

FORUM: UNODC

TOPIC: Imposing and strengthening legal frameworks to combat Mexican Drug Cartels and their transnational threats.

SUBMITTED BY: Australia

CO SUBMITTERS: Saudi Arabia, European Union, France, Nigeria

SIGNATORIES: Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Mexico, New Zealand, Palestine, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Uruguay, Vietnam

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME,

Realizing the threats and deaths caused by Mexican drug cartels,

Emphasising the detrimental impact that Mexican drug Cartels have on nations outside Mexico and the international implications of that,

Recognising that the issue requires international cooperation and cannot be solved on a national level,

Having studied the immense negative impacts of drug use and their dangerous to human lives,

Seeking support and cooperation of all member nations in combatting this prevalent issue,

1. *Strongly urges* for development of better international cooperation between all member nations, through means such as, but not limited to:
 - a. Implementing international tracking systems of drugs and substances produced and transported between countries,
 - b. Establishing international intelligence sharing platforms in order to:
 - i. Easier spot drugs being transported illegally,
 - ii. Gain insight on drugs being produced and transported legally to easier differentiate illicit drug traffic,
 - iii. Improve information on common traffic routes,
 - c. Putting into place joint international task-forces and teams to actively combat cartels and illicit drug traffic,
 - d. Further investment and development of technology used to investigate and combat cartels through means such as:
 - i. Digital tracking systems,
 - ii. Intelligence sharing platforms;
2. *Requests* the strengthening and improving of border control / security through means such as, but not limited to:

- a. Scanning all goods crossing borders in ways such as, but not limited to:
 - i. X-rays,
 - ii. Random searches,
 - iii. Chemical and biological testing,
 - b. Requiring documentation for any imports or overseas / cross-border deliveries,
 - c. Implementing risk profiling technology to:
 - i. Flag risky transports for inspection,
 - ii. Identify patterns and spot potential smuggling,
 - d. Carrying out extensive background checks on individuals attempting to transport large quantities of goods or suspicious materials,
 - e. Putting into place risk-profiling technology to identify areas/individuals of high risk to be further scanned or investigated;
3. *Supports* technological innovation in the fight to combat this issue, including:
 - a. AI-powered container and cargo scanning in ports, by:
 - i. Automated image analysis of scans,
 - ii. Predictive risk profiling,
 - iii. Identifying patterns in large data sets,
 - iv. Detecting document fraud,
 - v. Real-time integration with sensors and IoT,
 - b. biometric verification for border crossings,
 - c. UAV/drone patrols in remote border regions,
 - d. cross-border digital forensic laboratories to analyse seized cartel electronics;
4. *Encourages* the strengthening of legal frameworks to help combat drug cartels, such as:
 - a. Creating and establishing international laws for addressing and dealing with ongoing crises such as:
 - i. smuggling across borders,
 - ii. Punishments,
 - iii. Tracking,
 - b. Unifying the punishments for illicit drug trafficking, dealing and usage, according to severity, for example:
 - i. Fines,
 - ii. Community service,
 - iii. Probation,
 - iv. Prison time,
 - v. Life imprisonment,
 - c. Establishing shared definitions of “transnational drug trafficking,” “precursor diversion,” and “organized criminal participation”,
 - d. Encouraging Member States to adopt mutual legal assistance treaties (MLATs),
 - i. With fast-track procedures for evidence exchange,
 - ii. With guarantees for due process while enabling efficient cross-border investigations;
5. *Establishes* the International Framework on Transnational Drug Cartels (IFTDC) under UNODC consisting of:

- a. A legal harmonisation working group to draft modCel legislation on cartel-related crimes, including, but not limited to:
 - i. Drug trafficking,
 - ii. Money laundering,
 - iii. Human trafficking,
 - iv. Murder,
 - b. A mutual legal assistance task force formed of member countries to streamline extraditions and cross-border investigations,
 - c. A compliance review panel to assess state progress in implementing strengthened counter-cartel frameworks;
- 6. *Proposes* developments of technology and means to control and stop the financial aspects of cartels through means such as, but not limited to:
 - a. Establishing agreements and connections with banks in order to help prevent cartel and illicit trafficking through methods such as:
 - i. Reporting any suspicious behaviours / transactions,
 - ii. Asset freezing on accounts suspected of criminal activity/behaviour,
 - iii. Blocking accounts known to be connected with organised crime activity,
 - b. Furthering control over alternative / online currencies through heavier monitoring of activity;
- 7. *Calls upon* member nations to address the root cause and place additional support in:
 - a. Providing education to individuals in impoverished areas through means such as:
 - i. Access to free public education,
 - ii. Building facilities for education and training,
 - iii. Recruiting teachers and training individuals to work in areas with high crime,
 - iv. Providing scholarships and financial support,
 - v. Implementing digital solutions and access to online learning resources,
 - vi. Partnership with NGOs and/or businesses to help bring education to less privileged/at-risk areas,
 - b. Developing more employment opportunities for individuals from areas in high-risk of crime, such as but not limited to:
 - i. Encourages collaboration with NGOs to provide apprenticeships and job opportunities for those with more or less formal training,
 - ii. Supports the encouragement of entrepreneurship and local businesses being established in the aforementioned areas,
 - iii. Digitally accessed jobs that can be done remotely for individuals without the means of maintaining an average in-person job,
 - c. anti-corruption training and judicial integrity programmes;
- 8. *Recommends* the support of individuals affected by Mexican drug cartels such as:
 - a. Funding for rehabilitation of individuals injured,
 - b. Support and counselling of families of those injured or killed in the criminal activities,

- c. Providing additional funding / support of governments of nations struggling due to illicit criminal activity or drugs smuggling,
 - d. Aid businesses struggling/collapsing due to lack of interest or struggles caused by crime/cartel activity;
9. *Calls for* stronger action to limit the resources Mexican drug cartels depend on by:
- a. Controlling chemicals most commonly used by cartels use to make drugs by:
 - i. keeping a shared list of companies that sell or ship these chemicals,
 - ii. checking for large or suspicious orders,
 - iii. reporting suspicious shipments to other countries,
 - b. Reducing the weapons cartels receive by:
 - i. tracing guns that are found in cartel operations,
 - ii. sharing data on stolen guns and gun parts,
 - iii. adding more checks at ports and border areas known for smuggling,
 - c. Improving technology for law enforcement by:
 - i. using satellite images to spot hidden labs used to make drugs,
 - ii. providing officers tools to quickly check risky shipments.