

Multilateral
Evaluation
Mechanism
MEM

Honduras

Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control

Organization of American States – **OAS**

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

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Organización de los Estados Americanos – OEA

Comisión Interamericana para el Control del Abuso de Drogas – CICAD

Organization of American States – OAS

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission – CICAD

Organização dos Estados Americanos – OEA

Comissão Interamericana para o Controle do Abuso de Drogas – CICAD

Organisation des Etats Américains – OEA

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

NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY

Honduras' National Anti-Drug Plan covers the areas of supply reduction, demand reduction, control measures, institutional framework, budget and an evaluation system.

The National Council against Drug Trafficking, the central authority, established by Congressional Decree 35-90 in 1990, coordinates supply reduction and control measure activities, but not demand reduction. It also has an information center. The National Council against Drug Trafficking receives its budget allocation from the national budget.

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

There are national anti-drug laws and regulations that comply with international conventions. The country indicates that it has legislation concerning money laundering, and the control of firearms, in accordance with CICAD model regulations. It does not mention specific legislation regarding controlled chemical substances.

Honduras does not have a system for the collection and maintenance of statistics and documents. However, it does maintain separate collections of documents on control measures and the impact of illicit drugs on society, as well as statistics on supply reduction.

Recommendations

1. **Sign and ratify the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters; ratify the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials; and accede to the 1971 United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances.**
2. **Develop and implement an integrated system for the collection, analysis, and maintenance of statistics and documents.**

DEMAND REDUCTION

Honduras has taken a first step toward Demand Reduction in that it has some prevention and treatment programs that serve as a starting point. Evaluation of these existing programs will assist in determining their expansion. The Agency responsible for designing programs in this area is the Honduran Institute for the Prevention and Treatment of Alcoholism, Drug Addiction and Drug Dependency (IHADFA), whose president of the Board of Directors is the Minister of Health, Member of the National Council against Drug Trafficking. The Ministry of Public Education includes prevention-oriented content and activities at the primary and secondary level.

Although Honduras indicated that it has a National Drug Demand Reduction Strategy, it is presently under review and not yet approved.

There is a national system of drug abuse prevention programs that targets portions of key populations. About 50% of school children, 5% of community leaders, and 30% of street children and out-of-school youth have access to prevention programs. There are no programs for prisoners or prison officers. There are no “Drugs in the Workplace” programs.

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

There are guidelines of minimum standards of care for drug treatment. Drug treatment and rehabilitation programs are available and include treatment, rehabilitation, social reintegration, and after care components. There is no early detection and outreach component available or professional specialized training in drug abuse prevention/ treatment.

Honduras does not conduct regular diagnoses of drug use in the general population. There is no research on prevention and drug use or evaluations of prevention programs. With regard to the average age of first use of illicit drugs, some statistics were reported, based on limited data from one agency. Honduras has stated that it does not have the capacity to measure the incidence of new drug users. No studies have been conducted to evaluate treatment and prevention programs.

Recommendations

1. **Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Guiding Principles of the Drug Demand Reduction and its Plan of Action.**

2. **Conduct studies to determine the magnitude and characteristics of drug use among the general population that include indicators related to prevalence, incidence and age of first use.**
3. **Establish a mechanism to evaluate treatment and prevention programs.**
4. **Implement “Drugs in the Workplace” programs.**

SUPPLY REDUCTION

Honduras reported 6.68 blocks (1 block=7,700 square meters) of cannabis for a total of 133,680 plants, based on an estimated 20,000 plants per block per year.

The Ministry of Public Health is the entity responsible for controlling pharmaceuticals and controlled chemical substances, however controls are only enforced for the former. The Ministry is also responsible for estimating legitimate needs for pharmaceuticals.

Honduras does not monitor the professions responsible for handling pharmaceuticals.

There are civil and administrative sanctions to prevent the diversion of pharmaceuticals and controlled chemical substances, but the country does not report the enforcement of those sanctions in the past year.

The country stated that in regards to pre-export notifications for pharmaceuticals and chemical substances the country does not inform on the application of the pre-notification system.

Recommendations

1. **Adopt a system to estimate drug production annually and strengthen the mechanism to prevent the expansion of illicit drug production.**
2. **Establish a mechanism to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.**
3. **Regulate the professions involved in the distribution of pharmaceuticals.**
4. **Implement a pre-notification system for imports and exports of controlled chemical substances.**

CONTROL MEASURES

Honduras has law enforcement, judicial, and administrative agencies responsible for investigating, controlling, and eliminating illicit drug trafficking. The law enforcement agencies are: the Counternarcotics Division of the Police, the Bureau to Prevent Drug Trafficking, the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and some nongovernmental organizations. The Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Finance also participate as administrative agencies; courts of First Instance and Special Prosecutor's offices are considered to be the judicial agencies with jurisdiction.

The Joint Information Center of the National Preventive Police coordinates the exchange of information between national agencies and with other countries, particularly in matters related to Supply Reduction.

With regard to the number of drug seizure operations conducted, the quantities seized and the drug type are given in the following table:

Types	Units	Quantities	Purity	Number of Operations Conducted
Heroin	Grams	226.40 and 11 ampoules		14
Cocaine	Kg	715	95%	94
Cannabis Leaf (grass)	Plants	133,680		190
Others (specify): Crack	Rocks	662		36
Marijuana	Pounds	3,637		
Marijuana	Joints	5,565		

A total of 1,480 persons were arrested and charged for drug trafficking and possession; of those 128 were convicted.

The country does not provide information on international cooperation to investigate and prosecute drug traffickers. Honduras has criminalized the, manufacture, illicit trafficking, importation, and exportation of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.

Honduras has mechanisms or authorities to control the offenses related with firearms, ammunitions, explosives and other-related materials. It does not have controls on the export to other countries of the aforementioned materials, but does have agencies for effecting information exchanges and coordination at the national level and with other countries.

Honduras did not provide any information on the number of persons charged nor convicted for trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials or the number of operations conducted to seize those materials. It also does not identify their origin or the routing employed in their diversion.

Honduras reports two requests and two replies regarding international cooperation to investigate and prosecute the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.

Honduras has criminalized money laundering and includes provisions to suppress and prevent the laundering of drug trafficking proceeds. The country does not have administrative-preventive controls, but it does have a legal framework that allow for the freezing or seizure and forfeiture of these assets.

The National Banking and Insurance Commission processes data from reports of suspicious transactions. It is not mandatory to report suspicious transactions in Honduras. The Office of the Attorney General manages assets seized from drug trafficking. The country does not indicate the number of persons arrested, charged nor convicted, or of administrative sanctions imposed for money laundering-related activities.

The country makes no reference to international cooperation to investigate and prosecute money-laundering offenses.

Recommendations

1. **Keep records on the manufacture of, trafficking in, import, and export of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.**
2. **Keep records on seizure operations and the routing and origin of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.**
3. **Establish a legal framework making it mandatory for financial institutions and others responsible to report suspicious transactions related to the crime of money laundering.**

HUMAN, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COST OF DRUGS

Estimating human, social and economic cost of the drug problem in all of its manifestations constitutes a complex process. This information is relevant to each country's understanding of the magnitude of the drug problem. This

would enable each country to appreciate the direct and indirect cost in proportion to their Gross National Product or national annual budget. Because many countries have difficulty in providing these estimates, CICAD is proposing a hemisphere-wide program involving training and technical assistance, which should assist the country in its effort in confronting the drug problem and fulfilling this indicator's requirements.

Recommendation

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

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Sign and ratify the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal; ratify the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials, and accede to the 1971 United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances.
2. Develop and implement an integrated system for the collection, analysis, and maintenance of statistics and documents.
3. Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Guiding Principles of the Drug Demand Reduction and its Plan of Action.
4. Conduct studies to determine the magnitude and characteristics of drug use among the general population using indicators related to prevalence, incidence and age of first use.
5. Establish a mechanism to evaluate treatment and prevention programs.
6. Implement "Drugs in the Workplace" programs.
7. Adopt a system to estimate drug production annually and strengthen the mechanism to prevent the expansion of illicit drug production.
8. Establish a mechanism to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.
9. Regulate the professions involved in the distribution of pharmaceuticals.
10. Implement a pre-notification system for imports and exports of controlled chemical substances.
11. Keep records on the manufacture of, trafficking in, import, and export of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.
12. Keep records on seizure operations and the routing and origin of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.
13. Establish a legal framework making it mandatory for financial institutions and others responsible to report suspicious transactions related to money laundering.
14. Develop the capacity to estimate the human, social, and economic costs of the drug problem.