

# MEMEM

## Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)

### Trinidad and Tobago

### EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL

2007-2009



Organization of American States

2010





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

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

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

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ISBN 978-0-8270-5573-5



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

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





## PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is a diagnostic tool designed by all member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to periodically carry out comprehensive, multilateral evaluations of the progress of actions taken by member states and by the hemisphere as a whole, in dealing with the drug problem. The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), of the Secretariat of Multidimensional Security, an OAS specialized agency, implemented this Mechanism in 1998, pursuant to a mandate from the Second Summit of the Americas held in Santiago, Chile in 1998.

The MEM is not only an evaluation instrument, but has also become a vehicle for disseminating information on the progress achieved by individual and collective efforts of OAS member state governments, catalyzing hemispheric cooperation, promoting dialogue among member state government authorities and precisely channeling assistance to areas requiring greater attention by optimizing resources. The MEM process itself is assessed by the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), comprised of delegations from all member states, which meets before the onset of each MEM evaluation round to review and strengthen all operational aspects of the mechanism, including the indicators of the evaluation questionnaire.

National evaluation reports are drafted by experts from each member state, with experts not working on their own country's report, guaranteeing the transparent multilateral nature of the MEM. Each chapter is based on countries' responses to a questionnaire of indicators covering the main thematic areas of institution building, demand reduction, supply reduction and control measures as well as subsequent comments and updated information provided by the government-appointed coordinating entities.

This report covers the full country evaluation for the MEM Fifth Round evaluation period 2007-2009. The follow-up report on the implementation progress of recommendations assigned to the country will be published in June 2012. All MEM reports can be accessed through the following webpage: [www.cicad.oas.org](http://www.cicad.oas.org)







## INTRODUCTION

Trinidad and Tobago are the southernmost islands of the Caribbean archipelago. The island of Trinidad is separated from Venezuela by the 11km straits of the Gulf of Paria, and Tobago lies northeast of its sister island with its closest neighbors being Grenada to the northwest, Barbados to the northeast and Venezuela on the South American mainland. The country has a total area of 5,128 km<sup>2</sup> with 362 km of coastline and a population of 1.3 million (2006). The main ethnic groups in the country are African, Indian, Chinese, French, Spanish, English, Syrian, and Lebanese. Its literacy rate is 98.6% (2003). Trinidad and Tobago has a parliamentary democracy represented by forty-one (41) constituencies. At the local government level, Trinidad is divided into nine counties, two municipalities and one district (ward), while Tobago has internal self government through the Tobago House of Assembly. The country has a per capita GDP of US\$22,255 (2009) and an inflation rate of 7% (2009). Trinidad and Tobago's exports total US\$9.7 billion annually (2009), relying on the principal exports of petroleum and its byproducts, natural gas, chemicals, steel byproducts, fertilizers, sugar, cocoa, coffee, citrus fruits and flowers.

## I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### A. National Anti-drug Plan

Trinidad and Tobago's National Anti-Drug Plan is in force from 2008-2012 and covers the following thematic areas: Institutional Strengthening, Demand Reduction, Research, Supply Reduction, and Monitoring and Evaluation. The strategic priorities for the time period the Plan is in effect include developing healthy communities free from the negative consequences of uncontrolled substance use, substance abuse and the illicit traffic of narcotics; developing strategies and programs that take into account the plural nature of the society (diverse religious, ethnic and cultural mix); pursuing perpetrators in drug trafficking, regardless of their status, rank or special standing in society; employing an approach which places equal emphasis on supply and demand reduction; placing greater emphasis on rehabilitation and social reinsertion; and recognizing the drug problem as having adverse public health implications for the population.

The country reports that all agencies with policy and operational mandates related to drug control are responsible for executing the National Anti-Drug Plan, while the National Drug Council is responsible for monitoring its implementation. A budget for financing the National Anti-Drug Plan exists. The country estimates that US\$50.7million will be spent on implementation of the National Anti-Drug Plan 2008–2012. The Plan includes a monitoring and evaluation system, administered by the National Drug Council, through its Secretariat, working in collaboration with the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of the Ministry of National Security.

Trinidad and Tobago has a national anti-drug authority, the National Drug Council, which was established in 2000. The Council coordinates demand reduction, supply reduction, alternative, integral and sustainable development, control measures, the drug observatory, international



cooperation, and program evaluation. The Council has a legal basis and a central technical office, the National Drug Council Secretariat, which was established in 2001.

There is an annual budget for the National Drug Council, which is a component of the overall budget of its parent ministry, the Ministry of National Security. The amount is a separate line item, and is allocated to the Council, which has full autonomy in spending. The country indicates that this budget is also used by the central technical office to carry out its mandates. The sources of financing for the budget are government allocation, civil society contributions, and international cooperation. The country provides the annual budget for the period 2006–2009 in the following table:

**National Drug Council Annual Budget, 2006–2009**

Fiscal Year	Total budget received (US \$)
2006	\$167,000
2007	\$233,000
2008	\$250,000
2009	\$333,000

## B. International Conventions

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

- Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 1992;
- Inter-American Convention against Corruption, 1996;
- Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials – CIFTA, 1997;
- United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol;
- United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971;
- United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988;
- The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols, 2000:
  - Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air;
  - Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;
  - Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition;
- United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003.



## C. National Information System

Trinidad and Tobago's National Drug Council organizes, carries out studies, compiles, and coordinates drug-related statistics and other drug-related information, with an assigned budget to carry out its functions.

Regarding demand reduction studies and information, the country carried out a survey of secondary school students in 2006, and has information on accidents associated with alcohol and drugs through access to forensic medicine registers of deceased persons, which show the association of drug use and cause of death, for the years 2006–2009.

Trinidad and Tobago has the following supply reduction-related information available for the years 2006–2009: quantity of drugs seized, number of persons charged with and convicted of drug use, possession and trafficking, number of persons formally charged with and convicted of money laundering, and sale price of drugs for consumers.

## II. DEMAND REDUCTION

### A. Prevention

Trinidad and Tobago provides the following information regarding drug prevention programs being carried out targeting key population groups:

**Prevention Programs for Key Population Groups**

Population Group	Estimated Coverage		Name of Program	Type of Program (Universal, Selective, Indicated)
	Target Population	% Coverage		
<b>School children and university students:</b>				
Pre-school: 3-5 years of age	3,050	3%	Pre-School Initiative	Selective
Elementary/primary	129,641	2%	Primary School Drug Prevention Initiative	Universal
Junior high & high school (secondary school)	100,000	1%	Facing Life Series INFOMANIA 25	Universal Universal
University/tertiary education: 18-27 years of age	2,500	16%	Sensitization for New Students	Universal
Women	250,000	35%	Eva Goes to Foreign	Universal



Population Group	Estimated Coverage		Name of Program	Type of Program (Universal, Selective, Indicated)
	Target Population	% Coverage		
Community	1.3 million	15%	Community Prevention Programme	Universal
Workers in the workplace	320,000	5%	Anti-drug sensitization in the work place	Universal
Incarcerated individuals	7,700	100%	Orientation at all prison stations	Universal

Trinidad and Tobago is not carrying out drug use prevention programs for the street population or families. The country reports that its school-based and workplace prevention programs are compatible with *CICAD's Hemispheric Guidelines*.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that the National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme undertakes evaluations of its programs through evaluation forms after delivery, re-calls of participants at specialized trainings and feedback received from radio programs. Structured impact surveys were developed in 2009. In addition, in 2008 the country undertook a study to review the effectiveness of public education programs on drugs. The report, which was published in 2009, noted that the methodology through which messages were delivered was ineffective. New media for delivering messages have been developed.

During the period 2006–2009, Trinidad and Tobago offered training for police officers, teachers, counselors, prison guards, and community leaders; technical, non-university training; courses on prevention and treatment in the curricula for courses of study leading to an undergraduate degree, diplomas or certificates; and regional and international training programs in drug abuse prevention, treatment and research.

The country offered refresher and in-service training to police officers, teachers, counselors, prison guards, and community leaders at the Caribbean Institute on Alcoholism and Other Drug Problems (CARIAD) during the period 2006 to 2009. A total of 195 persons received training during the evaluation period. Trinidad and Tobago also offered technical, non-university training in the areas of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, and research during the years 2006–2009.

The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine includes content on prevention, treatment and research in the curricula of its Department of Behavioral Sciences, Social Work, Psychology and Sociology programs and also in its medical school, while the Trinidad and Tobago College of Science, Technology, and Applied Arts also offers such content in its Nursing program. Trinidad and Tobago also offered a certificate program on Caribbean Regional Addiction Studies, as well as an Online Certificate on Addiction Studies.



## B. Treatment

The Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Development are responsible for the design and execution of public policy, control and regulation of treatment services, financing, program supervision and human resources training regarding treatment. The country indicates the following public financing allocated for treatment activities during the evaluation period:

<b>Estimated amount of the national budget allocated for financing treatment programs</b>			
<b>2006 (US \$)</b>	<b>2007 (US \$)</b>	<b>2008 (US \$)</b>	<b>2009 (US \$)</b>
\$134,658	\$161,784	\$327,253	\$356,141

Trinidad and Tobago does not have official operating standards in place for facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use. The country does not have an official licensing procedure to authorize the operation of these facilities, and there is no monitoring system in place.

Trinidad and Tobago's Primary Health Care (PHC) facilities carry out some activities to address problems associated with drug use. The country indicates that eight PHC facilities delivered care for problems associated with drug use in 2006 and 2007, and 10 in 2008 and 2009.

Trinidad and Tobago does not have officially-licensed specialized drug treatment facilities. The country has data on the number of cases treated in unlicensed specialized treatment facilities, and provides the following information for the 2006–2009 period:

**Cases Treated in Unlicensed Specialized Treatment Facilities, 2006–2009**

<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
1,361	1,387	2,256	2,530

Trinidad and Tobago reports that two treatment centers in the country offer aftercare programs: New Life Ministries, and the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Centre, Caura Hospital.

## C. Statistics on Consumption

Trinidad and Tobago reports that it carries out surveys on a regular basis. However, no surveys of the general or student populations were carried out during the evaluation period. The country carried out a Rapid Assessment Survey of Tertiary Institutions in 2008.



Trinidad and Tobago provides the following information regarding age of first use of drugs. The data was obtained from a 2006 school survey:

**Age of First Use of Drugs, 2006**

Population: Secondary School, 11-21 years	2006	
	Average	Median
Type of Drug		
Alcohol	10.9	11
Tobacco	11.9	12
Solvents or inhalants	10	10
Marijuana	13	13
Tranquilizers and stimulants	11.8	13

Trinidad and Tobago has an estimate of the percentage of youth that perceive drug use as being harmful to their health and well-being from a 2006 secondary school survey, and provides these percentages in the following table:

**Percentage of Youth that Perceive Drug Use as Being Harmful to Their Health and Well-Being**

Age group to which this applies: 11-21 years	
Category	% of those surveyed who believe that persons who engage in the following activities are at great risk (or who think that it is very harmful):
Occasionally smoke cigarettes	30
Often smoke cigarettes	82.7
Often drink alcoholic beverages	57.4
Get drunk	69.9
Occasionally take tranquilizers for non-medicinal purposes	57.5
Occasionally take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	57.5
Often take tranquilizers for non-medicinal purposes	73.8
Often take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	73.8
Occasionally inhale solvents	32
Often inhale solvents	63.1
Occasionally smoke marijuana	49.7
Often smoke marijuana	78.5
Occasionally take cocaine HCl or crack	70.2
Often take cocaine HCl or crack	85.5



The country provides in the following table data from the Rapid Assessment Survey of Tertiary Institutions 2008 regarding the perception of drug use as harmful to health and well-being:

**Percentage of the University Population that Perceives Drug Use as Harmful to Their Health and Well-Being, 2008**

Age group to which this applies: 18-28 years	
Category	% of those surveyed who believe that persons who engage in the following activities are at great risk (or who think that it is very harmful):
Occasionally smoke cigarettes	21
Often smoke cigarettes	78
Often drink alcoholic beverages	68
Get drunk	57
Occasionally take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	37
Often take stimulants for non-medicinal purposes	37
Occasionally inhale solvents	24
Often inhale solvents	67
Occasionally smoke marijuana	20
Often smoke marijuana	72
Occasionally take cocaine HCl or crack	77
Often take cocaine HCl or crack	89
Occasionally take ecstasy	72
Often take ecstasy	86

Trinidad and Tobago indicates that it has studies that would permit an evaluation of the relationship between drugs and crime, including a Prisons Study carried out in 2006.

The country reports that it does not keep records on alcohol- or drug-related accidents in the workplace, nor on the percentage of traffic accidents in which alcohol or drugs were a contributing factor. There are no established guidelines, norms or regulations on prevention activities relating to alcohol- and drug-related accidents in Trinidad and Tobago.

### III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

#### A. Drug Production

Trinidad and Tobago reports that it has significant cultivated areas of cannabis crops, and has undertaken detection activities. The country has a system to follow up on the replanting of illicit crops in areas where they were previously eradicated and reports that the estimated percentage



of illicit crop replanting is 75 percent. The country has not detected marijuana plants grown indoors.

Trinidad and Tobago has a formal forced manual eradication program for cannabis crops, and provides the following data regarding the total estimated area of cannabis crops eradicated or abandoned during the evaluation period: 12.63 hectares in 2006, 16.98 hectares in 2007, 16.34 hectares in 2008 and 11.15 hectares in 2009.

The country reports that it did not detect illicit laboratories for drugs of natural or synthetic origin during the period 2006 to 2009.

## **B. Alternative, Integral and Sustainable Development**

Trinidad and Tobago reports that it is carrying out alternative, integral and sustainable development activities, but not exclusively within the context of the fight against drugs.

## **C. Control of Pharmaceutical Products**

The Dangerous Drugs Act 1991 (as amended) is the legislation in place for the control of pharmaceutical products in Trinidad and Tobago. The country reports that all pharmaceutical products listed in the international conventions are controlled in the country. The competent authority responsible for coordinating activities related to the control of pharmaceutical products is the Chief Medical Officer in the Ministry of Health. Activities are coordinated by the Drug Inspectorate, Ministry of Health, and Chemistry, Food and Drugs Division, Ministry of Health. Both of these agencies report to the Chief Medical Officer.

In the health care sector, activities carried out to control pharmaceutical products include register control, monitoring distribution, control and monitoring of prescriptions, inspections, administrative sanctions and the transfer of unusual cases detected by administrative authorities to judicial authorities. In the private sector, control activities include import/export control, register control, manufacturing control, monitoring distribution, inspections, administrative sanctions, registry of licensees, and registry of quantities of pharmaceutical products sold or manufactured. The country reports that there are no free trade zones.

Trinidad and Tobago has an integrated procedure in place to monitor and prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products. The country reports that audit processes are conducted by the Chemistry, Food and Drugs Division and the Drug Inspectorate of the Ministry of Health, including on-site inspections of pharmacies, private and public institutions and firms. Importation is controlled through the issuance of licenses and permits by the Ministry of Health. The Food and Drug Inspectorate inspects shipments at the Port, while Customs authorizes entry to the port. The Ministry of Health monitors storage, distribution, use and suitable disposal/destruction.





Trinidad and Tobago’s regulatory system for the control of pharmaceutical products includes inspections. The Chemistry, Food and Drugs Division has 14 inspectors, while the Drug Inspectorate has eight. The country also has mechanisms through which members of the health sector can communicate and share information with law enforcement or judicial authorities in order to prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products and apply sanctions.

Trinidad and Tobago has a system to compile information on administrative and regulatory activities related to pharmaceutical products and sanctions imposed, and provides the following data on regulatory and administrative activities carried out during the period 2006–2009:

	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>Regulated Activities</b>				
Number of licenses issued to:				
Importers	251	273	274	268
Manufacturers	1	1	1	1
Distributors	39	35	46	37
Other	506	542	483	510
Number of permits issued for:				
Importation	263	290	278	184
<b>Regulated Entities</b>				
Number of inspections conducted of:				
Pharmacies	45	40	17	3

Trinidad and Tobago utilizes the National Drug Control System (NDS) to facilitate the control of pharmaceutical products. However, the country reports that this system has not yet been integrated with all of the regulatory authorities.

Trinidad and Tobago’s national laws make provision for the imposition of penal and administrative, but not civil, sanctions for the illicit production, diversion and trafficking of pharmaceutical products. The country informs that no penal or administrative sanctions were imposed during the period 2006–2009. In addition, Trinidad and Tobago did not seize or dispose of any pharmaceutical products during the period 2006–2009.

#### D. Control of Chemical Substances

Trinidad and Tobago has the following laws and regulations for the control of chemical substances: the Pesticides and Toxic Chemical Act, 1979, Pesticides Regulation of 1987, Toxic Chemical Regulation of 2007 and Dangerous Drug Act Amendment (Act No. 27), 1994. The country informs that all chemical substances listed in the international conventions are controlled.

Trinidad and Tobago has a mechanism through which the institutions responsible for preventing and imposing sanctions for the diversion of controlled chemical substances can communicate and



share information. The country cites the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board, the Precursor Chemical Team (PCT), and the National Drug Control System (NDS). Regarding the national authorities responsible for law and regulation enforcement for the control of chemical substances, the country reports that administrative controls are handled by the Ministry of Health Chemistry, Food and Drugs Division, Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Inspectorate, and Drug Inspectorate. Judicial controls are the responsibility of the Ministry of National Security, customs controls fall to the Customs and Excise Division of the Ministry of Finance, and any additional policy direction is carried out by the Ministry of National Security Strategic Services Agency.

The country uses various mechanisms to control the diversion of chemical substances, such as import control, inspections, pre-export notifications, and sanctions. The country informs that these actions are not carried out as part of an integrated procedure applicable to individuals and entities authorized to handle these substances.

Trinidad and Tobago has a regulatory system for the control of chemical substances that includes seven inspectors. In addition, the country offers training courses for administrative, police, and customs officers in the control of the diversion of chemical substances indirectly, through sponsorship of a number of inter-ministerial representatives to attend the Precursor Chemical Training Course.

Trinidad and Tobago has an automated information management system in place to facilitate the secure handling of information on the control of the diversion of chemical substances, the NDS, which was installed in 2007. However the country reports that this system is not fully integrated with all relevant agencies.

Trinidad and Tobago's national laws make provision for the imposition of penal, but not civil or administrative, sanctions for the illicit production, diversion and trafficking of controlled chemical substances. The country informs that no sanctions were applied during the years 2006-2009.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that it does not export chemical substances, but does import chemical substances and handle them in transit. The country provides the following data regarding the number of chemical substance imports received during the period 2006–2009: 297 imports in 2006, 256 in 2007, 289 in 2008 and 212 in 2009. The country provides the following information regarding the number of pre-export notifications received for chemical substances:

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of pre-export notifications received by Trinidad and Tobago	65	73	104	169
Number of responses sent by Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	0	16
Number of timely replies sent by Trinidad and Tobago (maximum of 15 days)	0	0	0	8



Regarding reasons the number of imports differs from the number of notifications received, the country informs that some exporting countries do not send pre-export notifications. Trinidad and Tobago reports that there were two pre-export notifications that were not approved, and eight investigations initiated during the period 2006 to 2009. The country uses both the NDS and the PEN Online computerized information systems to process pre-export notifications.

No seizures were made in Trinidad and Tobago involving controlled chemical substances during the period 2006–2009, and no confiscated substances were disposed of.

## IV. CONTROL MEASURES

### A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

Trinidad and Tobago provides the following information regarding the quantities of drugs forfeited to law enforcement during 2006–2009:

**Quantities of Drugs Forfeited to Law Enforcement, 2006–2009**

Type of illicit drugs and raw materials	Quantities of drugs forfeited				
	Unit of Measure	2006	2007	2008	2009
Heroin	kg	n.app	n.app	n.app	.12
Cocaine HCl	kg	75.18	164.29	56.33	225.35
Leaf Cannabis (grass)	kg	1,268.28	1,365.54	700.27	4,822.55
Cannabis Resin (hashish)	g	n.app	n.app	4	n.app

n.app: not applicable

Trinidad and Tobago informs that it has conducted analysis for the characterization and profiling of seized substances.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that 479 persons were formally charged with illicit drug trafficking in 2006, 520 persons in 2007, 290 in 2008 and 709 in 2009. Additionally, the country reports that 136 persons were convicted of illicit drug trafficking in 2006, 209 persons in 2007, 168 in 2008 and 98 in 2009.

Trinidad and Tobago reports the following number of public officials formally charged with offenses related to illicit drug trafficking: 15 officials in 2006 and 3 each in 2007, 2008 and 2009. No officials were convicted of offenses related to illicit drug trafficking during the evaluation period.

Trinidad and Tobago has laws criminalizing the illicit possession of drugs, including the possession of drugs for personal use: the Dangerous Drugs Act, Chapter 11:23, Section 5. The country reports that 3,910 persons were charged with illicit drug possession in 2006, 4,238 in 2007, 4,337 in 2008



and 4,678 in 2009. Furthermore, 3,198 persons were convicted in 2006, 3,000 in 2007, 3,120 in 2008 and 1,534 in 2009. Trinidad and Tobago reports that it does not have alternative sentencing measures for illicit drug possession.

The Organised Crime, Narcotics and Firearms Bureau (OCNFB), Customs and Excise Division, and Counter Drug Crime Task Force (CDCTF) are the national authorities responsible for controlling illicit drug trafficking in Trinidad and Tobago. Joint Intelligence Gathering (JIG), joint operations, and points of contact and sharing of information are used to promote and facilitate the timely exchange of information and collaboration between these authorities.

Regarding mechanisms of international cooperation used by these national authorities to promote or facilitate the timely exchange of operational information and collaboration with national authorities of foreign countries responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking, the country cites the Center for Drug Information and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties, bulletins/alerts, training and retraining of staff and provision of equipment by international law enforcement agencies. Specialized training courses to address illicit drug trafficking have been developed for law enforcement, customs officers, prosecutors and the judiciary.

Trinidad and Tobago has implemented the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code. The country reports 100 percent compliance for ports that receive vessels over 500 gross tons. Port facilities are required to produce a security plan, which is assessed and approved by the designated authority (Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard). Components of the approved plan are tested every quarter and a full-scale exercise is carried out annually. The country does not have any additional port security programs.

Customs and Excise, the Coast Guard, the police, Immigration, and the Port Estate Constables are responsible for coordinating implementation of and participating in counter-drug port security programs. Trinidad and Tobago does not use a common interagency database or mutual access to databases to gather, analyze, exchange and share information and intelligence among the national and public entities involved in counterdrug control activities in ports. The country uses standing interagency task forces, review of manifests and other documents for targeting purposes, regular interagency meetings, information on electronic monitoring from other countries or agencies, informants, shipping documents and law enforcement or other agencies in other countries for these purposes. The country reports that it has a methodology to determine which vessels, cargo or containers should undergo a more complete inspection.

Trinidad and Tobago carries out maritime counterdrug detection, monitoring and interdiction activities, including patrols and intelligence driven operations. The following agencies are responsible for coordinating and participating in these activities: Customs, police, Coast Guard, National Coastal Radar Surveillance Centre, Air Guard, and the Special Anti-Crime Unit of Trinidad and Tobago (SAUTT).

Trinidad and Tobago provides the following information regarding the number of operations related to maritime interdiction carried out during the period 2006 to 2009: 552 operations in 2006, 538 in 2007, 921 in 2008 and 784 in 2009. Information on the number of vessels seized was



not provided. Maritime counterdrug operations were undertaken in partnership with other countries, in accordance with Article 17 of the 1988 Vienna Convention, during the period 2006 to 2009: 8 in 2006, 4 in 2007, 4 in 2008 and 2 in 2009.

Trinidad and Tobago carries out aerial interdiction for illicit drug trafficking activities. The country informs that aerial surveillance is undertaken to identify drug trafficking activities, and the Trinidad and Tobago Air Guard, the police and SAUTT conduct surveillance and reconnaissance patrols of the country's territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zone. The following agencies are responsible for coordinating and participating in these activities: Coast Guard, Trinidad and Tobago Air Guard.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that provisions of the Customs Act, Chapter 78:01 can be applied in controlling the Internet sale of drugs, but the country does not have legislation specifically created to control these activities. The country reports that although the functions and responsibilities of the authorities involved in the control of the sale of drugs over the Internet have not been clearly defined, the responsible institutions have procedures, investigation techniques, training and equipment to detect suspicious transactions or diversion of drugs through the Internet.

Trinidad and Tobago has carried out activities to increase awareness among administrative, judicial, law enforcement, postal, customs and other authorities regarding illicit sale of drugs through the Internet. The country informs that officers from the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service have participated in overseas training with respect to Internet trafficking of drugs.

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

Trinidad and Tobago's Customs and Excise Division, Fire Services, and Police Service regulate and authorize the importation, exportation, purchase, sale, shipment, movement or transfer, registration, marking, transport, possession, carrying, and storage of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, in accordance with the Firearms Act, Fire Services Act and Explosives Act. The country reports that importation, exportation, purchase, sale, shipment, movement, transfer, and registration are regulated by the Police Commissioner and marking by the Armory Division for police firearms. No license is required for transit. Regarding transport, a road transport permit is needed from the Chief Fire Officer and Commissioner of Police only in the case of explosives. Trinidad and Tobago does not manufacture firearms.

Trinidad and Tobago's Firearms Act and Explosives Act establish administrative controls for the importation, transit, and legal transfer of firearms, ammunition, and explosives, and other related materials, and impose fines or imprisonment for noncompliance. The country does not export firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. Current laws also criminalize the trafficking in and illicit production of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, with fines and imprisonment imposed for noncompliance. Trinidad and Tobago's national law requires that firearms be marked at the time of manufacture, for their importation, and for official use after confiscation or forfeiture.



Trinidad and Tobago has mechanisms for information exchange and cooperation between national institutions as well as hemispheric institutions, regarding all forms of control of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

Trinidad and Tobago reports no cases in which the entrance of a shipment of firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials was not authorized due to the absence of the necessary licenses or permits, during the years 2006–2009.

Trinidad and Tobago has registries of the importation, exportation and transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials. They are the Automated System of Customs Data (ASYCUDA) used by the Customs and Excise Division and the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service Firearms Registry. These registries are computerized for all transactions, and are maintained permanently.

Trinidad and Tobago does not have a database or national registry for confiscation of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. However the country does have a specific registry for arms transfers that follows up from the initial sale through subsequent transfers, which is the responsibility of the TTPS and Commissioner of Police.

The country provides the following information regarding firearms and ammunition seized in narcotrafficking cases during the years 2006–2009:

**Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials  
Seized in Narcotrafficking Cases, 2006–2009**

Quantities Seized		
Year	Firearms	Ammunition
2006	278	1,665
2007	224	1,170
2008	299	4,611
2009	209	0

The country reports that no explosives or other related materials were seized and no firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials were forfeited in narcotrafficking cases between 2006 and 2009.

Regarding tracing of illicitly trafficked, diverted and seized firearms, Trinidad and Tobago reports that it began implementation of systems for tracing arms and ammunition during late 2009. Trinidad and Tobago also has access to a regional e-trace system.

### C. Money Laundering

The Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) Chapter 11:27, 2000 criminalizes money laundering and related crimes in Trinidad and Tobago and imposes penal sanctions of up to 15 years in prison, and fines up to TT\$25 million (US\$4 million). The country has established all indictable offenses as predicate



offenses for money laundering, which includes illicit drug trafficking, kidnapping, extortion, corruption and crimes against public administration, fraud or financial crimes and copyright offenses. Trafficking of firearms, illicit trafficking of migrants, and trafficking in human beings are not indictable offenses in Trinidad and Tobago.

In Trinidad and Tobago, it is necessary for a person to be convicted of a predicate offense in order to be convicted of laundering the proceeds of that offense, pursuant to Section 3 of the POCA. Laws exist in the country that permit the perpetrator of the predicate offense to be convicted for money laundering (Sections 43 to 46 of the POCA, Chap. 11:270.)

Use of informants and sentence reduction for cooperating witnesses are permitted under national law in money laundering investigations. Undercover investigations, electronic surveillance, and controlled deliveries are not permitted.

Trinidad and Tobago is a member of the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force. The country's most recent evaluation was conducted in 2005.

Pursuant to the POCA 55/2000, Section 55(3), the banking sector, currency exchange sector, stock exchanges, insurance sector, transfers of funds, cash or valuables, real estate, casinos and gambling, and jewelers, couriers and motor vehicle dealers are required to submit suspicious transaction reports to prevent money laundering. With the amendment of the POCA in 2009, lawyers and accountants are now also obligated to submit such reports. However the country reports that notaries are not so obligated. Trinidad and Tobago reports that the banking sector is also obligated to submit objective information reports to the Central Bank under the Central Bank Guidelines on Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing 2005.

Trinidad and Tobago has a Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) responsible for money laundering prevention, established through legislation enacted in 2009. The Agency is under the authority of the Ministry of Finance and does not have an independent budget. The FIU is not a member of the Egmont Group. Trinidad and Tobago reports that, although its FIU is not a member of the Egmont Group, information requests were received from Egmont Group members and other state agencies, as follows: 27 information requests in 2006, 15 in 2007, 25 in 2008 and 49 in 2009. Responses were sent to these information requests. The country also received the following MLAT requests: 1 request in 2006, 3 in 2007, 1 in 2008 and 11 in 2009.

Trinidad & Tobago states that limitations do not exist on obtaining financial documents and registers in money laundering cases, nor do limitations exist on obtaining documents in such cases subject to secrecy, confidentiality or reserve agreements.

The country has one entity for the management and disposition of assets seized and forfeited in both illicit drug trafficking and money laundering offenses, the Seized Assets Committee (POCA 55/2000 section 58). This unit functions under the Ministry of Finance, in accordance with the POCA 55 of 2000. It does not have manuals for the management of assets seized. The country's constitutional legislation includes mechanisms concerning the legal disposition of goods associated with illicit drug trafficking activities. The country reports that this mechanism includes confiscation





orders, forfeiture orders, forfeiture of cash and cash seizure, under the POCA 55 of 2000. The country’s legislation permits the presale and disposition of seized goods.

Trinidad and Tobago provides the following information regarding investigations initiated through a financial intelligence report submitted by the Financial Intelligence Unit during the years 2006–2009: 11 investigations in 2006, 14 each in 2007 and 2008, and 7 in 2009.

The country provides the following information regarding penal proceedings initiated for money laundering offenses during the years 2006–2009: 0 penal proceedings in 2006, 3 in 2007, 0 in 2008 and 1 in 2009. The country reports that no persons were formally charged in investigations initiated during the years 2006–2009.

### D. Judicial Cooperation

In Trinidad and Tobago, extradition, including extradition of nationals, is possible in both drug trafficking and money laundering cases, in accordance with Section 6 of the Extradition (Commonwealth and Foreign Territories) Act. The country has complied with the obligation to designate a competent authority to receive, respond to and transmit extradition requests, in accordance with Section 3 of the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Act (Chap. 11:24). The country’s national laws provide for persons whose extradition has been denied in a drug trafficking or money laundering case to be tried for the offense in Trinidad and Tobago.

The country’s laws also permit the provision of reciprocal judicial assistance, including taking evidence or statements from persons, effecting service of judicial documents, executing searches and seizures, examining objects and sites, providing information and evidentiary items, providing original or certified copies of relevant documents, and identifying or tracing proceeds, property, instrumentalities, or other items for evidentiary purposes.

Secure technological resources are used to facilitate communication among authorities directing criminal investigations. The country reports that bank secrecy and other confidentiality laws are not an obstacle to providing reciprocal judicial assistance. The country’s laws do not permit granting a controlled delivery request. The country has a mechanism to recover assets forfeited abroad, through the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 1997.

Trinidad and Tobago reports the following number of active extradition requests made regarding illicit drug trafficking and money laundering cases:

Active extradition requests regarding illicit drug trafficking cases				Active extradition requests regarding money laundering cases			
2006	2007	2008	2009*	2006	2007	2008	2009*
4	4	7	0	2	1	0	0

\*Through September 2009





Trinidad and Tobago reports that no passive extradition requests were answered regarding illicit drug trafficking and money laundering cases during the evaluation period. In addition, no requests for reciprocal judicial assistance were made or answered regarding illicit drug trafficking and money laundering cases during the period 2006–2009.



## EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

In the area of institutional strengthening, CICAD notes with satisfaction that Trinidad and Tobago has the National Anti-Drug Plan as well as a national anti-drug authority, the National Drug Council (NDC). CICAD also notes that the country has a budget for the anti-drug plan as well as the NDC.

CICAD recognizes that Trinidad and Tobago has ratified all of the international instruments recommended by the MEM regarding drug control and related criminal activities.

CICAD notes that Trinidad and Tobago has a central office which organizes, carries out studies, compiles, and coordinates drug-related statistics and other drug-related information, has carried out drug demand-related studies, and maintains some supply reduction-related information. However, CICAD takes note that the country does not have drug availability indicators.

With regard to demand reduction, CICAD observes that Trinidad and Tobago carries out drug prevention programs for pre-school, primary school, secondary school and university students, as well as programs for women, workers in the workplace, incarcerated individuals and in the community. However, CICAD notes that coverage of the school-based programs is low. CICAD recognizes that the country has carried out evaluations of its drug abuse prevention programs, and also notes that Trinidad and Tobago has conducted several drug prevention training programs for officers who work in the area of drug prevention.

CICAD notes that Trinidad and Tobago's Primary Health Care (PHC) facilities carry out activities to address problems associated with drug use. CICAD notes with concern that the country does not have official operating standards, licensing procedures, or a monitoring system in place for specialized facilities that provide treatment services for person with problems associated with drug use. CICAD notes that the country has two unlicensed treatment centers that offer aftercare programs.

CICAD observes that the country did not carry out a general population or secondary school survey on the magnitude of drug use during the evaluation period. In addition, CICAD notes that the country does not maintain records on the percentage of traffic accidents in which alcohol or drugs were a contributing factor, nor on alcohol- and drug-related accidents in the workplace, and there are no guidelines, norms or regulations on prevention activities relating to alcohol- and drug-related accidents in Trinidad and Tobago.

Regarding supply reduction, CICAD acknowledges that Trinidad and Tobago has detected cannabis cultivation and has a formal eradication program for cannabis crops.

CICAD observes that Trinidad and Tobago has a regulatory framework, administrative structure and integrated procedure to control the diversion of pharmaceutical products, which includes importation, distribution, manufacture and inspection of regulated entities. In addition, CICAD observes that the country has an automated information management system to facilitate the control of these products. However, all of the relevant entities involved in controlling pharmaceutical products have not been integrated into this system.



CICAD observes that Trinidad and Tobago does not have specific laws to prevent and sanction the diversion of chemical substances. However, CICAD recognizes the country's efforts in establishing entities responsible for carrying out administrative controls, including inspections and issuance of licenses, as well as advances in the implementation of systems such as the NDS and PEN online to exchange information with other countries. However, CICAD notes that all of the relevant entities involved in controlling chemical substances have not been integrated into these systems. Furthermore, CICAD observes that some representatives from the country participated in regional training on controlling the diversion of chemical substances, but notes the need to expand training in this area.

With respect to control measures, CICAD notes that Trinidad and Tobago has legislation and entities in place for the control of illicit drug trafficking, and has developed specialized training courses on this topic for law enforcement and customs officers. CICAD further observes that Trinidad and Tobago does not have legislation specifically created to control the sale of drugs via the Internet.

CICAD acknowledges that Trinidad and Tobago's laws criminalize the trafficking in and illicit production of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. CICAD recognizes that Trinidad and Tobago's national law also requires that firearms be marked at the time of manufacture, for their importation, and for official use after confiscation or forfeiture. CICAD observes that Trinidad and Tobago does not have a national registry for the confiscation of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

CICAD acknowledges that Trinidad and Tobago has laws which criminalize money laundering and related crimes and establish all indictable offenses as predicate offenses. CICAD, however, notes that trafficking of firearms, illicit trafficking of migrants, and trafficking in human beings are not indictable offenses. CICAD observes that Trinidad and Tobago's laws permit the use of informants and sentence reduction for cooperating witnesses in money laundering investigations, but notes that undercover investigations, electronic surveillance, and controlled deliveries are not permitted.

CICAD notes that the banking sector, currency exchange sector, stock exchanges, insurance sector, and transfers of funds, cash or valuables, real estate, gaming houses, jewelers, couriers, lawyers, accountants and motor vehicle dealers are obligated to submit suspicious transaction reports to prevent money laundering, however notaries are not subject to this obligation. CICAD also recognizes the establishment of Trinidad and Tobago's Financial Intelligence Unit in 2009, and notes that the country has an entity for the management and disposition of assets seized and forfeited in both illicit drug trafficking and money laundering offenses, though it does not have manuals for the management of assets seized.

CICAD recognizes that in Trinidad and Tobago, extradition, including extradition of nationals, is possible in both drug trafficking and money laundering cases and that the country has a central office responsible for receiving and responding to extradition requests. CICAD takes note that the country's laws permit the provision of reciprocal judicial assistance, and bank secrecy and other confidentiality agreements are not an impediment to providing such assistance. CICAD notes that the country's laws do not permit granting a controlled delivery request.

CICAD recognizes Trinidad and Tobago's efforts in the context of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) and encourages the country to continue to participate actively in the process.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are assigned to Trinidad and Tobago in order to assist the country in strengthening its policy to combat the problem of drugs and related activities and increase multilateral cooperation in the Hemisphere:

### DEMAND REDUCTION

1. DEVELOP DRUG USE PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EVALUATIONS BEING CARRIED OUT.
2. ESTABLISH OFFICIAL OPERATING STANDARDS FOR SPECIALIZED TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
3. DEVELOP AN OFFICIAL LICENSING PROCEDURE TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF FACILITIES THAT PROVIDE TREATMENT SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE.
4. CARRY OUT A DRUG USE SURVEY AMONG THE SECONDARY SCHOOL POPULATION.

### SUPPLY REDUCTION

5. INTEGRATE ALL OF THE RELEVANT ENTITIES INVOLVED IN THE CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS INTO THE AUTOMATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.
6. APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF THE PROVISIONS AND PROPOSALS OF ARTICLE 12 OF THE UN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, 1988, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005–2006.
7. IMPLEMENT SPECIALIZED TRAINING COURSES FOR PERSONNEL IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVED IN THE HANDLING OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005–2006.
8. INTEGRATE ALL OF THE RELEVANT ENTITIES INVOLVED IN THE CONTROL OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES INTO THE AUTOMATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

### CONTROL MEASURES

9. CARRY OUT RESEARCH AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER DRUGS VIA THE INTERNET, WHICH WILL ENABLE THE COUNTRY TO IDENTIFY ITS REGULATORY AND OPERATIVE NEEDS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005–2006.



10. ESTABLISH A NATIONAL REGISTRY FOR THE CONFISCATION OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.
11. EXPAND THE OBLIGATION TO SUBMIT SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTION REPORTS TO INCLUDE NOTARIES.
12. ADOPT LEGISLATION TO ALLOW SPECIAL INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES, SUCH AS UNDERCOVER OPERATIONS, TELEPHONE TAPPING, AND CONTROLLED DELIVERIES, IN MONEY LAUNDERING INVESTIGATIONS, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.

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The Bahamas Barbados Belize Bolivia  
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ISBN 978-0-8270-5573-5