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INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE  
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**CICAD**

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DRUG CONTROL AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGIC SECURITY PLAN  
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SURINAME

**“Drug Control as an  
Integral part of the  
National Strategic Security Plan”**

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Washington D.C., USA  
3 May 2010

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# 1. Outline

- Importance of Security
- Threats to Global Security
- Security threats in Suriname
- Drugs policy
- Suriname's integrated approach and its results
- Recommendations

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## Importance of Security

- Essential condition for the development of humankind, nations and communities
- A community living in fear will not develop beyond its basic needs of safety
- A guarantee for a stable future for our children
- The development of a nation and the investment climate depends on the existence of sustained security

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## National Security Strategy

- Focuses on eliminating all kinds of threats
- On the level of individual citizens and community level
- With nation-building as an integral part
- Concerns all government bodies and most private and community-based organizations

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## Threats to global security

1. Drugs and drug-related crimes
2. Transnational organized and related crime (firearms, human trafficking)
3. Institutionalization of corruption
4. International terrorism
5. Increase of poverty
6. Environmental threats
7. Health threats
8. Cyber crime
9. Local threats

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## Manifestation of security threats on three levels

- Security threats at the level of individuals
- Security threats at the level of the community
- Security threats at the level of government

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## Security threats at the level of individuals

- Poor food and water: starvation, diseases and illnesses
- Drugs and crime
- Obsolete electricity and warning devices: fire threat
- Poor security in and around schools: harassment of children and teachers
- Deteriorating nature and environment: the earth will no longer provide for us
- Bad public health: diabetes, obesity, heart disease, high costs

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## Security threats at the level of the community

- Drug-related gangs and violence
- Sabotage on transmission and distribution system of important key points of the infrastructure and energy supply system
- Bomb alert ( shopping centers, important government buildings and other crowded places)
- Explosions (tanker in the harbor, bus station, plane crash, airport, ammunition bunker)
- Health (epidemics)
- Environmental threats, including man-made and natural disasters

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## Security threats at the level of government

- No overall security? Then no foreign investments, no growth of economy, less money to pay for security, less security and so on
- Underworld links to the “upper world” of power and influence
  - Public officials crime and corruption prone
  - Negative impacts of drugs on constitutional state
  - Implementation of legislation lagging behind due to lack of expertise to implement legislation dealing with new threats e.g. terrorism

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## **Actions against security threats in Suriname**

- n Analyze the threats to the rule of law, judicial system, law enforcement, resulting in a “Legal Protection and Security Plan”
- n Identifying all threat areas, leading to the “National Strategic Security Plan”

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## **Consequences of the drug problem on government policy**

- n Social destabilization
- n Negative impact on political systems
- n Financing terrorism
- n Violating sovereignty and territorial integrity

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## Elements of Suriname policy on drugs

- n **The drug control policy should be integrated in the development strategy of the country**
- n **The drug control should be part of the national security strategy in the country**
- n **To be properly prepared for the many threats Suriname has to consider the preventive side as well as the repressive side**
- n **As a consequence of drug-related crime more state spending on security**

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## Measures and results of Suriname against multiple security threats

- Implementation of the Policy Plan Sector “Legal Protection and Security 2006-2010”
- Evaluation of the results:
  - Significant decrease of drugs smuggling;
  - Violent crime under control;
  - Murder rate decreased;
  - Decrease in drug-related crime

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## International measures

- Ratification of all relevant international and regional conventions and programs (UN, OAS, CARICOM)
- Structural collaborations on all levels
- Intensive cooperation with neighboring and other countries

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## Strategy and Objectives

- To meet the situation in which legally authorized government bodies in joint efforts can provide facilities and take proper actions
- To prevent, minimize or eliminate security threats
- To provide adequate protection to the country
- Citizens feel secure and stable in general, orderly society
- Sustainable development and well-being of nation and people
- International respect and recognition

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## Elements of the National Strategic Security Plan of Suriname

- Total involvement of stakeholders on security (governmental, non-governmental and others)
- Definition of the areas of security threats in the Suriname situation in an integrated and coordinated way with a balanced approach
- Determination of 8 priority areas of security threats (domains )

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## 8 domains covered in the National Strategic Security Plan

1. Insecurity of the State system
2. Insecurity due to drugs and crime
3. Insecurity by the energy sector
4. Insecurity in nature and environment
5. Insecurity of food and food handling
6. Insecurity in the domain of public health
7. Insecurity in the domain of fire
8. Insecurity in and around schools

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## Elements of National Strategic Security Plan of Suriname (cont'd)

- Approval of the plan by Council of Ministers and President with budget and legislation
- Appointment of a Security Board (Institute) to monitor implementation
- Establishment of a special parliamentary commission on security
- A pilot project on integrated security is currently piloted by a multidisciplinary team in one of the troubled suburbs of the capital (Latour )

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## Implementation and funding

- Attention to integral efforts at all levels
- Security issues fit in several containers, making financing a problem
- Multi-annual program
- Special budget for security control
- Multidisciplinary budgeting

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## Results

- Functioning of the Constitutional State improved
- Principle of rule of law strengthened
- Law enforcement improved and more effective
- Lowest crime rate in the region
- Drug supplies and transit stemmed
- Image as drug transit country waning

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## Recommendations

- Countries address and eliminate the drug problem with actions within the framework of a National Strategic Security Plan
- Action plan approved by the Council of Ministers
- Implementation by a National Security Institution
- Establishment of a parliamentary security commission for security control

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## Quote:

“ As part of a balanced approach, drug policy must be brought into the mainstream of efforts to promote security and development”

*Antonio Maria Costa,  
Executive Director UNODC*

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# THANK YOU

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