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**Twenty-ninth Meeting of Heads of
National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies,
Latin America and the Caribbean**
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Draft report

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Addendum

Consideration of topics by working groups

(c) Improving the capacity of countries to detect emerging drug threats through early warning

1. The working group on the above topic met during the sixth meeting, held on 9 October 2019. In its consideration of the topic in question, the working group formulated the following observations:

(a) Exchanges of experiences on development of early warning systems are currently taking place between member countries;

(b) The exchange of trainings between member states, to improve their capabilities in the detection of emerging drugs and NPS is also been implemented;

(c) Strategies to address the threat that emerging drugs pose to the region should be Jointly develop;

(d) Several member states have begun to change their laws to deal with the problem of synthetic drugs. However, most require such legislative changes to address the above-mentioned threat.

2. The working group drew up the following conclusions:

(a) There is a need to strengthen cooperation between member states to address emerging drugs and NPS;

(b) Regional and international cooperation in training, information exchange and detection should be promoted in order to successfully address the problems that synthetic drugs and NPS represent.

* Available only in English, French and Spanish, which are the working languages of the subsidiary body.



3. The working group adopted the following recommendations:
- (a) Governments should continue to encourage the development of their early warning systems on new emerging drugs and NPS;
 - (b) Governments should continue to invest in training their forensic technical staff in the detection of synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances (NPS);
 - (c) Governments must strengthen the capacities of national forensic laboratories for the detection of new emerging drugs and NPS, by modernizing their equipment and analytical capabilities;
 - (d) Governments should continue to stimulate inter-agency and information-sharing work on emerging drugs and NPS, both nationally and internationally. They should also strengthen training in their law enforcement agencies in the recognition and detection of synthetic drugs and NPS, and provide them with detection and protection equipment for the management of synthetic drugs.
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