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MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)

SECRETARIAT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL SECURITY (SMS)

Canada

Evaluation Report on Drug Policies

2019



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PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), under the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS), measures the progress achieved and challenges to member nations of the Organization of American States (OAS) in implementing the CICAD Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2016-2020. Mandated by the 1998 Summit of the Americas held in Santiago, Chile, the MEM is the only multilateral tool of its kind in the world.

MEM evaluations are based on information provided by OAS member states, which is then analyzed by the MEM's Governmental Expert Group (GEG), composed of experts from OAS countries. For this round, the GEG performed its work from mid-2018 to mid-2019. The evaluation process was transparent and inclusive in nature, with no experts involved in the evaluation of their own country.

The GEG analyzed the following areas: institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, and international cooperation, and its evaluation is based on the 29 objectives and corresponding priority actions of the CICAD Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2016-2020. (A few priority actions were not considered, given they are not measurable.) In addition, the seventh round reports include a discussion of member states' progress over time during the seven MEM rounds.

Prior to the GEG's work, the MEM Inter-Governmental Working Group, also composed of representatives from OAS member states, designed the seventh evaluation round instrument during 2017, and the resulting questionnaire was then completed by member states.

The MEM reports focus on key themes important not only to CICAD but to the OAS as a whole, such as human rights, gender, age, culture and social inclusion. The reports also take into account the recommendations of the outcome document of the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016) and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

We hope the MEM reports serve as a useful diagnostic tool to improve drug policies and strategies, both at a national and regional level.

This report and all other MEM seventh round evaluation reports are available at <http://www.cicad.oas.org>

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

OBJECTIVE 1

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL DRUG AUTHORITIES, PLACING THEM AT A HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL AND PROVIDING THEM WITH THE NECESSARY CAPABILITIES AND COMPETENCIES TO COORDINATE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES IN THE STAGES OF FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION.

Canada has a national drug authority, which is the Controlled Substances Directorate of Health Canada (Department of Health). The Controlled Substances Directorate is under the Minister of Health, Health Canada, Government of Canada. This Directorate coordinates the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures and international cooperation, but not alternative, integral and sustainable development programs and program evaluation.

The annual budget for the Controlled Substances Directorate is integrated with the budget of Health Canada (Department of Health). Said budget for the drug authority is as follows:

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Annual budget amount (US dollars)	\$87.6M US	\$98.1M US	\$100.9M US	\$95.5M US	\$103.3M US

The country has an ongoing coordination and organization mechanism among agencies and other levels of government, in order to implement the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy (CDSS).

OBJECTIVE 2

FORMULATE, IMPLEMENT, EVALUATE AND UPDATE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES THAT WILL BE COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED, BASED ON EVIDENCE THAT INCLUDE A CROSS-CUTTING HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE, CONSISTENT WITH OBLIGATIONS OF PARTIES UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW¹ WITH A FOCUS ON GENDER AND EMPHASIZING DEVELOPMENT WITH SOCIAL INCLUSION.

Canada has a national drug strategy approved by the Cabinet of Ministers, the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy (CDSS), that replaced the National Anti-Drug Strategy (2007-2016). The CDSS

¹ Full respect for international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, observing the principles of sovereignty and the territorial integrity of States, nonintervention in the internal affairs of States, fundamental liberties, inherent human dignity, and equal rights and mutual respect among States.

is evidence-based and implemented through a four-pillar approach, which includes prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and enforcement. The institutions involved in implementing the CDSS are: Health Canada, Canadian Institute of Health Research, Public Health Agency of Canada, Department of Indigenous Services Canada, Justice Canada, Public Safety Canada, Canada Border Services Agency, Canada Revenue Agency, Correctional Service of Canada, Global Affairs Canada, Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada, Public Prosecution Service of Canada, Parole Board of Canada, Public Works and Government Services Canada, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and Status of Women Canada.

In the country, provincial and territorial governments have the authority and responsibility to provide a wide range of health care services, including those related to drug treatment, prevention, and harm reduction. Municipal and local governments often have enough autonomy to take responsibility of and implement concrete actions. Health Canada has regional offices nationwide, and works closely with the provinces and territories to support their drug-related activities such as drug treatment services for the general population. Additionally, provinces and territories implement many drug prevention programs/initiatives at the provincial/territorial and community levels along with municipalities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

There is also financial support to provinces, territories, NGOs and key stakeholders to strengthen responses to drug and substance use issues in the country through Health Canada. The Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP) supports evidence-informed and innovative initiatives across health promotion, prevention, harm reduction, treatment and rehabilitation, targeting a broad range of licit and illicit substances including opioids, alcohol, cannabis and prescription drugs.

The CDSS takes into account the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda through its comprehensive public health approach to substance use issues. The CDSS also takes into consideration a gender-based approach to ensure that policy analysis and program design incorporate impacts on gender groups in order to address their specific needs and circumstances. These approaches align with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Canadian Human Rights Act of 1977, which include a human rights perspective. Likewise, Health Canada's Sex and Gender Action Plan aims to systematically integrate sex and gender considerations into all of Health Canada's research, legislation, policies, regulations, programs and services. Moreover, the CDSS supports development with social inclusion by including the public health and human rights approach to addressing problematic substance use, focusing on the root causes and social determinants that contribute to use, and reducing associated stigma.

OBJECTIVE 3

DESIGN AND COORDINATE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES WITH OTHER PUBLIC POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES THAT ADDRESS FUNDAMENTAL CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE DRUG PROBLEM.

Canada's CDSS addresses the roots of the crisis of problematic substance use through a whole of society response. This requires addressing stigma and discrimination as barriers to accessing care. Issues of crime prevention, violence, victimization, social exclusion, corruption and gender are taken into careful consideration as the country continues to develop and implement the CDSS. The country takes steps in pursuing a health-focused approach to problematic substance use.

OBJECTIVE 4

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL OBSERVATORIES ON DRUGS (OR SIMILAR TECHNICAL OFFICES) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL DRUG INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND FOSTERING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THIS AREA.

Canada has drug demand reduction studies and information on supply reduction, trafficking and related crimes, which would be under the functions of an observatory on drugs or similar technical office with the financial, human and technological resources. There is no drug information network.

The following are the studies in the area of demand reduction:

Demand reduction			
Studies	Studies carried out and published		Year of most recent study
	Yes	No	
Survey of secondary school students	X		2015
National household surveys (12-64 years)	X		2015
Patient register of treatment centers		X	
Cross-section survey of patients in treatment centers		X	
Survey of patients in emergency rooms		X	
Survey of higher education students		X	
Survey of populations in conflict with the law	X		2018
Studies on drug-related mortality	X		2018
Studies on drug-related morbidity	X		2018
Studies on gender conditions related to drug problems		X	

The following is the information collected in the areas of supply reduction, trafficking and related crimes:

Supply reduction, trafficking and related crimes			
Information	Available information		Year of most recent information
	Yes	No	
Quantification of illicit crop cultivation including crops grown indoors		X	
Number of seizures of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production	X		2018
Quantities of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production seized	X		2018
Number of seizures of controlled chemical substances (precursors)	X		2018
Quantities of seized controlled chemical substances (precursors)	X		2018
Number of seizures of pharmaceutical products	X		2018
Quantities of seized pharmaceutical products	X		2018
Number of persons formally charged with drug use, possession and trafficking	X		2017
Number of persons convicted of drug use, possession and trafficking	X		2016
Number of laboratories producing illicit plant-based drugs detected and dismantled	X		2018
Number of laboratories producing illicit drugs of synthetic origin detected and dismantled	X		2018
Chemical composition of seized drugs	X		2018
Sale price of drugs (for consumers)	X		2018
Number of persons formally charged with money laundering	X		2017
Number of persons convicted of money laundering	X		2016
Number of persons formally charged with trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition and related materials	X		2017
Number of persons convicted of trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition and related materials	X		2016
Number of persons formally charged with diversion of chemical substances	X		2017
Number of persons convicted of diversion of chemical substances	X		2016

Canada recognizes the role of social determinants in problematic substance use and, usually includes and analyzes data disaggregated by gender, age, socio-economic, educational level, and ethnicity.

The country does have studies to evaluate drug programs or interventions on demand reduction, supply reduction or control measures.

OBJECTIVE 5

ENCOURAGE THE DESIGN, ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION FOR LOW-LEVEL DRUG-RELATED OFFENSES, WHILE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NATIONAL, CONSTITUTIONAL, LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS.

Canada has the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act of 2017, for alternative measures to incarceration for low-level drug offenses. In addition, the country has the Drug Treatment Court Funding Program (DTCFP), which provides an alternative to incarceration by facilitating treatment for eligible, adult offenders for low-level drug-related offences. The alternative measures to incarceration for low-level drug-related offenses take into account gender differences in accordance to the relevant international instruments. Canada has mechanisms, through the Department of Justice Canada, to monitor and evaluate the impact of implementing alternative measures to incarceration for low-level drug offenses.

OBJECTIVE 6

PROMOTE AND IMPLEMENT, AS APPROPRIATE, COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES, LAWS AND NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE VULNERABLE POPULATIONS, WITH DIFFERENT LEVELS AND FORMS OF INVOLVEMENT.

Canada has the following interinstitutional and multisectoral programs that promote the social integration of individuals affected by the drug problem:

- Correctional Service Canada (CSC): Community Maintenance Program (CMP) provides aftercare and teaches offenders to integrate the skills they have learned in correctional programs into a self-management plan. For offenders who do not participate in a program in an institution, CSC provides a moderate intensity national problematic substance use program in the community.
- Québec: A social reinsertion best practices guide exists in Quebec based on evidence and/or expert consensus. The social reinsertion programs implemented in the addiction rehabilitation centres based on these best practices.
- Indigenous Services Canada (ISC): Healthcare for First Nations and Inuit populations in Canada is delivered in the context of a complex, dynamic and interdependent health system governed by federal, provincial, territorial and First Nations and Inuit jurisdictions. The ISC Department receives funding through the CDSS to enhance prevention and treatment services. ISC also provides First Nations and Inuit communities, families, and mental wellness services and supports that are responsive to their needs.

The CDSS investment provides specific funding to improve access to quality substance use services for First Nations and Inuit. Communities have used this funding to revamp treatment centers; increase accreditation of treatment centers; provide addiction workers with more training and becoming certified with a recognized certification body; and enhance prevention and treatment services in communities

specific to problematic prescription drug use. Harm reduction investments are also prioritized for First Nations community-based opioid agonist treatment (OAT) sites with wraparound care that responds to the specific needs of each community. The Priority Prolific Offender Program (PPOP) assists with the reintegration of the offender.

OBJECTIVE 7

FOSTER PROPORTIONATE SENTENCING, WHERE APPROPRIATE, THAT ADDRESSES THE SERIOUSNESS OF DRUG OFFENSES AND SAFEGUARDING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Canada does not have legislation on proportionate sentencing, in particular for low-level drug-related offenses. However, both the Criminal Code of 1985 and the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act of 1996 provide courts with the discretion to delay sentencing while a drug-addicted offender undergoes court-monitored treatment for substance use disorders. This statutory discretion provides the necessary authority to establish special courts or tribunals for low-level drug-related offenses. Particularly, Canadian drug treatment courts (DTCs) represent a concerted effort to break the cycle of drug use and criminal recidivism. DTCs focus on facilitating treatment for drug-involved adult offenders who meet specified criteria and provide an alternative to incarceration by offering an opportunity to complete a drug treatment program. DTCs tailor treatment to meet the needs of clients by offering specialized programming to address the unique circumstances of certain populations, such as women and indigenous people. These special courts take a comprehensive approach intended to reduce the number of crimes committed to support substance use disorders through judicial supervision, comprehensive problematic substance use treatment, random and frequent drug testing, incentives and sanctions, clinical case management, and social services support. The Department of Justice delivers the DTCFP, which provides funding support to provinces and territories for the administration of these special courts. There are twelve active DTC sites across Canada supported by the DTCFP.

For youth 12-17 years of age, who commit offences, including drug-related offences, Canada's Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA) of 2002 outlines a distinct approach to respond in a manner that takes into account their greater dependency and reduced level of maturity. The YCJA emphasizes the use of community-based, non-court measures that promote rehabilitation and reintegration, while reducing the overreliance on incarceration. The drug treatment component of the Government's Youth Justice Fund provides project-specific funding to support drug treatment programming for youth, including culturally appropriate programs for indigenous youth.

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Drug Policy Evaluation throughout the MEM Process: 1999-2018

CICAD notes with satisfaction that during the seven rounds (1999-2018), Canada has had a national drug authority. In the seventh round (2014-2018), the national drug authority coordinates areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures and international cooperation, and has a budget.

CICAD recognizes that throughout the seven rounds (1999-2018), Canada has had a national drug strategy. In the seventh round (2014-2018), the national drug strategy covers a four-pillar approach, which includes prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and enforcement. This strategy also takes into account the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the 2030 Agenda, includes a human rights perspective, a gender approach and development with social inclusion. Additionally, provinces and territories implement many drug prevention programs and initiatives at the provincial/territorial and community levels along with municipalities and NGOs.

CICAD expresses satisfaction that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has social policies that address the socioeconomic causes and consequences of the drug problem.

CICAD is pleased that through the seven rounds (1999-2018), Canada has had a technical office on drugs performing tasks comparable to those of a national observatory on drugs; however, in the seventh round (2014-2018), there is no drug information network. The country has priority studies and information on demand and supply reduction, trafficking and related crimes. CICAD also notes that Canada has carried out studies to evaluate drug programs on demand reduction, supply reduction and control measures.

CICAD recognizes that during the sixth and seventh rounds (2013-2018), Canada has had legislation that incorporates alternative measures to incarceration for low-level drug-related offenses. In addition, the country has mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the impact of alternative measures to incarceration.

CICAD notes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has interinstitutional and multisectoral programs that promotes social integration of individuals affected by the drug problem.

CICAD observes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has drug treatment courts for low-level drug-related offenses. However, CICAD notes that the country does not have legislation for the application of proportionate sentencing for low-level drug-related offenses.

DEMAND REDUCTION

OBJECTIVE 1

ESTABLISH DEMAND REDUCTION POLICIES WITH A PUBLIC HEALTH FOCUS THAT ARE EVIDENCE-BASED, COMPREHENSIVE, MULTIDISCIPLINARY, MULTISECTORAL, AND RESPECTFUL OF HUMAN RIGHTS, CONSIDERING THE GUIDELINES AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS OF SPECIALIZED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

Canada has demand reduction policies that include programs in the areas of prevention, treatment and social integration. These programs are mainly provided at the provincial/territorial level and are designed with human rights, intercultural, age differences, and gender approaches.

The country takes into account the guidelines and recommendations of specialized international organizations in establishing demand reduction programs.

Canada has carried out process and intermediate outcome evaluations of drug abuse prevention programs. There is an “Evaluation of the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch Mental Wellness Programs 2010-2011 to 2014-2015,” which includes both a process and intermediate outcomes evaluations. There are no federal national impact evaluations or any other related or current study of drug abuse prevention programs.

The country does not implement coordination mechanisms to develop and implement demand reduction programs allowing for the participation of and coordination with civil society and other social stakeholders. Moreover, Canada does not implement measures aimed at minimizing adverse public health and social consequences, using the technical guide jointly published by the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Joint Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

OBJECTIVE 2

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF UNIVERSAL, SELECTED AND INDICATED PREVENTION PROGRAMS ON DRUG USE, GIVING PRIORITY TO VULNERABLE AND AT-RISK POPULATIONS, EVIDENCE-BASED AND INCORPORATING A HUMAN RIGHTS, GENDER, AGE AND MULTICULTURAL APPROACH.

Canada implements universal, selective, and indicated prevention programs in the following target populations: primary, secondary, and university students, the street population, family, gender, LGBTI, indigenous people, individuals in the workplace, and incarcerated individuals.

Design and delivery of health interventions is a provincial/territorial jurisdiction within the country. The authorities at the provincial/territorial level provide services for problematic substance use issues such as, treatment and rehabilitation, or medical interventions such as, detoxification or maintenance therapies. The Federal Government provides health services on First Nation reserves.

The country recognizes that the social determinants of health are often at the root of problematic substance use. These include gender, income, education, housing, social cohesion and community development. Reducing discrimination, trauma and violence is an important step to prevent problematic substance use, or to delay the early-onset of it.

Canada has taken various actions such as new investments and programs to reduce chronic homelessness, with a focus on prioritizing the most vulnerable Canadians under the National Housing Strategy, national consultation to develop Canada's Poverty Reduction Strategy, and providing funding for community-based prevention projects through the Federal Government Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP).

SUAP is a federal contributions program, delivered by Health Canada, providing financial support to provinces, territories, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and key stakeholders to strengthen responses to drug and substance use issues in Canada. Health Canada places a priority on working with partners to promote innovation and the adoption of best practices; improved effectiveness, efficiency and accountability within health and related systems; and national approaches to issues and priorities. SUAP funding supports evidence-informed and innovative initiatives across health promotion, prevention, harm reduction, treatment and rehabilitation, targeting a broad range of legal and illegal substances including opioids, alcohol, cannabis and prescription drugs.

OBJECTIVE 3

ESTABLISH AND STRENGTHEN, AS APPROPRIATE, A NATIONAL TREATMENT, REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION SYSTEM FOR PEOPLE WITH PROBLEMATIC DRUG USE, INCLUDING A HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER-BASED APPROACH, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED QUALITY STANDARDS.

Canada has treatment, rehabilitation and social integration services for people with problematic drug use guaranteeing non-discrimination. These programs are provided at provincial/territorial level and include early intervention (brief intervention, counseling), crisis intervention, diverse treatment modalities, dual pathology (co-morbidity) and social integration and services related to recovery support. The gender perspective is included in the treatment services offered.

The country does not use the International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders of UNODC and WHO in their programs. There also is no centralized mechanism to facilitate access and ensure the quality of treatment services for those with problematic drug use. Although, the public health system, private institutions, NGOs, and religious institutions offer outpatient and residential services.

Canada has established and maintained cooperative relationships with governmental and non-governmental organizations that provide social and community support services, with a gender perspective, for the social integration of vulnerable populations.

There are no mechanisms in the country to continually monitor and evaluate the results of care, treatment and social integration programs. Furthermore, there are no overarching supervisory mechanisms for establishments offering treatment and rehabilitation services for those with problematic drug use.

Canada has mechanisms to protect the rights of people with problematic drug use in treatment programs and services. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and in the Canadian Human Rights Act of 1977 protects the rights of the people.

OBJECTIVE 4

FOSTER ONGOING TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF HUMAN RESOURCES THAT PROVIDE PREVENTION, TREATMENT, REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL REINTEGRATION SERVICES.

Canada offers ongoing competence-based training and certification of human resources that provide prevention, treatment and social reintegration services. These services include a gender perspective.

The country certifies personnel that work on prevention, treatment and social reintegration services.

OBJECTIVE 5

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES TO REGULATE, ENABLE, ACCREDIT AND SUPERVISE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND, CARE AND TREATMENT SERVICES.

Canada has an accreditation process for treatment centers and a variety of entities that operate at the provincial/territorial level and vary across jurisdictions. The entities responsible for related certification and accreditation of these centers are:

- Problematic substance use treatment programs at the national level: Accreditation Canada, Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) Canada, Council on Accreditation (COA) and the “*Conseil québécois d’agrément*” (CQA).
- Employee Assistance Programs (EAP): The Employee Assistance Society of North America (EASNA).
- Problematic substance use and allied professionals (aimed at providing protection to clients and recognition of practitioners): Canadian Addiction Counsellors Certification Federation (CACCF).
- Canadian Centre for Accreditation (CCA), Canadian Council of Professional Certification (CCPC), Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA), Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine (CSAM), Employee Assistance Professionals Association (EAPA), and the Indigenous Certification Board of Canada (ICBoC).

The country does not have a supervisory mechanism to ensure the quality criteria of the prevention, care and treatment services. Moreover, Canada has not conducted an assessment to determine the national needs and care and treatment services offered.

DEMAND REDUCTION

Drug Policy Evaluation throughout the MEM Process: 1999-2018

CICAD notes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has demand reduction policies that include programs in the areas of prevention, treatment and social integration, mainly at the provincial/territorial level and are designed with human rights, intercultural, generational, and gender approaches. The country also considers the guidelines of international organizations in demand reduction programs yet said programs are not implemented through coordination mechanisms with social stakeholders. CICAD also observes that Canada does not follow international guidelines to implement measures aimed at minimizing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for society and public health. However, CICAD notes with satisfaction that during the seven rounds (1999-2018), the country has been evaluating the demand reduction programs.

CICAD observes with satisfaction that throughout the seven rounds (1999-2018), Canada has been maintaining an extensive variety of universal, selective and indicated prevention programs, whether offered at the federal, provincial, and territory levels, aimed at different target populations.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that from the first through the seventh rounds (1999-2018), Canada has had a national system of comprehensive treatment and social integration programs and devices that offer all the services of the continuum of care, guaranteeing non-discrimination and includes a gender perspective. Likewise, CICAD notes that since the fourth to the seventh rounds (2005-2018), some regulation at the federal, provincial, and territorial levels, has been established regarding quality standards and accessibility of treatment services, although not common nationwide. CICAD observes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), there are mechanisms to protect the rights of people with problematic drug use in treatment programs and receiving services. However, CICAD notes with concern that the country does not have either national mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the results of care, treatment and social integration programs, or overarching supervisory mechanisms of establishments offering treatment and rehabilitation services to those with problematic drug use.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that during seven rounds (1999-2018), Canada has been offering a wide variety of training in the academic field as well as other courses in the area of prevention, treatment and social integration. CICAD also observes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country certifies personnel who work in prevention, treatment and social integration services.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that from the sixth to the seventh rounds (2013-2018), Canada has had accreditation processes for treatment centers. CICAD also notes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), there are no supervisory mechanisms to ensure that the quality criteria of prevention, care and treatment services are met. Furthermore, the country has not conducted an assessment to determine the national needs for care and treatment services offered.

SUPPLY REDUCTION

OBJECTIVE 1

DESIGN, IMPLEMENT AND STRENGTHEN COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED POLICIES AND PROGRAMS, AIMED AT PREVENTING AND DECREASING THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS, IN ACCORDANCE TO THE TERRITORIAL REALITIES OF EACH COUNTRY AND RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and other police forces in Canada design, implement and update national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit crops and the illicit production of drugs.

The country does not take into account traditional licit use when designing and implementing policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs, but includes environmental protection measures to reduce the illicit supply of drugs. Health Canada's Drug Analysis Services has the following internal policies: safety and security, use of personal protective equipment, exhibit collection, call-out response and air monitoring devices, among others.

Drug supply reduction programs implemented by the country are supplemented by drug-related crime prevention initiatives that address social and economic risk factors. These programs include participation from civil society and other social stakeholders.

OBJECTIVE 2

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT MECHANISMS TO COLLECT AND ANALYZE INFORMATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES AND ACTIONS AIMED AT DECREASING THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS.

Canada has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs. Health Canada, the RCMP, the Department of Justice and Statistics Canada participate in these mechanisms. The country carries out periodic studies and research on the structural and socioeconomic factors influencing the illicit supply of drugs situation.

The country does not prepare or update studies or research on medical and scientific uses and other legal use of crops containing narcotic or psychotropic substances subject to the international control system. However, the country promotes and implements mechanisms for the identification of new psychoactive substances (NPS).

Canada neither promotes nor implements mechanisms to identify chemical profiles or characteristics of drugs subject to the international control system. The country also does not use standardized and comparable methodologies to measure illicit crops and drug production.

OBJECTIVE 3

DESIGN, IMPLEMENT AND/OR STRENGTHEN LONG-TERM PROGRAMS WHICH ARE BROAD AND AIMED AT DEVELOPMENT THAT INCLUDES RURAL AND URBAN ALTERNATIVE, INTEGRAL AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, AND, AS APPROPRIATE, PREVENTIVE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES, LEGISLATIONS AND NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, AS APPROPRIATE.

Canada does not design or implement alternative, integral and sustainable development programs or preventive alternative development as part of the strategies to control and reduce illicit cannabis crops, given that the country started shifting efforts towards legalization and strict regulation of cannabis. With the exception of cannabis crops, reduction initiatives and alternative development programmes are of limited use in Canada where the climate is unfavorable to sustainable and profitable outdoor cultivation of illicit crops. The country also does not promote sustainable urban development initiatives in urban populations affected by illicit activities related to drug trafficking and related crimes.

OBJECTIVE 4

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

Canada does 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. Nevertheless, the country does have practices and standards to mitigate and reduce the environmental impacts of indoor grow operations and clandestine laboratories.

OBJECTIVE 5

ESTABLISH, AS APPROPRIATE, AND BASED ON EVIDENCE THE EFFECTS CAUSED BY SMALL-SCALE DRUG TRAFFICKING ON PUBLIC HEALTH, THE ECONOMY, SOCIAL COHESION AND CITIZEN SECURITY.

Canada does not have a characterization methodology with territorial and socio-economic approaches on micro-drug trafficking or small-scale drug trafficking and the effect on public health, the economy, social cohesion and citizen security.

The country exchanges information on the effects of small-scale drug trafficking or micro-drug trafficking in the security sector.

SUPPLY REDUCTION

Drug Policy Evaluation throughout the MEM Process: 1999-2018

CICAD recognizes that during the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada designs, implements and updates national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit crops and the illicit production of drugs. These programs include environmental protection measures and supplemented by drug-related crime prevention initiatives that address social and economic risk factors, including participation from civil society and other social stakeholders.

CICAD is pleased to see that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs and carries out periodic studies and research on the structural and socioeconomic factors influencing the illicit supply of drugs. CICAD also observes with satisfaction that the country promotes and implements mechanisms for the identification of NPS. Additionally, Canada neither promotes nor implements mechanisms to identify chemical profiles or characteristics of drugs subject to the international control system and does not use standardized and comparable methodologies to measure illicit crops and drug production. CICAD notes that the country does not prepare or update studies or research on medical and scientific uses and other legal use of crops containing narcotic or psychotropic substances subject to the international control system.

CICAD expresses its concern that through the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada does not have alternative, integral and sustainable development programs or preventive alternative development as part of the strategies to control and reduce illicit cannabis crops, given efforts have shifted towards cannabis legalization and strict regulation.

CICAD views with satisfaction that during the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has practices and standards to mitigate and reduce the environmental impacts of indoor grow operations and clandestine laboratories. However, the country does 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.

CICAD notes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada does not design a characterization methodology with territorial and socio-economic approaches on micro-drug trafficking or small-scale drug trafficking and the effect on public health, the economy, social cohesion and citizen security. However, CICAD observes that the country exchanges information on the effects of small-scale drug trafficking or micro-drug trafficking in the security sector.

CONTROL MEASURES

OBJECTIVE 1

ADOPT AND/OR STRENGTHEN COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED PROGRAMS AIMED AT PREVENTING AND REDUCING DRUG TRAFFICKING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERRITORIAL REALITIES OF EACH COUNTRY AND RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.

Canada has protocols and operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs. The country also has programs to detect and seize drugs, through monitoring, inspections or checkpoints using land, riverine, air and sea routes.

There are laws or regulations providing for the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques to prevent and reduce drug trafficking, which include a human rights perspective. Canada also implements or participates in ongoing training programs linked to regulations, processes and procedures on drug trafficking and related crimes, as well as, specialized investigative techniques and intelligence for personnel involved in interdiction operations.

However, the country does not have updated diagnoses or studies to identify new trends and threats on drug trafficking and related crimes. Health Canada's Drug Analysis Service, is the agency responsible for analyzing chemical substances, precursors and pharmaceuticals products, including new psychoactive substances (NPS) and personnel involved in the analysis, participates in ongoing training programs.

OBJECTIVE 2

ADOPT AND/OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES TOWARDS ILLICIT ACTIVITIES.

In Canada, the Office of Controlled Substances of Health Canada is the competent authority responsible for controlling domestic trade to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities, as outlined in the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act of 1996 (amended in 2018). The country does not have instruments or mechanisms to inform the industry and users in general of applicable controls and cooperation methods, to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.

The country carries out analyses that include the exchange of information through existing mechanisms of substances in the international field, their analogs and precursors, which pose a threat to public health.

The Precursor Control Regulations of 2018 incorporate the control measures in paragraph 9 of Article 12, of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities and partially the control measures in paragraph 8.

The country uses the information system for pre-export notifications (International Narcotics Control Board - INCB PEN Online) of controlled chemical substances. There also are alternative mechanisms to timely respond to pre-export notifications of controlled chemical substances made by other States.

Canada has training programs for drug control personnel on the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances. These programs include the following: internal training programs through Health Canada's Drug Analysis Service, International Collaborative Exercises through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and international proficiency testing samples program through the Collaborative Testing Services (CTS).

OBJECTIVE 3

ADOPT AND/OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT DIVERSION TOWARDS ILLICIT ACTIVITIES OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS CONTAINING PRECURSOR SUBSTANCES OR THOSE CONTAINING NARCOTIC DRUGS AND/OR PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, ENSURING THE ADEQUATE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESS SOLELY FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES.

Canada has an updated register of individuals and corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances. Licenses are issued to manufacturers and distributors, and regular inspections or audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle these pharmaceutical products are carried out.

The Controlled Drugs and Substances Act of 1996 (amended in 2018), has criminal, civil and administrative penalties for infractions or violations by individuals or corporations that handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances.

OBJECTIVE 4

ENSURE ADEQUATE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF SUBSTANCES SUBJECT TO INTERNATIONAL CONTROL SOLELY FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, PREVENTING THEIR DIVERSION.

Canada has special processes to issue import and export authorizations for substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

The country does not have training and 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.

There is a regulatory framework and guidelines to govern the acquisition of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes and have regulations in the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act of 1996 (amended in 2018) to improve access to these substances by the medical and scientific communities.

OBJECTIVE 5

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGE OF NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND THE THREAT OF AMPHETAMINE STIMULANTS.

Canada does not have an early warning system (EWS) to identify and trace NPS, amphetamine-type stimulants and other substances subject to international control.

The country has acquired Liquid Chromatography (LC) with Mass Spectrometry (MSMS) or Accurate-Mass Quadrupole Time-of-Flight (QToF) and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy to detect and confirm the presence of NPS and their analogs. However, there are no regulatory frameworks and guidelines to identify and address the challenges posed by the appearance of NPS and amphetamine-type stimulants.

OBJECTIVE 6

ESTABLISH, UPDATE AND STRENGTHEN, AS APPROPRIATE, THE LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS TO COUNTER MONEY LAUNDERING DERIVED FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING.

Canada updated and strengthened the legislative and institutional frameworks to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking through the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act (PCMLTFA) of 2000. The Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing (AML/ATF) Regime in Canada is comprised of legislation and regulations, federal departments and agencies, including regulators and supervisors; law enforcement agencies; and reporting entities.

The country has protocols that enable the authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking investigations.

Canada has mechanisms allowing for interagency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering. The country had taken action to advance a national strategy to

strengthen beneficial ownership transparency, in collaboration with its provinces and territories, and to strengthen its regulatory framework, including addressing developments with respect to new technologies.

The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) is Canada's financial intelligence unit operating within the scope of the PCMLTFA and its regulations, and is located within the Ministry of Finance.

The country has mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations.

OBJECTIVE 7

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.

Canada has legislation, regulations and procedures as well as other specific measures, in accordance with international conventions and treaties, to facilitate the seizure and forfeiture of assets, instruments, or products deriving from drug trafficking and other related crimes. These are included in the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act of 2000, Controlled Drugs and Substances Act of 1996 (amended in 2018), Criminal Code of 1985 and Special Economic Measures Act of 1992.

The Seized Property Management Directorate (SPMD) of Public Services and Procurement is Canada's competent authority responsible for the administration of seized and forfeited assets as outlined in the Seized Property Management Act of 1993.

There also are the following regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the administration of seized and forfeited assets: Department of Public Works and Government Services Act of 1996, Financial Administration Act of 1985, Forfeited Property Sharing Regulations of 1995 (amended in 2018), and Seized Property Disposition Regulations of 1994 (amended in 2018).

Canada offers and participates in specialized training programs for the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets.

OBJECTIVE 8

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL INFORMATION GATHERING SYSTEMS AND MECHANISMS FOR EXCHANGING INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION TO DETECT ROUTES AND METHODS USED BY CRIMINAL DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS.

Canada has national information gathering mechanisms to exchange intelligence information to detect routes and methods used by drug trafficking criminal organizations. Local, regional, provincial/territorial and federal enforcement forces and agencies are involved in the exchange of the information.

The country does not have a national information system on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal organizations.

CONTROL MEASURES

Drug Policy Evaluation throughout the MEM Process: 1999-2018

CICAD recognizes Canada's progress in having protocols and operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs from the sixth to the seventh rounds (2013-2018). Likewise, CICAD notes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country has programs to detect and seize drugs, laws or regulations providing for the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques to prevent and reduce drug trafficking that include a human rights perspective. Further, CICAD observes that Canada implements and participates in ongoing training programs linked to regulations, processes and procedures on drug trafficking and related crimes. There also are specialized investigative techniques and intelligence for personnel involved in interdiction operations, and on the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances for drug control personnel. Moreover, CICAD acknowledges that Canada has an agency responsible for analyzing chemical substances and personnel involved in the analysis, participates in ongoing training programs. However, CICAD notes with concern that the country does not have updated diagnoses or studies to identify new trends and threats on drug trafficking and related crimes.

CICAD is pleased to see that during the seven rounds (1999-2018), Canada has had a competent authority responsible for controlling domestic trade to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities. CICAD also observes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country carries out analyses that include the exchange of information through existing mechanisms of substances in the international field, their analogs and precursors, which pose a threat to public health, and uses the INCB PEN Online information system from the third to the seventh rounds (2003-2018). However, CICAD notes with concern that the country does not have instruments or mechanisms to inform the industry and users in general of applicable controls and cooperation methods, to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.

CICAD views with satisfaction that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has an updated register of individuals and corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances. CICAD also observes that licenses are issued to manufacturers and distributors, and regular inspections or audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle these pharmaceutical products are carried out. Furthermore, CICAD notes that the country has criminal, civil and administrative penalties for infractions or violations by individuals or corporations that handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances.

CICAD is pleased that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has special processes for issuing import and export authorizations for substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes, as well as a regulatory framework and guidelines to govern the acquisition of substances subject to international control for the same purposes. However, CICAD expresses concern that the

country does not have training and 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.

CICAD notes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has acquired new technologies to detect and confirm the presence of NPS and their analogs. However, CICAD observes with concern that the country does not have an EWS to identify and trace NPS, amphetamine-type stimulants, and other substances subject to international control. Similarly, there are no regulatory frameworks or guidelines to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of these substances.

CICAD views with satisfaction that throughout the seven rounds (1999-2018), Canada has been updating and strengthening the legislative and institutional frameworks to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking. CICAD also notes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country has a financial intelligence unit and protocols that enable the authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking investigations. Likewise, CICAD observes that the country has mechanisms allowing for interagency coordination in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering; and mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with the FATF recommendations.

CICAD recognizes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has legislation, regulations and procedures as well as other specific measures, in accordance with international conventions and treaties, to facilitate the seizure and forfeiture of assets, instruments, or products deriving from drug trafficking and other related crimes. The country also has a competent authority responsible for the administration of these assets, as well as regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the administration of said assets. Additionally, CICAD observes that Canada offers and participates in specialized training programs for the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets.

CICAD notes that throughout the seven rounds (2014-2018), Canada has had national information gathering mechanisms to exchange intelligence information to detect routes and methods used by drug trafficking criminal organizations. However, the country does not have a national information system on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal organizations.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

OBJECTIVE 1

PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN COOPERATION AND COORDINATION MECHANISMS TO FOSTER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, IMPROVE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES, AND SHARE BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED ON DRUG POLICIES AND RELATED CRIMES.

Canada carries out activities of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states of the Organization of American States (OAS), third States and with relevant international organizations. As part of the North American Dialogue on Drug Policy (NADD), Canada works closely with the U.S. and Mexico on various drug policy issues.

The country has not exchanged technologies with foreign counterparts on the systematization of regulation, studies, research, and bibliographic material produced by countries and international organizations. There are secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control. Canada promotes the exchange with foreign counterparts of best practices on training, specialization and professional development of the staff responsible for implementing the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy, through international events and forums such as the National Drug Early Warning System (NDEWS) in the United States.

Canada also participates in regional coordination activities to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as, firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, corruption, among others. The country participates in the North American Drug Dialogue, Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), OAS Committee on Hemispheric Security, The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the OAS, Mechanism for Follow-Up on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC) of the OAS, Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) and Trilateral Working Group on Trafficking in Persons. Moreover, there are bilateral mechanisms for coordination and collaboration with other countries, focused on the dismantling of criminal groups linked to drug trafficking and related crimes. Canada coordinates and collaborates on legal cooperation in criminal matters within Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA) of the OAS.

OBJECTIVE 2

STRENGTHEN THE MULTILATERAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION MECHANISMS IN THE AREA OF FORFEITURE AND MANAGEMENT OF ASSETS DERIVED FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED CRIMES.

Canada has not reviewed or updated the regulatory and procedural frameworks allowing for effective cooperation mechanisms with other countries and relevant international organizations on forfeiture and management of assets derived from drug trafficking, money laundering and other related crimes. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) evaluated the country in 2016.

The country has mechanisms and procedures enabling the competent authorities to undertake expeditious actions in response to mutual legal assistance requests on investigation and forfeiture of assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes. The Minister of Justice, assisted by the International Assistance Group (IAG), is the central authority for the transmission and execution of the requests. Also, the competent authorities have legal powers to exchange information on money laundering investigations, including identification and tracing of the instruments associated with this offense, through information exchange networks such as, Egmont Group, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Asset Recovery Interagency Networks (ARIN) and the Asset Recovery Interagency Network for the Caribbean (ARIN-CARIB), among others.

OBJECTIVE 3

STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AS DEFINED IN THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS RELATED TO THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM, WITH RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

Canada enacted and adopted legislation and administrative measures and actions to improve implementation of obligations set forth within international legal instruments regarding the world drug problem, respecting human rights and gender equality.

The country is party to the following international legal instruments:

Conventions and protocols			Yes	No
United Nations Conventions	Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	X	
		Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air	X	
		Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition		X
	Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961		X	
	Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971		X	
	Convention against Corruption, 2003		X	
Inter-American Conventions	Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials (CIFTA), 1997			X
	Convention against Corruption, 1996		X	
	Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 1992		X	

OBJECTIVE 4

PROMOTE COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF NATIONAL LEGAL NORMS, REGULATIONS, AND INTERNAL PROCEDURES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HEMISPHERIC JUDICIAL COOPERATION MECHANISMS AND MUTUAL LEGAL OR JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE RELATED TO DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED CRIMES.

Canada has bilateral and regional international cooperation agreements for mutual legal or judicial assistance on the control of drug trafficking and related crimes. The country is party to 35 bilateral treaties on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. There are laws or other legal provisions to provide mutual legal or judicial assistance to third party States in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings for drug trafficking and related crimes.

The country has laws or other legal provisions that permit extradition for drug trafficking and related crimes. Canada also has laws or other legal provisions that permit extradition of nationals for drug trafficking and related crimes. Likewise, there are bilateral extradition treaties.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Drug Policy Evaluation throughout the MEM Process: 1999-2018

CICAD observes that in the first round (1999-2000), Canada exchanged drug-related information with other countries, and from the second to the seventh rounds (2001-2018), the country has continued working multilaterally, regionally and bilaterally on various drug matters. CICAD also notes with satisfaction that from the third to the seventh rounds (2003-2018), Canada has had entities with secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control. Furthermore, in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country promotes the exchange with foreign counterparts of best practices on training, specialization and professional development of the staff responsible for implementing its national drug policies. Canada also carries out activities of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states of the OAS, third States and with relevant international organizations.

CICAD is pleased to see that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has mechanisms and procedures enabling the competent authorities to undertake expeditious actions in response to mutual legal assistance requests on investigation and forfeiture of assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes. The competent authorities also have legal powers to exchange information on money laundering investigations, including identification and tracing of the instruments associated with this offense, through information exchange networks. However, CICAD notes with concern that the country has not reviewed and updated the regulatory and procedural frameworks allowing for effective cooperation mechanisms with other countries and relevant international organizations on forfeiture and management of assets derived from drug trafficking, money laundering and other related crimes.

CICAD expresses satisfaction that throughout the seven rounds (1999-2018), Canada has had laws and regulations on drug matters, as well as, on chemical substances, money laundering, corruption, firearms, ammunition and explosives. Moreover, CICAD notes that during the seven rounds (1999-2018), the country ratified international legal instruments related to drugs. However, CICAD expresses concern that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has not ratified the Protocol Against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition, and the Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials (CIFTA) of 1997.

CICAD takes note that during the seventh round (2014-2018), Canada has bilateral and regional international cooperation agreements for mutual legal or judicial assistance on the control of drug trafficking and related crimes. There also are laws that provide for mutual legal or judicial assistance to third party States in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings for drug trafficking and related crimes.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that since the second to the seventh rounds (2001-2018), the country has had laws or other legal provisions that permit extradition for drug trafficking and related crimes, as well as, laws permitting extradition of nationals for drug trafficking and related crimes.

CICAD recognizes Canada for the continued participation and commitment during the seventh evaluation round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM). In accordance with its national situation, the country is encouraged to fully implement the Plan of Action (2016-2020) of CICAD's Hemispheric Drug Strategy (2010).



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

1889 F Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20006
www.cicad.oas.org