Reconvened Sixtieth Session
Commission on Narcotic Drugs

“The Drug Phenomena, its complex circumstances, evolving trends and persistent challenges; The perspective of a National Statistical Office”

Mario Palma
Vienna, Austria. December 2017
Joint efforts

- National Statistical Offices
- Government Ministries and Agencies
- UNSC
- CND
International efforts for better drug statistics
International efforts to generate better drug statistics (UNGASS, UNSC, CND, UNODC...)

01 UNGASS 2016

“Promote and improve the sharing, at the national and international levels, of reliable and comparable data on drug use and epidemiology” through 7 thematic chapters

02 THE ROADMAP

“Seeks to respond comprehensively to the call made by Member States in several instances to enhance the statistical information on drugs through a series of integrated objectives and activities.”

In 2017, the UNSC reviewed and recognized the statistical merits of the roadmap, commended it for the consideration of the CND to ensure harmonization with the policy directions of the CND”
UNODC, Member States and pertinent entities to continue to support Member States, upon request, in strengthening their capacity to develop their reporting mechanisms, including by identifying gaps in the current drug statistics and by exploring how to strengthen existing data collection and analysis tools at the National level and;

To reflect on possibilities to strengthen and streamline its existing data-collection and analysis tools, including improving and strengthening the quality, response rate, and effectiveness of the annual report questionnaire, and to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on possible ways to enhance these.

Statistical Commission decision 48/110 on statistics on drugs and drug use further encourages collaboration between the Statistical Commission and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, within their mandates, to exchange information on the latest data trends on the world drug problem and stresses the need for national statistical capacity-building to support Member States in improving the quality and availability of drug statistics and also to respond effectively to data collection requests from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and invites international and regional organizations to support Member States in this regard, upon their request.
NSOs and the production of drugs statistics
National Statistical Offices’ remit is to produce information on relevant economic and social phenomena;

This information should be useful to the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies;

Based on the Fundamental Principles for Official Statistics, NSOs have the technical expertise to ensure the best possible outcome when producing drug statistics.
Challenges to produce drug statistics: The case of Mexico
INEGI’s work is based on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, approved unanimously by the member States of the United Nations at the General Assembly (29 January 2014);

In 2008, INEGI became an autonomous agency. That same year the Subsystem of Government, Public Security and Justice information was created.

INEGI serves as;

Producer of Official Statistics and;

Coordinator of the National System of Information, engaging with other producers and users of statistical information to create an integral statistical system.
Challenges to produce drug statistics in which INEGI is currently working

- Under-reporting consumption
- Identifying changing trends
- Definition and measurement
If we compare the estimates of people witnessing drug consumption around their neighbourhood with the estimate of drug consumption from self-reporting surveys, we get the following picture:

- **2011**: People Witnessing Drug Consumption around their Neighborhood (ENVIPE) - 41.5%, Drug Consumption Estimates During Previous Year (ENA/ENCODAT) - 1.5%
- **2016**: People Witnessing Drug Consumption around their Neighborhood (ENVIPE) - 46%, Drug Consumption Estimates During Previous Year (ENA/ENCODAT) - 2.7%
Identifying changing and unexpected trends

Drug Statistics from Censuses

- INEGI’s National Census on Justice Prosecution at State Level (CNPJE) allows to identify the trend of crimes associated with drug dealing in small quantities;

- Since 2016, this instrument allows us to know the number of cases of drug trafficking in small quantities by type of drug;

Percentage of the higher four drugs related to drug trafficking in small quantities (2016):

- Heroin: 3.4%
- Meth: 22%
- Cocaine: 16%
- Marijuana: 56%
INEGI partnered with researchers from the Mexican Centre for the Research and Teaching of Economics (CIDE) to undertake:

1. Analysis of drug consumption surveys
   Impact of methodology definition

2. Propose new indicators
   Which can allow us to address the under reporting problem

3. Analyse Best Practices
   Identify what Works better
What is next?
During 2018 INEGI will keep promoting the production and dissemination of drug statistics through the development of a pilot survey and the National Survey on Consumers of Psychotropic Substances (ECOSUP).

The United Nations Statistical Commission and the United Nations Commission on Narcotics Drugs: Develop joint efforts on technical issues on what we need to measure and recommendations on how we need to do it to further build the capacities of countries.