

Argentina

Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control 2005-2006

MEM

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism



Organization of American States - OAS
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission - CICAD





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**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)**

**Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)
Governmental Expert Group (GEG)**

ARGENTINA

**EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL
2005–2006**



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- The Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR):
 - Office of Planning and Budget Control
 - Technical Subsecretariat for Planning and Control of Drug Trafficking
 - Subsecretariat for Planning, Prevention, and Assistance
 - Argentine Drug Observatory
- Federal Ministry of Health and Environment:
 - Department of Psychotropic and Narcotic Drugs
 - Office of Border Registry, Inspection, and Sanitation
- Federal Ministry of the Interior, National Arms Register (RENAR)
- Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, National Coordination and Representation with the FATF, GAFISUD, and LAVEX-CICAD-OEA



PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is a diagnostic tool designed by all 34 member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to periodically carry out comprehensive, multilateral evaluations of the progress of actions taken by member states and by the hemisphere as a whole, in dealing with the drug problem. The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), an OAS specialized agency, implemented this Mechanism in 1998, pursuant to a mandate from the Second Summit of the Americas held in Santiago, Chile in 1998.

The MEM is not only an evaluation instrument, but has also become a vehicle for disseminating information on the progress achieved by individual and collective efforts of OAS member state governments, catalyzing hemispheric cooperation, promoting dialogue among member state government authorities and precisely channeling assistance to areas requiring greater attention by optimizing resources. The MEM process itself is assessed by the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), comprised of delegations from the 34 member states, which meets before the onset of each MEM evaluation round to review and improve all operational aspects of the mechanism, including the indicators of the evaluation questionnaire.

National evaluation reports are drafted by experts from each member state, with experts not working on their own country's report, guaranteeing the transparent multilateral nature of the MEM. Each chapter is based on countries' responses to a questionnaire of indicators covering the main thematic areas of institution building, demand reduction, supply reduction and control measures as well as subsequent comments and updated information provided by the government-appointed coordinating entities.

This report covers the full country evaluation for the MEM Fourth Round evaluation period 2005–2006. The follow-up report on the implementation progress of recommendations assigned to Argentina will be published in June 2009. All MEM reports can be accessed through the following webpage: www.cicad.oas.org.



INTRODUCTION

Argentina has a total area of 2,766,890 km², with a population of nearly 40 million (2006). The people are primarily descendants of Italian and Spanish immigrants. The literacy rate is 97%. The country is composed of 23 provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. Argentina is a federal republic in which the President is the Chief of State and Head of Government. The per capita GDP (PPP¹) is US\$15,000 (2006). The country's exports are worth \$46 billion and the main imports are edible oils, fuel and energy, cereals, feed, and motor vehicles.

I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

A. National Anti-drug Strategy

Argentina has a Federal Plan for Comprehensive Prevention of Drug Addiction and Control of Illicit Drug Trafficking, which was approved by resolution SEDRONAR No. 210/05, covering the period 2005–2007. The Plan covers actions in the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, and program evaluation. Moreover, Argentina reports that it has a specific plan that addresses money laundering².

The national entities engaged in the execution of the national plan are: the Secretariat for Programming Drug Abuse Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR), the federal Ministry of Health, the federal Ministry of the Interior, and the provincial governments.

Provincial and local authorities also have responsibilities in connection with the anti-drug policies. In addition to the National Anti-drug Plan, the country reports that several jurisdictions have provincial plans in the area.

The country does not have a specific budget for the national plan. Its budget consists of direct allocation from the central government, from the various budgets that the entities and governments involved assign to the drug area, self-financing, and international cooperation.

The country reports that it is not possible to break down the amounts allocated to the budget by area of the federal drug plan.

SEDRONAR is the national authority that coordinates national anti-drug policies. This agency was established in 1989 by Decree 271/89, and is a government secretariat of the Office of the President of Argentina.

SEDRONAR is responsible for coordinating the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, drug observatory, international cooperation, and program evaluation.

The national authority has an independent annual budget, that is financed through government allocation, international cooperation, and self-financing. The budget for the years 2004–2006 is shown in the following table:

¹ Purchasing Power Parity

² The draft National Agenda against Money Laundering and Terrorism Funding was adopted in September 2007.

**Budget of the National Authority, 2004–2006**

Fiscal Year	Proposed Budget (US\$)	Total Budget Received (US\$)
2004	3,792,387	5,560,935
2005	3,474,166	5,986,027
2006	6,006,397	7,202,332

Argentina reports that SEDRONAR's budget is not adequate, because higher levels of drug use have increased the need for assistance and expansion of prevention activities.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Argentina has a Federal Plan for Comprehensive Prevention of Drug Addiction and Control of Illicit Drug Trafficking for the period 2005–2007.

B. International Conventions

Argentina has ratified the following conventions:

- Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 1992 (December 12, 2006).
- Inter-American Convention against Corruption, 1996 (October 9, 1997).
- Inter-American Convention against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA), 1997 (October 9, 2001).
- United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol (October 10, 1963).
- United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971 (February 16, 1978).
- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982 (October 17, 1995).
- United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988 (June 28, 1993).
- United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000, and its three protocols. The Convention and its Protocols against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children were ratified on November 19, 2002; and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition was ratified, with a reservation, on September 4, 2006.
- United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003 (June 6, 2006).

CICAD views with satisfaction Argentina's efforts in adhering to the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, thereby completing its participation in all the international instruments required for the purposes of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism.



C. National Information System

The Argentine Drug Observatory is a dependent agency of SEDRONAR, and is responsible for compiling and organizing drug-related statistics and other drug-related information.

In the drug demand area, Argentina has conducted studies in sectors of the population, including household surveys, secondary-school students, and patients undergoing treatment, creating historical series of data that indicate trends in consumption patterns, university students, and cost studies, among others.

In other areas, the country reports that it has conducted relevant studies among university students, juvenile offenders, and emergency room patients, and on street prices for drugs, the abuse of psychoactive substances and its connection with the commission of crimes, and the use of medicines in everyday life. In order to conduct these studies, Argentina uses both quantitative and qualitative methodologies.

The Argentine Drug Observatory also collects data on deaths related to legal and illegal drugs, and the Health Statistics and Information Office of the federal Ministry of Health and Environment maintains a register of deaths attributed to drug use.

Argentina distributes drug-related information and materials to the public via web pages, national archives (hard copy and electronic), libraries, schools, universities, research institutes, national journals, the media, e-mail, and publications and reports of the national anti-drug authority and other government agencies.

SEDRONAR has a hotline for assistance and guidance that operates 24 hours a day. In the course of 2004 there were 15,564 substantive consultations; in 2005, 13,467; and in 2006, 27,180.

Argentina disseminates information on prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation programs, and has a budget to disseminate information related to the drug problem, which was of US\$51,161 for 2004, US\$55,497 for 2005, and US\$55,000 for 2006.

CICAD recognizes that Argentina has strengthened its national Drug Observatory by increasing the measurement of various indicators of drug use among different population groups, which guided the country's work on drug prevention. Moreover, CICAD notes the country's capability to disseminate information to the public, for which it has an assigned budget.

II. DEMAND REDUCTION

A. Prevention

Argentina reports that it is implementing drug abuse prevention programs targeting key populations that are compatible with the principles of the CICAD hemispheric guidelines.



Prevention programs carried out by Argentina during the evaluation period are noted in the following table:

Prevention Programs Carried Out, 2005–2006

Key Population	Coverage	Type of Program
Primary School Children (10 to 14 years)	650 0.21%	"Quiero Ser", School-based prevention program.
Youth Outside of the School System (18 to 25 years)	1,000 0.013%	Youth Prevention and Participation program
Adults – Municipal Area	60,000 0.16%	"Prevenimos", Community Prevention Program
Adults - Workplace	1,800 0.12%	Workplace Prevention Program
Incarcerated Individuals	450 4.50%	Prevention in the prison environment

The country is also developing a prevention program for incarcerated adults, but does not provide information on its coverage.

During 2005, Argentina conducted a quantitative-qualitative evaluation of the school-based pilot prevention program "Quiero Ser".

During the evaluation period, Argentina offered 21 short refresher courses or in-service training in drug abuse prevention and treatment for the general public, business executives, unions, technicians and professionals, and hospital and prison staff.

The country also offers diplomas, certificates, and undergraduate university-level degrees that include courses on prevention and/or treatment in the general curriculum, through the schools of medicine, psychology, and social work of the University of Buenos Aires, and social therapist courses (university level) at the National University of Quilmes and the National University of La Matanza. Also, Salvador University and the University of Buenos Aires offer master's programs in drug use prevention, treatment, and research.

CICAD notes that the country has implemented prevention programs directed at different population groups; however, considering the total number of people belonging to these target groups, these programs do not provide adequate coverage.

CICAD recognizes that the country offers short refresher courses, in-service training, diplomas, certificates, and undergraduate and graduate university degrees in drug use prevention, treatment, and research. However, these actions do not meet the national need for training.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF EXISTING PREVENTION PROGRAMS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.**



B. Treatment

Argentina has established mandatory national and provincial drug abuse treatment standards. In addition, some provinces have drug abuse treatment regulations.

SEDRONAR maintains a national registry of available treatment services and programs, is responsible for their accreditation, and enforces standards of care for agencies that serve patients funded by that agency through implementation of an Audit Program. The Ministry of Health provides enforcement of standards for agencies that are not funded by SEDRONAR.

SEDRONAR offers a permanent training program for drug dependent care that includes four-month courses for professionals, teachers, care center staff, and the general public, courses in jails, and courses in the framework of the Federal Council for the Prevention and Care of Addictions and Control of Drug Trafficking, among others.

The country has 384 public and 97 private drug treatment programs for outpatients (including clinics). Additionally, the country has 65 public and 75 private programs for residential patients.

Argentina provides details on the country's drug treatment services in the following table:

Available Drug Treatment Services

Services	Public Services	Private Services
Detoxification*	212	Not Available
Treatment and Rehabilitation	430	172
Aftercare	430	172
Self-help Groups	171	256**

* Includes general hospitals whose guard service is trained to care for intoxications.

** Includes nongovernmental organizations such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous.

The country reports that it lacks statistical data on networks for early detection, training of patients, and case referral, and on private institutions that provide detoxification services.

With regard to programs for the reintegration of patients into society, SEDRONAR has a Post-Release and Socio-Labor Re-Entry Program.

Some therapeutic communities specifically serve women, but the percentage is small and the vast majority of treatment centers (both public and private) serve a mixed clientele. As for centers and programs for adolescents and juvenile offenders, the National Secretariat for Children, Adolescence, and the Family has three care centers: one therapeutic community, one aftercare center, and one outpatient center.

Moreover, the Federal Penitentiary Service has four rehabilitation centers under the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. In addition, SEDRONAR offers training to federal penitentiary service personnel and prisoners on prevention and treatment of addictions and other pathologies associated with the illegal use of drugs.

The country reports that in 2004, 11,293 patients received treatment, 11,506 in 2005, and 18,309 in 2006.



Argentina lacks information on the number of treatment programs available during the evaluation period. However, it reports that in August 2006, the “Provincial Care Network Program” was set up within SEDRONAR to address those shortcomings.

CICAD recognizes that Argentina has implemented several treatment and aftercare programs for different population groups.

CICAD notes that the country has created the Provincial Care Network Program. However, it observes that the country does not yet have an updated national registry of service-providing institutions and their programs.

RECOMMENDATION:

2. UPDATE THE REGISTRY OF INSTITUTIONS THAT PROVIDE EARLY INTERVENTION, TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, AND AFTERCARE SERVICES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL.

C. Statistics on Consumption

Argentina has estimates of prevalence and incidence indicators for drug use among the general population. These surveys are conducted regularly every two years.


Prevalence of Drug Use in the General Population, 2006

Type of Drug	Population: Persons aged 12 to 65 living in cities of more than 80,000 inhabitants (representative sample)								
	Lifetime (percentage)			Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	79.9	68.4	73.9	70.8	55.5	62.9	60.6	41.0	50.4
Tobacco	56.9	46.8	51.7	38.4	31.3	34.7	35.2	29.1	32.1
Solvents or Inhalants	1.5	0.9	1.2	0.1	—	0.1	—	—	—
Hashish	2.2	1.5	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marijuana	18.6	13.3	15.8	8.3	5.5	6.9	5.2	3.7	4.4
Hallucinogens	1.8	1.5	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heroin	0.4	0.3	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Morphine*	0.2	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Opium	0.3	0.2	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Basuco, coca paste	1.2	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2
Cocaine HCL	9.2	6.7	7.9	3.0	2.1	2.6	1.9	1.3	1.6
Crack	0.2	0.2	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tranquilizers, Sedatives, Depressants	3.3	3.9	3.6	1.1	1.3	1.2	0.6	0.6	0.6
Stimulants	2.0	1.2	1.6	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2
MDMA (Ecstasy)	1.7	1.2	1.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.2

* Non-prescription/non-therapeutic use only.

Incidence of Drug Use in the General Population, 2006

Type of Drug	Population: Persons aged 12 to 65 living in cities of more than 80,000 inhabitants (representative sample)					
	Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	29.7	18.1	23.0	23.3	12.3	16.9
Tobacco	10.1	6.5	8.1	8.0	5.4	6.6
Solvents or Inhalants	0.1	—	0.1	—	—	—
Marijuana	2.2	1.8	2.0	1.0	0.7	0.9
Basuco, Coca Paste	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Cocaine HCL	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.3
Tranquilizers, Sedatives, Depressants	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.2
Stimulants	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	—	—



Concerning specific populations, Argentina conducts surveys of high school students and public hospital emergency rooms every two years. The results of the studies are shown below:

Prevalence of Drug Use in High School Students, 2005

Type of Drug	Population: Students aged 13, 15, and 17 countrywide, which correspond to the 1 st , 3 rd , and 5 th years of the traditional high school (<i>nivel medio</i>), 1 st and 2 nd of the Polymodal, and 8 th of the EGB3 (representative sample)								
	Lifetime (percentage)			Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	63.1	58.5	60.6	51	45.7	48.1	42.2	36.6	39.2
Tobacco	43.3	43	43.1	27	27.8	27.4	21	21.3	21.2
Solvents or Inhalants	5.2	3.3	4.2	2.5	2.1	2.3	1.4	1.1	1.2
Hashish	1.1	0.3	0.7	–	–	–	–	–	–
Marijuana	11.1	6.7	8.7	6.4	4.5	5.4	3.9	2.4	3.1
Hallucinogens	1.5	0.5	0.9	–	–	–	–	–	–
Heroin	1.3	0.3	0.8	–	–	–	–	–	–
Morphine*	1.3	0.5	0.9	–	–	–	–	–	–
Opium	1.1	0.3	0.7	–	–	–	–	–	–
Basuco, Coca Paste	3.4	1.8	2.5	1.8	1.1	1.4	1.2	0.7	0.9
Cocaine HCl	4.5	2.5	3.4	2.6	1.7	2.1	1.6	1	1.3
Crack	1.3	0.3	0.8	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tranquilizers, Sedatives, Depressants	5.6	5.7	5.6	3.2	3.5	3.4	1.9	2	1.9
Stimulants	4.3	3.1	3.6	2.8	2.2	2.5	1.7	1.5	1.6
MDMA (Ecstasy)	1.6	0.7	1.1	–	–	–	–	–	–

* Non-prescription/non-therapeutic use only.


Incidence of Drug Use in High School Students, 2005

Type of Drug	Population: Students aged 13, 15, and 17 countrywide, which correspond to the 1 st , 3 rd , and 5 th years of the traditional high school (<i>nivel medio</i>), 1 st and 2 nd of the Polymodal, and 8 th of the EGB3 (representative sample)					
	Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	20.7	18.4	19.4	11.1	7.8	9.3
Tobacco	10.7	10.8	10.7	4.8	4.2	4.5
Solvents or Inhalants	1.7	1.3	1.5	0.7	0.6	0.7
Marijuana	3.5	2.4	2.9	1.5	0.8	1.1
Basuco, Coca Paste	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.3
Cocaine HCl	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.4	0.4	0.4
Tranquilizers, Sedatives, Depressants	2.1	2.3	2.2	0.8	0.9	0.8
Stimulants	1.8	1.5	1.7	0.8	0.8	0.8

Prevalence of Drug Use in University Students, 2005

Type of Drug	Population: University Students in the Metropolitan Area (representative sample)								
	Lifetime (percentage)			Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	90.7	83.2	86	73.8	65.6	68.7	61.6	48.8	53.7
Tobacco	55	53.6	54.1	28.1	31.5	30.1	23.9	26.1	25.2
Solvents or Inhalants	2.2	0.8	1.3	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
Marijuana	25.4	15.2	19.2	15.8	8.3	11.2	8.4	4.3	5.9
Hallucinogens	3.7	1.5	2.4	1	0.4	0.7	0.1	0	0.1
Opiates	0.9	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0	0.1
Basuco, Coca Paste	1.4	0.3	0.7	0.2	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.1
Cocaine HCL	4.9	1.9	3.1	1.7	0.5	1	0.7	0.2	0.4
Tranquilizers, Sedatives, Depressants	8	7.5	7.7	3.9	3.4	3.7	1.2	1.5	1.4
Stimulants	4.7	2.4	3.3	1.7	1.2	1.4	1	0.4	0.7
MDMA (Ecstasy)	3.2	1.7	2.3	1.1	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.2
Other Drugs	0.5	0.4	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—

**Incidence of Drug Use in University Students, 2005**

Type of Drug	Population: University Students in the Metropolitan Area (representative sample)					
	Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	8.1	4.4	5.7	3.4	1.2	1.9
Tobacco	4.9	4	4.3	1.4	1	1.2

Argentina provides in the following table, information on the age of first use of drugs, based on the general population survey that was conducted in 2006:

Age of First Use of Drugs in the General Population, 2006

Type of Drug	Average			Median		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	16.5	17.4	16.9	16	17	16
Tobacco	16.0	16.8	16.3	15	16	16
Solvents or Inhalants	15.6	16.1	15.8	15	15	15
Marijuana	18.0	18.3	18.1	17	17	17
Basuco, Coca Paste	18.6	19.0	18.8	17	19	18
Cocaine HCl	18.5	18.9	18.7	18	18	18

The country estimated the percentage of youths aged 13 to 17 that perceive drug use as being harmful to their health and well-being, in the Second National Survey of High School Students in 2005. The results are shown in the following table:



Percentage of Youth Aged 13 to 17 that Perceive Drug Use as Being Harmful to their Health and Well-being, 2005

Category	% of those surveyed who believe that persons who carry out the following activities are at a moderate or great risk (or who think that it is quite harmful or very harmful)
Occasionally smoke cigarettes	27.6%
Often smoke cigarettes	76.8%
Often drink alcoholic drinks	79.5%
Get drunk	78.6%
Occasionally take non-prescribed tranquilizers/stimulants	44.2%
Often take non-prescribed tranquilizers/stimulants	69.9%
Occasionally inhale solvents	60.8%
Often inhale solvents	77.2%
Occasionally smoke marijuana	63.8%
Often smoke marijuana	83.1%
Occasionally take cocaine or crack	68.7%
Often take cocaine or crack	83.2%
Occasionally use coca paste	65.7%
Often use coca paste	75.2%
Occasionally take ecstasy	60.7%
Often take ecstasy	72.2%

With respect to new drugs found, Argentina reports that it detected the use of ecstasy, modified ecstasy, and gamma hydroxybutyric acid (GHB) in 2004.

In 2004, the country conducted a study to estimate of the number of drug-related deaths, the results of which are as follows:

Drug-Related Deaths (Legal and Illegal Drugs), 2004

Causes	Legal Drugs		Illegal Drugs	Total
	Tobacco	Alcohol		
Direct Causes	0	1,267	12	1,279
Suicides	0	1	15	16
Homicides	0	942	217	1,159
Accidents	0	755	75	830
Indirect	39,978	5,559	0	45,536
Total	39,978	8,523	320	48,821



Argentina does not have an estimate of drug or alcohol use by recent arrestees prior to their arrest.

The country has records on alcohol- and drug-related traffic accidents for the years 2004, 2005, and 2006. The figures indicate a total of 959 traffic accidents related to drug use, of which 872 involved alcohol and 87 involved illegal drugs. Argentina also maintains records on alcohol- and drug-related accidents in the workplace.

Law 24.788 of the Fight against Alcoholism prohibits nationwide the sale of alcohol to minors under 18, and consumption of alcohol in public areas or in stadiums or other places where mass sporting, educational, cultural, and/or artistic events are held.

CICAD views with satisfaction that the country has made efforts to carry out studies to measure drug use in different populations.

III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

A. Drug Production

Argentina does not have a system to detect and quantify the total area of marijuana crops. The country states that it has only detected small, isolated, and sparse cultivations.

The country reports that it has detected marijuana plants grown indoors. In 2004 it seized a total of seven plants, equivalent to 1.85 kg. of raw material, and in 2005 it seized 35 plants, equivalent to 15.92 kg. of raw material.

Argentina has detected illicit laboratories of organic drugs. Details of the number of laboratories found and dismantled are shown in the following table:

Number of Illicit Dismantled Laboratories, 2005–2006

Illicit Drugs	Potential Capacity for Production		Number of Dismantled Laboratories			
			2005		2006	
	S	M	S	M		
Coca Paste	6	—	—	—		
Cocaine HCl	9	2	4	1		
Total	15	2	4	1		

S = <100 Kg./Year **M** = 101–1,000 Kg./Year

The country has not detected illicit laboratories of synthetic drugs in its territory.

CICAD notes that the country has controls for the detection of drug production and manufacturing, having found and dismantled illicit drug laboratories.

B. Control of Pharmaceutical Products

Argentina has the following laws for the control of pharmaceutical products: Law 17.818 on Drugs, Law 19.303 on Psychotropics, and Law 23.737 on Drugs. All pharmaceutical products containing substances listed in the relevant international conventions are controlled in the country.



The country has a mechanism in place to monitor and prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products applicable to health professionals and entities authorized to handle these products.

The authority responsible for coordinating activities related to the control of pharmaceutical products is the National Institute for Medicines (INAME) of the National Food, Drug, and Medical Technology Administration (ANMAT) of the Ministry of Health.

In the commercial sector, Argentina exercises import/export control, license control, monitoring of distribution, inspections, and the imposition of administrative sanctions. It also records amounts of pharmaceuticals sold and maintains a registry of licensees.

Similarly, in the health care sector the control mechanism includes license control, monitoring distribution, inspections, imposing administrative sanctions, tracking prescriptions, and transfer of unusual cases detected by administrative authorities to judicial authorities.

Argentina has a system to compile information on administrative and regulatory activities. Based on that system, the country provides the information that is presented in the following table:

Regulatory Activities Conducted During 2004–2006

Regulatory Activity	2004	2005	2006
Licenses issued to manufacturers	14	17	24
Importation permits issued	1,208	1,750	1,710
Exportation permits issued	1,011	1,692	1,482
Inspections made to doctors and dentists	—	920	1,136
Inspections made to Pharmacists	2,662	2,500	2,600

ANMAT offers training courses in the handling of pharmaceutical products. In 2005, 50 people were enrolled, and 35 took the course in 2006. The country states that the training offered satisfies its internal demand.

Argentina uses the National Drug System (NDS) software to manage information related to pharmaceutical products and to facilitate their control.

Argentine legislation provides for the application of penal and administrative sanctions for the diversion of pharmaceutical products. The country provided no information on the number of penal and administrative sanctions applied during 2004–2006 in cases involving the diversion of pharmaceutical products.

Argentina states that it does not have data on the number of seizures of pharmaceutical products and the quantities of products thereby seized during years 2004–2006.

The country has identified the establishment of Internet web pages through which pharmaceutical products and other drugs are sold. For this reason, Argentina reports that it has drafted a Federal Medicine Law that includes a ban on the sale of pharmaceutical products over the Internet. The Bill defines the functions of administrative offices and police entities involved in the prevention and control of the sale of pharmaceutical products and drugs over the Internet.



The country reports that it is implementing forums, workshops, and lectures about the illegal sale of pharmaceuticals and other drugs over the Internet, targeting professionals, academic institutions, police forces, officials, and others.

CICAD notes that Argentina has legislation to control the manufacture and distribution of pharmaceutical products. It also notes with satisfaction that the country has statistical data that enable it to evaluate the effectiveness of controls for health care professionals on the use and distribution of pharmaceutical products.

CICAD views with concern that the country does not have data on the number of seizures or quantities of pharmaceutical products seized, nor does it have information on the administrative and penal sanctions imposed for diversions of pharmaceutical products during the years 2004–2006.

CICAD notes that the country does not have legislation or mechanisms to prevent and control the illicit trafficking of pharmaceutical products and other drugs over the Internet.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

3. **IMPLEMENT A REGISTER OF THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES AND QUANTITIES OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS SEIZED.**
4. **IMPLEMENT A REGISTER OF THE NUMBER OF PENAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS IMPOSED IN CASES INVOLVING THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.**
5. **APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT LAWS TO CONTROL THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER DRUGS OVER THE INTERNET.**

C. Control of Chemical Substances

Argentina has the following legal framework for controlling chemical substances: Decree 1095/96, Control of Precursors and Chemical Substances Needed for the Manufacture of Drugs, of 1996; Decree 1161/00, Control of Precursors and Chemical Substances Needed for the Manufacture of Drugs, of 2000; and Law 26.045, National Registry of Chemical Precursors, of 2005, which is still pending adoption.

The country has a mechanism to monitor and prevent the diversion of all controlled chemical substances listed in the international conventions. The components of this mechanism are: a national registry of licensees, license control (manufacture and distribution), import/export controls, inspections, control of distribution, control of the final sale, transport control, pre-export notifications, imposition of sanctions, support to security forces and the judicial system. SEDRONAR is responsible for all these activities.

Argentina offered training courses in the control of the diversion of chemical substances, and states that these courses satisfy the national demand for training.

The country has MicroStrategy 8 software to facilitate the secure and efficient handling of information for the control of chemical substances.



Argentine legislation provides penal and administrative sanctions for the diversion of controlled chemical substances. In this regard, 24 administrative sanctions were applied in 2004, 62 in 2005, and 46 in 2006. In 2006, the country introduced a system for recording the number of penal sanctions imposed. No sanctions of this type were recorded for that year.

Argentina is an importer and exporter of controlled chemical substances, and also handles these substances in transit.

During the years 2005–2006, the country issued several pre-export notifications as shown in the following table:

Number of Pre-export Notifications Issued, 2005–2006

Importing/Transshipment Countries	2005	2006
Bolivia	18	28
Brazil	66	56
Chile	104	104
Colombia	4	2
Costa Rica	0	1
Cuba	0	1
Ecuador	5	4
Spain	0	0
Mexico	3	17
Nicaragua	0	1
Panama	2	0
Paraguay	80	71
Peru	23	36
Switzerland	0	0
Uruguay	75	62
United States	4	30
Total	384	413

All the pre-export notifications sent by Argentina during the years 2004–2006 were approved by the importing or transit countries.

Argentina did not receive pre-export notifications for controlled chemical substances from other countries in 2004, and received 61 notifications in 2005 and 46 in 2006. All the notifications received were approved and answered on time by the country and none of them resulted in an investigation.

Argentina has made seizures involving controlled chemical substances during 2004–2006. The figures provided by the provincial police forces and the customs service are shown in the following table:


Seizures of Controlled Chemical Substances, 2004–2006

Controlled Chemical Substances	Number of Seizures			Quantities Seized		
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006 ³
Hydrochloric Acid	26	29	—	60,706.65 lt.	3,853.68 lt.	42 lt.
Sulphuric Acid	10	10	—	50,708.50 lt.	29,171.50 lt.	5 lt.
Anhydrous Ammonia	3	2	—	557 lt.	10,023 lt.	—
Sodium Hydroxide	6	8	—	297,143.50 kg.	33,375 kg.	—
Ethyl Ether	18	20	—	219.70 lt.	584.80 lt.	35.70 lt.
Acetone	33	26	—	2,071.05 lt.	1,827.45 lt.	664.10 lt.
Calcium Hydroxide	6	12	—	142,075.240 kg.	239,750 kg.	—
Acetic Acid	1	—	—	1 lt.	—	—
O-aminobenzoic Acid	—	—	—	0.90 kg.	—	—
Hexane	—	—	—	20,820 lt.	—	—
Potassium Hydroxide	1	—	—	200 kg.	—	—
Toluene	3	—	—	54,792 lt.	—	—
Kerosene	1	2	—	10 lt.	13 lt.	—
Calcium Oxide	1	1	—	30 kg.	15 kg.	—
Iodine	1	—	—	1 kg.	—	—
Ephedrine	—	1	—	—	1.57 kg.	0.96 kg.
Hydriodic Acid	—	—	—	1 kg.	—	—
Ethyl Alcohol	2	2	—	7.50 lt.	2 lt.	3 lt.
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	—	7	—	—	1,048.50 lt.	—
Potassium Permanganate	—	2	—	—	20 kg.	1.50 kg.
Ethyl Acetate	—	1	—	—	1 lt.	—
Benzene	—	1	—	—	10 lt.	—
Sodium Carbonate	—	1	—	—	1,000 lt.	—
Xylenes	—	1	—	—	50 lt.	—

Argentina reports that it does not have specific legislation on the method of disposal of substances; each judge decides on the method of disposal or the destination of these substances. No data was provided in this regard.

CICAD recognizes Argentina's efforts to maintain a mechanism to control chemical substances, but observes with concern that the national entity responsible for their control still lacks regulations to effectively fulfill its duties. The country also lacks

³ The country states that the information presented for 2006 does not include relevant data from the Argentine National Police, the Argentine Navy, the Airport Security Police, or Argentine Federal Police.



overall statistics on nationwide seizures of chemical substances, and on the quantities of substances disposed of.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

6. **ADOPT THE NECESSARY REGULATIONS TO ENABLE THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES TO IMPROVE CONTROL OVER CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.**
7. **ADOPT LEGISLATION TO DETERMINE THE DESTINATION OF SEIZED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.**
8. **IMPLEMENT A REGISTER OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES SEIZED AND DISPOSED OF AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, WHICH INCLUDES DATA FROM ALL INSTITUTIONS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCESS.**

IV. CONTROL MEASURES

A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

Argentina provides information on the number of seizures in 2005 and on the quantities of drugs seized in 2005 and 2006, which were reported by the provincial police and the customs service. These figures are presented in the following chart:

Quantities of Drugs Seized, 2005 and 2006

Type of Drugs	Number of Seizures		Quantities of Drugs Seized	
	2005	2006	2005	2006 ⁴
Poppy Plants	1	Not Available	32 units	0
Heroin	3	Not Available	31,004 Kg	18,827 Kg
Coca Leaf	4,654	Not Available	52,928,467 Kg	2,132,607 Kg
Coca Paste	193	Not Available	102,859 Kg	5,691 Kg
Cocaine HCl	5,860	Not Available	5,399,709 Kg	2,216,474 Kg
Cannabis Plants	109	Not Available	2,497 units	1,433 units
Leaf Cannabis (grass)	14,788	Not Available	36,482,143 Kg	26,666,494 Kg
Cannabis Resin (hashish)	1,301	Not Available	24,490 Kg	2,120 Kg
Cannabis Seed	140	Not Available	16,093 Kg	22,127 Kg
LSD	21	Not Available	1,537 units	266 units
Amphetamine/Methamphetamine	4	Not Available	1,504 units	1,429 units
MDMA (Ecstasy) and Derivatives	55	Not Available	3,570 units	20,523 units
Psychotropic Drugs	115	Not Available	20,948 units	8,129 units

⁴ The country states that the information presented for 2006 does not include relevant data from the Argentine National Police, the Argentine Navy, the Airport Security Police, or Argentine Federal Police.



The country has data on the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug trafficking during the 2004–2006 period, shown in the table below:

Persons Charged and Convicted for Illicit Drug Trafficking*

Year	Charged	Convicted
2004	1,258	1,012
2005	1,219	697
2006	1,789	752

* The country reports that these figures reflect 72% (2004), 67% (2005), and 74% (2006) of the total number of courts and tribunals in the country.

Argentina has a system to register general data on public officials arrested, charged, tried and convicted for illicit drug trafficking offenses, which includes information on corruption offenses related to drug trafficking. In this regard, the country charged 51 public officials for offenses related to illicit drug trafficking in 2005, and convicted 15; and charged 37 and convicted six in 2006.⁵

In the following table, the country provides information on the number of individuals charged with and convicted of illicit drug possession:

Persons Charged and Convicted for Illicit Drug Possession*

Year	Charged	Convicted
2004	1,779	1,005
2005	1,838	838
2006	3,641	636

* The country reports that these figures reflect 72% (2004), 67% (2005), and 74% (2006) of the total number of courts and tribunals in the country.

Argentina does not have laws or regulations that permit the possession of drugs for personal use. Possession for personal use is an offense, although the penalties are less severe than for illicit drug trafficking, and alternative penalties may be applied.

Article 15 of Law 23.737 establishes an exception within the definition of the offense of possession for personal use: “possession and use of coca leaves in their natural state for chewing or for use as a tea shall not be considered possession or use of drugs”.

Argentina submits the following information on the number of persons charged with and convicted of illicit possession of drugs for personal use:

⁵ The country reports that these figures reflect 72% (2004), 67% (2005), and 74% (2006) of the total number of courts and tribunals in the country.



**Persons Charged with and Convicted of Illicit
Drug Possession for Personal Use***

Year	Charged	Convicted
2004	1,044	562
2005	1,170	436
2006	1,968	291

* The country reports that these figures reflect 72% (2004), 67% (2005), and 74% (2006) of the total number of courts and tribunals in the country.

To facilitate the timely exchange of operational information and collaboration between national authorities responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking, Argentina created the Federal Council for Addictions Prevention and Assistance and Control of Drug Trafficking (COFEDRO), whose responsibility is to contribute to the development of a federal system for consensual policy-making, planning and programming for prevention and assistance and for the fight against drug trafficking. The Council includes all national and provincial security forces, and all entities and areas of the National Public Administration with jurisdiction over the subject matter.

Argentina reports that the achievements of this approach include the sharing of experiences among control entities; the layout of coordinated approaches to the control of illicit narcotics trafficking; the exchange of information on new drugs and the social modalities and uses of different narcotics; the preparation of a global study on trafficking based on local experiences and studies by each of the forces involved; and the creation of a space for information and a network of contacts.

Additionally, the country has bilateral joint commissions for exchanging information with Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, Cuba, Peru, Romania, Portugal, Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras, Israel, El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Ecuador, and Spain.

In 2004, Argentina did not make judicial cooperation requests related to illicit drug trafficking to other states based on international agreements, but it received five replies granting requests made previously. Argentina received eight requests of this type in 2004 and replied to two.

During 2005, 85 judicial cooperation requests were made in cases related to illicit drug trafficking, and 74 were made in 2006.

In Argentina, extradition requests to other countries for illicit drug trafficking cases are made by the judiciary and submitted by the central authority through diplomatic channels.

Moreover, the Office of Legal Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, and Worship is the authority responsible for receiving extradition requests. The extradition of nationals is permitted by domestic law.

The country has extradition treaties with Brazil, Canada, United States, Paraguay, Uruguay, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and the Dominican Republic.

Argentina does not provide a break down of data on extradition cases specifically related to illicit drug trafficking as opposed to other crimes.



The country has developed a series of specialized courses to address illicit drug trafficking for the various law enforcement agencies responsible for control of illicit drug trafficking in the country's provinces, specifically on investigation techniques and joint operations.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by Argentina in the control of illicit drug trafficking, which includes timely inter-institutional exchange and cooperation, improvement of registry systems of drug seizures, persons involved, and others. However, these data do not include information sources at the national level. CICAD also notes that the country does not provide a break down of the information on extraditions related specifically to illicit drug trafficking, as opposed to other crimes.

CICAD notes the detection of synthetic drugs such as ecstasy and amphetamines in Argentina, and views with satisfaction that steps have been taken to raise awareness and inform all the security and police forces and officials at the agencies responsible for this area about the trafficking and consumption of synthetic drugs.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

9. **IMPLEMENT A SINGLE REGISTER FOR COLLECTING INFORMATION ABOUT DRUG SEIZURES, CONTAINING INFORMATION FROM ALL THE AGENCIES THAT GENERATE SUCH DATA.**
10. **IMPLEMENT A REGISTER TO MAINTAIN RECORDS OF EXTRADITIONS THAT ARE SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING, SEPARATE FROM OTHER CRIMES.**

B. Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials

In Argentina the national entities responsible for control of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials are the National Arms Registry (RENAR), the Federal Administration of Public Revenue, the judiciary, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, and Worship. A table outlining their responsibilities is presented below:

**Authorities Responsible for the Control of
Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials**

Responsibility	National Entity
Issuance of import and in-transit licenses and authorizations	National Arms Registry (RENAR)
Cancellation of licenses and authorizations	National Arms Registry (RENAR)
Confiscation or forfeiture of illicitly trafficked firearms or ammunition	Federal Administration of Public Revenue, judicial branch, and National Arms Registry (RENAR)
Information exchange within the country among relevant national entities	National Arms Registry (RENAR)
Information exchange with relevant national entities in other countries	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, and Worship, and National Arms Registry (RENAR)

The Penal Code criminalizes the illicit trafficking in and manufacture of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.



The country does not have information on the number of persons who were formally charged with and convicted of illicit possession of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials for years 2004–2006.

Argentina has a legislative framework that imposes administrative controls over the importation, exportation, and in-transit movement of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials and sanctions for non-compliance.

The country has legislation that requires the issuance of import or in-transit license before permitting the entry of a shipment of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.

The legislation also requires the importing country to first issue the necessary licenses or permits before Argentina can issue an export license or permit for a shipment of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. It also requires the in-transit country to first issue the pertinent licenses or permits before Argentina authorizes the shipment of such materials.

Argentina has a National Arms Registry, which includes information on seizures of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. However, the country did not provide that information for years 2004–2006.

The country provides information on the quantity of firearms and ammunition seized in connection with arrests for illicit drug-trafficking offenses. The figures furnished by the provincial police forces and the customs service are as follows⁶:

**Quantities of Firearms and Ammunition Seized in Connection
with Arrests for Illicit Drug-trafficking Offenses**

Year	Number of Arrests	Quantity of Confiscated Firearms	Quantity of Confiscated Ammunition	Number of Operations
2004	8,912	596	5,676	24,313
2005	10,531	849	8,726	28,455
2006	3,789	1,093	10,691	17,978

Argentina has a permanent record-keeping system on the importation, exportation, and transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.

CICAD recognizes that Argentina has a legal framework and that it has implemented a mechanism for the control of illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. However, CICAD notes that the country does not have data on the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of possession of or illicit trafficking in these materials, or on the quantities seized, despite having a register for this purpose.

⁶ The country reports that it has no data from the Argentine National Police, the Argentine Navy, the Airport Security Police, or the Argentine Federal Police.



RECOMMENDATION:

11. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO COMPILE DATA ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONS FORMALLY CHARGED WITH AND CONVICTED OF POSSESSION OF OR ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.

C. Money Laundering

Money laundering is classified as a crime by Article 3 of Law 25.246 of 2000 (Law on Concealment and Laundering of Illicitly Obtained Assets). The article states that the crime of money laundering is committed by *“any person who converts, transfers, administers, sells, engraves, or uses in any other way money or other type of proceeds of a crime in which said person has not participated, with the possible consequence that the original assets or those produced are able to obtain the appearance of a licit origin, and in cases where their value exceeds fifty thousand pesos (\$ 50,000), in a single act or in the repetition of different acts that are related”*.

The criminalization of money laundering in Argentina encompasses the proceeds from the crimes of drug trafficking, trafficking in firearms, trafficking in human beings, trafficking in organs, prostitution, pornography, kidnapping, extortion, crimes against the public administration, terrorism and its financing, and fraud, together with all crimes set out in the Criminal Code, as long as the value of the assets exceeds the amount of fifty thousand pesos.

The crime of money laundering is autonomous and mono-subjective (can be committed by only one person), although for a person to be convicted of money laundering, there must be an ongoing investigation of the predicate or subjacent offense.

In addition, the country reports that significant changes have been made to its legislation, including:

- The requirement that “obligated subjects” provide the Financial Intelligence Unit with information about their bank, securities, or professional records and their confidential contracts or commitments.
- The exemption from criminal liability of spouses, relatives up to the fourth degree by blood or second degree by marriage, or a close friend or person to whom one has an especially deep debt of gratitude.
- The inclusion in the Criminal Code of the crime of terrorist conspiracy and terrorism funding, broadening the authority of the FIU to encompass the offense of terrorism funding⁷.

The legal standards in force make it possible for the country to use special investigation techniques, such as electronic surveillance, undercover agents and plea bargaining or cooperative testimony, to suppress money laundering if the predicate offense is illicit drug trafficking or an act of terrorism.

The standards currently in force provide for administrative control measures to prevent money laundering in banks, foreign exchange agencies, stock markets, insurance companies, casinos, notary offices, accounting firms and the cross-border transfer of cash and securities, public records; persons dedicated to jewelry, the sale and purchase of art works, antiques and other luxury articles, investments in stamps or coins; carriers of valuables; postal services; donors; and public institutions

⁷ The country reports that these amendments were enacted in July 2007.



responsible for monitoring liable subjects. These standards do not include real estate agencies or attorneys. Argentina's legal system does not permit offshore banks.

Additionally, legal standards require financial institutions and other liable subjects to report suspicious transactions and do not hold them liable for the reports they provide by authority of the law.

During 2004, no individual was formally charged with or convicted of the crime of money laundering. In 2005, six people were formally charged, with no convictions, and in 2006, eight people were formally charged and one was convicted⁸.

Argentina has a Financial Information Unit (FIU) that receives, reviews, and communicates conclusions, imposes administrative sanctions and issues directives and instructions that liable subjects must comply with and implement, after consultation with the specific control bodies. The FIU currently has a total staff of 67, and had a budget of US\$711,960 for 2004, US\$1,129,577 for 2005, and US\$952,167 for 2006.

The FIU is a member of the Egmont Group and has signed Memoranda of Understanding for the exchange of information with its counterparts in Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Spain, and Venezuela. The FIU received and investigated 463 suspicious transaction reports in 2004, 647 in 2005, and 775 in 2006.

Argentina indicates that it is possible to lift bank confidentiality and obtain financial documents and records in cases of money laundering for financial intelligence and prosecution purposes.

The Mixed Commission of Registry, Administration and Disposal is the entity that, according to Law, is responsible for the administration of seized and confiscated assets in cases related to drugs. Moreover, the country states that Law 25246 envisages that the confiscation of assets derived from money laundering be deposited in a special account of the National Treasury. The country does not have information on confiscated assets in cases of money laundering nor on requests for preventive embargos made to and received from other countries during 2004–2006.

The country has no information on requests made to and received from other states to freeze assets in money-laundering cases based on international agreements during the years 2004–2006.

In Argentina, the Judiciary is the national entity in charge of making requests for extradition in cases of money laundering, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Commerce and Worship is the entity in charge of receiving requests for extradition in these cases. Argentine legislation permits the extradition of its nationals.

Argentina provides no information on the number of requests for extradition sent to and received from other states in money-laundering cases in accordance with international agreements during the years 2004–2006.

CICAD recognizes that Argentina has in place a legal framework to address money laundering, which includes mechanisms for its prevention and control, and for

⁸ The country reports that these figures reflect 72% (2004), 67% (2005), and 74% (2006) of the total number of courts and tribunals in the country.



international cooperation. However, the insufficient information provided does not permit a complete evaluation with respect to seized assets in money laundering cases, nor on requests related to the freezing of assets in money laundering cases made to and received from other countries.

RECOMMENDATION:

12. **EXPAND THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL ACTIVITIES FOR PREVENTING MONEY LAUNDERING TO INCLUDE LAWYERS AND ACCOUNTANTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.**



CONCLUSIONS

Argentina has made significant progress in the fight against drug trafficking, according to the information provided. The country has a Federal Plan for the Integral Prevention of Drug Addiction and Control of Illicit Drug Trafficking, under which programs, projects, and activities to control the demand for and supply of drugs are carried out. It has a technical and administrative institutional structure responsible for coordinating the execution of various programs across the country, and several local authorities have plans addressing these topics.

The progress made includes accession to the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters; the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; and the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Moreover, the Argentine Drugs Observatory has been strengthened with increased measurements of various drug-use indicators among various population groups, which will serve to guide preventive efforts and enhance the Observatory's ability to provide the population with information.

In the area of demand control, Argentina has launched prevention programs targeting different population groups. However, CICAD observes with concern that these programs have low levels of coverage. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country has implemented treatment, rehabilitation, and social reintegration programs targeting several sectors of the population.

CICAD recognizes that Argentina has a legal framework for controlling the manufacture and distribution of pharmaceutical products. However, it observes with concern that the country does not have information on the number of seizures or the quantities of pharmaceuticals seized during the years 2004–2006.

CICAD acknowledges Argentina's efforts in maintaining a mechanism for the control of chemicals, but notes with concern that the country still has not adopted the regulations that would allow it to carry out its duties effectively, and urges the country to do so.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by Argentina for the control of illicit drug trafficking. The country has an adequate legislative and administrative framework to register and share information and experiences in coordination with institutions that work on these issues. However, the country has to complete its registers with nationwide information.

CICAD recognizes that Argentina has a legal and regulatory framework for the control of illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition, and explosives. CICAD notes, however, that the country does not have information on the number of persons formally charged with or convicted of illicit possession of or trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.

The country has a legal framework that serves to strengthen its control efforts with regard to money laundering. CICAD also notes the country's adoption of the Draft National Agenda against money laundering, which is intended to strengthen the prevention, detection, reporting, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering cases.

CICAD acknowledges the significant efforts made by Argentina in implementing its National Drugs Strategy and its active participation in and commitment to the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism.



SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are assigned to Argentina in order to assist the country in strengthening its policy to combat the problem of drugs and related activities and increase multilateral cooperation in the Hemisphere:

DEMAND REDUCTION

1. EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF EXISTING PREVENTION PROGRAMS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
2. UPDATE THE REGISTRY OF INSTITUTIONS THAT PROVIDE EARLY INTERVENTION, TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, AND AFTERCARE SERVICES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL.

SUPPLY REDUCTION

3. IMPLEMENT A REGISTER OF THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES AND QUANTITIES OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS SEIZED.
4. IMPLEMENT A REGISTER OF THE NUMBER OF PENAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS IMPOSED IN CASES INVOLVING THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
5. APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT LAWS TO CONTROL THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER DRUGS OVER THE INTERNET.
6. ADOPT THE NECESSARY REGULATIONS TO ENABLE THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES TO IMPROVE CONTROL OVER CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
7. ADOPT LEGISLATION TO DETERMINE THE DESTINATION OF SEIZED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.
8. IMPLEMENT A REGISTER OF THE CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES SEIZED AND DISPOSED OF AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, WHICH INCLUDES DATA FROM ALL INSTITUTIONS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCESS.

CONTROL MEASURES

9. IMPLEMENT A SINGLE REGISTER FOR COLLECTING INFORMATION ABOUT DRUG SEIZURES, CONTAINING INFORMATION FROM ALL THE AGENCIES THAT GENERATE SUCH DATA.
10. IMPLEMENT A REGISTER TO MAINTAIN RECORDS OF EXTRADITIONS THAT ARE SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING, SEPARATE FROM OTHER CRIMES.
11. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO COMPILE DATA ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONS FORMALLY CHARGED WITH AND CONVICTED OF POSSESSION OF OR ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.
12. EXPAND THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL ACTIVITIES FOR PREVENTING MONEY LAUNDERING TO INCLUDE LAWYERS AND ACCOUNTANTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.



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