



THE NEWSLETTER



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GRENADA PARTICIPATES IN REGIONAL SEMINAR

Five Officers from Grenada participated in the seminar, '*Seminar on Internet Sales of Drugs*', held 21 to 25 September 2009, in The Bahamas. The Seminar was part of technical assistance being provided by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), in response to its recommendation, '*Carry out research and training activities related to the prevention and control of illicit traffic of pharmaceutical products and other drugs via the internet, which will enable the country to identify its regulatory and operative needs*', which was issued to all its member states during the Fourth Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), 2005 to 2006.

Issues addressed at the Seminar included: internet basic principles, investigation of electronic mail and other investigative methods, live chat and tactical behavior. Participants also engaged in several practical sessions, case studies and discussions.

This seminar is of paramount importance to Grenada, as it lays the groundwork for the implementation of appropriate mechanism to deal with any matters pertaining to the sale of drugs via the internet.

At the Fifth Annual General Meeting of the Grenada Drug Information Network (GRENDIN), held on 11 December 2008, Mr. Darshan Ramdhani, Senior Crown Council in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, presented a paper on the subject, '*Legal Implications For The Prevention And Control Of Illicit Traffic Of Pharmaceutical Products And Other Drugs Via The Internet in Grenada*'. This presentation examined the legal and administrative framework which would be required to adequately address this issue. This presentation was in response to CICAD's recommendation, mentioned earlier. One of the matters to be further explored in 2010 is the possible establishment of a Cyber Crime Unit/Special Internet Task Force, comprising of Law Enforcement Agencies.

Participating countries were: The Bahamas, Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. The seminar was conducted by CICAD and INTERPOL.



Superintendent Rodriguez at Seminar

THANKS

The Drug Control Secretariat wishes to thank the Government and people of Grenada, and all local, regional and international Organizations, for their financial and technical support in 2009. We are most grateful for your steadfast support. Your assistance has redounded to the success of our anti-drug initiatives. We look forward to your assistance in 2010.

OUR MISSION

The Drug Control Secretariat would endeavour to create an atmosphere of non-tolerance towards drugs, through the implementation of appropriate programmes, which would promote the well-being of all persons in the State of Grenada.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Dave Alexander, Drug Control Officer

The successful conclusion of the Sixth Annual Meeting of the Grenada Drug Information Network (GREN DIN), is yet another clear signal by the Government of Grenada of its commitment in the campaign against drugs and related problems. When GREN DIN was established on 11 December 2002, the issue was raised about its viability and sustainability. This issue was uppermost in the minds of the Officials at the workshop which established GREN DIN.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of GREN DIN, is evidence that GREN DIN has developed and maintained an active and formidable presence in the national anti-drug campaign. At the commencement of the Fifth Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), GREN DIN contributed over ninety (90) percent of the statistical information requested in the MEM Indicators. Further, the network of Officers which has developed as a result of GREN DIN, enabled the Drug Control Secretariat, which is the National Coordinating Entity (NCE) for the MEM in Grenada, to complete and submit the MEM Indicators, several days ahead of the deadline established by CICAD.

GREN DIN has proven that it has made a significant contribution to the National drug control programme!

MARCH AGAINST DRUGS

Officers of the Drug Control Secretariat participated in two Anti-Drug Rallies, organized by the Grenada Conference of Seventh Day Adventist, in September 2009. On 20 September, the first Rally was held, as a joint initiative of the New Hampshire Development Committee, supported by Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF) and members of the Pathfinders of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Mrs. Elizabeth Japal, Assistant Drug Control Officer gave the feature address at the Rally. In her presentation, she presented information on the nature and extent of the drug situation in Grenada. She also outlined the consequences of drug use and its impact on the society. Mrs. Japal also encouraged the participants to live healthy drug-free lives.

Meanwhile, a 'Mega Rally' was held in the parish of St. John's on 27 September 2009, in which hundreds of young people marched in opposition to drugs and violence. Mr. Dave Alexander of the Drug Control Secretariat addressed the rally. In his remarks, he addressed the local and regional situation on drugs and violence and challenged the young people to continue with their support of the national drug control programme. Feature address at the rally was given by Pastor Clive Dottin, Youth Director of the Caribbean Union of Seventh day Adventist, from Trinidad and Tobago.

GREN DIN CONVENES ANNUAL MEETING

The Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Grenada Drug Information Network (GREN DIN), was held on 4 December 2009. Issues discussed at the meeting included: 'Accomplishments of GREN DIN for 2008', 'Status of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)', and 'Seminar on the Sale of Drugs via the Internet'. GREN DIN's schedule of activities for the year 2010 was also presented and adopted.

The highlight of the meeting was a presentation by Dr. Cecilia Hegamin-Younger, Associate Professor of Biostatistics, Department of Public Health, St. George's University. The presentation focused drug-related statistics for the period 1988 to 2008, and examined economic factors which influenced the drug trade.

The text of Dr. Younger's presentation can be viewed at www.gov.gd/ncodc.html



Dr. Cecilia Hegamin-Younger, at GREN DIN Meeting, 4 December 2009

PHOTOS...WORTH MORE THAN A THOUSAND WORDS



Grenada Seventh Day Adventist Pathfinders Rally Against Drugs, 27 September 2009



Dave Alexander at Drug Information Workshop, 29 to 30 October 2009, Jamaica



Mr. Benedict Newton & ASP Vannie Curwen at Seminar on Sale of Drugs via The Internet, The Bahamas 21 to 25 September,

**‘Living Drug Free’
a half hour television
program on
GIS Television
Channel 12,
Tuesdays & Thursdays at
5: 30 p.m.**

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IN THE NEWS

Grenada made a submission for possible technical assistance to enable the country's full participation in the United Nations convention against corruption. The submission was made during a workshop in Canada, 29 September to 1 October 2009. Grenada's representatives Ms. Cyrilla Steele, Foreign Service Officer at the ministry of foreign Affairs, and Detective Inspector Senneth Joseph, Officer in Charge of the Financial Intelligence Unit gave an account of the island's anti-cor-



ruption policies and measures. They also outlined steps being taken towards ratifying or acceding to the UN Convention against corruption. Although Grenada is a party to the Inter American Convention against Corruption, it is not yet a signatory to the UN Convention against Corruption.

Grenada's Commissioner to the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), Mr. Dave Alexander attended the Forty-Sixth Regular Session of the CICAD (CICAD 46), convened 18 to 20 November 2009, in Miami, USA.

Officers attached to Drug Squad and Special Services Unit arrested and charged two Grenadians on 3 October 2009 for the offence of possession and trafficking of two hundred and eight pounds of Cannabis. The following items which were found in their possession: a cash amounting to \$9,266.50 ECC, one Suzuki Escudo van, registration number PAA371 and one boat. One of the persons arrested was also charged for possession of a controlled drug within one hundred yards of a school.



Meanwhile, 2,651 cannabis plants were eradicated by the Drug Squad on 1 October 2009, in a single operation. No one was arrested and charged for cultivation of the plants

A British national was arrested and charged for the possession and trafficking of 3.62 kg. of cocaine on 15 October 2009. In another drug bust, five nationals of St. Vincent and the Grenadines were arrested and charged for possession and trafficking of 5.44 kg. of marijuana, also on 15 October 2009.



Crime Stopper!

Call Hotline: 444-1958

Mrs. Elizabeth Japal, Assistant Drug Control Officer of the Drug Control Secretariat made two presentations on the topic, 'Drugs and Their Effects on the Human Body,' to Secondary School students on the 23 and 24 October, 2009 respectively. The first presentation was made at a Youth Camp organized by the Ministry of Education in collaboration with UNESCO, for Secondary students who exhibit behaviours which may put them among the high risk and vulnerable groups in the society. The second presentation was done at the St. George's University, at a Drug Awareness Retreat, organized by the LEO Club of Grenada.



Participants at the Drug Awareness Retreat, 24 October 2009

Visit the Drug Control Secretariat on-line!
www.gov.gd/ncodc.html

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