

1 September 2011

English, French and Spanish only

Twenty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 3-7 October 2011

Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean**

1. The Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Lima, Peru, from 4 to 7 October 2010, adopted a set of recommendations following the consideration by working groups of the issues defined below.
2. In accordance with established practice, the report of the Twentieth Meeting was forwarded to the Governments represented at the session. A questionnaire on the implementation of the recommendations adopted at that Meeting was dispatched to Governments on 19 May 2011 together with information relating to the Twenty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
3. The present report was prepared on the basis of information provided to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) by Governments in reply to that questionnaire. As of 30 August 2011, replies had been received from the Governments of Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Portugal, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Issue 1: Targeting drug trafficking by air**Recommendation 1**

4. It was recommended that Governments should take steps to standardize procedures and to strengthen their early warning networks in order to provide timely

* UNODC/HONLAC/21/1.

** This document has not been edited.



information on illicit flights and improve their ability to conduct interception operations.

5. Most countries reported that they had mostly strengthened already existing early warning networks, through joint efforts of their air forces and police institutions, as well as through cooperation with international organizations and other countries. A few States pointed to continuing limitations on their capacity for intercepting illicit flights.

6. In Brazil, the Federal Police Department (FPD) maintained an online discussion forum to facilitate the timely exchange of information among police officers working at Brazilian airports. The FPD was also involved in project AIRCOP, sponsored by UNODC, for the exchange of information and intelligence among the participating airports.

7. Since 2003, the Colombian Air Force had implemented a strategy to combat drug trafficking by air in cooperation with the United States and through the establishment of cooperation agreements to facilitate exchange of information in real time with Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Peru and the United States. This strategy contributed to a 98 per cent reduction in illegal air activity. Further agreements were being put into place with Belize, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, the Netherlands, Panama and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

8. Ecuador reported that it had improved detection systems and interdiction aircrafts as well as taken measures to enhance the operational capacity of its aircraft pilots in order to increase its air interdiction capacity and provide a 24-hour deployment capability. Ecuador had developed procedures for the exchange of information and experiences of its early warning systems in order to improve information about and intercept illicit flights, in particular with the Governments of Colombia, Peru and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) through bilateral meetings and/or agreements.

9. In El Salvador, a mechanism was already in place for standardizing procedures and strengthening early warning systems for attaining timely information on illicit flights and improving their interdiction. Cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization and among Government entities had allowed for improved analysis of information at the international airport. The Civil Aviation Authority had monitored illicit flights in coordination with the Salvadorian Air Force and the National Civil Police, and the latter had created a comprehensive document which regulated specific technical requirements for flights over the national airspace.

10. Guatemala reported that the Anti-narcotics Division of the Police relied on information released by the Guatemalan Army for early warning about illicit flights, as the Army was in charge of the radars which controlled those flights.

11. In Jamaica, the Transnational Crime and Narcotics Division (TCND), mandated to deal with drug interdiction, had a team of personnel at both major international airports, trained in areas of drug identification, interviewing techniques, and methods of concealment. The team had worked closely with the National Intelligence Bureau, CARICOM, the United States Drug Enforcement Agency, the United Kingdom's Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) and the

Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The Government also collaborated closely with Colombia, Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

12. In Nicaragua, the Air Force had a modern early warning system in place to detect and follow-up on illicit flights and to share information with neighbouring countries in coordination with the Nicaraguan Institute of Civil Aeronautics for obtaining related information. Legislation was in place for regulating the operation of flights in the national airspace. Nevertheless, Nicaragua reported that there were limitations to its air interdiction capacity.

13. Portugal reported that a Prevention and Investigation Service had been assigned at Lisbon's airport. This service ensured the sharing of information and a level of cooperation and coordination of efforts among Portuguese authorities and airline companies.

14. In Trinidad and Tobago, an Advanced Cargo Information System (ACIS) was being pursued in conjunction with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Implementation Agency for Crime and Security, which would be implemented throughout the CARICOM area in cooperation with airlines, shippers, importers and exporters and customs authorities worldwide. The ACIS empowered customs officers to examine documents presented for imports or exports of cargo in advance and determine whether any item(s) required special attention.

15. Uruguay had created a permanent integrated national plan of operations against drug trafficking and money-laundering (499/099 Decree of 26/10/2009) and the Air Force was developing a project for coordinating the activities of the competent entities working on the control of illicit drug trafficking.

16. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reported that it continually exchanged information with the radar control centres of neighbouring countries for the monitoring of suspicious aircraft with the support and information gathered through its network of radars for the control of national airspace, which had been continuously strengthened since 2007. A Centre for Observation and Monitoring of Aircraft had been established through intragovernmental cooperation among relevant authorities and legislation was being developed to improve procedures and standardize interceptions in the airspace.

Recommendation 2

17. It was recommended that Governments should be encouraged to be proactive by, for example, carrying out inspections at aeroplane hangars and maintenance workshops to identify aircraft with stripped cabins or extra fuel tanks with fuel transfer hoses, or that have been modified in other ways, so as to enhance their knowledge and extend their control over the illicit use of private aircraft for drug trafficking.

18. Most countries reported that they had plans in place for carrying out inspections and detecting modified aircraft in hangars and maintenance workshops, along with relevant legislation that covered technical requirements for air operators in their territories.

19. In Brazil, inspections including those related to flight security were carried out by the National Civil Aviation Agency and the Brazilian Aerospace Defence

Command (COMDABRA). The Federal Police carried out inspections only sporadically.

20. Colombia reported that the Colombian Air Force worked in coordination with the National Police to conduct operations in airports throughout the country, controlling national and international general aviation. The Air Force concentrated on inspection and aircraft registration operations in coordination with the National Police and the Civil Aviation authority.

21. Ecuador reported on partnerships being established between the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the Command for Air Operations and Defence of the Ecuadorian Air Force to determine competencies for cataloguing remote and unregulated airstrips, exchanging information on ownership and movement of private aircrafts, carrying out inspections, detecting modified aircrafts and improving drug detection procedures.

22. El Salvador indicated that there already existed a plan for the inspection of hangars and maintenance workshops to detect modified aircraft. In the civil aviation sphere, there existed regulation governing specific technical requirements covering inspection and maintenance of aircrafts.

23. In Guatemala, the Anti-narcotics Division of the Police maintained a presence in the country's main airports for carrying out inspections of passenger and cargo aircraft supported by a specialized canine unit.

24. Jamaica reported active management and security monitoring undertaken at the island's principal airports and aerodromes. Routine surveillance was carried out on arriving and departing aircrafts. The TCND, in conjunction with internal partners including the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority, periodically conducted rummages on aircraft entering the island, with an emphasis on private aircraft.

25. Nicaragua reported that it maintained a permanent and systematic control of all civil aviation through inter-institutional coordination among the relevant entities. Specific plans and procedures were carried out for detecting modified private aircraft in particular. Legislation was in place to enable the Air Force to interdict and seize aircrafts involved in illicit drug trafficking.

26. Portugal reported that the domestic system to prevent drug trafficking rested with the Judicial Police, which maintained and strengthened relationships with air traffic operators to collect information for production of intelligence. Portugal further reported that there were no recent updates regarding this recommendation.

27. In Trinidad and Tobago, the Customs and Excise Division had procedures in place for searching and inspecting all arriving private aircraft. However, private aircraft operating domestically were not routinely searched unless intelligence alerts directed otherwise. The Government had embarked upon initiatives to deal with this deficiency and joint exercises were conducted on a regular basis involving drug law enforcement agencies to examine suspected aircraft.

28. Uruguay reported that the permanent integrated national plan of operations against drug trafficking and money-laundering covered the actions proposed in recommendation 2.

29. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela stated that inspections in public and private airports, hangars and maintenance workshops were regularly conducted.

Inspections included screening of aircraft registration to rule out their involvement in illicit drug trafficking, and central registry of aircraft sales and purchases under a single public notary office.

Recommendation 3

30. It was recommended that Governments must ensure that law enforcement authorities responsible for protecting national air borders, airspace and airports are equipped with and trained to use suitable technologies to enable them to be effective against the increasing sophistication of traffickers using commercial, private and light aircraft to transport illicit drugs.

31. Most countries reported that several mechanisms were used for the inspection of both people and goods, relying on different types of technology, specialized trained units of police and international cooperation.

32. Brazil reported that there existed a system of fixed radars that covered the national airspace, as well as radars used for the detection of suspected flights, in particular of small aircraft. Joint work among the Federal Police Department, the Brazilian Air Force and COMDABRA had resulted in arrests and detention of several drug traffickers.

33. Colombia stated that the Colombian Air Force had become a standard-bearer as regards the implementation of strategies for strengthening legislation, control measures and operational capacity. The experience accumulated over more than twenty years of combating transnational air drug trafficking organizations had been made available to interested countries through technical assistance and training. The Air Force was renewing the equipment of the Air Defence System.

34. Ecuador reported that there existed relevant entities in the field of law enforcement mandated with protecting air borders, airspace, airports and airstrips in the country, along with the necessary technology and equipment that enabled effective control over drug trafficking.

35. El Salvador stated that studies had been conducted for deploying technological equipment for the non-intrusive inspection of goods.

36. Guatemala reported that the Anti-narcotics Division of the Police had elite groups trained in various areas for combating drug trafficking, but that better logistical means were needed to achieve objectives, including better equipment, all-terrain vehicles and radars to trace the location of suspected aircraft entering national airspace.

37. Jamaica stated that the use of advanced passengers and cargo screening technology was standard at the principal airports and aerodromes. Specifically, the TCND had embarked on training its members, especially those working at the airports in the use of Enzyme Multiplied Immunoassay Technique. Additionally, random maritime and air anti-narcotic patrols were conducted by the Jamaica Defence Force, whether as a non-specific patrol or in response to specific intelligence emanating from counterparts in the Caribbean.

38. Nicaragua reported that Civil Aviation Act No. 595 provided for proper controls of private and public irregular flights and an inter-agency team conducted on-site inspection of the tracks, airfields and heliports in the country, surveying the

existence, location and use of these sites. Further legislation permitted international airport security certification of its main airport terminals. Emphasis was made on detection of suspected runways and on improving communication between relevant national authorities and anti-narcotics and aeronautic authorities in the region.

39. In Portugal, there was an articulated system of powers among several police and supervisory bodies. Thus, the cross-border supervisory and preventive powers relating to airspace were mainly granted to the Directorate General of Customs and Excise and the Immigration and Borders Service, which acted as supervisory entities and played a major role in monitoring the movement of persons, goods and capital.

40. Trinidad and Tobago reported that light aircraft and private jets arriving at or departing from the country's major international airport were processed at a facility with modern non-intrusive scanning equipment. Scanners with organic and inorganic scanning capabilities had been introduced and officers posted at airports were trained in search and detection, profiling, interviewing techniques, intelligence analysis, drug identification and document examination. There was close cooperation with the United States and the United Kingdom.

41. Uruguay reported that the permanent integrated national plan of operations against drug trafficking and money-laundering covered the actions proposed in recommendation 2.

42. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reported that non-intrusive systems of inspection of people and goods had been put in place at airports around the country. Since 2007, the network of radars had been strengthened, achieving adequate coverage for surveillance and defence of the airspace. A centre for observation and monitoring of aircraft had been established generating knowledge for training staff.

Issue 2: Drug trafficking and corruption

Recommendation 4

43. It was recommended that Governments should examine the factors contributing to corruption that affect their law enforcement agencies.

44. Most of the countries indicated that they had taken measures to examine factors that contributed to corruption in their law enforcement agencies, and in some cases legislation was being developed that would cover the more specific factors. Many countries had adopted measures to improve the working conditions in their law enforcement agencies.

45. Brazil stated that, although this was an extremely important issue, it was not discussed at the Meeting and for this reason no action could be taken on the recommendation.

46. In Colombia, there was recognition that anti-corruption policies needed to be strengthened, in particular preventive and judicial measures in specific sectors. The Government was seeking to incorporate measures to eliminate the offer of corruption to public agents into anti-corruption policy and invited civil society and academia to participate in the drafting of a comprehensive law.

47. Ecuador reported that a Transitional Judicial Council had been developing a restructuring of the justice system since May 2011. The National Police had carried

out a study on threats that contributed to corruption in collaboration with the Narcotics Trust Centre, with the participation of highly-specialized members of the police.

48. El Salvador reported that it had not been able to carry out the outlined recommendation, as the existing anti-corruption measures were not based on an in-depth study and knowledge of the factors contributing to corruption. Measures needed to be more in touch with the realities the country faced and the resources at its disposal.

49. In Guatemala, the recommendation had been adopted for the entire police institution, including through an income-raising bonus as an incentive and the offer of an improved life insurance policy for police personnel at all levels.

50. Jamaica reported that, in an effort to effectively combat corruption within the organization, the JCF had developed the Anti-Corruption Strategy 2010-2012, with the following strategic priorities: the restoration of public safety and confidence; the boosting of the moral and confidence of the JCF members and auxiliaries; and effective internal and external communication.

51. Nicaragua reported that its anti-corruption strategy sought to tackle poverty, hunger and unemployment as factors that contributed to a lack of democracy and transparency, fuelling corruption. The code of ethical conduct for public servants of the Executive Branch was adopted in 2009 along with specific legislation for combating corruption in other areas of Government.

52. Portugal stated that it had specific legislation to prevent and repress corruption which covered all areas of society. The Judicial Police had been fostering and carrying out several technical and specialized trainings which had an impact on the professional performance of its employees as real instruments for preventing this kind of criminality.

53. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago was reviewing salaries and terms and conditions of service of all drug law enforcement officers with a view to ensuring that these were adequate, in order to avoid incidents of corrupt practices. The Police Complaints Authority had been strengthened to include an experienced attorney as its head and to investigate situations that could compromise the integrity of officers, and polygraph testing had been introduced.

54. Uruguay reported that legislation was in place for the implementation of recommendation 4, including Law 17.060 of 10 December 1998, which created the State Advisory Board on Financial and Economic Matters and Decree 338/010 of 12 November 2010, on rules on the sworn statement of assets and income of public officials.

55. In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Government had directed its actions to improving the working and recruitment conditions of the personnel of law-enforcement entities. An example of this was the adoption of a statute of policing, which had begun to be implemented in 2010, geared towards improving income, supervision and police training as well as personnel's career goals and expectations.

Recommendation 5

56. It was recommended that Governments are encouraged to strengthen or develop national anti-corruption policies to support the adoption of measures that build the confidence of the public in their law enforcement authorities and limit the potential for the misuse of their powers and the subsequent loss of effectiveness in combating drug trafficking and organized crime.

57. Many countries reported that they had adopted measures to improve the public perception of their law enforcement agencies. Many countries stated that existing legislation provided for the prevention and punishment of the misuse of powers by law enforcement authorities or that legislation in this regard was being developed.

58. Brazil stated that, although this was an extremely important issue, it was not discussed at the Meeting and for this reason no action could be taken on the possible recommendation.

59. Colombia reported that the Anti-corruption Statute of July 2011 created a national strategy for combating corruption and illicit drug trafficking and was based on five elements: effective implementation of norms; preventive action; citizen collaboration; a culture of legality; and coordination. Judicial and fiscal governmental authorities were involved in the drafting of the Statute as well as academic experts and non-governmental organizations.

60. In Ecuador, the Constitution in Title IV, Chapter V, entitled “Transparency and Social Control” promotes and encourages the control of institutions and public sector organizations and individuals or legal entities in the private sector that provide services or carry out activities of public interest, to do so with accountability, transparency and equity; promotes and encourages citizen participation, protects the exercise and enforcement of rights, and prevents and combats acts of corruption.

61. El Salvador reported that, the Ethics in Government Act of 2006 aimed to regulate and promote the ethical performance of public authorities and to prevent, detect and punish corruption of all public servants that used their offices or positions to enrich themselves illegally or commit other acts of corruption. The National Police was also closely screened through polygraph and anti-doping tests, among others.

62. Guatemala reported that, within the police institution, there existed an Office of Professional Responsibility, which supervised the day-to-day functions of the national civil police and within the Anti-narcotics Division. The Office was also mandated with combating corruption and improving the public image and perception of the police.

63. In Jamaica, the JCF’s Anti-Corruption Strategy included a “Zero Tolerance” approach to all acts of corruption, which encompassed, inter alia, an Integrity Testing Programme; a Personnel Security Vetting Programme; and an improved performance evaluation. This was further complemented by the Ethics Committee, the Anti-Corruption Branch and the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption.

64. Nicaragua reported existing legislation and measures for combating corruption, including the existence of a unit against organized crime, which aimed to intervene in police investigations and criminal proceedings relating to organized

crime in order to strengthen the judicial functions of the Public Prosecution Services and to represent the State in relation to legally protected goods of a Constitutional nature, such as public health, security and public order.

65. Portugal had enacted several legal provisions aimed at regulating and disciplining public or private sector actions and activity concerning the commission of acts of corruption and other forms of criminality. The Judicial Police had mechanisms enabling it to correlate these activities to drug trafficking, through two specialized units — at operational level, the National Anti-Corruption Unit, and at intelligence level, the Financial Intelligence Unit.

66. Trinidad and Tobago stated that the Police Complaints Authority was working on building the confidence of the public and limiting the potential for the misuse of officers' powers. The Government, through a new initiative entitled "21st Century Policing", aimed to enhance policing and the public image of law enforcement agencies and had also approved a "Use of Force Policy" to treat the issue of misuse of powers.

67. Uruguay reported that the same legislation as cited for the implementation of recommendation 4 was applicable.

68. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reported that there was already in place legislation related to this topic: the Anti-Corruption Law and the Organic Law against Organized Crime. Furthermore, the new Organic Drug Law of September 2010 typified trafficking as an aggravating circumstance for public officials and members of the Armed Forces who committed these acts, or for individuals posing under these capacities.

Recommendation 6

69. It was recommended that Governments should encourage the introduction of a robust and transparent complaints-and-review procedure as a response against inappropriate and illegal actions by law enforcement agencies and their staff.

70. Most countries reported that they had adopted or were in the process of implementing and developing complaints-and-review procedures for combating corruption, many of which included anonymous reporting mechanisms for inappropriate and illegal actions. Most countries indicated that governmental institutions contained internal oversight bodies.

71. Brazil stated that, although this was an extremely important issue, it was not discussed at the Meeting and for this reason no action could be taken on the recommendation.

72. Colombia stated that the recently-adopted Anti-corruption Statute included a chapter on mechanisms for following up on complaints and suggestions from citizens regarding the fulfilment of the mission of public officials. The measures included the creation of an internal organ of control for processing complaints in each governmental entity. Colombia had also created a high-level National Commission for Moralization to oversee the implementation of the Statute.

73. Ecuador stated that it was the competence of the Council of Citizen Participation and Social Control to investigate corruption cases that affected participation or went against the public interest. For many years, several measures

had been implemented to ensure that civil society could report suspected corruption of police officers, as in the case of telephone lines such as 1-800-DRUG-OFFENSES, and a police website where police themselves could also denounce crimes.

74. In El Salvador, there existed appropriate bodies at police level for managing complaints and cases of corruption, such as the Inspector General, the Control Unit, and Internal Affairs, and in governmental entities such as the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Finance.

75. Guatemala reported that the structure of state entities included a unit for oversight of the exercise of personnel functions, which would facilitate transparency in the delivery of services.

76. In Jamaica, the Independent Commission of Investigations was established in 2011 to receive and investigate complaints of citizens against members of the JCF, the Jamaica Defence Force, Correctional Officers and any other public officials. Additionally, there was a toll free number (1-800-CORRUPT) established for persons to call in anonymously to report alleged acts of corruption or unethical behaviour.

77. In Nicaragua, mechanisms had been created to facilitate follow up of complaints, creating and strengthening the Citizen Complaint Offices in the Attorney General's Office and the Comptroller General of the Republic. The performance of the judiciary was regulated through the Judicial Career Law No. 501, Law on Public Integrity servers Law No. 438 and Law 228 of the National Police.

78. Portugal reported that the legislation in force and the mechanisms to combat corruption not only prevented the existence of illegal activities within its organizations but also promoted the participation of society in denouncing situations taking place in the performance of professional duties.

79. Trinidad and Tobago stated that the measures listed for recommendation 5 were also relevant for recommendation 6.

80. Uruguay reported that legislation was in place for the implementation of recommendation 6, including Law 18.362 of 6 October 2008 which created the Directorate of Internal Affairs as an integrated organ of functional management of the Ministry of Interior and the creation of various free telephone service lines including one on quality management through which the public can obtain information about the services of the Ministry of Interior make complaints related to policing.

81. In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, both the Public Ministry and the National Anti-Drug Office counted on units for receiving and processing complaints, where the public could anonymously provide information in instances related to the corruption of officials attached to law enforcement agencies.

Recommendation 7

82. Bearing in mind the document on the ethical commitment against the infiltration of drug trafficking in political parties and movements subscribed to be by the political parties and movements of Peru and presented to the Meeting, it was

recommended that the Governments of the countries of the region could put forward initiatives to promote and develop transparent electoral competition with a view to preventing drug trafficking from interfering in politics.

83. Most of the reporting countries stated that legislation had already been adopted or was in the process of being drafted to hold political parties accountable for members with links to organized crime. Most countries further indicated that transparency and accountability measures for political parties were already in place within their electoral laws.

84. Brazil stated that, although this was an extremely important issue, it was not discussed at the Meeting and for this reason no action could be taken on the recommendation.

85. Colombia reported that the Statutory Law on Political Reform of July 2011 sought to guarantee transparency in elections by enhancing transparency in political organizations. One of the immediate effects of the Law was the ban on persons involved in criminal proceedings from participating as candidates. Furthermore, the Law made heads of political parties directly responsible for the participation in their organizations of individuals with links to criminal organizations.

86. In Ecuador, the Constitution provided for the Electoral function in the section on Participation and Organization of Power, Chapter IV, and whose functions were determined by the relevant articles in the section.

87. In El Salvador, the Electoral Affairs Commission of the Legislative Assembly had begun deliberation and study of the proposed Law on Political Parties, which included items related to the scope of the registration of parties and the rights and obligations of political institutions on matters of transparency. Lawmakers had agreed to send the draft Law to various agencies and parties; the item on financing and financial control was considered to be one of the most sensitive among politicians, as it would oblige political parties to make their accounting public and allow control of the funds they received for campaigns.

88. Guatemala reported that the Government had promoted, through the relevant entity on electoral matters, the transparency of election processes and the non-infiltration of organized crime. Political parties were required to report on the sources of funds for electoral campaigns.

89. The Electoral Commission of Jamaica was established by the Electoral Commission (Interim) Act of 2006 and was mandated with ensuring that the electoral process was protected from the “immediate direction, influence and control of the Government, which may influence its functioning to the detriment of persons with opposing views who may wish to participate in the process”. An Integrity Commission was introduced by the opposition to assess and determine if its prospective candidates for Parliament were fit and proper to represent the party.

90. In Nicaragua, the Supreme Electoral Council performed functions of control as provided by the electoral law. The law regulated matters relating to cost arrangements of political parties and indicated the duty of political parties to be transparent and honest in the administration of their economic assets, by publishing their annual financial statements. The Attorney General’s Office, in its capacity as legal representative of the State, had an Office of Citizen Complaints for anonymous complaints.

91. Portugal reported that it had not implemented this recommendation.
92. In Trinidad and Tobago, an Integrity Commission had been appointed, composed of citizens to promote and develop transparent electoral competition with a view to preventing drug trafficking from interfering in politics. This measure involved declarations of all assets by parliamentarians in order to ascertain the holdings and sources of these assets.
93. Uruguay reported that current legislation covered the measures outlined in recommendation 7.
94. In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Drug Law of September 2010 granted powers to the National Electoral Council to identify, control, regulate and investigate financing of political organizations in order to prevent and punish the infiltration of drug money in election campaigns. The national anti-money-laundering and interagency coordination mechanism also dealt with this topic, developing training, action plans, and codes of ethics.

Issue 3: Trafficking in synthetic drugs and control of precursors

Recommendation 8

95. It was recommended that, where controls are not already in place, Governments should take steps to evaluate existing legislation and procedures for managing the import, export and sale of pharmaceutical preparations containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.
96. The majority of countries reported that they had controls in place for the sale in the domestic market of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, and that the import and export of such chemicals was closely monitored to avoid and detect illicit use of the precursors.
97. In Brazil, the measures outlined in this recommendation were already in place.
98. Colombia reported that, since 2009, legislation had been adopted for the strict control of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, which led to the withdrawal from the domestic market of medicines containing these substances in 2010. Hospital use of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine as well controlled imports of the substances for manufacturing for export to third countries was maintained and regulated.
99. Ecuador reported that it maintained control and oversight of imports, exports and sales of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine. The National Council for the Control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (CONSEP) annually recorded and updated data collected on a monthly basis for all activities relating to the handling of the substances by pharmaceutical companies in Ecuador.
100. In El Salvador, because of the increase in cases of illicit trafficking and diversion of precursor substances and essential chemicals such as ephedrine, pseudoephedrine and phenylacetic acid, between 2009 and 2010, the Board of the Higher Council of Public Health adopted agreements on prohibition of the sale of these substances. In the operative sphere, the Ministry of Finance has coordinated actions with the authorities responsible for customs inspection, especially in relation to existing procedures for managing the import, export and sale of preparations of pharmaceuticals containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.

101. Guatemala adopted legislation for controlling the import, export and sales of pharmaceutical preparations that contained ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, through Government Agreement No. 39-2009 of 7 February 2009.

102. Jamaica reported that the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Ministry of National Security had been working to complete the Precursor Chemical Regulations to complement the Precursor Chemical Act of 1999, which was expected by September 2011. Administrative procedures had been implemented for importers of pharmaceuticals containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, which included completion of an authorization form for importing the chemicals and the audit of requests for imports and exports.

103. In Nicaragua, the regulatory agency was the Ministry of Health and the new Organized Crime Law established a comprehensive state control over the substances likely to be used in the manufacturing of illicit drugs, and so that they could be included in the list of monitoring and control, a function which was implemented in coordination with the Customs Service, the Directorate General of Revenue and the National Police through the Directorate of Drug Investigations, creating a functioning coordination that addressed health and governance interests on these issues of drug trafficking.

104. Portugal reported that regulatory and legislative measures were explicit in respect of plants, substances or preparations containing substances listed on tables I and II of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988 (1988 Convention), subject to criminal sanctions and, thus, controlled in Portuguese territory. The current Portuguese legal framework forbade and criminalized ephedrine and pseudoephedrine trafficking, however, the legislation regulating drug-trafficking contemplated the commercialization of these substances, provided it had been previously authorized through import and export declarations or that it was not intended for the illicit production or manufacture of drugs and psychotropic substances.

105. Trinidad and Tobago reported that the Cabinet approved Precursor Chemical Team was mandated with developing a bill and policy on national precursor chemical control. The Government, through its main coordinating agency, was in the process of advancing this comprehensive legislation package through the relevant stages, adhering to due process in order to ensure maximum stakeholder support.

106. Uruguay reported that legislation was in place for the implementation of the recommendation and that it applied the same controls on the import, export and sales of raw material as for pharmaceutical preparations that contained ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.

107. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reported that, in accordance with the substantive law on the subject, both substances were under control and that it was working on a joint resolution between the Ministries of Popular Power for Health and of the Interior and Justice for the purpose of expanding the scope of control.

Recommendation 9

108. It was recommended that Governments are encouraged to adopt a proactive approach to building the capacity of and providing training to chemical regulatory

authorities and drug law enforcement agencies so as to enhance their knowledge of scheduled and non-scheduled precursors, substances that may be diverted for use in the illicit manufacture of drugs.

109. Most countries reported that training activities were being developed and carried out for relevant authorities dealing with narcotics control, through inter-governmental cooperation between law enforcement and public health agencies.

110. In Brazil, the measures outlined in this recommendation were already in place.

111. Colombia stated that the National Narcotics Fund had listed N-methylephedrine and N-methylpseudoephedrine as monitored substances, prohibiting their use in medicines for the domestic market. The Fund had been conducting outreach and training activities particularly with the anti-narcotics police, establishing direct channels of communication to improve their knowledge and responsiveness.

112. Ecuador reported that CONSEP conducted on an annual basis training workshops for the sectors of society involved in the issue and promoting basic training on synthetic drugs and precursor chemicals, focusing on the problem of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine considering illegal use was being made of these substances.

113. In El Salvador, a meeting between the chemical industry and the Higher Council of Public Health was held in 2010 with the aim of imparting knowledge on precursors and chemical substances listed in the United Nations drug control treaties, as well as those not listed but being diverted to illicit use and to put into effect the International Narcotics Control Board Guidelines for a voluntary code of practice for the chemical industry. The Anti-Narcotics Division of the National Civil Police and the Higher Council of Public Health had implemented a programme of annual audits of the chemical industry for acquiring information on the use of imported chemicals. Trainings had also been carried out by the Customs Department for personnel of the Anti-narcotics Division and the Superior Council of Public Health.

114. In Guatemala, there were active service personnel in the Anti-narcotics Division in different regional headquarters for combating the illicit trafficking of precursor chemicals such as ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, who were aided by the Public Prosecution Service on related substantive legal matters.

115. In Jamaica, a precursor chemicals course was offered by the Caribbean Regional Drug Law Enforcement Centre to all relevant stakeholders concerned with precursor chemical control. This had been further complemented by recent international precursor chemical training afforded by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission and the UNODC in September 2010 and February 2011. Participants included government officials from the Ministry of Health (Drug Inspectors); the Jamaica Constabulary Force; the Jamaica Customs Department; and the Ministry of National Security (policymakers).

116. Nicaragua reported that authorities responsible for exercising administrative control, investigation and prosecution of illicit drugs had received training seminars related to the topic with the aim of improving their knowledge on precursor chemicals, but the activity constantly needed to be renewed due to the evolution of

the market of substances that were being innovated. The Ministry of Health was implementing new measures to regulate the chemical industry and the introduction to the country of precursors that could be used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.

117. In Portugal, the Judicial Police, as coordinating body to repress the phenomenon of trafficking in drugs and psychotropic substances, had been collaborating over the years at the international and national level in several training courses on the problem of precursors and on clandestine laboratories, receiving and spreading the best practices on approaching the phenomenon.

118. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago sought participation in capacity-building projects/programmes such as the Prevention of the Diversion of Drug Precursors in Latin America and the Caribbean Region (PRELAC) Project. Officials from the Ministry of Health, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Customs and Excise and Drug Law Enforcement Officers benefited from training in precursor chemical control and close cooperation with Jamaica was also maintained in this respect.

119. Uruguay was working on a project to sensitize authorities on the topic of precursors and on a capacity-building seminar on control of precursors.

120. In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, there was constant development of a training plan for the state security agencies, administrative authorities, chemical operators and administrators and operators of justice, which was clearly specified in the national drug control 2009-2013. A scientific study of chronic exposure to drugs had been developed, including substances used for cutting, to assess effects in the body. Training to staff had also been provided on the results of this study and interagency working groups were planned to develop control measures aimed at preventing the diversion of these substances.

Recommendation 10

121. It was recommended that Government should implement the outcomes, distributed at the Meeting, agreed upon by the International Precursor Control Symposium, held in Lima from 8 to 10 June 2010, on scheduled and non-scheduled precursors.

122. Some countries reported that they had not been able to implement the recommendation as they had not been present at the Symposium. Several countries reported that international cooperation was vital in controlling precursor imports and exports and monitoring their use.

123. In Brazil, the measures outlined in this recommendation were already in place.

124. Colombia reported that, although it was not a manufacturer of synthetic drugs, control was exercised over the relevant precursors in accordance with the National Statute for Drugs, and included in the so-called "Red List", prepared by INCB, of substances scheduled in Tables I and II of the 1988 Convention.

125. Ecuador reported it controlled and monitored scheduled chemicals and pharmaceuticals through CONSEP. Ecuador also reported that it housed the headquarters and presided over the Group of Experts on Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical Products of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission.

126. El Salvador reported that it had not implemented the recommendation, as it was not part of the Project for the Prevention of Diversion of Precursors of Drugs in Latin America and the Caribbean. In January 2011 a note had been transmitted to the UNODC Regional Office, expressing interest in participating in the project.

127. Guatemala reported that there had been positive results in the combat and control of chemical products and in the illicit trafficking of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.

128. The Government of Jamaica had developed Precursor Chemical Guidelines for the Industry as well as a stakeholders' meeting with importers, manufactures, and distributors at which the Guidelines were presented. Activities had commenced on the gathering of annual estimates of quantities of chemicals imported and for allowing the Ministry of Health to have data on all companies that stored and handled precursors.

129. In Nicaragua, the police coordinated with the Ministry of Health to ensure the control of substances and constant communication was maintained with Costa Rica and El Salvador for the same purpose. In the case of substances not subject to international control, the National Police maintained internal controls, promoting a culture of coordination and information sharing on the final destination of the chemicals, in conjunction with leading chemical-importing companies

130. In Portugal, during the last years, no significant seizures of precursors had been registered and there was no register of the dismantling of more sophisticated clandestine laboratories apart from the well-known rudimentary kitchen laboratories.

131. In Trinidad and Tobago, this recommendation had already been satisfied. There was mixed success in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem in order to achieve legal harmonization and cooperation with other countries through bilateral drug precursor control agreements.

132. Uruguay reported that it had not participated in the International Precursor Control Symposium.

133. In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, controls were applied to 32 substances, including 23 in the 1988 Convention and other chemicals used for the manufacture of cocaine.