING TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, SOCIAL REINSERTION AND RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES TO DRUG-DEPENDENT CRIMINAL OFFENDERS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION OR IMPRISONMENT.

**Evaluation:** Not applicable



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATION 9

STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS AND SPECIALIZED NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs), IN ORDER TO GENERATE EVIDENCE ON THE DEMAND FOR DRUGS.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina has a national drug authority that maintains cooperative relations with academic and research institutions, civil society organizations and relevant public institutions that address topics related to reducing the demand for drugs. The information produced by academic and research institutions and civil society organizations is used in demand reduction policies, plans, and programs. The country supports the capacity of academic and research institutions and civil society organizations by exchanging information and producing evidence based reports on issues related to drug use.



## DEMAND REDUCTION

### **RECOMMENDATION 10**

PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN TRAINING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION OF PROFESSIONALS, TECHNICIANS AND OTHERS INVOLVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEMAND REDUCTION ACTIVITIES.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina has introductory training programs and continuing education courses in the area of demand reduction, which are geared to those involved in implementing activities in this area. There is also cooperation with international agencies to implement these courses. The country offers training programs at the certificate, diploma, undergraduate and graduate levels, which focus on science-based approaches and best practices, and its technical and professional experts participate in advanced training programs on the topic at the international level. Specialized training programs in demand reduction include a gender perspective. The country conducts regular evaluations to ensure that demand reduction training meets the country's personnel needs, and the outcomes of the evaluations are used to improve and update the training programs.





## SUPPLY REDUCTION

### RECOMMENDATIONS 11–15

**Evaluation:** Not applied

In consideration of Argentina's situation, CICAD agreed not to apply any category from the evaluation scale to the following recommendations, given that the country does not have significant illicit crop areas:

**RECOMMENDATION 11:** ADOPT AND/OR IMPROVE COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED MEASURES AIMED AT REDUCING THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS.

**RECOMMENDATION 12:** ADOPT AND/OR IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS MECHANISMS WITH A VIEW TO CARRYING OUT ASSESSMENTS THAT WILL FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC POLICIES AIMED AT THE REDUCTION OF THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS.

**RECOMMENDATION 13:** PROMOTE STUDIES AND RESEARCH THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND MONITORING OF NEW AND EMERGING TRENDS THAT COULD PROVIDE UPDATED INFORMATION ON THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS.

**RECOMMENDATION 14:** ACCORDING TO THE NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, ADOPT COMPREHENSIVE MEASURES, SUCH AS INTEGRAL AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVES.

**RECOMMENDATION 15:** PROMOTE ACTIONS TO REDUCE THE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT CAUSED BY THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL POLICIES.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### **RECOMMENDATION 16**

IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS TO PREVENT AND REDUCE THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION OF PLANT-BASED AND SYNTHETIC DRUGS.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

Argentina has mechanisms to detect, identify and compile information related to laboratories for the illicit manufacturing of plant-based and synthetic drugs. The country implements and takes part in ongoing training programs on the detection and dismantling of this type of laboratories, for law enforcement agents responsible for carrying out control activities in this area.

Argentina does not have protocols for dismantling laboratories for the illicit manufacture of plant-based or synthetic drugs.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 17

ADOPT OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES TOWARDS ILLICIT ACTIVITIES.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina has legislation in accordance with the terms of Articles 3 and 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. The country has criminalized the intentional manufacture, transport or distribution of equipment, materials or substances to be used for the illicit cultivation, production or manufacture of narcotics or psychotropic substances. Argentina has regulations on monitoring controlled chemical substances in the international trade area, and on cooperation with other States, as well as regulations to control the manufacture of and the internal distribution channels. In addition, the country has an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling these substances, and controls, via the licensing of manufacturers and distributors, and the production and use of the substances manufactured or distributed. The country conducts regular inspections and audits of establishments that have been authorized to handle controlled chemical substances and imposes administrative sanctions on individuals or corporations that handle them for infractions or violations. The country has an authority responsible for coordinating international trade control activities for those chemical substances subject to controls, in order to prevent their diversion, including the issuance of and timely response to pre-export notifications for these substances.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 18

ADOPT OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF NARCOTICS, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS WITH PSYCHOACTIVE PROPERTIES AND THOSE USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF SYNTHETIC DRUGS.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina has legislation for the control of narcotics, psychotropic substances and preparations containing them, implementing the mechanisms established in the United Nations Single Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971. The country has a national central authority that coordinates implementation of control mechanisms to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and preparations containing them for medical and scientific purposes, and to prevent their diversion to illicit activities. Argentina implements mechanisms to estimate domestic requirements for narcotics, and its legislation provides for the application of administrative and civil penalties when there are infractions or violations of the regulations governing the work of medical professionals, managers, administrators, and legal representatives of establishments that handle narcotics, psychotropic substances, and psychoactive pharmaceutical products.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 19

ENSURE THE ADEQUATE AVAILABILITY OF NARCOTICS NEEDED FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC USE.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina conducts periodic evaluations of the availability of narcotics and psychotropic substances, which include trends in the use of licit substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes, bearing in mind, inter alia, the recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO). The evaluation includes an analysis of impediments to adequate availability, since the "Vale Federal" Project, a web-based database of psychotropic substance and narcotic drug sales throughout the country, is currently underway. Its purpose is to shorten the time necessary for these sales to comply with regulations, as well as to monitor commercial sales of these substances. A pilot plan for hospitals is in effect to provide methadone for palliative care.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 20

#### STRENGTHEN NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED CRIMES.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina conducts periodic evaluations of the strengths and weaknesses of the entities responsible for the control of drug trafficking and related crimes, and has audit and evaluation systems for all public sector entities. In addition, the country participates in ongoing training programs on this control area, and has formal mechanisms for the exchange of information among the responsible institutions. The country's laws and regulations regarding interdiction and border control provide a suitable framework for the prevention of drug trafficking by air, sea, and land, and there are provisions for the safe and final disposal of seized drugs. Also, there are plans to address the prevention of drug trafficking.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 21

#### IDENTIFY NEW TRENDS AND PATTERNS REGARDING ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED CRIMES.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina conducts analyses and studies of recent trends in drug trafficking and related crimes, as well as assessments of the drug trafficking situation. These studies are carried out annually by the national authorities and are published in paper format, as well as on the web page of the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR). Other reports are disseminated to competent entities in this area as determined by the authorities. The results of these studies and analyses are taken into account in updating legal provisions, based on the detection of new trends in drug trafficking and related crimes, and for the revision of protocols and procedures.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 22

#### PROMOTE IMPROVEMENTS IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS ON ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED CRIMES.

**Evaluation:** Mostly complete

Argentina has consolidated nationwide statistical information on drug trafficking and related crimes, specifically regarding narcotics and psychotropic substances seized; controlled chemical substances seized; laboratories discovered; areas of crops detected and eradicated; firearms, equipment and property seized; and persons arrested by type of substance. The country periodically conducts technical studies and research on the characteristics of drug trafficking and related crimes, prepares studies on drug characterization and impurity profiles, and develops confidential analyses of situations and trends based on information from federal security forces' activities or investigations.

Argentina does not have a national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations in drug trafficking.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> During the Fifty-sixth regular session of CICAD, November 19-21, 2014, the Republic of Argentina reported that it has a national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking, based on the systematic assessment carried out regularly by the National Directorate of Criminal Intelligence of the Security Secretariat, on the flow of current information on narcotrafficking methods and derived projections, feeding into the Federal Security Forces' Directorates on Intelligence and on Fighting against Narcotrafficking. This system is based on the Interior Security laws No. 24.059 and National Intelligence No. 25.520, and includes pertinent information on all aspects of narcotrafficking, communicating in a consistent manner its projections and findings to all the actors involved in this area. Such information is disseminated regularly with other entities that address complex crimes, for example the Financial Intelligence Unit in the field of money laundering within narcotrafficking.





## CONTROL MEASURES

### **RECOMMENDATION 23**

ADOPT MEASURES FOR EFFECTIVE COOPERATION IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS, INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES, COLLECTION OF EVIDENCE, AND THE EXCHANGE OF INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION AMONG COUNTRIES, ASSURING DUE RESPECT FOR THE VARIOUS NATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEMS.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina has formal mechanisms for the secure and effective exchange of intelligence information in the investigations of cases related to drug trafficking and related crimes. The country has formal mechanisms for the coordination and exchange of information and best practices for the prevention, investigation and control of activities related to drug trafficking via the Internet. In addition, the country implements training workshops on the exchange of information in cases related to drug trafficking, as well as training activities on the use of special investigative techniques and managing the chain of custody for evidence. Argentina has regulatory frameworks and operational guidelines for the investigation of assets during drug trafficking cases.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### RECOMMENDATION 24

ADOPT OR STRENGTHEN, AS APPLICABLE, CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS ASSOCIATED WITH ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina has criminalized the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. In order to prevent losses or diversion, the country takes the necessary measures to ensure the security of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials that are imported, exported, or in transit. The appropriate marking of firearms is required, permitting identification of the name of the manufacturer, the place of manufacture, and the serial number. Also, the country requires appropriate marking of any firearms confiscated or forfeited. The country maintains a system of export, import, and international transit licenses for firearms, ammunition, explosives, or other related materials. Argentina has a national authority responsible for coordinating controls on the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, which includes the measures in Article 8 of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials of 1997. Also, a register is maintained of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials seized in drug trafficking operations.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### **RECOMMENDATION 25**

ESTABLISH, UPDATE, OR STRENGTHEN LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS IN MATTERS OF PREVENTION, DETECTION, INVESTIGATION, AND PROSECUTION OF MONEY LAUNDERING.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina criminalizes money laundering according to the terms of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime of 2000. The country has regulations for the prevention and control of money laundering that conform to the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF); it also has a Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), in accordance with the operating principles of the EGMONT Group and the recommendations of the FATF on FIUs. In addition, the country has regulations regarding the forfeiture of assets related to money laundering, including provisional measures for freezing and embargo to prevent the use, transfer, or disposal of said assets.



## CONTROL MEASURES

### **RECOMMENDATION 26**

CREATE OR STRENGTHEN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL LEGISLATION, THE COMPETENT NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF SEIZED AND/OR FORFEITED ASSETS, AND THE DISPOSITION OF FORFEITED ASSETS.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina has a regulatory framework that provides for the creation and operation of the Joint Committee on Recording, Management and Disposition, created via Law No. 23.737, as the unit responsible for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets in cases of drug trafficking, money laundering and proceeds of crime, and of fines collected through law enforcement. It also has regulations for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets. Under Argentinian law, assets seized or forfeited as the result of a criminal trial are subject to different statutes, depending on the crime in question. The country conducts training programs on the management of seized or forfeited assets.



## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### RECOMMENDATION 27

REAFFIRM THE PRINCIPLE OF COOPERATION CONTAINED IN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS TO ADDRESS THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM, THROUGH ACTIONS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS.

**Evaluation:** Complete

Argentina recognizes the criminal offenses established pursuant to Article 3.1 of the United Nations Convention against the Illicit Traffic of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 as subject to extradition, and has legal provisions that allow for the extradition of citizens for such offenses. Similarly, the country has legal mechanisms for trying persons whose extradition has been denied for the reasons set forth in Article 4.2.a of the aforementioned Convention, as well as in money laundering cases, recognizing those offenses criminalized pursuant to Article 6 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime of 2000 as extradition cases. The country's laws or other legal provisions allow the provision of reciprocal judicial assistance to third party States in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings for drug trafficking and money laundering. The country has adopted measures to enable confiscation of the proceeds derived from drug trafficking or of assets of equal value, as well as the materials and equipment or other instrumentalities used in or intended for use in any manner for such a crime. In addition, the country allows its competent authorities to identify, detect, place a preventive embargo on, or seize the proceeds, assets, instrumentalities or any other items used in or intended for use in any manner in the crime of drug trafficking. The country has taken other measures on the basis of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, to strengthen international cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking. Additionally, central authorities have been designated, in accordance with the corresponding international instruments related to drug trafficking, the illicit manufacture and trafficking of firearms and other related materials, transnational organized crime and mutual assistance in criminal matters. The country has laws or other legal provisions that permit the use of controlled delivery of narcotics and psychotropic substances in order to identify persons implicated in drug trafficking offenses.



## CONCLUSIONS

The MEM Sixth Evaluation Round report reflects the country's internal reality regarding the implementation of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy (2010) and its Plan of Action (2011-2015) from 2013 to mid-2014. CICAD recognizes that among the 27 common recommendations, Argentina has completed 15, six mostly completed, one not applicable and five do not apply.

**In the area of Institutional Strengthening,** Argentina has a national drug authority which functions under the President of the Republic. The country has a national anti-drug strategy and a national observatory on drugs. Most of the priority demand reduction studies were carried out (2 of 3) and has all of the priority supply reduction information (10 of 10).

**In the area of Demand Reduction,** Argentina has comprehensive demand reduction programs; it monitors universal prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, social reinsertion, and recovery support services, but not selective or indicated prevention programs or early intervention. There is evaluation and updating of universal prevention, treatment and rehabilitation and social reinsertion programs. The country does not evaluate selective or indicated prevention programs, nor early intervention or recovery support services. The country has a comprehensive prevention system. The public health system facilities, private institutions, and NGOs offer early detection of drug use, provide guidance and brief intervention, and make systematic referrals for treatment. The public health system uses a multisectoral approach to the provision of residential and outpatient treatment, rehabilitation, follow-up and recovery support services. The various population groups affected by drug use have access to treatment, rehabilitation and social reinsertion. Treatment centers have an accreditation system. Policies, plans and programs are developed with the support of academic and research institutions and civil society organizations. Training and continuing education, ranging from the certificate level to graduate degrees, for personnel working in demand reduction, include the evidence-based approaches and best practices.

**In the area of Supply Reduction,** CICAD agreed not to apply any category from the evaluation scale, given that Argentina does not have significant illicit crop areas.



**In the area of Control Measures,** Argentina has mechanisms to detect and identify laboratories for the illicit manufacture of plant-based and synthetic drugs; however, it does not have protocols for their dismantling.

Regarding the control of pharmaceutical products and controlled chemical substances, Argentina has adopted the measures provided for in international conventions to ensure their adequate availability for legitimate use and to prevent their diversion to illicit channels. These measures include: a legal framework, administrative controls on international and domestic sales, cooperation with authorities in other countries, and designation of relevant national authorities to fulfill these obligations. With regard to narcotics and psychotropic substances for medical use, the country has taken additional measures to ensure access and availability for patients requiring them.

Argentina has formal mechanisms for the exchange of information among agencies responsible for the control of drug trafficking and related crimes, as well as formal mechanisms for the secure and effective exchange of intelligence information. In addition, the country has ongoing training programs for personnel in these areas, collects statistical information at the national level regarding drug trafficking and related crimes, updates legislation based on the identification of new trends, and has legislation establishing provisions for the safe and final disposal of seized drugs. However, the country does not have a national early warning system on new behaviors on criminal organizations.<sup>3</sup>

Argentina has criminalized activities related to the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, has designated a national authority, and has implemented the relevant international provisions. The country has a register of firearms and other related materials seized in activities linked with drug trafficking.

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<sup>3</sup> During the Fifty-sixth regular session of CICAD, November 19-21, 2014, the Republic of Argentina reported that it has a national early warning system on new behaviors of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking, based on the systematic assessment carried out regularly by the National Directorate of Criminal Intelligence of the Security Secretariat, on the flow of current information on narcotrafficking methods and derived projections, feeding into the Federal Security Forces' Directorates on Intelligence and on Fighting against Narcotrafficking. This system is based on the Interior Security laws No. 24.059 and National Intelligence No. 25.520, and includes pertinent information on all aspects of narcotrafficking, communicating in a consistent manner its projections and findings to all the actors involved in this area. Such information is disseminated regularly with other entities that address complex crimes, for example the Financial Intelligence Unit in the field of money laundering within narcotrafficking.



Argentina has a regulatory framework for the prevention and control of money laundering, in accordance with international conventions, and in line with the international principles and requirements in this area. In addition, the country has regulations for the seizure of assets connected with drug trafficking and money laundering cases, as well as an agency responsible for their management and disposal.

**In the area of International Cooperation,** Argentina has ratified the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime of 2000, the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters of 1992 and has designated central authorities in said conventions. The country has legal provisions to permit the extradition for the crime of drug trafficking and money laundering. Also, the country has legal provisions for providing reciprocal judicial assistance to third party States in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings for drug trafficking and money laundering. In addition, the country has legal provisions that permit the use of controlled delivery of narcotics and psychotropic substances in order to identify persons involved in the crime of drug trafficking.

CICAD recognizes Argentina for its continued participation and commitment during the Sixth Evaluation Round of the MEM. In accordance with its national situation, the country is encouraged to fully implement the Plan of Action (2011-2015) of CICAD's Hemispheric Drug Strategy (2010).





**SUMMARY OF THE STATUS OF COMPLIANCE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS**

<b>INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING</b>		
<b>NO.</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>EVALUATION</b>
1	Establish and/or strengthen national drug authorities, placing them at a high political level, with the mission to coordinate the effective planning and implementation of national drug policies.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
2	Design, implement, strengthen and update national evidence-based strategies and policies on drugs.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
3	Establish and/or strengthen National Observatories on Drugs or similar technical offices to develop national drug information systems and foster scientific research on this subject.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
<b>DEMAND REDUCTION</b>		
4	Develop and implement comprehensive demand reduction policies, plans and/or programs.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
5	Design and implement a comprehensive system of evidence-based universal, selective, and indicated prevention programs, with measurable objectives, aimed at distinct target populations, including at-risk groups.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
6	Promote the integration of treatment and recovery plans and programs into the public health system and address drug dependence as a chronic, relapsing disease.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
7	Facilitate access for drug-dependent persons to a system of drug treatment, rehabilitation, social reintegration, and recovery services that are evidence-based and follow internationally-accepted quality standards.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
8	Explore the means of offering treatment, rehabilitation, social reinsertion and recovery support services to drug-dependent criminal offenders as an alternative to criminal prosecution or imprisonment.	<b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>
9	Strengthen governmental relationships with academic and research institutions and specialized non-governmental organizations (NGOs), in order to generate evidence on the demand for drugs.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
10	Promote and strengthen training and continuing education of professionals, technicians and others involved in the implementation of demand reduction activities.	<b>COMPLETE</b>



SUPPLY REDUCTION		
11	Adopt and/or improve comprehensive and balanced measures aimed at reducing the illicit supply of drugs.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
12	Adopt and/or improve data collection and analysis mechanisms with a view to carrying out assessments that will facilitate the development of public policies aimed at illicit supply of drugs reduction.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
13	Promote studies and research that contribute to the early identification and monitoring of new and emerging trends that could provide updated information on the illicit supply of drugs.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
14	According to the needs of each country, adopt comprehensive measures, such as integral and sustainable alternative development and law enforcement initiatives.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
15	Promote actions to reduce the negative impact on the environment caused by the world drug problem, in accordance with national policies.	<b>NOT APPLIED</b>
CONTROL MEASURES		
16	Implement programs to prevent and reduce the illicit production of synthetic and plant-based drugs.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
17	Adopt or strengthen control measures in order to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
18	Adopt or strengthen control measures to prevent the diversion of narcotics, psychotropic substances, pharmaceutical products with psychoactive properties and those used in the production of synthetic drugs.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
19	Ensure the adequate availability of narcotics needed for medical and scientific use.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
20	Strengthen national organizations for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
21	Identify new trends and patterns regarding illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
22	Promote improvements in information systems on illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	<b>MOSTLY COMPLETE</b>
23	Adopt measures for effective cooperation in criminal investigations, investigation procedures, collection of evidence, and the exchange of intelligence information among countries, assuring due respect for the various national legal systems.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
24	Adopt or strengthen, as applicable, control measures for the illicit trafficking of firearms, munitions, explosives, and other related materials associated with illicit drug trafficking.	<b>COMPLETE</b>



25	Establish, update, or strengthen legislative and institutional frameworks in matters of prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
26	Create or strengthen, in accordance with national legislation, the competent national organizations for the management of seized and/or forfeited assets, and the disposition of forfeited assets.	<b>COMPLETE</b>
<b>INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</b>		
27	Reaffirm the principle of cooperation contained in international instruments to address the world drug problem, through actions to ensure compliance and effectiveness.	<b>COMPLETE</b>



## GLOSSARY

### I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

**Relevant actors:** includes civil society, scientific community, university based researchers, government at the national, regional and local levels.

### II. DEMAND REDUCTION

**Alternatives to incarceration:** vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, but most involve suspension of the judicial process provided the offender volunteers to participate in a monitored drug treatment program.

**Available evidence:** use of information, from different sources, to support an effect with an adequate degree of confidence, so that it can be used as a basis for a particular recommendation. The quality of the information sources will indicate the level of confidence for the estimate of the effect.

**Comprehensive (prevention) system:** organizations and programs that provide addiction prevention services, and are interconnected with each other and with several organizations, programs and channels that provide support services.

**Indicated prevention programs:** a set of actions targeting persons who use drugs.

**Public health system:** Includes all organizations, institutions and resources whose principal objective is to carry out activities designed to improve health. The majority of national health systems include the public, private, traditional and informal sectors. The four primary functions of a health system include: provision of services, generation of resources, financing and management.

**Selective prevention programs:** a set of actions targeting a specific segment of the population, which, because of personal, social, family, or socio-cultural and related characteristics, is vulnerable to the diverse risk factors leading to drug use.



**Social reinsertion:** any social intervention with the aim of integrating former or current problem drug users into the community. The three 'pillars' of social reinsertion are (1) housing, (2) education and (3) employment (including vocational training). May also be referred to as "social re-integration."

**Universal prevention programs:** a set of preventive actions targeting the entire population independent of risk.

### III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

**Regulatory framework:** the set of established laws and regulations that governs the activities of the institutions responsible for the formulation, development and application of drug supply reduction policies and/or programs.

**Risk factors:** risk factors are those conditions that contribute to the emergence or strengthening of illicit activities and/or to the neutralization of law enforcement activities.

**Social inclusion:** a situation which ensures that all citizens, without exception, are able to exercise their rights, use their skills, and take advantage of opportunities available to them.

**Vulnerable populations:** those sectors or population groups that, due to poverty, ethnic origin, health, age, gender or disability, are unable to develop and improve their circumstances. This vulnerability places such persons at a disadvantage with regard to exercising their full rights and freedoms.

### IV. CONTROL MEASURES

**Drug characterization and impurity profiling:** use of scientific laboratory information in support of law enforcement operation work, aimed at establishing links between drug samples. It consists of the systematic collection and sharing, in a standardized form, of physical and chemical information on a drug seizure, including the analysis and use of trace impurities to link different drug samples.







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