



I. INSTITUTIONAL BUILDING/ NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY

The 1997-2000 Anti-Drug Plan continues to guide Guyana's drug control activities, however, a new national anti-drug plan is currently being drafted. The areas to be covered are: demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, institutional framework and program evaluation. The Anti-Drug Plan does not have a separate budget; each responsible agency bears the cost of its anti-drug operations.

The National Anti-Narcotic Commission (NANCOM) with authority from Cabinet coordinates Guyana's drug control activities. NANCOM is comprised of the following authorities: Guyana Police Force, Guyana Defense Force, Customs Anti-Narcotic Unit, Food and Drugs as well as the following Ministries: Home Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Legal Affairs, Finance, Health and the Office of the President. NANCOM does not have an independent budget. Its funding is derived from government allocations of the respective agencies and foreign technical assistance.

In the First Evaluation Round 1999 – 2000, it was recommended that Guyana ratify the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacture of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA). In addition, Guyana was asked to accede to the 1961 United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs. These issues remain outstanding. Guyana has not ratified the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols. However, Guyana has enacted legislation in accordance with some of the aforementioned international conventions.

A national system for the collection of drug-related statistics has not been established as recommended in the First Evaluation Round 1999 - 2000. Relevant agencies and Ministries continue to compile their own data and report them to NANCOM. Guyana distributes available information through the press, publications and reports by NANCOM and other government agencies. Drop-in centers in high-risk communities also provide information.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. APPROVE THE NEW NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN ONCE IT HAS BEEN COMPLETED.**
- 2. REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS.**
- 3. REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS (CIFTA).**
- 4. REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO ACCEDE TO THE 1961 UNITED NATIONS SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS.**
- 5. RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND ITS THREE PROTOCOLS.**
- 6. REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO IMPLEMENT AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM TO COLLECT, ANALYZE AND MAINTAIN STATISTICS.**



II. DEMAND REDUCTION

Guyana is implementing a national demand reduction strategy, which covers the areas of prevention, social reinsertion and aftercare. The demand reduction strategy was developed in partnership with the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNDCP). It does not have a separate budget. Although minimal training has been received by way of technical assistance, Guyana itself has not developed the capacity to provide training in the area of demand reduction.

Prevention programs targeting prisoners and 3 depressed urban communities have been implemented. The prevention programs for prisoners are ongoing and cover 40% of the respective population. The programs cover 10% of the population in the depressed urban communities. There are no prevention programs targeted at school children. Evaluations on existing programs have not been conducted. Periodic short-refresher courses/in-service training are offered in the area of prevention. Guyana recognizes that these programs do not meet the demand for professional training and acknowledges that the shortage of trained staff negatively impacts research in drug prevention.

The treatment system in Guyana consists of a public outpatient center, a public in-patient center, a public detoxification center, 2 private in-patient centers and 2 private detoxification centers. A new treatment center is planned for 2002. Evaluations of existing treatment programs have not been conducted. Minimum standards of care in the treatment of drug dependency have not been developed as recommended in the First Evaluation Round 1999 - 2000. Although instruments for accrediting treatment programs have not been developed, the Ministry of Health is responsible for the standards of care and the evaluation of the quality of services provided. Guyana does not keep national registry of treatment programs.

Guyana has not conducted surveys on prevalence of drug use nor has it provided any information on average age of first use. Information on drug-mortality and drug morbidity is not available. No new patterns of drug use have been reported.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **DEVELOP PREVENTION PROGRAMS TARGETING SCHOOL CHILDREN.**
2. **CONDUCT A GENERAL POPULATION SURVEY ON PREVALENCE OF DRUG USE.**
3. **REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE IN THE TREATMENT OF DRUG DEPENDENCY.**

III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

A. Drug Production and Alternative Development

Marijuana is the only illicit crop cultivated in Guyana. The country reported that in 2001, there were 47-75 "lectures" eradicated manually but the size in acres and hectares is not provided. In Guyana, marijuana is cultivated in the forest making it impossible to reliably estimate the areas under cultivation. According to Guyana, this makes it unsuitable for alternative development programs.



B. Supply Reduction and Control of Pharmaceutical Products and Chemical Substances

The Food and Drugs Department is responsible for controlling and preventing the diversion of pharmaceutical products. Currently, its responsibilities do not include monitoring, distribution or transport control. Formal mechanisms exist to facilitate information exchange among national and international entities.

Guyana has not established an entity to regulate/control chemical substances. However, import/export, license, monitoring and regulatory controls are in place. Formal mechanisms do not exist to facilitate information exchange among national and international entities. No pre-export notifications were issued or received, nor were any controlled chemical substances seized during the years 2000 - 2002. Penal and administrative sanctions are in place; however, no sanctions were applied during the years 2000 - 2002.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM THAT WILL PERMIT THE IDENTIFICATION, MEASUREMENT AND MONITORING OF TRENDS IN ILLICIT MARIJUANA CROPS.
2. EXTEND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS DEPARTMENT TO INCLUDE MONITORING, DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSPORTATION CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
3. ESTABLISH A NATIONAL ENTITY WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.
4. USE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF MEASUREMENT E.G. ACRES OR HECTARES IN REPORTING SIZES OF FIELDS OF ILLICIT CROP CULTIVATION.

IV. CONTROL MEASURES

A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

The number of drug seizures has increased during the years 2001 – 2002, particularly, the number of and the seized quantity related to leaf cannabis.

Number of Drug Seizures and Quantity of Drugs Seized:

Type of Drugs	Number of Drug Seizures		Quantity Seized (in kgs.)	
	2000	2001	2000	2001
Crack cocaine	142	141	120	73
Leaf cannabis	281	549	3,991	10,332
Cannabis Resin	-	—	98	243
Cocaine Hydrochloride	18	22	—	—
Basuco	-	—	281	6



The number of persons arrested for illicit drug trafficking decreased from 352 persons in 2000 to 273 persons in 2001. The number of persons charged decreased from 513 persons in 2000 to 420 persons in 2001. No data are provided for number of persons arrested or charged for illicit drug possession.

Information is not available regarding the number of judicial cooperation requests made to Guyana. There were no extradition requests made by Guyana during the evaluation period 2001 – 2002, nor were any requests received.

Guyana has provisions to criminalize acts of corruption. However, no information is provided on the number of public officials convicted of corruption crimes. The number of public officials convicted of crimes related to illicit drug trafficking is unknown.

B. Firearms and Ammunition

The Guyana Police Force is the national entity responsible for controlling the movement of firearms and ammunition. Administrative controls are in place to prevent diversion of firearms and ammunition. However, Guyana does not have legislation related specifically to illicit trafficking of firearms and ammunition; instead, legislation that criminalizes trading in prohibited goods is applied to illicit trade in firearms and ammunition. Guyana does not have any pre-export laws.

No information is provided related to the number of persons arrested, charged or convicted of illicit trafficking of firearms and ammunition during the evaluation period 2001 - 2002. In 2000, there was 1 arrest made for trafficking of firearms in relation to illicit drug trafficking offenses; in 2001 there were 7 arrests made for the same offense. A national database maintains records of both firearms and ammunition imported into Guyana. This database is not computerized. The Guyana Police Force is the entity responsible for international cooperation. Information regarding requests received from or made to other countries is not available.

C. Money Laundering

According to Guyana, money laundering has been linked to illicit drug trafficking and illicit trafficking in firearms, as well as corruption and fraud. Although legislation has been passed, the administrative infrastructure has not been fully established. Predicate offenses addressed include: illicit drug trafficking, illicit trafficking of firearms, extortion, corruption/bribery, fraud and counterfeiting/forgery. Predicate offenses not covered are: trafficking of human beings, organ trafficking, prostitution, pornography, kidnapping and terrorism. Administrative controls cover banks, offshore banks, currency exchanges, insurance, real estate, notaries and accountants. Financial institutions are obligated to comply with all reasonable requests from enforcement agencies for production and examination of financial records. Control measures for suspicious or unusual transactions include reporting large transactions, client registry, verification of client identity, transaction registry, preservation of records, existence of an enforcement official, existence of independent audits, know-your-clients policies and know-your-employee policies. Information related to suspicious transactions reported is not provided.

A financial investigative unit (FIU) has not yet become operational. Members of the proposed unit are currently undergoing training. As the investigative arm has not yet been established, no property has been confiscated relating to money laundering. No international extradition requests have been made or received. Information regarding international requests to freeze assets is not available.

Training of judges and prosecutors to administer money laundering cases is planned for the near future; however, members of the police force have received training as financial investigators.



RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO CREATE A MECHANISM OR AUTHORITY TO ENSURE THAT THE IMPORTING OR TRANSIT COUNTRIES HAVE ISSUED THE NECESSARY LICENSES/ PERMITS, BEFORE FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION ARE RELEASED FOR EXPORT.**
2. **IMPLEMENT THE FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIVE UNIT (FIU).**
3. **INCORPORATE AS MONEY LAUNDERING PREDICATE OFFENSES, THE TRAFFICKING OF HUMAN BEINGS, ORGAN TRAFFICKING, PROSTITUTION, PORNOGRAPHY, KIDNAPPING AND TERRORISM.**

V. CONCLUSIONS

The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) recognizes Guyana's ongoing efforts related to the development of a renewed Anti-Drug Plan, as this will enable Guyana to continue to move forward. CICAD also recognizes the efforts Guyana is making in some of the areas in demand reduction but underscores the need for prevention programs for school children. It urges Guyana to implement mechanisms to enable it to conduct surveys among the general population, as this will provide valuable information for future direction.

Progress has been made in the area of money laundering with the training of the police force. However, CICAD underscores the importance of the implementation of the financial investigative unit (FIU). There is a need to expand predicate offenses to include the areas currently not covered. The lack of specific legislation related to firearms and ammunition and the limited control or record keeping in this area is a significant weakness. The lack of information regarding arrests, charges and convictions related to illicit drugs possession is also a concern.

CICAD recognizes that the time and resource commitments of the MEM process are considerable. Nonetheless, it reiterates the importance of this process, which originated from, and has the support of, the Heads of State and Government in the Summit of the Americas process. It is also deeply concerned that many of the recommendations from the First Evaluation Round 1999 – 2000 are still outstanding and that specific questions arising out of the current evaluation process 2001 – 2002 have not been responded. Finally, Guyana is urged to fully participate in the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) process.



SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

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2. REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS.
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6. REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO IMPLEMENT AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM TO COLLECT, ANALYZE AND MAINTAIN STATISTICS.
7. DEVELOP PREVENTION PROGRAMS TARGETING AT SCHOOL CHILDREN.
8. CONDUCT A GENERAL POPULATION SURVEY ON PREVALENCE OF DRUG USE.
9. REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE IN THE TREATMENT OF DRUG DEPENDENCY.
10. REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM THAT WILL PERMIT THE IDENTIFICATION, MEASUREMENT AND MONITORING OF TRENDS IN ILLICIT MARIJUANA CROPS.
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12. ESTABLISH A NATIONAL ENTITY WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.
13. USE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF MEASUREMENT E.G. ACRES OR HECTARES IN REPORTING SIZES OF FIELDS OF ILLICIT CROP CULTIVATION.
14. REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO CREATE A MECHANISM OR AUTHORITY TO ENSURE THAT THE IMPORTING OR TRANSIT COUNTRIES HAVE ISSUED THE NECESSARY LICENSES/ PERMITS, BEFORE FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION ARE RELEASED FOR EXPORT.
15. IMPLEMENT THE FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIVE UNIT (FIU).
16. INCORPORATE AS MONEY LAUNDERING PREDICATE OFFENSES, THE TRAFFICKING OF HUMAN BEINGS, ORGAN TRAFFICKING, PROSTITUTION, PORNOGRAPHY, KIDNAPPING AND TERRORISM.



