

Multilateral
Evaluation
Mechanism
MEM

Suriname

Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control

Organization of American States – **OAS**

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission – **CICAD**

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1999
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2000

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Organización de los Estados Americanos – OEA

Comisión Interamericana para el Control del Abuso de Drogas – CICAD

Organization of American States – OAS

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission – CICAD

Organização dos Estados Americanos – OEA

Comissão Interamericana para o Controle do Abuso de Drogas – CICAD

Organisation des Etats Américains – OEA

Commission Interaméricaine de Lutte Contre l'abus des Drogues – CICAD

NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY

Suriname has a Strategic Drugs Master Plan, approved by the Board of Ministers in 1998, that covers the areas of supply reduction, demand reduction, control measures, institutional framework, budget and an evaluation system, in effect from 1997-2003.

Suriname has a central coordinating authority entitled the National Anti-Drug Council, which coordinates the activities of demand reduction, supply reduction and control measures. It does not cover the activities of the information center. It was established through Resolution 206 of 1998.

The National Anti-Drug Council has a budget which is part of the Health Ministry.

Suriname has ratified the United Nations Conventions of 1961, 1971 and 1988. It has also ratified the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters. It has signed but not ratified the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials and the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption.

Furthermore, it has national laws and regulations with respect to the issue of drugs in accordance with international conventions. It mentions specific legislation with respect to firearms in accordance with CICAD model regulations. It does not have specific legislation on chemicals. Suriname does not have specific legislation for money laundering in accordance with CICAD Model Regulations.

Suriname does not have a system for the collection and maintenance of statistics and documents. However, it has a separate collection of statistics on demand reduction and supply reduction. Furthermore, it has documents and statistics on control measures. It does not have either documents or statistics on the societal impact of illicit drugs.

Recommendations

1. **Ratify the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials and the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption.**
2. **Enact specific legislation on control of chemical substances in accordance with CICAD Model Regulations.**
3. **Develop and apply an integrated system for the collection, analysis, and maintenance of statistics and documents.**

DEMAND REDUCTION

Suriname does not have a structured framework in place to effect demand reduction programs in every area. Existing programs can be used as a foundation from which to expand and enhance new programs. It will be important to evaluate existing programs, gather new data, and utilize this information in these enhancements.

Suriname has a National Demand Reduction Strategy.

There is a National System of Drug Abuse Prevention Programs that targets school children, community leaders, and commercial sex workers. There are anti-drug programs for prisons. There are no programs for street children or out-of-school youth. Community workers are being trained in the area of drug prevention using newly developed instruction manuals.

"Drugs in the Workplace" programs are in place in some private sector companies.

Suriname has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and its Plan of Action.

There are no established guidelines on minimum standards of care for drug treatment. Suriname has public outpatient and private drug treatment and rehabilitation programs, but these do not cover early detection, outreach and social reintegration. There is no professional specialized training in drug abuse prevention and treatment. The Bureau of Alcohol and Drugs provides occasional training in drug prevention to community groups and others on request.

There is no methodology for measuring the prevalence of drug use in the general population. There is no research on prevention and drug use or evaluation of drug abuse prevention programs. There is no accurate determination of the age of first use of any illicit drug. There is no determination of annual incidence of new drug users.

No studies have been conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of treatment and rehabilitation programs.

Recommendations

1. **Implement the National Demand Reduction Strategy.**
2. **Expand prevention programs to cover street children and out-of-school youth.**

3. Establish guidelines on minimum standards of care for drug treatment.
4. Carry out research on prevention and drug use in the general population.
5. Evaluate treatment, rehabilitation and prevention programs.
6. Create and implement a process to measure the prevalence of drug use to include the age of first use of illicit drugs and the annual incidence of new drug users.

SUPPLY REDUCTION

Suriname submits that according to their surveillance, there had been in 1999, 10 hectares of cannabis crops under cultivation in the country's jungle areas. They cannot estimate potential production.

The Ministry of Health is responsible for pharmaceutical diversion control, through its Pharmaceutical Inspection Office. It also estimates legitimate annual domestic needs on the basis of stocks, and use in the preceding year. The Ministry of Health is also responsible for monitoring and regulating professions involved in the distribution and use of pharmaceuticals. The Customs Department is in charge of the control of the import and export of the controlled chemical substances. There are also laws and regulations in place for the application of criminal and administrative sanctions for the diversion of pharmaceuticals.

The Pharmaceutical Inspection Office sustains informal national information exchanges with public and private entities responsible for handling pharmaceuticals. The Health Bureau is the central authority for international information exchanges.

In 1999, Suriname received one pre-export notification of controlled chemical substances, to which it replied on time.

Recommendation

1. Strengthen monitoring mechanisms, so as to prevent expansion of illegal cultivation.

CONTROL MEASURES

There are administrative, judicial and law enforcement bodies in Suriname with specific responsibility for investigating, controlling and eradicating illicit drug trafficking. The Police, the Customs Service, and the Military Police have the law enforcement responsibilities; the Office of the Attorney General carries out judicial functions; and the National Anti-Drug Council and Ministry of Health fulfill administrative responsibilities. Mechanisms exist for effecting coordination, cooperation, and timely exchanges of information among national authorities, involving the National Anti-Drug Council, Drug Monitoring Commission, and the Drug Enforcement Task Force. No specific central agency is responsible for effecting coordination, cooperation and timely exchanges of information among national authorities; the above mentioned authorities fulfill this function.

Suriname reported that the coordination, cooperation and timely exchanges of information between countries in accordance with international agreements is not carried out by a specific central agency, but that there are levels of central coordination that collaborate with one another. Under legislation in force, the Office of the Attorney General is the central authority responsible for coordination of mutual legal assistance. The Judicial Division of the Police and INTERPOL (NCB of Suriname) are responsible for coordinating international police cooperation and exchanges of pertinent information. The National Anti-Drug Council is responsible for exchanges of general administrative information.

A total of 202 drug seizure operations were reported and the quantities and types of drug seized are detailed below.

Types of Drugs	Quantity	
	Kgs.	Grams
Heroin	0	15
Synthetic Narcotics	2	500
Cocaine Salts	185	0
Cannabis plants	177	11
Cannabis Resin (hashish)	0	81
Cannabis Seed	24	

Suriname reported 483 persons arrested for drugs or drug-related offenses, of which 239 were prosecuted and 236 were convicted (provisional statistics).

There have been 14 requests made by Suriname for international cooperation to investigate and prosecute illicit drug trafficking, of which 7 replies have been received.

There are national laws and/or regulations that criminalize the illicit manufacture and trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. These laws establish administrative control measures for the prevention of offenses related thereto, and authorize the freezing or seizure of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. Laws also exist that authorize confiscation and forfeiture of these objects.

There are mechanisms in Suriname for maintaining a record by dates, classification-description and quantities of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials that ensure, before authorizing the release for export of shipments of these items, that the importing or transit countries have issued the necessary licenses or authorizations. These mechanisms effect national interagency coordination and information exchanges and serve as centralized points for effecting international coordination and information exchanges.

There is no data on the number of persons charged for illicit manufacture and illicit trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, by offense and by year, nor on the number of convictions in connection with the offenses. However, the records of the country reflect that 19 persons were charged for possession of firearms. The country noted that, although there are specific cases where firearms were involved, offenders were tried primarily for different types of crime.

A total of 7 seizure operations of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials by law enforcement agencies by year were reported. The quantities of these items seized by law enforcement agencies in 1999 are detailed below:

Firearms	
Type	Quantity
Shotgun	4
Revolver	2
Pistol	4
Rifle	2
Total	12

Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials	
Type	Quantity
Hand grenade	1
Rifle Ammunition	46
Hunting ammunition	390
9 mm semi automatic amm.	9,852
Total	10,289

No data was given on the quantities confiscated or forfeited by competent authorities.

Suriname did not identify the origins of seized firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials related to illicit drug trafficking, or the routing employed in their diversion.

In 1999, Suriname made 2 requests for international cooperation to investigate and prosecute the production and illicit trafficking of firearms, ammunitions, explosives and related materials, receiving replies to each of them.

There are no specific laws in Suriname that define money laundering as an offense, but under Article 480 of the Penal Code, holders of the proceeds of criminal activity may be prosecuted. National laws and regulations authorize the freezing or seizure of assets related to money laundering. The new Drug Act of 1998 also provides for the confiscation of assets related to illicit drug trafficking offenses. There are also administrative controls to prevent these offenses. Further legislative steps are being taken in order to implement the provisions regarding money laundering in the New Narcotic Law.

There is no centralized agency with responsibility for receiving, requesting, analyzing and disseminating to competent authorities disclosures of information relating to financial transactions and allowing for exchange of operational information and collaboration among national authorities and central agencies in other countries. There are no mechanisms for managing and disposing of assets related to illicit drug trafficking that have been seized and forfeited.

No persons were arrested or charged for money laundering in 1999, and no sanctions of an administrative or legal nature were imposed on financial institutions for failure to report suspicious transactions or to comply with their legal responsibilities in relation to money laundering control. No requests were made by Suriname for international cooperation to investigate and prosecute for money laundering offenses in 1999.

Recommendations

1. Establish a mechanism or central agency to carry out the coordination, cooperation, and exchange of information between national authorities in a timely manner on firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.
2. Create a register of persons prosecuted and convicted for illicit manufacture and illicit trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.
3. Establish a record to identify the origins of seized firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials related to illicit drug trafficking and the routing employed in their diversion.
4. Enact specific legislation to control money laundering activities in accordance with CICAD model regulations.
5. Create a mechanism to reflect information on goods seized in connection with illicit drug trafficking.
6. Create a mechanism for receiving, requesting, analyzing and disseminating to the competent authorities information on financial transactions and allow the exchange of operative information and the cooperation between national authorities and the central entities of other countries.

HUMAN, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COST OF DRUGS

Estimating Human, Social and Economic cost of the drug problem in all of its manifestations constitutes a complex process. This information is relevant to each country's understanding of the magnitude of the drug problem. This would enable each country to appreciate the direct and indirect cost in proportion to their Gross National Product or national annual budget. Because many countries have difficulty in providing these estimates, CICAD is proposing a hemispheric-wide program involving training and technical assistance, which should assist the country in its effort in confronting the drug problem and fulfilling this indicator's requirements.

Recommendation

1. Develop the capacity to estimate the human, social, and economic cost of the drug problem.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

CICAD recommends that Suriname's anti-drug efforts be strengthened by addressing the following:

1. Ratify the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials and the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption.
2. Enact specific legislation on control of chemical substances in accordance with CICAD model regulations.
3. Develop and apply an integrated system for the collection, analysis, and maintenance of statistics and documents.
4. Implement the National Demand Reduction Strategy.
5. Expand prevention programs to cover street children and out of school youth.
6. Establish guidelines on minimum standards of care for drug treatment.
7. Carry out research on prevention and drug use in the general population.
8. Evaluate treatment, rehabilitation and prevention programs.
9. Create and implement a process to measure the prevalence of drug use to include the age of first use of illicit drugs and the annual incidence of new drug users.
10. Strengthen monitoring mechanisms, so as to prevent expansion of illegal cultivation.
11. Establish a mechanism or central agency to carry out the coordination, cooperation, and exchange of information between national authorities in a timely manner on firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.
12. Create a register of persons prosecuted and convicted for illicit manufacture and illicit trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.
13. Establish a record to identify the origins of seized firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials related to illicit drug trafficking and the routing employed in their diversion.
14. Enact specific legislation to control money laundering activities in accordance with CICAD model regulations.
15. Create a mechanism to reflect information on goods seized in connection with illicit drug trafficking.
16. Create a mechanism for receiving, requesting, analyzing and disseminating to the competent authorities information on financial transactions and allow the exchange of operative information and the cooperation between national authorities and the central entities of other countries.
17. Develop the capacity to estimate the human, social, and economic cost of the drug problem.