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# MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

*Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:  
Institutional Strengthening; Research,  
Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation;  
and International Cooperation*

## Dominica (Commonwealth of)

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

2023





## MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

# DOMINICA

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### **Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:**

Institutional Strengthening; Research,  
Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation;  
and International Cooperation

### **EIGHTH EVALUATION ROUND**

**2023**

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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 areas of "Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation; and International Cooperation" was conducted during 2023, and covers the 2019 to 2023 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.

# 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, RESOURCES, AND COMPETENCIES TO COORDINATE FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION OF NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES.**

**Priority Action 1.1: Place national drug authorities at a high political level.**

Dominica has the National Drug Abuse Prevention Unit (NDPU) as the national drug authority, which was established in 1997 and is positioned within the Ministry of Health and Social Services.

**Priority Action 1.2: Grant national drug policy entities the authority to guide and coordinate the formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of national drug policies.**

Dominica’s national drug authority does not have a legal basis.

**Priority Action 1.3: Allocate the necessary resources (material, financial, and human) for the effective functioning of the national drug authorities.**

In Dominica there is an annual budget for the national drug authority, which is independent. The amount of the annual budget of the national drug authority for the years 2019-2023 is listed below:

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Annual budget amount (US dollars)	\$ 148,781.32	\$ 148,781.32	\$ 148,781.32	\$ 148,781.32	\$ 148,781.32

**Priority Action 1.4: Design or optimize mechanisms to facilitate effective coordination and collaboration among government institutions for the formulation, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and updating of evidence-based national drug policies and/or strategies.**

Dominica does not have an ongoing coordination and collaboration mechanism among agencies and other levels of government (national and subnational) to formulate, implement, monitor, evaluate, and update national drug policies or strategies.

The country’s national drug authority coordinates the areas of demand reduction and drug observatory, but does not coordinate the areas of supply reduction, control measures, international cooperation, or program evaluation.



**OBJECTIVE  
2**

FORMULATE, IMPLEMENT, EVALUATE, AND UPDATE COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES THAT PROMOTE BALANCED, MULTIDISCIPLINARY, AND EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACHES, WHILE FULLY RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, UNDER THE PRINCIPLE OF COMMON AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY, CONSISTENT WITH OBLIGATIONS OF PARTIES UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND TAKE INTO ACCOUNT GENDER, AGE, COMMUNITY, CULTURAL CONTEXT, AND SOCIALLY INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT.

**Priority Action 2.1: Collect and use evidence as a basis for the formulation and updating of national drug policies and/or strategies.**

In Dominica, the National Drug Abuse Prevention Unit (NDAPU) collects and uses evidence as a basis for formulating and updating national drug policies and/or strategies, as well as advising country governance in making decisions at the national level. The relevant data is requested from stakeholders (annually). Data is recorded in excel databases from which the data is further analyzed, and a report is compiled from the analysis. Analysis reports are circulated to the necessary technical personnel and stakeholders for further attention.

**Priority Action 2.2: Promote and establish collaborative relationships with the scientific community, public policy experts, community and/or civil society actors, and other relevant stakeholders, to contribute to the evidence-based development, implementation, evaluation, and updating of national drug policies.**

In Dominica, the following relevant actors from the priority areas are involved in the development, implementation, evaluation, and updating of national drug policies and/or strategies:

Relevant actors	Development	Implementation	Evaluation	Update
Health Ministry	X	X	X	X
Interior Ministry	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Justice Ministry	X	X	X	X
Education Ministry	X	X	X	X
Regional and/or local governments				
Scientific community/academia				
Civil society				
Private sector	X	X	X	X

The country's local governments, scientific community/academia, and civil society are not involved in the development, implementation, evaluation, or updating of national drug policies and/or strategies.

**Priority Action 2.3:** Promote sub-national/local management of drug policies and/or strategies through greater coordination and/or delegation of responsibilities, as appropriate, between sub-national/local and national agencies, taking into account the socio-cultural, demographic and other differences of each region.

Dominica has not delegated responsibilities on drug issues to districts to implement concrete actions related to drug policies and strategies.

The national drug authority of Dominica has, in its central structure, an office or operational unit to promote, coordinate, train, and provide technical support to districts or local agencies on drug-related issues through:

- Providing accurate and up-to-date information on the drug situation to guide implementation of programs
- Empowering communities to be responsible for themselves by developing a cadre of skilled community leaders to fight the drug problem
- Increasing the public's knowledge on drug issues and to sensitize them on the current drug situation
- Equipping the school population with skills that will enable them to make responsible decisions

The country's national drug authority has coordinators, offices, or representatives within the districts as part of a decentralized operational and coordination structure at the local level, to respond to the drug problem. In this sense, the NDAPU has four Drug Abuse Prevention Officers who coordinate the objectives of the Unit from a district level. Each officer is responsible for and operates within a designated district carrying out school and community programs. The officers also form part of the district medical team within their respective districts.

Dominica does not have a specific and ongoing mechanism or program to transfer funds or finance drug initiatives or projects carried out by the districts.

**Priority Action 2.4:** Engage private sector entities to develop innovative approaches to implementation of drug policy, including the exchange of information on emerging substances and new drug trafficking modalities that may affect the private sector, and best practices for denying criminals access to the private sector platforms and technologies that facilitate international trade.

Dominica does not engage private sector entities to develop innovative approaches in the implementation of drug policies and exchange information and best practices.

**Priority Action 2.5: Formulate or update national drug policies and/or strategies in line with the 2020 OAS Hemispheric Strategy on Drugs and this accompanying Plan of Action, taking into account the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**

Dominica does not have an approved updated national drug policy and/or strategic plan. However, the OAS 2020 Hemispheric Drug Strategy and its corresponding Plan of Action are being taken into account in the current development of the country's draft national drug policies and the update of its strategic plan.

The country does not have an approved updated national drug policy and/or strategic plan. However, the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is being taken into account in the current development of the country's draft national drug policies and the update of its strategic plan.

**Priority Action 2.6: Integrate a human rights, gender, and social inclusion approach, particularly with respect to at-risk populations, in the process of formulating, implementing, and updating national drug policies and/or strategies.**

Dominica does not have an approved updated national drug policy. However, the human rights approach is being considered in the current development of the country's draft national drug policies and the update of its strategic plan.

The country does not have an approved updated national drug policy and/or strategic plan and the gender perspective is not being taken into account in the current development of the country's draft national drug policies and the update of its strategic plan. The national drug authority of Dominica requires expertise to develop and implement programs with this perspective.

Dominica does not have an approved updated national drug policy and/or strategic plan and the social inclusion approach is not being taken into account in the current development of the country's draft national drug policies and the update of its strategic plan.

**Priority Action 2.7: Provide adequate financial and other necessary resources for the implementation of drug policies and programs.**

Dominica does not have the necessary resources to implement drug policies and programs. The current budget for NDAPU is limited to existing programs. There are little or no financial resources available to implement drug policies and additional programs.

**OBJECTIVE**  
**3****DESIGN AND COORDINATE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES, THAT CAN BE HARMONIZED ACROSS RELATED GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES, THAT ADDRESS THE FUNDAMENTAL CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE DRUG PROBLEM.**

**Priority Action 3.1: Establish and/or strengthen interagency and multisectoral policy and technical coordination mechanisms, to achieve a comprehensive, balanced, and multi-disciplinary approach to the drug problem, including its causes and consequences.**

Dominica has interagency and multisectoral policy and technical coordination mechanisms to address the drug problem in a comprehensive, balanced, and multidisciplinary approach, including its causes and consequences. In this sense, the National Anti-Money Laundering Advisory Committee (NAMLAC) pursuant to the Money Laundering (Prevention) Act (MLPA) Chapter 73:03 of the Revised Laws of Dominica, 2017 is comprised of the head of the Commonwealth of Dominica Police Force (CDPF), the Financial Services Unit (FSU), the Customs & Excise Division (CED), the Inland Revenue Division (IRD), the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP), the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB), the Eastern Caribbean Securities Regulatory Commission (ECSRC), the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), chaired by the Attorney General (AG) and supported by technical working group comprising of practitioners within these agencies. During meetings and due to analysis conducted, matters related to money laundering, financial crimes, and drugs/narcotics are discussed.

**Priority Action 3.2: Design, implement, and evaluate multisectoral plans and programs based on the principles of human rights, public health, and development, to address and counter the socioeconomic causes and the consequences of the drug problem.**

Dominica has concrete multisectoral plans and programs to address the causes and socioeconomic consequences of the drug problem, which are based on the principles of human rights, public health, and development. Law enforcement officers, such as the Financial Intelligence Unit, police officers, and customs officers, are educated during training programs on the principles of human rights, public health and development. Knowledge gained at these trainings are further imparted at school programs radio outreach.

**Priority Action 3.3: Participate in international cooperation programs at the bilateral and multilateral levels to strengthen policies, programs, institutions, and their internal processes.**

Dominica participates in international cooperation programs at the bilateral and multilateral levels to strengthen policies, programs, and institutions and their internal processes. In this sense, the country has carried out the following activities:

- Participation in Sub-regional Meeting of the Cooperation Programme between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union on Drugs Policies (COPOLAD) III, which provides

support for the adaptation/generation of addiction care programs and services to meet the needs of women and vulnerable populations, and measures to facilitate their access

- Conference on the implementation of drug use prevention policies and programs, alternative development and the environment
- Training workshop on monitoring and evaluation of national drug policies, strategies and plans
- Participation in international cooperation activities for strengthen policies, programs, institutions, whose internal processes include training, bilateral meetings, planning sessions and discussions conducted by the Regional Security System (RSS), the Caribbean Basin Initiative, the United States Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), the Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM IMPACS), among others

**Priority Action 3.4: Promote comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption.**

Dominica promotes comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption. In this sense:

- Drug trafficking and corruption are some of the issues being addressed in the public policies being promoted
- The Commonwealth of Dominica is a signatory to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), which deals with corruption issues related to drug trafficking and promotes the recommendations and policies of such convention
- Within the Commonwealth of Dominica, there is the Integrity Commission, which promotes policies against corruption in public office
- Other policies within the Ministry of National Security and Legal Affairs address corruption, such as conflict of interest and breach of confidentiality, among others

**Priority Action 3.5: Implement measures that promote equal access to justice and due process, taking into account gender, age, community, and cultural context.**

Dominica implements measures that promote equal access to justice and due process, taking into account gender, age, community, and cultural context approaches, which include:

- Participation in the Canadian Impacts Justice Program, where the Judiciary, Magistracy and Law enforcement practitioners trained on matters related to equal access to justice and due process
- The Criminal Law and Procedure Act and Civil Law and Procedure Act makes special provisions for equal access to justice

**Priority Action 3.6: Implement measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion.**

Dominica implements the following measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion:

- At the national and local level, the community policing program initiated by the Commonwealth of Dominica Police Force
- At the local level, the installation of cameras in the city of Roseau by public-private cooperation
- The Crime Stoppers Dominica (community organization) which allows citizens to report crimes anonymously (Local Level)
- Civic Groups advocacy against crime and violence (Local Level)

## OBJECTIVE

4

DESIGN, ADOPT, AND IMPLEMENT ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION FOR MINOR OR NON-VIOLENT DRUG OR DRUG-RELATED OFFENSES, WHILE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NATIONAL, CONSTITUTIONAL, LEGAL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS.

**Priority Action 4.1: Adopt alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses, where appropriate, while safeguarding the sovereignty of states, and ensuring individual accountability, respecting human rights and the gender perspective.**

Dominica's law provides for alternative measures to incarceration for minor drug-related offenses through Chapter 40:07 of the Drug (Prevention and Misuse) (Amendment) Act 2020. Section 4, subsection 7A-5; and Chapter 37:50 Children and Young Persons Act 2017, Page 14, Section IV-16. These measures respect human rights and take into account the gender perspective in accordance with relevant international instruments by sharing with the Court all relevant facts during mitigation.

**Priority Action 4.2: Develop mechanisms to monitor and evaluate alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses, in collaboration with academic and research institutions, as well as civil society.**

Dominica does not develop mechanisms to monitor or evaluate alternative measures to incarceration for minor drug-related offenses.

**Priority Action 4.3: Promote common understanding of national legal norms, regulations, and internal procedures for the implementation of alternatives to incarceration.**

Dominica does not promote a common understanding of national legal norms, regulations, or internal procedures for the implementation of alternatives to incarceration.

**OBJECTIVE  
5****PROMOTE AND IMPLEMENT, AS APPROPRIATE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES, LAWS AND NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION, ESPECIALLY TO THOSE AT-RISK POPULATIONS.**

**Priority Action 5.1:** Design and implement, in accordance with the characteristics, interests, and needs of each country, inter-agency and multisectoral programs that promote the social inclusion of individuals, families, and communities affected by the drug problem, taking into account the specific needs of at-risk populations.

Dominica does not have inter-agency or multisectoral programs that promote the social inclusion of individuals, families, and communities affected by the drug problem, taking into account the specific needs of vulnerable populations.

**Priority Action 5.2:** Disseminate best practices and lessons learned to improve institutional responses to the needs of at-risk populations.

Dominica does not disseminate best practices or lessons learned to improve institutional responses to the needs of people in at-risk situations, such as mechanisms, programs, and interventions, through publications, meetings, workshops, among others.



**OBJECTIVE**  
**6**

**PROMOTE PROPORTIONATE SENTENCING FOR DRUG-RELATED CRIMES THAT PROVIDES FOR PENALTIES COMMENSURATE WITH THE RELATIVE SERIOUSNESS OF OFFENSES, IN LINE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONVENTIONS AND RESPECTING THE PRINCIPLES OF DUE PROCESS, WITH GENDER PERSPECTIVE, AGE, COMMUNITY, AND A HUMAN RIGHTS APPROACH.**

**Priority Action 6.1: Promote proportional legal sentencing for minor drug-related offenses in accordance with domestic law.**

Dominica promotes domestic laws, which provide for proportional legal sentencing for minor drug-related offences.

The country does not have special courts or tribunals for minor drug-related offenses.

**Priority Action 6.2: Promote legal reforms as needed, to promote proportional sentencing for minor drug-related offenses.**

Dominica does not promote legal reforms regarding proportional sentencing for minor drug-related offenses.

# **RESEARCH, INFORMATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION**

## OBJECTIVE

1

**ESTABLISH OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL OBSERVATORIES ON DRUGS, OR SIMILAR TECHNICAL OFFICES, STRENGTHENING NATIONAL DRUG INFORMATION SYSTEMS, AND FOSTER SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TO GENERATE, COLLECT, ORGANIZE, ANALYZE, AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION TO INFORM THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EVIDENCE-BASED DRUG POLICIES AND STRATEGIES.**

**Priority Action 1.1: Develop and strengthen national drug observatories (NDO) or similar technical offices ensuring they have adequate human and financial resources.**

Dominica has a national drug observatory (NDO), whose creation does not have a legal basis or other similar mechanism.

The NDO has been assigned human resources to carry out its functions, which are funded through the National Drug Abuse Prevention Unit (NDAPU) but does not have any other financial resources allocated for it. Furthermore, budgetary allocations for the NDO are not stipulated in the budgetary allocations of the NDAPU.

**Priority Action 1.2: Strengthen ties to academic and research institutions, as well as specialized non-governmental organizations, to foster scientific research and studies on the various aspects of the drug phenomenon.**

Dominica has not established or maintained working relationships with universities or specialized research centers, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or other academic or research institutions.

The country has not carried out studies on the drug problem through universities or specialized research centers, NGOs or other academic or research institutions.

**Priority Action 1.3: Develop and adopt quantitative and qualitative methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries.**

Dominica has developed or adopted quantitative and qualitative methodologies or information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries. However, the country has not carried out studies on drug use applying the Inter-American Uniform Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) methodology, or a national methodology that is harmonized with SIDUC.

The country has used CICAD's standardized indicators for drug information networks to collect, analyze, and report national drug-related information.

Dominica has not carried out studies using methods that are non-representative of the population or qualitative methodologies to obtain information on drugs that can be shared with other countries that have carried out studies with similar methodologies.

**Priority Action 1.4:** Establish and strengthen national drug information networks (DINs) to carry out long-term monitoring and early warning systems (EWS), including the use of a broad range of research methods and information sources, to develop rapid responses to emerging threats.

**Priority Action 1.5:** Contribute to the Early Warning System of the Americas (Spanish acronym SATA) to gather the available national alerts and disseminate them to member states, so that member states can respond in the shortest possible time to new threats.

**Priority Action 1.6:** Publish updates annually, when possible, on drug supply and drug demand utilizing the information provided on the national drug situation by using information from the national DINs.

The NDO has a national drug information network (DIN), which interacts through the following means:

Means	Yes	No	Frequency
Meetings	X		Annual
Document exchange	X		Biannual

The following actors participate in the DIN:

Stakeholders	Yes	No
Universities/Academia		X
Health institutions	X	
Drug treatment facilities		X
Law enforcement	X	
Forensic laboratories		X
Statistical and census institutions	X	
Private consultants		X
Civil society and other social stakeholders		X
International organizations of cooperation		X
Others: Financial Investigative Unit, Inland Revenue Department	X	

The DIN publishes a periodic report.

Dominica does not have an early warning system (EWS) to identify NPS or other emerging drug-related threats.

**Priority Action 1.7: Build capacity among relevant stakeholders to enhance the collection, management, and dissemination of drug related information.**

The NDO does not carry out training sessions with local stakeholders to enhance data collection and management.

The NDO convenes meetings and other workshops where the results of studies and other information gathering activities are shared with local stakeholders.

**Priority Action 1.8: Establish or strengthen forums at which drug researchers can present their findings to policymakers, and encourage their participation in CICAD experts groups.**

Dominica has not established forums that allow drug researchers to present their findings to policymakers.

**Priority Action 1.9: Foster and disseminate best practices and the exchange of successful experiences in research among member states.**

The NDO does not promote or disseminate good practices or the exchange of successful research experiences among member states.

**OBJECTIVE**  
**2**

**EXPAND ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON DRUG USE AND RELATED ISSUES THROUGH THE USE OF SOUND, SYSTEMATIC DATA COLLECTION PRACTICES, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, AND STANDARDIZED METHODOLOGIES, ENSURING THAT COUNTRIES HAVE THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO DEVELOP SOUND DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAMS AND POLICIES.**

**Priority Action 2.1:** Generate information on the incidence, prevalence, and modes of drug use and health impacts of drug use (e.g. non-fatal overdose, fatal overdose, infectious disease transmission), as well as drug use and health impact trends over time using sound, systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and standardized methodologies to monitor use across the general public and in key populations, whenever possible utilizing the Inter-American Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) as the standard methodology for epidemiological surveillance.

Dominica has carried out and published the following demand reduction study:

Demand reduction			
Studies	Studies carried out and published		Year of most recent study
	Yes	No	
Survey of secondary school students		X	
National household surveys (12-64 years)		X	
Cross-section survey of patients in treatment centers		X	
Survey of patients in emergency rooms		X	
Survey of university students		X	
Survey of incarcerated individuals		X	
Studies on drug-related mortality		X	
Studies on drug-related morbidity		X	
Survey of other target populations. Please specify: _____		X	
Others: COVID-19 Impact Survey on Substance Use	X		2020

**Priority Action 2.2:** Develop drug treatment information systems that record the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, and available information on treatment outcomes.

Dominica has no national system for the collection of data on the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, or available information on treatment outcomes.

**Priority Action 2.3: Evaluate and monitor the impact and the results of treatment and prevention programs using scientific methodologies and make recommendations to update programs based on findings.**

Dominica has not carried out studies to evaluate treatment and prevention programs or interventions.

The country has not carried out process or intermediate outcome evaluations of prevention and treatment programs.

Dominica has not carried out impact evaluations of its prevention or treatment programs.

The country does not have mechanisms to continually monitor and evaluate the results of care, treatment, rehabilitation, or recovery and social integration programs and services in the public health or social protection network.

**OBJECTIVE**  
**3**

**EXPAND AND ENHANCE THE COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON ILLICIT DRUG PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING, AND RELATED ISSUES, THROUGH THE USE OF SOUND, SYSTEMATIC DATA COLLECTION PRACTICES, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, AND STANDARDIZED METHODOLOGIES.**

**Priority Action 3.1:** Generate information on illicit drug production, trafficking, drug markets, and related issues, using systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and wherever possible applying comparable methodologies.

Dominica has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs. The following institutions participate in these mechanisms:

- Commonwealth of Dominica Police Force (CDPF)
- Customs and Excise Division
- Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)
- Dominica Alcohol and Drug Information Network (DADIN)

The country has the following information related to 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		2022
Number of seizures of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production	X		2022
Quantities of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production seized	X		2022
Number of seizures of controlled chemical substances (precursors)		X	
Quantities of seized controlled chemical substances (precursors)		X	
Number of seizures of pharmaceutical products		X	
Quantities of seized pharmaceutical products		X	
Number of persons formally charged with drug use, possession, and trafficking	X		2022
Number of persons convicted of drug use, possession, and trafficking	X		2022
Number of laboratories producing illicit plant-based drugs detected and dismantled		X	
Number of laboratories producing illicit drugs of synthetic origin detected and dismantled		X	



Supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes			
Information	Available information		Year of most recent information
	Yes	No	
Chemical composition of seized drugs		X	
Sale price of drugs (for consumers)		X	
Number of persons formally charged with money laundering	X		2022
Number of persons convicted of money laundering	X		2022
Number of persons formally charged with trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition, and related materials	X		2022
Number of persons convicted of trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition, and related materials	X		2022
Number of persons formally charged with diversion of chemical substances		X	
Number of persons convicted of diversion of chemical substances		X	

Dominica does not carry out periodic studies and research on the illicit drug market.

The country does not carry out studies on the medical and scientific use and other legal uses of narcotics or psychotropic substances, subject to international control systems.

**Priority Action 3.2:** Conduct studies on the price, purity or concentration, and chemical profile of drugs.

Dominica does not collect information on the drug price, purity or concentration, or chemical profile of drugs.

The country does not conduct chemical characterizations or purity tests of substances that may or may not be subject to international control.

**Priority Action 3.3:** Establish and strengthen the relationship between the NDOs, or similar technical offices, and national, and when applicable, local, or sub-national forensic laboratories to bolster the collection of data on the chemical composition of substances and precursors seized.

In Dominica there is an agency responsible for analyzing chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including new psychoactive substances. The Dominica Bureau of Standards is responsible for analyzing chemical substances and pharmaceutical products and this agency forms part of the Dominica Alcohol and Drug Information Network (DADIN).

The country does not implement or participate in periodic training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including new psychoactive substances.

**Priority Action 3.4:** Strengthen drug information networks in member states by improving the mechanisms used to gather and analyze data to inform the development of public policies that control the illicit supply of drugs.

Dominica's DIN does not have standardized indicators for the collection of data on drug supply.

The country does not implement or participate in activities for DIN stakeholders to improve and strengthen the mechanisms that are needed for the collection and exchange of information on drug supply.

**OBJECTIVE**

4

**PARTICIPATE IN AND STRENGTHEN THE MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM) PROCESS, CONSIDERING ITS RECOMMENDATIONS.**

**Priority Action 4.1: Regularly collect information and data to evaluate implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action.**

For the eighth round of evaluation of the MEM, Dominica collected information on the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025 and submitted it in a timely manner for evaluation by the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) in the following thematic areas:

- Measures of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support (2021)
- Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences (2022)
- Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation; and International Cooperation (2023)

**Priority Action 4.2: Support and facilitate active and timely participation in each of the MEM activities agreed to by member states.**

For the eighth evaluation round of the MEM, Dominica designated delegates for the following MEM groups, actively participating and contributing to the evaluation process:

Thematic evaluation	National Coordinating Entities (NCEs)	Governmental Expert Group (GEG)
Measures of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support (2021)	Yes	Yes
Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences (2022)	Yes	Yes
Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation; and International Cooperation (2023)	Yes	Yes

**Priority Action 4.3: Disseminate MEM evaluation reports by member states among national stakeholders, other pertinent organizations, and the general public.**

Dominica carried out the following periodic activities to promote and raise awareness of the MEM Drug Policy Evaluation Reports aimed at national institutions:

Name of the activity	Date	Participating institutions
Working Meetings	Feb – Mar 2021	Health Promotion Recourse centre, HIV/AIDS Response Program, National Drug Abuse Prevention Unit
Working Meetings	Feb – Mar 2022	Bureau of Standards, Commonwealth of Dominica Police Force (Drug Squad, Marine Unit), Customs Division, Financial Intelligence Unit, Ministry of Environment, Government Pharmacy
Report Dissemination	Feb 2023	Bureau of Standards, Commonwealth of Dominica Police Force (Drug Squad, Marine Unit), Customs Division, Financial Intelligence Unit, Health Promotion Recourse centre, HIV/AIDS Response Program, Ministry of Environment, National Drug Abuse Prevention Unit, Government Pharmacy

**Priority Action 4.4: Promote use of the MEM’s findings to identify technical assistance needs.**

Dominica has promoted the analysis of the findings of MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies for national institutions to identify areas where technical assistance is needed to improve national drug-related policies and programs. In this sense, the country disseminated the final report to technical personnel and stakeholders. A copy of the report was also posted to the National Drug Abuse Prevention Unit’s website.

**Priority Action 4.5: Increase hemispheric cooperation and partnerships among member states and sharing of best practices and lessons learned.**

Dominica has not reviewed the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies or identified opportunities to increase cooperation and partnerships with other member states or share best practices and lessons learned (horizontal cooperation).

# 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.**

**Priority Action 1.1: Develop and implement a plan for promoting and strengthening technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside of the Western Hemisphere, and with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs.**

Dominica develops and implements a plan for the promotion and strengthening of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside the Western Hemisphere, as well as with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs through capacity building and adoption of best practices during attendance at seminars and workshops, for example the drug commander conferences and other drug related training.

The country has established the following secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control:

- Egmont Secure Web (secure communication channel among Financial Intelligence Units globally) to submit and respond to reports lodged
- Secure Internet Platforms (use of VPN, Password protected files, among others)

Dominica promotes the exchange, with member states and with states outside of the Western Hemisphere, and with relevant international and regional organizations, of best practices on training, specialization, and professional development of the staff responsible for implementing the national drug policies and strategies through trends and typology reports of drug activities among member states and face-to-face meetings at international forums on drug related issues.

The country participates in regional coordination activities to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, and corruption, among others, through the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) network and regional and international coordination efforts, such as the Regional Security System (RSS) and United States Counterparts, among others.

In Dominica, 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 with participating members of the Regional Security System (RSS) Treaty comprising of member states to include Barbados, Guyana and other Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) countries. These mechanisms are used daily.

**Priority Action 1.2: Promote technology transfers and information sharing among and between member states and international organizations.**

Dominica has promoted technology transfers among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations. In this sense, within the Financial Intelligence Unit, there is a trained expert in the use of the IBM iBase and i2 Analyst Notebook, which is analytical software used in the analysis and investigation of crimes. This expert trains individuals from across the region in the manipulation of data and the use of analysis and other information in the development of cases, as well as for prosecutorial purposes.

The country has promoted information sharing among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations as a member of the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network (ARIN-CARIN), where information related to drugs, financial crimes and other predicate offences are shared.

**Priority Action 1.3: Promote the dissemination of good practices and exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations.**

Dominica promotes the dissemination of good practices and the exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations on drug policies through:

- Financial Intelligence Unit trends and typologies reports, which are utilized and shared among Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) members who are also members of the OAS
- Other best practices shared with the Regional Security System-Asset Recovery Unit

**OBJECTIVE**  
**2****STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AS DEFINED IN THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS RELATED TO THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM, MAINTAINING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.****Priority Action 2.1: Strengthen regional and international cooperation by competent authorities to investigate and prosecute criminals on drug-related offenses.**

The competent authorities in Dominica carry out cooperative activities at the regional and international levels to investigate and prosecute criminals for drug-related offenses through information sharing (Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty, Financial Intelligence Unit to Financial Intelligence Unit, Competent Authority to Competent Authority, among others) for use in investigations and prosecution of drug matters.

The country takes human rights into account when carrying out these activities by following the Civil Procedure Rules (CPR), the Constitution, and other laws. For example, the right to a fair hearing, rights guarding against inhumane treatment, and protection of information, among others.

**Priority Action 2.2: Strengthen regional and international cooperation to facilitate, where appropriate, mutual legal assistance, extradition, and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with international legal instruments, when investigating and prosecuting criminals on drug-related offenses.**

Dominica carries out the following activities to strengthen regional and international cooperation to facilitate, where appropriate, mutual legal assistance, extradition, and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with international legal instruments, when investigating and prosecuting criminals on drug-related offenses:

- Signature of Memoranda of Understanding
- Applying the Money Laundering Act to both Commonwealth and Non-Commonwealth Countries
- Signature of treaties with international countries
- Agency to Agency agreements

**Priority Action 2.3: Enact national legislation and/or take administrative actions, as appropriate, to more fully implement the obligations set forth within these legal instruments.**

Dominica has enacted, during the evaluation period (2019-2023), the following administrative measures and actions to improve implementation of obligations set forth within international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, respecting human rights and gender equality:



	Enacted	Adopted	Name of the legislation / administrative measures or actions
<b>Legislative Actions/ Measures</b>	X		Act No. 3 of 2022. Money Laundering and Prevention (Amendment) Act 2022
	X		SRO No. 26 of 2022. Money Laundering and Prevention (Amendment) Order 2022
	X		SRO No. 28 of 2022. Money Laundering (Prevention) (Schedule) Order, 2022
	X		Act No. 4 of 2022. Proceeds of Crime (Amendment) Act, 2022
	X		SRO No. 27 of 2022. Proceeds of Crime Code of Practice. 2022
<b>Administrative Actions/ Measures</b>		X	

**Priority Action 2.4:** Promote the accession, ratification, and implementation of the international legal instruments related to the world drug problem and related crimes.

Dominica has ratified or acceded 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		

## EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

### 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, resources, and competencies to coordinate formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of national drug policies.**

CICAD notes that Dominica has a national drug authority, which does not have a legal basis. However, CICAD observes that, in the country, there is an annual budget for the national drug authority, which is independent. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Dominica does not have an ongoing coordination and collaboration mechanism among agencies and other levels of government (national and subnational) to formulate, implement, monitor, evaluate, and update national drug policies or strategies. However, the national drug authority coordinates the areas of demand reduction and drug observatory, but does not coordinate the areas of supply reduction, control measures, international cooperation, or program evaluation.

#### Objective 2

**Formulate, implement, evaluate, and update comprehensive national drug policies and/or strategies that promote balanced, multidisciplinary, and evidence-based approaches, while fully respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, under the principle of common and shared responsibility, consistent with obligations of parties under international law, and take into account gender, age, community, cultural context, and socially inclusive development.**

CICAD notes that Dominica collects and uses evidence to formulate and update national drug policies and strategies. Additionally, CICAD observes the involvement of relevant actors from the priority areas in developing, implementing, evaluating, and updating national drug policies and strategies; however, the country's local governments, scientific community/academia, and civil society are not involved in these activities. CICAD notes that Dominica has not delegated responsibilities on drug issues to districts to implement concrete actions related to drug policies and strategies, but has, in its central structure, an office or operational unit to promote, coordinate, train, and provide technical support to districts or local agencies on drug-related issues. Moreover, the national drug authority has coordinators, offices, or representatives in the districts as part of a decentralized operational and coordination structure at the local level to respond to the drug problem. However, the country does not have a specific and ongoing mechanism to transfer funds or finance drug initiatives or projects carried out by districts. CICAD observes that Dominica does not engage private sector entities to develop innovative approaches in the implementation of drug policies and exchange information and best practices. CICAD notes that the country takes into account the OAS 2020 Hemispheric Drug Strategy and its corresponding Plan of Action to formulate or update national drug policies and strategies. Moreover, the development of these policies and strategies takes into account the UN 2030

Agenda for Sustainable Development. On the other hand, CICAD observes that Dominica does not have approved updated national drug policies or strategies. However, the development of these drug policies and strategies takes into account the human rights approach, but not the gender perspective or the social inclusion approach. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country does not have the necessary resources to implement drug policies and programs.

### **Objective 3**

**Design and coordinate national drug policies, that can be harmonized across related government policies and/or strategies, that address the fundamental causes and consequences of the drug problem.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Dominica has interagency and multisectoral policy and technical coordination mechanisms to address the drug problem in a comprehensive, balanced, and multidisciplinary approach, including its causes and consequences. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has concrete multisectoral plans and programs to address the causes and socioeconomic consequences of the drug problem based on the principles of human rights, public health, and development. Additionally, CICAD notes that Dominica participates in international cooperation programs at the bilateral and multilateral levels to strengthen policies, programs, and institutions and their internal processes. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country promotes comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption. Also, CICAD notes that Dominica implements measures that promote equal access to justice and due process, taking into account gender, age, community, and cultural context approaches. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country implements measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion.

### **Objective 4**

**Design, adopt, and implement alternatives to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug or drug-related offenses, while taking into account national, constitutional, legal, and administrative systems, and in accordance with relevant international instruments.**

CICAD notes that Dominica's law provides for alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses, which respect human rights and take into account the gender perspective in accordance with relevant international instruments. However, CICAD observes that the country does not develop mechanisms to monitor and evaluate these measures and does not promote a common understanding of national legal norms, regulations, or internal procedures for the implementation of alternatives to incarceration.

**Objective 5**

**Promote and implement, as appropriate, in accordance with the policies, laws and needs of each country, comprehensive programs that promote social inclusion, especially to those at-risk populations.**

CICAD notes with concern that Dominica does not have inter-agency and multisectoral programs that promote the social inclusion of individuals, families, and communities affected by the drug problem, taking into account the specific needs of vulnerable populations. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country does not disseminate best practices and lessons learned to improve institutional responses to the needs of people in at-risk situations.

**Objective 6**

**Promote proportionate sentencing for drug-related crimes that provides for penalties commensurate with the relative seriousness of offenses, in line with the international drug conventions and respecting the principles of due process, with gender perspective, age, community, and a human rights approach.**

CICAD observes that Dominica promotes legislation that provides for proportional legal sentencing for minor drug-related offences but does not have special courts for these offenses. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country does not promote legal reforms, where appropriate, regarding proportional sentencing for minor drug-related offenses.

**RESEARCH, INFORMATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION****Objective 1**

**Establish or strengthen national observatories on drugs, or similar technical offices, strengthening national drug information systems, and foster scientific research to generate, collect, organize, analyze, and disseminate information to inform the development and implementation of evidence-based drug policies and strategies.**

CICAD notes that Dominica has the National Observatory on Drugs (NDO), which was not created through a legal basis but has been assigned human, but not financial resources to carry out its functions. However, CICAD observes that the country has not established and maintained working relationships with universities or specialized research centers, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or other academic or research institutions and has not carried out studies on the drug problem through them. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Dominica has developed and adopted quantitative and qualitative methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries but has not carried out studies on drug use applying the SIDUC methodology. However, the country has used the CICAD standard indicators for drug information networks for the collection, analysis, and reporting of national drug-related data and information but has not carried out studies that use methods that are non-

representative of the population to obtain information on drugs that can be shared with other countries that have carried out studies with similar methodologies. Moreover, CICAD observes that Dominica's observatory has a national drug information network (DIN), which interacts through meetings and document exchanges and publishes a periodic report. However, the country does not have an early warning system (EWS) to identify NPS or other emerging drug-related threats. CICAD notes that Dominica's observatory does not carry out training sessions with local stakeholders to enhance data collection and management but convenes meetings and other workshops where the results of studies and other information-gathering activities are shared with local stakeholders. CICAD observes that the country has not established forums that allow drug researchers to present their findings to policymakers. Moreover, CICAD notes that Dominica's observatory does not promote and disseminates good practices or the exchange of successful research experiences among member states.

### **Objective 2**

**Expand access to information on drug use and related issues through the use of sound, systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and standardized methodologies, ensuring that countries have the information necessary to develop sound demand reduction programs and policies.**

CICAD notes that Dominica has carried out and published one demand reduction study during the evaluation period (2019-2023). However, CICAD observes that the country does not have a national system for the collection of data on the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, and available information on treatment outcomes. Moreover, CICAD notes that Dominica has not conducted studies to evaluate treatment and prevention programs and interventions, and has not carried out process, intermediate outcome, or impact evaluations of its prevention or treatment programs. Additionally, the country does not have mechanisms to continually monitor and evaluate the results of care, treatment, rehabilitation and recovery and social integration programs and services in the public health and/or social protection network.

### **Objective 3**

**Expand and enhance the collection and dissemination of information on illicit drug production, trafficking, and related issues, through the use of sound, systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and standardized methodologies.**

CICAD notes that Dominica has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs and has information related to supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes. However, the country does not carry out periodic studies on the illicit drug market or on the medical and scientific use and other legal uses of narcotics or psychotropic substances, subject to international control systems. CICAD observes that Dominica does not collect information on the drug price, purity or concentration, and chemical profile of drugs, and does not conduct chemical characterizations or purity tests of substances that may or may not be subject to international control. CICAD notes that the country has an institution that is

responsible for analyzing chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including new psychoactive substances, and is part of the national drug information network. However, Dominica does not implement or participate in periodic training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of these substances. CICAD observes that the country's national drug information network does not have standardized indicators for the collection of data on drug supply and that the country does not implement and participate in training activities for DIN stakeholders to improve and strengthen the mechanisms that are needed for the collection and exchange of information on drug supply.

#### **Objective 4**

**Participate in and strengthen the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) process, considering its recommendations.**

CICAD notes that, for the eighth round of evaluation of the MEM, Dominica collected information on the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025 and submitted it in a timely manner for evaluation by the Governmental Expert Group (GEG). CICAD observes that, for the eighth evaluation round of the MEM, the country designated delegates for all the MEM groups, actively participating and contributing to the evaluation process. Additionally, CICAD notes that Dominica carries out periodic activities to promote and raise awareness of the MEM Drug Policy Evaluation Reports aimed at national institutions. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has promoted the analysis of the findings of MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies for national institutions to identify areas where technical assistance is needed to improve national drug-related policies and programs. However, CICAD notes that Dominica has not reviewed the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies and identified opportunities to increase cooperation and partnerships with other member states or share best practices and lessons learned (horizontal cooperation).

### **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.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Dominica develops and implements a plan for the promotion and strengthening of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside the Western Hemisphere, as well as with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs. Additionally, the country has established secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control. Moreover, the country promotes the exchange, with member states and with states outside of the Western Hemisphere, and with relevant international and regional organizations, of best practices on training, specialization, and professional development of the staff

responsible for implementing the national drug policies and strategies. Additionally, Dominica participates in regional coordination activities to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, and corruption, among others. In the country, 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 with participating members. Moreover, CICAD observes that Dominica has promoted technology transfers among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations, as well as information sharing among them. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country promotes the dissemination of good practices or the exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations on drug policies.

### **Objective 2**

#### **Strengthen international cooperation as defined in the international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, maintaining respect for human rights.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that the competent authorities in Dominica carry out cooperative activities at the regional and international levels to investigate and prosecute criminals for drug-related offenses. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country carries out activities to strengthen regional and international cooperation to facilitate, where appropriate, mutual legal assistance, extradition, and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with international legal instruments, when investigating and prosecuting criminals on drug-related offenses. Additionally, CICAD notes that Dominica has enacted, during the evaluation period (2019-2023), legislative measures to more fully implement compliance with the obligations established in international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, respecting human rights and gender equality. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has ratified or acceded to all of the international legal instruments of the United Nations and all of the OAS Inter-American legal instruments regarding the world drug problem and related crimes.







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