



OAS

More rights for more people



# MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

*Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:  
Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit  
Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and  
Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their  
Causes and Consequences*

## Dominican Republic

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)  
Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)

2022





**MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)**

# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

---

**Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:**

**Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences**

**EIGHTH EVALUATION ROUND**

**2022**

**OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.72**  
**CICAD/doc.2676/22**

**ISBN 978-0-8270-7589-4**

## PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), established by a mandate from the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, Chile - 1998), is a unique multilateral evaluation tool designed to measure the progress made and challenges faced by the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) in implementing the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs of the OAS Hemispheric Drug Strategy, currently in force.

The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS) is the OAS specialized agency in charge of implementing this Mechanism.

The current MEM round is based on the objectives of the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025 of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2020 and their respective priority actions. These documents take into account the recommendations of the outcome document of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016) and the United Nations 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, as well as cross-cutting issues, such as the gender perspective and human rights, cultural context, and social inclusion approaches, among others.

Seven evaluation rounds have been completed from 1998 to 2019 and, during 2020, the MEM Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), composed of member state delegates, agreed on a new methodology for the eighth round, consisting of annual thematic evaluations with the support of independent technical consultants, as follows: 2021 – Measures for Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support; 2022 – Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences; 2023 – Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation; International Cooperation; and 2024 – Comprehensive Evaluation based on updated information from all thematic areas.

MEM evaluations are carried out based on information provided by the member states' National Coordinating Entities (NCEs), which is analyzed by the MEM Governmental Expert Group (GEG), composed of experts designated by the countries, who do not participate in their own country's evaluation, thus ensuring the transparency and impartiality of the process. The GEG is always supported by the group of independent technical consultants and the MEM Unit. The eighth round represents a more rigorous evaluation process, in which countries are requested to provide valid means of verification to support the information submitted and ensure compliance of each priority action.

Specifically, the GEG's work for the thematic assessment for the area of "Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences" was conducted during 2022 and covers the 2019 to 2022 period (unless otherwise specified). This work was adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic with

the use of technology and virtual tools, as well as taking it into consideration in the evaluation assessments.

Finally, it should be noted that one of the main purposes of MEM evaluation reports is to serve as a useful diagnostic tool to identify opportunities for improvement in drug policies and strategies, both at the national and regional levels.

**OBJECTIVE**  
**1**

**DEVELOP AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL- AND REGIONAL-LEVEL INTERDICTION CAPACITY, AS WELL AS THE CAPACITY TO REDUCE THE ILLICIT CULTIVATION, PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF PLANT-BASED AND SYNTHETIC DRUGS THROUGH THE USE OF COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REALITIES OF EACH COUNTRY'S DOMESTIC LEGISLATION AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.**

**Priority Action 1.1: Develop or strengthen intelligence and interdiction capabilities to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.**

The Dominican Republic implements the following ongoing training programs to detect, investigate, or dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, for personnel involved in interdiction operations:

- Basic Course on Investigation and Identification of Drugs and Controlled Substances
- Drug Intelligence and Investigation Training Course
- Intermediate-level Intelligence Course
- Advanced Course on Investigation and Identification of Drugs and Controlled Substances
- Operational Intelligence Course
- Specialized Operational Intelligence Course
- Course on Intelligence Analysis

The Dominican Republic does not have protocols and operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs.

**Priority Action 1.2: Implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming in agencies and organizations in charge of drug control.**

The National Drug Control Directorate and the Ministry of Women through the different departments of these agencies, implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming.

**Priority Action 1.3: Design, implement, and strengthen programs aimed at land, riverine, maritime, and aerial interdiction.**

The Dominican Republic has programs or strategies aimed at land, riverine, maritime, and aerial interdiction through monitoring, inspections, or checkpoints.

**Priority Action 1.4: Review and update, as appropriate, legal frameworks related to the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques.**

The Dominican Republic have laws and regulations for the use of specialized investigation tools

and techniques to prevent and reduce illicit drug trafficking.

**Priority Action 1.5: Review and/or update mechanisms countries use to monitor the evolution of drug trafficking and related crimes, for the purpose of identifying and responding to new trends and threats.**

The Dominican Republic has updated assessments and studies to identify new trends and threats in relation to drug trafficking and related crimes.

**Priority Action 1.6: Define and implement coordinated actions between national and regional entities to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes.**

The Dominican Republic implements actions to identify organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes.

The country carries out inter-institutional collaboration or cooperation mechanisms to coordinate activities aimed at dismantling organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes. In this sense, the country has protocols and interagency agreements with the Ministry of Defense, involving the Dominican Republic Air Force (FARD), the Dominican Republic Navy (ARD) and the Dominican Republic Army (ERD), the National Police, the Attorney General's Office, the National Investigation Directorate, and other state security agencies.

The Dominican Republic has participated in operations and investigations with other countries, through Operation Falcon, aimed at dismantling organized criminal groups involved in illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

**Priority Action 1.7: Enhance the capacity of national and regional forensic laboratories or similar investigation entities to analyze and identify chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS) and facilitate information sharing with global repositories and across governmental counterparts.**

The Dominican Republic's National Institute of Forensic Sciences (INACIF) is responsible for, and capable of, analyzing chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS).

The country participates in the Global Smart ongoing training program for personnel involved in the analysis of chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including NPS.

The Dominican Republic does not have mechanisms to facilitate and share information at the

national level across relevant governmental counterparts. however, the country has the following mechanisms for sharing information with global repositories on chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including NPS.

- PEN Online
- Incident Communication System of the ION Project (IONICS)
- Meetings of the Cooperation Programme between Latin America, Caribbean and the European Union on Drugs Policies (COPOLAD)
- Information exchanges with the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance, and the General Directorate of Customs

**Priority Action 1.8:** Enhance the capacity of relevant drug control and financial regulatory competent authorities to identify and address new challenges related to synthetic drugs and their precursors and pharmaceutical products being illicitly sold online and shipped through land, riverine, maritime, and aerial means.

The Dominican Republic has mechanisms to investigate and disrupt drug trafficking through the Internet. In this sense, the country conducts institutional coordination with the cyber-trafficking directorates of the State Security agencies.

**Priority Action 1.9:** Enhance coordination with private sector entities to prevent diversion of chemical substances and precursors and deny criminals access to the materials, platforms, and services of the licit supply chain, which are exploited by criminal organizations for the illicit manufacture, sale, and trafficking of drugs.

The Dominican Republic has information exchange mechanisms with private sector entities to prevent access to materials and services that are exploited for illicit drug trafficking purposes. In this regard, the country has controls, under powers conferred by Law 50-88, regarding the issuance of the Certification of Registration of Class B Controlled Drugs, through the issuance of digital permits through the Foreign Trade Single Window of the Directorate General of Customs (DGA), where the National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD) and the Ministry of Public Health intervene, through the Directorate General of Medicines, Food and Health Products (DIGEMAPS) and thanks to the information provided each month by the entities reporting their use and/or distribution, along with other data.

The country does not use tools of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) to strengthen cooperation with the private sector.

**Priority Action 1.10:** Enhance capacities for forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets.

The Dominican Republic does not have national authorities with the appropriate budget, human, and material resources, nor ongoing training for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, instruments, or products related to illicit drug markets.

The Dominican Republic's competent personnel do not receive ongoing training for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, instruments, or products related to illicit drug markets.

## OBJECTIVE

2

**STRENGTHEN NATIONAL MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES POSED BY NPS AND ILLICIT SYNTHETIC DRUGS, AND THE THREAT OF FENTANYL-RELATED SUBSTANCES, NON-MEDICAL SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS, AND ILLICIT AMPHETAMINE DERIVATIVES.**

**Priority Action 2.1: Establish and/or strengthen early warning systems (EWS) at the national level to promote collaboration and the exchange of information with other existing regional or international systems.**

The Dominican Republic does not have an Early Warning System (EWS) to identify or trace New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), illicit synthetic drugs, or the threat of fentanyl-related substances, non-medical synthetic opioids, illicit amphetamine derivatives, not other substances subject to international control.

**Priority Action 2.2: Improve domestic capabilities to detect and analyze NPS by making resources and tools available for those responsible in this area.**

The Dominican Republic does not improve its capacity to detect or analyze NPS through the use of special investigation techniques, updated equipment, or the acquisition of new technologies.

**Priority Action 2.3: Design and implement, when appropriate, national regulatory tools to address the challenges posed by NPS and national controls on emerging illicit synthetic drugs and their precursor chemicals**

The Dominican Republic has the following regulatory frameworks or guidelines to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of NPS and emerging synthetic drugs.

- Law 50-88 on Drugs and Controlled Substances
- Decree 288-96 containing the enabling regulations for Law 50-88
- Decree 275-21 of April 26, 2021
- Resolution 001-2005 of May 24, 2005
- Resolution 002-2011 05
- Resolution 02-2009 of May 5, 2009
- Resolution 006-2006 of June 29, 2006
- Resolution 008-2007 of September 12, 2007
- Resolution 011-2001 of December 13, 2001
- Resolution 0011-2018 of May 10, 2018

**Priority Action 2.4:** Promote participation in the Incident Communication System of the ION Project (IONICS) to facilitate real-time communication of incidents involving suspicious shipments of, trafficking in, or illicit manufacture or production of NPS, including fentanyl-related substances and other non-medical synthetic opioids and amphetamine derivatives.

The Dominican Republic participates in the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)'s Project ION (International Operations on NPS). The National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD) functions as the focal point.

**Priority Action 2.5:** Develop innovative regulatory approaches, such as generic controls, analogue legislation, and temporary or emergency controls, to enhance national controls on synthetic opioids for non-medical use, and NPS, particularly when scheduling fentanyl-related substances by class.

The Dominican Republic does not have the legislation or regulatory approaches to synthetic opioids for non-medical use or NPS.

**OBJECTIVE**

3

**STRENGTHEN OR DEVELOP LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS FOR THE EFFECTIVE MONITORING AND CONTROL OF ESSENTIAL CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES AND PRECURSORS TO PREVENT DIVERSION OF THESE SUBSTANCES TO THE MANUFACTURING OF ILLICIT DRUGS AND COUNTER THEIR TRAFFICKING, INCLUDING PERIODICALLY UPDATING NATIONAL LISTS OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.**

**Priority Action 3.1: Promote interagency coordination with industry to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances.**

The Dominican Republic has the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance as the competent national authority responsible for developing guides, codes of conduct, or other instruments to inform the industry and users in general of controlled chemical substances. This is contemplated in Law N° 50-88.

The country has Law N°. 50-88 and Decree 275 as its instruments and mechanisms to inform the industry and users in general of applicable controls and cooperation methods, to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.

The Dominican Republic has an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances.

The Dominican Republic's competent authorities carry out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of and corporations authorized to handle controlled chemical substances, as listed in the table below:

Name of the competent authority	Does it perform regular inspections and audits?	Is it responsible for monitoring domestic trade?	Does it take CICAD's model regulations into account?
National Drug Control Directorate, DNCD	Yes, random inspections of controls, as well as inspections for certification of use, manufacture, import, and export are carried out throughout the year (class B)	No (See remark at the end of the objective)	Yes

**Priority Action 3.2: Conduct analyses, including through existing mechanisms of information exchange, on substances, their analogues, and precursors, which pose a threat to public health in member states, to identify substances for expedited international control.**

The Dominican Republic does not carry out analyses that include the exchange of information through existing international mechanisms of substances, their analogues, and precursors, which pose a threat to public health.

**Priority Action 3.3:** Strengthen the existing international control system to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances, pharmaceutical products, and precursors used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, as well as interdiction to counter the trafficking of chemical substances.

The Dominican Republic has the following legislation incorporating the control measures in Article 12, Paragraphs 8 and 9 of the 1988 United Nations Convention to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities:

- Law N° 50-88 on Drugs and Controlled Substances
- Decree N° 288-96, Enabling Regulations for Law 50-88
- Decree N° 275-21
- Resolution N° 0011- 2018

**Priority Action 3.4:** Strengthen or develop appropriate domestic controls over precursors including measures to control the international trade in precursor chemicals and other controlled chemical substances, consistent with the framework established in the United Nations Drug Conventions and law enforcement measures.

The Dominican Republic has implemented the following control measures listed in Article 12, Paragraph 8 of the 1988 United Nations Convention:

Control measures	Yes	No
Control all persons and companies engaged in the manufacture or distribution of controlled chemical substances	X	
Control, under license, the establishment and premises where the aforementioned manufacture or distribution is carried out	X	
Require licensees to obtain authorization for the manufacture or distribution of controlled chemical substances	X	
Prevent the accumulation by manufacturers and distributors of quantities of such substances in excess of those required for the normal conduct of business and prevailing market conditions	X	

The Dominican Republic has implemented the following control measures listed in Article 12, Paragraph 9 of the 1988 United Nations Convention:

Control measures	Yes	No
A system for monitoring international trade in controlled chemical substances to facilitate the detection of suspicious transactions	X	
The surveillance system should be implemented in close cooperation with manufacturers, importers, exporters, wholesalers, and retailers, who should report suspicious orders and transactions to the competent authorities	X	
Order the seizure of any controlled substance if there is sufficient evidence that it is to be used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances	X	

Notify, as soon as possible, the competent authorities and services if there are reasons to presume that the import, export, or transit of a substance is intended for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, providing, in particular, information on the means of payment and any other essential elements on which this presumption is based	X	
Require imports and exports to be properly labeled and documented. Commercial documents such as invoices, cargo manifests, customs, transport, and other documents relating to the shipment should contain the names of the substances being imported or exported, the quantity imported or exported and the name and address of the importer, exporter, and where possible, the consignee. These documents must be kept for at least two years and may be inspected by the competent authorities	X	

The Dominican Republic complies with the request for information in Article 12, Paragraph 10 of the 1988 United Nations Convention.

**Priority Action 3.5: Promote participation in the Pre-Export Notification (PEN) Online system and Precursor Incident Communication System (PICS) to facilitate information exchange on controlled chemical substances.**

The Dominican Republic uses the International Narcotics Control Board’s (INCB) information system for pre-export notifications (PEN Online) of controlled chemical substances.

The country does not use the INCB’s Precursor Incident Communication System (PICS).

**Priority Action 3.6: Train relevant drug investigation, control, and interdiction personnel and researchers on the identification and handling of precursors and other controlled chemical substances used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.**

The Dominican Republic does not receive training for drug control personnel and for the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances.

**Priority Action 3.7: Allocate resources to acquire necessary equipment and supplies for the preliminary identification of substances, and the protective equipment required by personnel in charge of these tasks.**

The Dominican Republic has a budgetary mechanism that ensure the allocation of resources to acquire the equipment and supplies needed for the preliminary identification of substances and the protective equipment required by the personnel in charge of those tasks.

**Priority Action 3.8:** Use, as appropriate, CICAD’s Model Regulations for the control of Chemical Substances Used in the Illicit Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (2019) in the formulation of national chemical control regulations.

The Dominican Republic uses the OAS/CICAD Model Regulations for the Control of Chemical Substances Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. In this sense, they are used by the National Drug Control Directorate and the Ministry of Public Health.

**OBJECTIVE**

4

**ENSURE ADEQUATE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF SUBSTANCES SUBJECT TO INTERNATIONAL CONTROL FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, WHILE ALSO PREVENTING THEIR DIVERSION TOWARDS ILLICIT ACTIVITIES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL CONVENTIONS.**

**Priority Action 4.1:** Streamline, in accordance with national legislation and international obligations, the process for issuing authorizations for national production, and to import and export controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes.

The Dominican Republic has special processes for issuing authorizations for the national production, import, and export of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes. The following table indicates how long it takes, on average, for an import or export authorization to be issued:

Type of product	Average time taken to issue export licenses	Average time taken to issue export licenses
Narcotic or psychotropic raw materials for the manufacture of medicines	15 days	15 days
Medications containing narcotic or psychotropic drugs	15 days	15 days
Analytical patterns classified as narcotic or psychotropic	15 days	15 days
Medication classified as narcotic or psychotropic for the personal use of travelers entering or leaving the country	In these cases, it must be with a medical control prescription and certification from the physician justifying the export. (Controlled medicines are not re-exported)	In these cases, it must be with a medical control prescription and certification from the physician justifying the export. (Controlled medicines are not re-exported)

The country The Dominican Republic has an updated register of individuals or companies importing and exporting substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

**Priority Action 4.2:** Adopt measures, in accordance with national laws, to train competent authorities and health professionals on ensuring access to substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

The Dominican Republic does not have training or awareness activities for competent national authorities and health professionals on the proper access to substances subject to international control solely for medical and scientific purposes.

**Priority Action 4.3:** Improve access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by addressing existing barriers, including those related to laws, regulations, and measures to promote access and build capacity for health care systems.

The Dominican Republic has Law 50-88 and Official Letter 2021-11192, to govern the acquisition of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

**OBJECTIVE**
**5**

**ADOPT OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS CONTAINING NARCOTIC DRUGS AND/OR PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, AND THOSE CONTAINING PRECURSOR SUBSTANCES USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

**Priority Action 5.1:** Strengthen or implement control measures on pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or controlled psychoactive substances, to prevent their diversion for non-medical purposes, abuse, and trafficking.

The Dominican Republic has an updated register of individuals and corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances. Accordingly, in order to issue the Class B Certification, a record is created for each company containing the following information:

- General Company Data  
Name, complete address, telephone numbers, email, national taxpayer registration, Class B certification number, business activity.
- Technical Director or Pharmaceutical Professional Data  
Full Name, I.D., telephone numbers, address, exequatur, other places where he/she works.
- Administrator and/or Owners Data  
Full Name, address, I.D., telephone numbers.
- Company or Customs Person Data  
Name, address, telephone numbers, I.D.
- Authorized Substances  
Substances that may be handled, Substance Categories.
- Certificate Data  
Certificate Number, expiration date, approval date, an indication of whether it is a first application or a renewal, and whether or not it is exonerated.
- Application and Payment Information.

In order to issue Class A Certification, for Health Professionals, a record is created for each company containing the following information:

- Applicant's General Data  
Full name, personal address, telephones, email, I.D., exequatur, trade association number, specialty.
- Employment data  
Place of work, work address.
- Certified data  
Certificate number, expiration date, approval date, first time application or renewal.
- Approved Substance  
Approved Drug Category

The Dominican Republic issues licenses to manufacturers and distributors authorizing the handling of pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances.

The country carries out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle pharmaceutical products containing precursors, narcotics, or psychotropic substances.

**Priority Action 5.2: Update existing and other regulations and control measures to prevent diversion of pharmaceutical products containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances.**

The Dominican Republic has the following penalties for infractions or violations by individuals or corporations that handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances:

Type of penalty	Year of last update
Criminal	1988
Administrative	1988

**Priority Action 5.3: Strengthen national capacity and regional cooperation to prevent trade in and diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including pill presses and encapsulating equipment.**

The Dominican Republic does not offer periodic training programs for personnel responsible for preventing trade in and diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

The country does not share information with other regional or global systems on the diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, despite having access to global platforms to record these cases, because no such cases have been found in the country.

**Priority Action 5.4: Promote the incorporation of competent national authorities in the International Import and Export Authorization System (I2ES) of the International Narcotics Control Board, a secure online platform, ready to issue, upload, and expeditiously exchange import and export authorizations of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical use, between countries.**

The Dominican Republic does not use the International Narcotics Control Board's (INCB) International Import and Export Authorization System (I2ES), nor does it have alternative

mechanisms in place that are ready to issue, load, or exchange expeditiously import and export authorizations of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical use.

The country has received training on the INCB's I2ES system.

**OBJECTIVE**

6

**STRENGTHEN OR DEVELOP SPECIFIC OPERATIONAL AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING AND SHARING MECHANISMS TO DETECT METHODS USED BY CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING THE EXPLOITATION OF LAND, RIVERINE, MARITIME, AND AERIAL ROUTES.**

**Priority Action 6.1:** Train law enforcement agencies involved in counternarcotics investigations in special investigative techniques and in intelligence gathering, analysis, and operations, as well as in the use of existing information sharing and intelligence systems.

The Dominican Republic implements the following periodic training programs for personnel in charge of drug investigations in special investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations:

- Basic Course on Investigation and Identification of Drugs and Controlled Substances
- Drug Intelligence and Investigation Training Course
- Intermediate-level Intelligence Course
- Advanced Course on Investigation and Identification of Drugs and Controlled Substances
- Operational Intelligence Course
- Specialized Operational Intelligence Course
- Course on Intelligence Analysis
- Course on Combating Drug Trafficking at Airports

**Priority Action 6.2:** Enhance the capabilities of law enforcement agencies that investigate and counter drug trafficking and the crimes that facilitate and are associated with trafficking, such as corruption and money laundering, through ongoing training of the involved personnel.

The Dominican Republic implements and participates in periodical training programs or other capacity-building activities to investigate and counter crimes associated with illicit drug trafficking, such as corruption and money laundering. In this sense, the Financial Analysis Unit (UAF) participated in the following international training activities in 2021:

- **Financial Action Task Force of Latin America (GAFILAT):**
  - *Grupo de Acción Financiera de Latinoamérica (GAFILAT) Regional Typologies Workshop*, August 2021
  - Virtual (intermediate level) program for the management of financial investigations [taught by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Latin America Academy for Tax and Financial Crime Investigation] – October 2021
  - Workshop on Best Practices and Trends in the Identification of the Final Beneficiary, given by the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) and the Coordination Office of the Republic of Honduras with GAFILAT -UIF - Comisión Nacional de Bancos y Seguros (CNBS) September 2021
  - Webinar on Virtual Assets (VA) and Virtual Asset Service Providers (VASP) - November 2021

- Webinar on Combating Terrorist Financing (TF) and Proliferation, and TF Risk Management in Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) in GAFILAT countries - November 2021
- Training for trainers of judges and prosecutors on the importance of coordination with FIUs and the use of financial intelligence reports (IIF) as a tool for Money Laundering/Financing of Terrorism (ML/FT) investigation - November 2021
- **Egmont Group** Within the framework of the 27th Egmont Group Plenary Meetings (Virtual), employees from the Analysis and Coordination departments participated in four (4) training sessions on operational analysis:
  - The Flexible, Consistent Information Exchange Standards - Moving to Production - July 2021
  - Combating Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation One Year Later - July 2021
  - Tackling Illicit Finance Associated with Human Trafficking – July 2021
  - Introduction and Application of the New Egmont Secure Web and Egmont Biennial Census
  - Cooperation between national customs authorities and Financial Intelligence Units (operational issues, challenges, and solutions) with the collaboration of the World Customs Organization and the Hungarian Financial Intelligence Unit – July 2021
  - Americas Regional Workshop on Improving Suspicious Transactions Reports (STR) Quality August 2021
- **World Bank:** With World Bank support for the development of National Risk Assessment (ENR), the following training activities were coordinated for public and private sector actors:
  - The workshop on starting national risk assessment (ENR) - March 2011.
  - Workshop for Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) - April 2021
  - Workshop on Financial Inclusion – June 2021
  - Risk Assessment of Legal Persons, Legal Arrangements, and Beneficial Ownership-Related Risks - September 2021
- **U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Technical Assistance (OTA).** The following activities were coordinated for Financial Analysis Unit (UAF) employees:
  - General Workshop on Money Laundering/Financing of Terrorism/Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (LA/FT/PADM) - April 2021
  - Workshop on ML/FT/PADM and virtual assets – May 2021
  - Workshop on analysis and interpretation of banking information - August 2021
- **Other business:**
  - Webinar for the Design of the New goAML XML Schema - January 2021
  - Combating Cash Smuggling, organized by the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) Global Programme against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, held jointly with CARICOM and its Implementation Agency for

Crime and Security (IMPACS) and the UNODC Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP) - March 2021

- Webinar: Offshore Tax Evasion, given by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Criminal Investigation - April 2021
- National Workshop for the Legislative Sector on UNSCR 1540 and Strategic Trade, organized by the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (CICTE) of the Organization of American States (OAS), through the UNSCR 1540 Focal Point Brigadier General Francisco Antonio Ovalle Pichardo, Ministry of Defense - September 2021
- Training on "Interagency Coordination and Investigation Techniques in Money Laundering Cases", organized by the Caribbean Border Security Project (MCBS), November 2021
- 5th Global Conference on Criminal Finances and Cryptocurrencies, organized by the international Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol), and the Basel Institute on Governance and held on December 2021

**Priority Action 6.3: Strengthen cooperation and the exchange of information among the domestic, regional, and international law enforcement agencies to carry out operations and investigations to counter drug trafficking and related crimes.**

The Dominican Republic has information gathering mechanisms to exchange intelligence information, at a domestic, regional, and international level, to detect routes and methods used by drug trafficking criminal organizations.

**Priority Action 6.4: Promote and strengthen the exchange of information and intelligence on matters of drug interdiction and effective border control measures to prevent drug trafficking by land, river, sea, and air.**

The Dominican Republic has the following tools that promote and strengthen cooperation and the exchange of information and intelligence among domestic law enforcement agencies responsible for drug interdiction and effective border control.

**Priority Action 6.5: Improve the information systems on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behavior patterns and modus operandi of criminal drug trafficking organizations.**

The Dominican Republic has a national information system on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal organizations. The agency that provides information for this system is the National Drug Control Directorate.

**OBJECTIVE**  
**7**

**ESTABLISH, UPDATE, OR REINFORCE, AS APPROPRIATE, THE LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS IN THE AREAS OF PREVENTION, DETECTION, INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION, AND CONTROL OF MONEY LAUNDERING DERIVED FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING, SUCH AS THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE (FATF).**

**Priority Action 7.1:** Strengthen implementation of the legal, regulatory, and operational frameworks in the areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and control of money laundering associated with drug trafficking.

The Dominican Republic has strengthened its legislative frameworks to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking. In this sense, the country has:

- Law No.155-17, Against Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism, of June 1, 2017
- Decree No. 408-17, of November 16, 2017, which contains the enabling regulations for Law No.155-17
- Decree No.407-17, of November 16, 2017, which contains the enabling regulations for the Application of Measures for the Preventive Freezing of Goods or Assets Related to Terrorism and its Financing, and to the Financing of the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, Pursuant to the Resolutions of the United Nations Security Council

Additionally, on July 30 and December 15, 2021, respectively, the National Committee Against Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (CONCLAFIT), through the Financial Analysis Unit in its capacity as technical secretariat, issued resolutions regarding the updating of the amounts of administrative fines envisaged in Law No. 155-17 and the powers of Honorary Consuls as Politically Exposed Persons (PEP) [*la facultad de Personas Expuesta (sic) Políticamente (PEP) de los Cónsules Honorarios*].

**Priority Action 7.2:** Develop and implement specialized ongoing training in areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and control of money laundering derived from drug trafficking, consistent with known and emerging risks.

The Dominican Republic has periodic training programs for officials and those in vulnerable sectors, on the prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution money laundering derived from drug trafficking. In this sense, the Financial Analysis Unit (UAF), through the Prevention, Education and Dissemination Department, has attended to the training needs of the Competent Authorities (CA) of the national system. In this sense, the needs and opportunities of institutions are constantly being identified, and training programs designed in accordance with them. Likewise, the Financial Analysis Unit involves representatives of the different CAs in the calls for proposals and registration of representatives in its announcements of international training activities.

**Priority Action 7.3: Enhance investigations by competent authorities into drug trafficking cases linked to money laundering and illicit use of assets.**

The Dominican Republic does not have protocols that enable the authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking investigations.

**Priority Action 7.4: Strengthen interagency coordination and cooperation in relation to the development of national anti-money laundering strategies, including through coordinating committees and task forces.**

The Dominican Republic has mechanisms allowing for inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering. In accordance with the provisions of Article 88 of Law No. 155-17, the National Committee Against Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (CONCLAFIT) was established, thereby strengthening coordination and interagency cooperation among the competent authorities of the national system. CONCLAFIT is a collegiate coordinating body responsible for the efficient operation of the system to prevent, detect, control, and combat money laundering, the financing of terrorism, and the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The body is composed as follows:

- The Minister of Finance, who chairs it
- The Prosecutor General (*Procurador General de la República*).
- The Minister of Defense
- The President of the National Drug Council
- The President of the National Drug Control Directorate
- The Superintendent of Banks
- The Head of the Stock Exchange (*El Superintendente del Mercado de Valores*)

Also, in accordance with Article 90, paragraph 1 and Article 91 of Law. 155-17, the technical secretariat of CONCLAFIT is exercised by the UAF, in its capacity as a technical entity.

**Priority Action 7.5: Strengthen the exchange of financial intelligence as related to money laundering, including through the standardization of information systems.**

The Dominican Republic has the Financial Analysis Unit (UAF-RD) as its financial intelligence unit, which was established in Article 91 of Law No. 155-17 as a technical entity that serves as the technical secretariat of CONCLAFIT, attached to the Ministry of Finance.

The country does not have information systems aimed at the investigation and prosecution of money laundering derived in analyzing cases deriving from drug trafficking.

**Priority Action 7.6: Identify and analyze money laundering threats to mitigate risks through public policies that strengthen the regime for preventing and countering money laundering, in accordance with applicable international instruments.**

The Dominican Republic has mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations. In this regard, the country conducted its first National Risk Assessment (NRA) on Money Laundering, Financing of Terrorism and The Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (LA/FT/PADM) on the instructions of the National Anti-Money Laundering Committee (CONCLA). It covered the period 2010-2014. This assessment was coordinated by the UAF and was carried out with the support of the World Bank.

The NRA is based on a methodology designed to identify, analyze, and understand LA/FT/PADM risks, and is key to focusing the actions of the competent authorities and the different sectors of the economy and enabling them to address these scourges in a well-coordinated manner.

Based on the results of the last NRA 2014-2017, the National Strategy (2017-2020) is now practically complete and, in order to comply with the commitments entered into with the Latin American Financial Action Task Force (GAFILAT), Recommendation 1 of the International Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and its Interpretative Note which establishes that countries should identify, assess, and understand their LA/FT/PADM risks, apply a risk-based approach, and keep their assessments updated the need arises to perform a comprehensive update of that Assessment and Strategy. To that end, the National Committee Against Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (CONCLAFIT) unanimously approved the comprehensive update of the risks to which the Dominican Republic could be exposed as a country, which will again be carried out with the coordination of the UAF and the support of the World Bank.

The updating of the NRA will have a nationwide impact, since it enriches the functions of the competent authorities of the system for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of LA/FT/PADM, as well as the parties bound by Law. 155-17, Against Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism, and will also provide information of interest to the public.

In addition, in accordance with the functions established in Article 91 of the aforementioned law, the FAU carries out sectoral studies as part of the strategic analysis to identify trends and patterns related to money laundering and financing of terrorism.

**Priority Action 7.7: Strengthen partnerships with the financial industries to identify and investigate illicit transactions and money laundering operations related to the proceeds of drug trafficking activities.**

The Dominican Republic has established partnerships with the financial industries to identify and investigate illicit transactions and money laundering operations related to the proceeds of illicit drug trafficking. In this sense, the regulated entities, within the framework of Law No. 155-17, are classified as financial and non-financial. Both sectors of the economy defined in Articles 32

and 33, and in accordance with Article 55 of the same law, must report suspicious transactions to the FAU within five working days after the transaction has been carried out or attempted.

Likewise, a section on the institutional web portal called “*UAF Te Escucha*” (UAF Listens to You) was made available to the general public and contains a form through which citizens can share information on possible situations that could be related to the LA/FT/PADM. The FAU guarantees confidential analysis and absolute confidentiality with respect to the informant's identity. Therefore, all information will be received and processed with total confidentiality as to its content and the identity of the informant.

**OBJECTIVE**

8

**ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN AGENCIES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND DISPOSITION OF SEIZED AND/OR FORFEITED ASSETS IN CASES OF DRUG TRAFFICKING, MONEY LAUNDERING, AND OTHER RELATED CRIMES, IN LINE WITH APPLICABLE INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND IN LINE WITH RELEVANT STANDARDS, SUCH AS THE FATF RECOMMENDATIONS AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS ON PREVENTIVE FREEZING OF ASSETS.**

**Priority Action 8.1: Establish and/or strengthen, as appropriate, national entities responsible for the administration and disposition of assets seized and/or forfeited in cases of drug trafficking, money laundering, and other related crimes.**

**Priority Action 8.2: Establish specialized agencies and appropriate mechanisms for the transparent administration of seized and forfeited assets, in accordance with national laws and international standards.**

The Dominican Republic has the Office of Custody and Administration of Seized and Forfeited Property (OCABID) and the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (PGR) as the designated competent authorities responsible for the administration of seized and forfeited assets, through Law No. 2-02 and Law No 155-17.

The country does not have regulations to facilitate the accountability or transparency of the management of seized and forfeited assets.

**Priority Action 8.3: Develop and implement specialized, ongoing training programs for law enforcement officials charged with the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets.**

The Dominican Republic does not offer nor participate in specialized, periodic training programs for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets.

**Priority Action 8.4: In accordance with each country’s constitutional principles, apply legislative and regulatory measures to facilitate the seizure, forfeiture and management of assets, instruments, or products of illicit drug-related activities.**

The Dominican Republic does not have legislation, regulation, or other specific measures, in accordance with international conventions and treaties, to facilitate the seizure, forfeiture, and management of assets and instruments derived from drug trafficking and other related crimes.

**OBJECTIVE**

9

**DESIGN, IMPLEMENT, AND STRENGTHEN COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED NATIONAL PROGRAMS TO REDUCE THE ILLICIT CULTIVATION, PRODUCTION, AND MANUFACTURE OF DRUGS THROUGH THE ADOPTION OF EFFECTIVE MEASURES, SUCH AS COMPREHENSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT, ENHANCED LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF SUB-NATIONAL REGIONS OF EACH COUNTRY, RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.**

**Priority Action 9.1: Design, implement, and update national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production, and manufacture of drugs.**

The Dominican Republic has not designed, implemented, or updated national policies or programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production, or manufacture of drugs.

**Priority Action 9.2: Establish budgetary mechanisms to ensure sufficient and consistent allocation of resources to counternarcotics programs.**

The Dominican Republic does not direct budgetary allocations towards financing counternarcotics programs.

**Priority Action 9.3: Promote supply reduction measures that take into account licit traditional uses, whenever there is historical evidence of such uses, as well as environmental protection.**

The Dominican Republic does not take into account the licit traditional use in designing and implementing policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs.

The country does not include environmental protection measures in its policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs.

**Priority Action 9.4: Strengthen interagency cooperation to provide a comprehensive response against the illicit production of drugs, including collaboration among the public and private sectors and the international community.**

The Dominican Republic has not established mechanisms for interinstitutional cooperation between public and private institutions to provide a comprehensive response to the illicit production of drugs.

**Priority Action 9.5:** Support supply reduction programs with crime prevention initiatives, in cooperation with civil society and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to address social and economic risk factors.

The Dominican Republic does not support the development of supply reduction programs with drug-related crime prevention initiatives that address social and economic risk factors.

**OBJECTIVE**

10

**DESIGN, IMPLEMENT, OR STRENGTHEN LONG-TERM ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, INCLUDING RURAL AND URBAN ALTERNATIVES, COMPREHENSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, AND, AS APPROPRIATE, PREVENTIVE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES, LAWS, AND NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, AS APPROPRIATE, WHILE RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.**

**Priority Action 10.1: Design and implement comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, while respecting human rights.**

The Dominican Republic has not designed or implemented comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs or preventive alternative development programs as part of strategies to control and reduce illicit crops.

**Priority Action 10.2: Exchange experiences and best practices in the design and implementation of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate.**

Not applicable.

**Priority Action 10.3: Promote and disseminate the results of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, and the benefits they provide to affected communities.**

Not applicable.

**Priority Action 10.4: Design and/or strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems for comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs aimed at reducing illicit crop cultivation and improving the well-being of communities, through the use of indicators that measure programs' effectiveness.**

Not applicable.

**Priority Action 10.5: Strengthen state presence in areas affected by or at risk of illicit drug cultivation, consistent with the circumstances of each member state.**

Not applicable.

**Priority Action 10.6:** Promote, in accordance with national realities, the participation of local communities and relevant organizations in the development of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, taking into account their needs and capabilities.

Not applicable.

**Priority Action 10.7:** Promote partnerships and innovative cooperative initiatives with the private sector, civil society, and international financial institutions to spur investment and job creation in areas and communities affected by or at-risk of illicit drug cultivation and production, and share related practices, lessons learned, expertise, and skills.

Not applicable.

**OBJECTIVE**  
**11**

**DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT PLANS AND/OR PROGRAMS TO MITIGATE AND REDUCE THE IMPACT OF ILLICIT CROPS AND DRUG PRODUCTION ON THE ENVIRONMENT, IN COOPERATION WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND NATIONAL POLICIES OF MEMBER STATES.**

**Priority Action 11.1: Conduct research and studies on the environmental impact of illicit crop cultivation and illicit production of drugs.**

The Dominican Republic has not carried out, during the evaluation period (2019-2022), research or studies to determine the characteristics and extent of the environmental impact caused by the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit drug production.

**Priority Action 11.2: Design and implement specific research-based plans to mitigate the environmental impact of illicit crop cultivation and drug production, with the participation of local communities.**

Not applicable.

**Priority Action 11.3: Promote and strengthen the use of environmental management tools, as appropriate.**

Not applicable.

**OBJECTIVE**  
**12**
**ADDRESS THE EFFECTS OF SMALL-SCALE DRUG TRAFFICKING ON PUBLIC HEALTH, THE ECONOMY, SOCIAL COHESION, AND CITIZEN SECURITY.**

**Priority Action 12.1:** Develop and implement local approaches for controlling micro-trafficking and related crimes.

**Priority Action 12.4:** Encourage the development and implementation of comprehensive intervention strategies to counter local illicit distribution and sale of drugs.

The Dominican Republic has developed and implemented approaches for controlling micro-trafficking and related crimes, that take into account effects on public health, the economy, social cohesion, and citizen security. In this sense, the National Drug Control Directorate develops preventive programs in coordination with the National Drug Council, to minimize the effects on the most vulnerable communities (children and adolescents) nationwide.

**Priority Action 12.2:** Promote interagency exchange of information at the national level to better understand the scope and adverse effects of small-scale drug trafficking, including on health, society, the economy, and security.

The Dominican Republic promotes the exchange of information on the effects of small-scale drug trafficking on health, social, economic, and security sectors. These exchanges are carried out in accordance with the following table:

Entities with which information was shared	The medium used to share the information	Year
Ministry of Public Health	Documentary	2019-2021
National Drugs Council	Publications, recreational activities, statistics	2018-2021
National Drug Control Directorate	Institutional memory	2019-2021
National Police	Statistical reports	2019-2021

**Priority Action 12.3:** Promote programs and strategies to prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations by drug trafficking networks, at the national and international level.

The Dominican Republic does not have programs or strategies that prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations affected by drug trafficking networks, at the national and international level.

## EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

### **Objective 1**

**Develop and/or strengthen national- and regional-level interdiction capacity, as well as the capacity to reduce the illicit cultivation, production, trafficking, and distribution of plant-based and synthetic drugs through the use of comprehensive and balanced programs in accordance with the realities of each country's domestic legislation and respect for human rights.**

CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic implements and participates in ongoing training programs to detect, investigate, or dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, for personnel involved in interdiction operations; however, CICAD observes that the country does not have protocols or operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle clandestine laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs. CICAD observes that the agencies in charge of drug control in The Dominican Republic implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country has programs or strategies aimed at land, riverine, maritime, and aerial interdiction, through monitoring, inspections, and checkpoints. Moreover, CICAD notes that Dominican Republic has laws and instruments providing for the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques to prevent and reduce drug trafficking. CICAD also notes that the country has updated assessments and studies to identify new trends and threats on drug trafficking and related crimes. Additionally, CICAD observes with satisfaction that The Dominican Republic implements actions to identify organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes, carries out inter-institutional collaboration and cooperation mechanisms to coordinate activities aimed at dismantling organized crime groups involved in these crimes, and has participated in operations and investigations in cooperation with other countries aimed at dismantling these groups. CICAD also notes that the country has institutions that are responsible for, and capable of, analyzing chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS) and participates in ongoing training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of these substances. However, CICAD observes that The Dominican Republic does not have mechanisms to facilitate and share information at the national level across relevant governmental counterparts, as well as with global repositories on these substances. On the other hand, CICAD notes that the country has mechanisms to investigate or disrupt drug trafficking through the Internet. Likewise, CICAD observes that the country has partnerships and information exchange mechanisms with private sector entities to prevent access to materials and services exploited for illicit drug trafficking purposes but does not use tools and resources of the INCB to strengthen cooperation with the private sector to prevent the diversion of chemicals. CICAD also notes that The Dominican Republic has national authorities with the appropriate budget, human and material resources for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets; and its competent personnel does not receive ongoing training in this area.

### **Objective 2**

**Strengthen national measures to address the challenges posed by NPS and illicit synthetic drugs, and the threat of fentanyl-related substances, non-medical synthetic opioids, and illicit amphetamine derivatives.**

CICAD observes that The Dominican Republic does not have an early warning system (EWS) to identify or trace new psychoactive substances (NPS), illicit synthetic drugs, or the threat of fentanyl-related substances, non-medical synthetic opioids, illicit amphetamine derivatives, and other substances subject to international control. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country does not improve its capabilities to detect and analyze NPS through the use of special investigative techniques, updated equipment, and acquisition of technology. Furthermore, CICAD observes that Dominican Republic has regulatory frameworks to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of NPS and emerging synthetic drugs. Likewise, CICAD notes that the country participates in the INCB's Project ION. Additionally, CICAD observes that The Dominican Republic does not have innovative legislation or regulatory approaches to synthetic opioids for non-medical use or NPS.

### **Objective 3**

**Strengthen or develop legal and institutional frameworks for the effective monitoring and control of essential chemical substances and precursors to prevent diversion of these substances to the manufacturing of illicit drugs and counter its trafficking, including periodically updating national lists of controlled chemical substances.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that The Dominican Republic has a competent national authority responsible for developing guides, codes of conduct, or other instruments to inform the industry and users in general of controlled chemical substances and has developed such instruments and mechanisms. CICAD also observes that the country has an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances and that its competent authority carries out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle these substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that Dominican Republic does not carry out analyses that include the exchange of information through existing international mechanisms of substances, their analogs, and precursors, which pose a threat to public health. Additionally, CICAD observes that The Dominican Republic has legislation incorporating the control measures in Article 12 of the 1988 United Nations Convention to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities, which include all the control measures in paragraphs 8, all the control measures in paragraph 9, and the requests for information set forth in Paragraph 10. Likewise, CICAD notes that the country uses the INCB's PEN Online information system for pre-export notifications of controlled chemical substances but does not use the PICS system. Additionally, CICAD observes that Dominican Republic does not receive training for drug control personnel and for the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country does not have budgetary mechanisms to ensure allocation of resources to acquire necessary equipment and supplies for the preliminary identification of substances and the protective equipment required by personnel in charge of

these tasks. CICAD observes that The Dominican Republic use the OAS/CICAD Model Regulations for the Control of Chemical Substances used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

#### **Objective 4**

**Ensure adequate availability and accessibility of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes, while also preventing their diversion towards illicit activities, in accordance with international drug control conventions.**

CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has special processes for issuing authorizations for the national production, import, and export of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes and an updated register of individuals or companies importing and exporting substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes. CICAD observes that the country does not have training or awareness activities for competent national authorities and health professionals on the proper access to substances subject to international control solely for medical and scientific purposes. On the other hand, CICAD notes that the country has a regulatory framework to govern the acquisition of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

#### **Objective 5**

**Adopt or strengthen control measures to prevent diversion of controlled pharmaceutical products containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances, and those containing precursor substances used in the production of controlled substances.**

CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has an updated register of individuals and corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances, issues licenses to manufacturers and distributors authorizing the handling of these substances and carries out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle them. CICAD observes that the country has criminal and administrative penalties for infractions or violations by individuals or corporations that handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances. On the other hand, CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic does not offer periodic training programs for personnel responsible for preventing trade in and diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances nor shares the information with other regional and global systems on this matter. Furthermore, CICAD notes that the country does not use the INCB's I2ES, nor it has alternative mechanisms that are ready to issue, load, and exchange expeditiously import and export authorizations of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical use. However, CICAD notes that the country has received training on the I2ES system.

**Objective 6**

**Strengthen or develop specific operational and intelligence gathering and sharing mechanisms to detect methods used by criminal organizations, including the exploitation of land, riverine, maritime, and aerial routes.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that The Dominican Republic implements in periodic training programs for personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations. Likewise, CICAD observes that the country implements and participates in periodic training programs and other capacity-building activities to investigate and counter crimes associated with drug trafficking, such as corruption and money laundering. Moreover, CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has information gathering mechanisms to exchange intelligence information, at a domestic, regional, and international level, to detect routes and methods used by drug trafficking criminal organizations. CICAD also notes that the country has tools that promote and strengthen cooperation and the exchange of information and intelligence among domestic law enforcement agencies responsible for drug interdiction and effective border control. Moreover, CICAD observes that The Dominican Republic has a national information system on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal organizations.

**Objective 7**

**Establish, update, or reinforce, as appropriate, the legislative and institutional frameworks in the areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and control of money laundering derived from drug trafficking, such as the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).**

CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has strengthened its legislative frameworks to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking. Likewise, CICAD observes that the country has periodic training programs for officials and those in vulnerable sectors on prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering derived from drug trafficking. However, CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic does not have protocols that enable the authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking investigations. On the other hand, CICAD observes that the country has mechanisms allowing for inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering. CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has a financial intelligence unit and information systems aimed at the investigation and prosecution of money laundering in analyzing cases deriving from drug trafficking. CICAD notes that the country has mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations. Additionally, CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has established partnerships with the financial industries to identify and investigate illicit transactions and money laundering operations related to the proceeds of drug trafficking activities.

### **Objective 8**

**Establish and/or strengthen agencies for the administration and disposition of seized and/or forfeited assets in cases of drug trafficking, money laundering, and other related crimes, in line with applicable international law, and in line with relevant standards, such as the FATF recommendations and the recommendations on preventive freezing of assets.**

CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has designated competent authorities responsible for the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets but does not have regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the management of seized and forfeited assets. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country does not offer nor participate in specialized, periodic training programs for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets. Moreover, CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic does not have legislation and regulations, in accordance with international conventions and treaties, to facilitate the seizure, forfeiture, and management of assets and instruments derived from drug trafficking and other related crimes.

### **Objective 9**

**Design, implement, and strengthen comprehensive and balanced national programs to reduce the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of drugs through the adoption of effective measures, such as comprehensive and sustainable alternative development, enhanced law enforcement cooperation, and other appropriate policies and programs, taking into account the particular needs of sub-national regions of each country, respecting human rights.**

CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has not designed, implemented or updated national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production, or manufacture of drugs. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country does not direct budgetary allocations towards financing counternarcotics programs. Additionally, CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic does not take into account the licit traditional use in designing and implementing policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs and does not include environmental protection measures in its policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs. Likewise, CICAD observes that the country has not established mechanisms for interinstitutional cooperation between public and private institutions to provide a comprehensive response to the illicit production of drugs. Additionally, CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic does not support the development of supply reduction programs with drug-related crime prevention initiatives that address social and economic risk factors.

### **Objective 10**

**Design, implement or strengthen long-term alternative development programs, including rural and urban alternatives, comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in accordance with the policies, laws and needs of each country, as appropriate, while respecting human rights.**

CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has not designed or implemented comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs or preventive alternative development as part of the strategies to control and reduce illicit crops, therefore, the priority actions of this objective are not applicable.

### **Objective 11**

**Design and implement plans and/or programs to mitigate and reduce the impact of illicit crops and drug production on the environment, in cooperation with local communities and national policies of member states.**

CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has not carried out, during the evaluation period (2019-2022), research or studies to determine the characteristics and extent of the environmental impact caused by the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit drug production, therefore, the priority actions of this objective are not applicable.

### **Objective 12**

**Address the effects of small-scale drug trafficking on public health, the economy, social cohesion, and citizen security.**

CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic has developed and implemented approaches for controlling micro-trafficking and related crimes, that take into account effects on public health, the economy, social cohesion, and citizen security. Likewise, CICAD observes that the country promotes the interagency exchange of information on the effects of small-scale drug trafficking in the health, social, economic and security sectors. However, CICAD notes that The Dominican Republic does not have programs or strategies that prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations affected by drug trafficking networks, at the national and international level.





**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)  
INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)**

1889 F Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
[www.cicad.oas.org](http://www.cicad.oas.org)