



Federal Republic of Nigeria



Operational Recommendations on Supply Reduction and Related Measures; Effective Law Enforcement, Responses to Drug Related Crime and Countering Money Laundering and Promoting Judicial Cooperation

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Overview

Nigeria has continued to sustain and improve its drug control efforts. With increasingly new sophisticated methods in production and trafficking of illicit drugs, the Nigerian Government has stepped up its efforts in supply and demand reduction as well as improving access and monitoring of controlled medicines for palliative care. Cannabis sativa still remains the most widely used illicit drug in Nigeria and has become more popular among the youthful population. The illicit diversion of Ephedrine and the local manufacturing of Methamphetamines and other psychotropic substances continue to remain a grave concern. In recent times, the use of **Khat** is becoming more widespread and a cause for worry. Similarly, of equal concern is the continuous discovery of new Methamphetamine laboratories in the country.



Overview

To address all the above concerns, the government has put in place a drug control policy called “**The National Drug Control Master Plan**” (NDCMP). The NDCMP is a five-year plan that serves as a platform for the Inter Ministerial Committee on Drug Control (IMC) comprising of relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies of government that have roles to play in drug control.

The NDCMP is hinged on three strategic pillars for effective control. These are:

- ✓ **Law Enforcement,**
- ✓ **Drug Demand Reduction and Access &**
- ✓ **Control for Narcotic Drugs for Medical and Scientific Purposes.**



Supply Reduction and Related Matters

- ▶ The Government has ratified all the United Nations Drugs and Crime conventions; it has also enacted a comprehensive anti-drug legislation to enhance effectiveness and coordination of drug and organized crime, which is also being reviewed. Drug control is crucial to crime reduction; hence effective drug control operates on the platform of shared responsibility. The priority of government is to move from reactive to intelligence led policing and capacity building operations.
- ▶ The trend in the traffic of **Methamphetamine** shows more **“outbound”** of these substances at our points of entry and exit, final destinations include South Africa, Spain, Malaysia, Thailand and China. Ephedrine seizures were mostly those diverted from licit use. While other precursors seized were mostly from Indian, Japan, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Thailand and United Arab Emirates.



Supply Reduction and Related Matters

The seizure of methamphetamine and precursor chemical signifies the existence of clandestine laboratories.

Between January 2015 to December 2016, five (5) laboratories were identified. Three (3) of these clandestine laboratories were found to use ephedrine as the raw material/precursor chemicals.

We however, discovered that because of the stricter control by National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and National Agency for Food and Drug Control (NAFDAC) on precursor chemicals and other psychotropic substances, the fourth laboratory used pre-precursor and pre-pre-precursors as well as other non-control chemicals for the meth manufacturing.

The use of pre-precursors and other non-controlled chemicals signifies complex challenges in addressing clandestine meth manufacturing for the country.



Seized – Meth & Precursor Chemicals

51kg of Ephedrine Hydrochloride seized



175Kg of Meth concealed inside Wheat Flour



Cannabis Cultivation Control Efforts & Challenges

Although there are improved efforts in Cannabis farms destruction, Government's control interventions are not without peculiar challenges, as operations are both hazardous and cumbersome.

Farmlands are located in very remote forests; with hostilities from villagers leading to mob attacks during operations. This is further compounded by the stockpiling of arms by drug barons that continues to put law enforcement officers at high risk.



Mode of Concealment and Trafficking

The mode of transportation of these illicit substances include road, air, sea and postal services. Experience shows the use of variety modes of concealment, which include the use of bags for foodstuffs, spare parts and handbags among others.





Mode of Concealment and Trafficking



Use of Postal Services

The use of postal services as means of transporting illicit substances is also worrisome. The government is collaborating with courier service organizations in the country in order to establish a close partnership in this area of drug control. Between 2015 – 2016 an estimate of 1650.24kg of illicit drugs were trafficked through courier services. One of the control strategies established with these courier companies is having law-enforcement officers work within the courier organizations.



Drug-Related Arrests and Seizures

SEIZURES IN KGS BETWEEN 2014 TO 2016

Drug type	2014	2015	2016	Total
Cannabis sativa	158, 852.20	871,480.32	187,394	1,217,726.52
Cannabis farmland	4,529.15	377.12	718.78	5,625.05
Meth	119.20	410.82	1,352.56	1,882.58
Ephedrine	35.8	785.10	718.26	1,539.16
Amphetamine	0.05	4.83	-	4.88
Cocaine	226.04	260.47	305.166	791.676
Heroin	56.45	30.09	66.283	152.823
Khat	-	1,000	65.70	1,065.7
Others	7,562.49	31,442.86	79,826.04	108,831.39
TOTAL	171,381.38	905,791.61	270,446.789	1,347,619.78

A new type of drug - Khat was discovered in the country during the period under consideration



Drug Arrest...

ARREST BETWEEN JANUARY 2014 TO 2016

ARREST	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
2014	8,332	494	8, 826
2015	8,143	635	8,778
2016	7,720	537	8,257
TOTAL	24,195	1,666	25,861

Prosecution Records 2014 – 2016

Nigeria prosecuted a total of 6089 cases with 6000 convictions and 79 cases were discharged, acquitted and struck out.

PROSECUTION RECORDS

YEAR	TOTAL
2014	2,054
2015	1,690
2016	2,256
TOTAL	6,000



Emerging Trends and Concerns

New Psychoactive Substance in Nigeria.

- ▶ **Datura Metel**, locally known as **Zakami**, is a widely abused plant material with psychoactive properties. The plant has been identified to contain a variety of psychotropic tropane alkaloids such as **Scopolamine** and **atropine** which possess exciting, relaxing or hallucinogenic properties when taken in large quantities. The whole plant, especially the seed and leaves have anaesthetic, hallucinogenic, narcotic, hypnotic, anti-spasmodic, anti-tussive, bronchodilator, anodyne and mydriatic effects.
- ▶ **Scopolamine** is a central nervous system depressant at therapeutic doses. Adverse effects of scopolamine including blurred vision, dry mouth, flushed appearance, irritability, anxiety and insomnia. **Atropine**, on the other hand is a central nervous system stimulant. The plant is also, sometimes, used by criminals to poison their victims in order to sedate them and make them pliable to suggestions.



Emerging Trends and Concerns

Due to the psychoactive and social effects of the use of Datura Metel, it is important to control the propagation and use of the plant through National and International scheduling. The challenge, however, is that further research need to be conducted on the isolated psychoactive components of the plant and the whole plant so as to make a strong case for scheduling of the plant we are working on this with National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD).

Pharmaceuticals Containing Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

Nigeria established national administrative measures for the control of misuse of pharmaceutical substances. Based on these measures, some of the pharmaceuticals containing narcotics and psychotropic substances have been classified as “subscription only medicine” while some of them now require import permit for their importation and distribution. The drugs under national control include tramadol, Codeine containing syrup. The seizures made between 2014 to 2016 was estimated at 108,831.39kg.

Emerging Trends...

SAMPLES OF VARIOUS PSCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES SEIZED RECENTLY



17,087KG OF TRAMADOL STASHED IN A WARE HOUSE IN KANO



OTHER LARGE SEIZURES OF TRAMADOL IN KANO STATE OF NIGERIA



1,295kg OF CODEINE SYRUP





Countering Money Laundering and Other Criminal Activities

- ▶ The Drug Control Masterplan 2015–2019 adequately provides for cooperation among Law Enforcement Agencies to build capacity in anti-money laundering strategies, assets tracing, seizures and forfeiture of drugs related proceeds, criminal wealth of drug suppliers and producers are forfeited to the government. Drug intelligence data base is also been upgraded to produce actionable intelligence in order to disrupt and dismantle drug trafficking networks.
- ▶ As part of the Nation's strategic initiative to combat money laundering / terrorist financing, the country initiated an Inter-Agency Taskforce, which is saddled with the responsibility of improving coordination and partnership amongst participating agencies in the areas of investigation, prosecution, sharing ideas and information.



Countering Money Laundering and Other Criminal Activities

- ▶ The collaborating Agencies, working on anti-money laundering include:
 - ❖ The Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money laundering in West Africa (GIABA)
 - ❖ Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU)
 - ❖ Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC)
 - ❖ Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC)
 - ❖ Technical Unit on Governance & Anti-Corruption Reforms (TUGAR) etc.
- ▶ Nigeria Government has also established an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorism, with stakeholders comprising of government agencies, financial institutions, and other designated non-financial institutions and businesses.



Challenges

- ▶ The criminal groups are taking serious advantage of weak legislations on control of chemicals in West Africa.
- ▶ There is a lot of diversion of chemicals, especially by companies that are granted permits to import chemicals into the region.
- ▶ The Nigerian NDLEA recently discovered that Nigeria Meth producers and traffickers import a lot of precursor chemicals (Ephedrine Hydrochloride) from other West African. Countries that have imported in excess of needs in the countries.



Conclusion

Nigeria remains steadfast and committed to the fight against drug menace. The country also welcomes collaboration and is open to deepening ties in areas of International cooperation to achieve sustained drug control in Africa.

Thank you for
listening