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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*

Uruguay

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

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Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:

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EIGHTH EVALUATION ROUND

2022

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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.

Uruguay implements and participates in ongoing training programs to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, for personnel involved in interdiction operations, such as the “Strengthening Criminal Investigation and Criminal Justice Cooperation along Drug Trafficking Routes,” CRIMJUST Global Program, among others.

The country has protocols and operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle clandestine laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs. They include adequate safety and health measures for the personnel involved in dismantling laboratories or facilities, along with actions to minimize damage to the environment and optimize the handling of chemical and toxic waste.

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

The Ministry for Interior Affairs, through the Gender Policy Division, created in 2009, implements policies that promote gender mainstreaming in National Directorates such as the General Directorate for Combatting Illicit Drug Trafficking.

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

Uruguay has programs or strategies for land, riverine, maritime, and aerial drug 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.

Uruguay has the laws 17016, 19574 and the Code of Criminal Procedure establishing the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques to prevent and reduce 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.

Uruguay implements the Drug Early Warning System (EWS) of the National Drug Board to identify new trends and threats on 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.

Uruguay implements actions to identify organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes. In this sense, the country conducts investigations, updates the different databases, and trains on the new modus operandi of the organizations.

The country carries out inter-agency collaboration and cooperation mechanisms to coordinate activities aimed at dismantling organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes. In this sense, the country works jointly with different institutions, such as the Central Bank, the National Secretariat for the Fight against Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism (SENACLAFT), and the various ministries.

Uruguay has participated in operations and investigations in cooperation with other countries aimed at dismantling organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes. In this sense, the country has carried out surveilled deliveries, intelligence work (open and closed surveillance) and international cooperation.

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.

Uruguay has the Laboratory Department of Chemistry and Toxicology of the Forensic Technical Institute, which is in charge of, and has the capacity to, analyze chemical substances, precursors and pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including New Psychoactive Substances (NPS).

The country participates in the ongoing training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including NPS, provided by the United Nations Forensic Science Service laboratory of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Operation Azure of the entity's global CRIMJUST program.

Uruguay has mechanisms to facilitate and share information at the national level across relevant governmental counterparts, as well as with global repositories on chemical substances,

precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including NPS, through the working group created as part of the Advisory Commission on Chemical Precursors and Substances of Abuse.

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

Uruguay uses cyber-patrolling to investigate and disrupt drug trafficking through the Internet.

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.

Uruguay does not have partnerships or information exchange mechanisms with private sector entities to prevent access to materials and services exploited for illicit drug trafficking purposes.

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

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

Uruguay has the Forfeited Assets Fund of the National Drug Board (FBD), which has the appropriate human and material resources, for the management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets. The General Directorate for Combatting Illicit Drug Trafficking (DGRTID) participates in the confiscation and seizure of these assets, instruments, or products, and does not have its own budget.

The competent personnel do not receive ongoing training for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets. However, the *Junta Nacional de Drogas* (JND) provides a single very brief training to its staff in this unit on registering seized assets.

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.

Uruguay has an Early Warning System (EWS) to identify and trace New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), illicit synthetic drugs, and the threat of fentanyl-related substances, non-medical synthetic opioids, illicit amphetamine derivatives, and other substances subject to international control. This information is shared with other regional or global systems through Project ION (International Operations on New Psychoactive Substances) and the Global Rapid Interdiction of Dangerous Substances (GRIDS) *Programme*, both of the INCB, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Global Opioids Project, among others.

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

Uruguay improves its capabilities to detect and analyze NPS through the use of UNODC manuals and the incorporation of Raman TruNarc equipment into the field work for the presumptive detection of seized substances. Likewise, the country indicates that for each substance, there is a manual on how to deal with them.

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.

Uruguay has Decree 361/2018, on the inclusion of two generic groups—phenethylamines and synthetic cathinone’ to the psychotropic control lists, and Decree 338/2019, on the inclusion of the generic groups of fentanyl to psychotropic control lists, as regulatory frameworks to identify and address the challenges posed by NPS and emerging illicit synthetic drugs.

Priority Action 2.4: Promote participation in the Project ION Incident Communication System (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.

Uruguay participates in Project ION (International Operations on New Psychoactive Substances)

of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB). The General Directorate for Combatting Illicit Drug Trafficking (DGRTID) 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.

Uruguay has decrees 361/2018 and 338/2019 as innovative legislation to control synthetic opioids for non-medical use and 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.

Priority Action 3.1: Promote inter-agency coordination with industry to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances.

Uruguay has the Controlled Substances Division of the Ministry of Public Health as its competent national authority responsible for developing guides, codes of conduct, and other instruments to inform the industry and users in general of controlled chemical substances.

The country uses web communications to inform the industry and users in general of applicable controls and cooperation methods to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.

Uruguay does not have an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances.

Uruguay's competent authorities carry out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle controlled chemical substances, as presented in the following table:

Name of the competent authority	Conducts regular inspections and audits?	Responsible for controlling internal commerce?	Incorporates the CICAD model regulations?
Division of Controlled Substances of the Ministry of Public Health	Yes, planned inspections are carried out annually, sworn declarations of movements are controlled quarterly	Yes	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.

Uruguay carries 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 through the Early Warning System and the Cooperation *Programme* between Latin America, Caribbean and the European Union on Drugs Policies (COPOLAD) of the European Union.

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.

Uruguay has Law 17016, Decree 391/002, Ordinances 1/020 and 246/020, the decrees updating lists of substances subject to control, and the *Mercado Común del Sur* (MERCOSUR) decrees, 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.

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.

Uruguay has incorporated the following control measures listed in Article 12, Paragraph 8 of the 1988 United Nations Convention into its legislation:

Control measures	Yes	No
Control of all persons and enterprises engaged in the manufacture and distribution of controlled chemical substances	X	
Control, under license, the establishment and premises in which manufacture, or distribution of controlled chemical substances may take place	X	
Require that licensees obtain a permit for manufacturing or distributing controlled chemical substances	X	
Prevent the accumulation of controlled chemical substances in the possession of manufacturers and distributors, in excess of the quantities required for the normal conduct of business and the prevailing market conditions	X	

The country has incorporated the following control measures listed in Article 12, Paragraph 9 of the 1988 United Nations Convention into its legislation:

Control measures	Yes	No
A system to monitor international trade in controlled chemical substances to facilitate the identification of suspicious transactions	X	
The monitoring system shall be used by manufacturers, importers, exporters, wholesalers, and retailers to inform the competent authorities of suspicious orders and transactions		X
Any controlled substance is seized if there is sufficient evidence that it will be used in the illicit manufacture of narcotics or psychotropic substances	X	
The competent authorities are notified, as soon as possible, if there is reason to believe that the import, export, or transit of a substance is destined for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, including, in particular, information about the means of payment and any other essential elements which led to that belief	X	

<p>Requirements to ensure that imports and exports are properly labelled and documented. Commercial documents such as invoices, cargo manifests, customs, transport, and other shipping documents must include the names of the substances, the quantity, and the name and address of the exporter, the importer and, when available, the consignee. These documents are kept for a period of no less than two years and may be made available for inspection by competent authorities.</p>	<p>X</p>	
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Uruguay requests the information set forth 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.

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

The country uses the INCB 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.

Uruguay receives the INCB’s e-learning training program 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.

In Uruguay, the national budgets of the Ministry of Public Health, the Judiciary, and the Ministry for Interior Affairs 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.

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.

In Uruguay, the Ministry of Public Health and the General Directorate for Combatting Illicit Drug

Trafficking—in exercise of their competence and in accordance with Decree 391 of 2002— uses the CICAD’s Model Regulations for the Control of Chemical Substances Used in the Illicit Production 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.

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.

Uruguay 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 time it takes, on average, to issue an import or export authorization is presented in the following table:

Product type	Average time to issue import permits	Average time to issue export permits
Narcotic or psychotropic raw materials for the preparation of medicines	10 days for psychotropics / 20 days for narcotics	10 days for psychotropics / 20 days for narcotics
Medications containing narcotic or psychotropic drugs	10 days for psychotropics / 20 days for narcotics	10 days for psychotropics / 20 days for narcotics
Analytical patterns classified as narcotic or psychotropic	10 days for psychotropics / 20 days for narcotics	10 days for psychotropics / 20 days for narcotics
Medications classified as narcotics or psychotropics for the personal use of travelers entering or leaving the country	5 days	3 days

The country has an updated register or database of individuals and/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.

Uruguay 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.

Uruguay has the following regulatory framework governing the acquisition of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes:

Laws:

- Decree Law 14222 - Approval of International Agreement - Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961
- Decree Law 14369 - Approval of International Agreement - Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971
- Decree Law 16579 - Approval of International Agreement - United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988
- Decree Law 14294 - Narcotics Law. Schedules I and II of the Single Convention of New York. Schedule I on Psychotropic Substances Vienna. Measures Against Illicit Drug Trade
- Law 17.016 - On Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Drugs, Precursors and Chemical Products

Regulatory Decrees:

- Decree 454/976 - Regulates Decree-Law 14294 - Narcotics and Psychotropic Drugs
- Decree 537/978 - Narcotics. Pharmaceutical Specialties. Medical Prescriptions
- Decree 164/982 - Narcotics. Regulation of the Manufacture, Importation, Sale and Use of Specific Zootherapeutic Products containing Psychotropic Drugs
- Decree 95/988 - Narcotic Drugs. Collective Medical Assistance Institutions. Prescriptions of Psychopharmaceutical Products
- Decree 423/999 - Prescription of Controlled Specialties and Medicines
- Decree 391/002 - Regulates Law 17.016 - Precursors and Chemical Products
- Decree 246/021 - Control and Regulation of the Use of Cannabis and its Derivatives for Scientific Research and Medicinal Use

Decrees of Modifications to the Control Lists:

- Decree 554/007 - Procaine, Benzocaine and Lidocaine
- Decree 21/012 - Ephedrine and Pseudoephedrine
- Decree 282/014 - Modification of the Regulations on Precursors and Chemical Products.
- Decree 41/015 - Caffeine
- Decree 310/015 - Amendment to the Convention on Psychotropic Substances and the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961
- Decree 320/016 - Amendment to the Convention on Psychotropic Substances and the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs
- Decree 439/016 - Transfer of Certain Substances from Schedule IV to Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, signed in Vienna on February 21, 1971
- Decree 266/017 - Amendment of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961
- Decree 34/018 - Updating of the List of Controlled Substances
- Decree 66/018 - Extension of the List of Substances with Psychopharmacological Action - Scopolamine and its Salts
- Decree 209/018 - Inclusion of New Substances to the Control Lists
- Decree 361/018 - Extension of the List of Substances with Psychopharmacological Action

- Decree 338/019 - Updating of the Schedules of Controlled Substances of Psychotropic Drugs, Narcotic Drugs, Precursors and Chemical Products. Decree No. 265/020 - Amendment of the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.

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.

Uruguay has an updated register of individuals and corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances. The registry includes information on the name of the company, the taxpayer ID number, Single Tax Registration (RUT, by its Spanish acronym), tax address, personal and contact information of legal representatives and directors and/or technical managers of the company, current health authorization, authorization from the competent body for zootherapeutic drugs with psychopharmacological effects, and licenses from the Cannabis Regulation and Control Institute, when applicable.

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

Uruguay carries out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, 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.

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

Sanction type	Year of last update
Criminal	1974 (Decree Law 14294)
Administrative	2015 (Law 19355)

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.

Uruguay offers the following 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 which are developed within the framework of INCB Learning, the ION Project (International operations on NPS), the GRIDS Program and the OPIOIDS Project.

Uruguay shares information with ION Project and the GRIDS Program on the diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

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

In Uruguay, the Controlled Substances Division of the Ministry of Public Health uses the International Narcotics Control Board's (INCB) International Import and Export Authorization System (I2ES). Likewise, this institution is in process of implementing the NDS7 system.

Uruguay 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 personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations, including through the use of existing information systems and intelligence data exchanges.

Uruguay participates in the following periodic training programs for personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations, among others:

- Advanced Narcotics Investigations Course” (San Salvador)
- Strengthening Institutional Responses to Cocaine Production and Trafficking (Colombia)
- Anti-drug course given by the *Dirección General de Represión al Tráfico Ilícito de Drogas* (DGRTID)

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.

Uruguay participates in the following periodic training programs or other capacity-building activities to investigate and counter crimes associated with drug trafficking, such as corruption and money laundering:

- Tactical planning and security course, given from October 4 to 15, 2021, by the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA), based in the San Salvador, Republic of El Salvador
- Working meeting with the representatives of countries that produce cocaine with European transit and destination countries, held within the framework of the EL PACCTO Program, from October 20 to 22, 2021, in Lima, Peru
- Virtual roundtable, “Combatting illicit drug trafficking in the Americas,” organized by CICAD/OAS, which took place on April 22, 2021
- Certificate course in strategies against drug trafficking in maritime and air terminals, held virtually from May 3rd to May 30th, 2021
- Anti-drug training programs and virtual anti-drug basic certificate, aimed exclusively at women members of police and security agencies, offered by the Regional Counterdrug Intelligence School of the Americas (ERCAIAD)

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.

Uruguay uses database searches, field work (surveillances, follow-ups, film recordings) and intelligence reports to collect and exchange intelligence information at a domestic, regional, and international level, to detect routes and methods used by drug trafficking criminal organizations. Said reports are issued once the organizations and their modus operandi are detected and based on that, analyses are carried out in order to prevent future cases.

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.

Uruguay 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:

- Formation of multidisciplinary teams with entities such as the General Directorate of Registration, General Tax Directorate, Social Welfare Bank, Financial Information and Analysis Unit, and National Secretariat for the Fight against Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism (SENACLAFT), with the aim to prevent the crime of money laundering
- Law 19889 Law of Urgent Consideration
- Update of the current regulations of the Comprehensive Law Against Money Laundering Article 28

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.

Uruguay has a Public Security Management System on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal organizations. The institutions that provide information for this system are the Ministry for Interior Affairs and the National Observatory on Crime.

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.

Uruguay has updated its regulatory framework to combat money laundering derived from illicit drug trafficking with the Comprehensive Law against Money Laundering 19574.

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.

Uruguay has the following periodic training programs for officials and those in vulnerable sectors on prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering derived from drug trafficking:

- Courses taught by the National Secretariat for the Fight against Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (SENACLAFT) that have so far not been taught due to COVID health protocols
- Courses sent by the Ministry for Interior Affairs through agreements with the Ibero-American Police School (IBERPOL) and with the Spanish Cooperation Training Center in Montevideo
- International Law Enforcement course through the United States Embassy

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

Uruguay 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.

Uruguay has Article 28 of Law 19574, allowing for inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering. Through the acting prosecutor's office,

multidisciplinary teams are formed in which different State entities involved in the investigation of the crime of money laundering participate.

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

Uruguay has the Financial Analysis Research Unit of the Central Bank of Uruguay (UIAF) as its financial intelligence unit.

The country has information systems aimed at the investigation and prosecution of money laundering in analyzing cases deriving from drug trafficking. In this sense, the country uses means of information and databases that enable investigation of the crime of Money Laundering by connecting state entities, enabling access to information of vital importance in the investigation.

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.

Uruguay issues suspicious transaction reports that allow the analysis of money laundering risks, according to the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

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.

Uruguay has not established partnerships with the financial industries to identify and investigate illicit transactions and money laundering operations related to the proceeds of drug trafficking activities. The Integral Anti-Money Laundering Law N° 19574 establishes that individuals or legal entities subject to the control of the Central Bank of Uruguay are obliged to inform the Financial Information and Analysis Unit (UIAF) of transactions, whether they have been carried out, which are unusual, occur without obvious economic or legal justification, or are of unusual or unjustified complexity.

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.

Uruguay has the Forfeited Assets Fund of the National Drug Board (FBD), established by Article 125 of Law 18046, as the designated competent authority responsible for the administration of seized and forfeited assets.

The country has the Regulations of the Confiscated Assets Fund of the National Drug Board, approved by Decree 339/010, which facilitates the accountability and 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.

Uruguay does not offer or 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.

Uruguay has Law 19574 and the Regulations of the Confiscated Assets Fund of the National Drug Board, approved by 339/010, in accordance with international treaties and conventions, to facilitate the seizure and forfeiture and management of assets, instruments or products derived from illicit activities related to 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.

Uruguay has not designed, implemented, or updated national policies or programs to prevent or 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.

Uruguay 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.

Uruguay does not take into account licit traditional uses when 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.

Uruguay has not established mechanisms for inter-agency 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.

Uruguay 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.

Uruguay 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.

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.

During the evaluation period (2019-2022), Uruguay did not carry out 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.

Uruguay has developed and implemented local approaches for controlling micro-trafficking and related crimes that take into account effects on public health, the economy, social cohesion, and citizen security. With regard to citizen cohesion and security, investigations have been carried out to combat micro-trafficking and its related crimes, based on article 74 of Law 19889 and articles 131 and 132 of Decree 84/019.

Priority Action 12.2: Promote the 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.

Uruguay promotes the interagency exchange of information at the national level on the effects of small-scale drug trafficking in the security sector. These exchanges were made according to the following table:

Entities with which information was exchanged	Means of verification	Year
At the national level with the departmental brigades of each headquarters	Intelligence reports	Ongoing
At the international level with all the agencies dedicated to combating drug trafficking	By request	Ongoing

However, this exchange is not encouraged in the health, social, or economic sectors.

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.

Uruguay does not have programs and strategies that prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations 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 Uruguay participates in ongoing training programs to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, for personnel involved in interdiction operations; moreover, it observes that the country has protocols and operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle clandestine laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs, which contemplate appropriate safety and health measures for personnel involved in the dismantling of laboratories or facilities, and include actions to minimize damage to the environment and optimize the management of chemical and toxic wastes. Furthermore, CICAD observes that the agencies in charge of drug control in Uruguay implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming. CICAD notes that the country has programs or strategies aimed at land, riverine, maritime, and aerial interdiction, through monitoring, inspections, or checkpoints. Likewise, CICAD observes that Uruguay has laws 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. Moreover, CICAD observes with satisfaction that Uruguay 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. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country has an institution responsible for, and capable of, analyzing chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS), and has ongoing training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of these substances. CICAD also observes that Uruguay has mechanisms to facilitate and share information at the national level across relevant governmental counterparts, as well as with global repositories on these substances. CICAD recognizes that the country has mechanisms to investigate and disrupt drug trafficking through the Internet. However, CICAD observes that the country does not have partnerships or information exchange mechanisms with private sector entities to prevent access to materials and services exploited for illicit drug trafficking purposes nor uses tools and resources of the INCB to strengthen cooperation with the private sector to prevent the diversion of chemicals. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Uruguay has a national authority with the appropriate budget, human and material resources for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets but its competent personnel does not receive ongoing training in this matter.

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 with satisfaction that Uruguay has 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 improves its capabilities to detect and analyze NPS through the use of special investigative techniques, updated equipment, and the acquisition of technology. Additionally, CICAD observes that Uruguay has regulatory frameworks or guidelines to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of NPS and emerging synthetic drugs. Furthermore, CICAD notes that the country participates in the INCB's ION Project. CICAD observes that Uruguay does 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 Uruguay 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. However, CICAD observes that the country does not have an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances. Nevertheless, the competent authorities carry out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle these substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that Uruguay carries 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 Uruguay has 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, which include all of the control measures in paragraph 8, four of the five control measures in paragraph 9, and requests for information set forth in Paragraph 10. Likewise, CICAD notes that the country uses the PEN Online system for pre-export notifications of controlled chemical substances, as well as the PICS system. CICAD observes that Uruguay receives training for drug control personnel and for the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country has budgetary mechanisms to ensure allocation of resources to acquire necessary equipment or supplies for the preliminary identification of substances and the protective equipment required by personnel in charge of these tasks. CICAD also observes that Uruguay uses 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 Uruguay 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 these substances. Additionally, 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. Moreover, 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 with satisfaction that Uruguay 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 products 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. Furthermore, CICAD notes that Uruguay offers 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 and shares information with other regional or global systems on this matter. Additionally, CICAD observes the country uses the INCB's I2ES system; and it 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 Uruguay participates in periodic training programs for personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence

collection, analysis, and operations. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country 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. Additionally, CICAD notes that Uruguay 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 observes 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 notes that Uruguay 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 Uruguay has a legislative framework to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking. Moreover, 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 Uruguay 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 recognizes that Uruguay 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 observes that the country has mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with the FATF. However, CICAD notes that Uruguay does not have partnerships with the financial industries to identify or 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 Uruguay has a designated competent authority responsible for the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets and regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the management of seized and forfeited assets. However,

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. Additionally, CICAD recognizes that Uruguay has a law and a regulation, 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 Uruguay has not designed, implemented, or updated national policies or programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production, or manufacture of drugs. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country does not direct budgetary allocations towards financing counternarcotics programs. Additionally, CICAD notes that Uruguay 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 these policies and programs. 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. Moreover, CICAD notes that Uruguay 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 Uruguay has not designed nor 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 Uruguay 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 Uruguay 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. Moreover, 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. Additionally, CICAD notes that Uruguay 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