



TENTH ANNUAL MEETING;
GRENADA DRUG EPIDEMIOLOGY NETWORK
&
NATIONAL OBSERVATORY ON DRUGS
(GRENDEN & NOD),

23 JANUARY 2014

Theme:

**Analysis of the Nature and Extent of the Drug
Situation In Grenada:
1 January to 30 June 2012 & 1 January to 30 June 2013**

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Greetings, Drug Control Secretariat

The Drug Control Secretariat welcomes you to the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Grenada Drug Epidemiology Network & National Observatory On Drugs (GRENDEN-NOD). We are delighted that you have joined us for this historic meeting.

This meeting observes the eleventh anniversary of GRENDEN. It was on 11 December 2002, at the meeting, **'Network To improve Recording, Exchange And Comparability Of Data Between Agencies'**, at which GRENDEN was established. This meeting was the culmination of a series of consultations with institutions involved in the collection of drug-related statistics, held between August and November 2002.

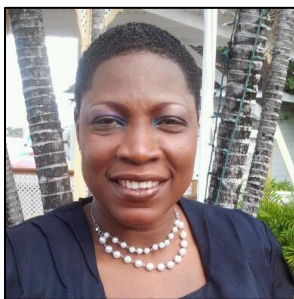
The theme for this meeting is, **'An Analysis of the Nature and Extent of the Drug Situation In Grenada: 1 January to 30 June 2012 and 1 January to 30 June 2013'**. This analysis would be done by Officers from the Ministries/Departments who compile the GRENDEN Statistical Report of Indicators.

The Drug Control Secretariat expresses thanks to all Officers from Ministries and Departments who have provided data, during the period 2002 to 2013. We also wish to thank the Media (electronic, print and internet) who have assisted immensely in the dissemination of GRENDEN's data. Special thanks to the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), which has provided financial and technical assistance to GRENDEN. CICAD has used GRENDEN as a, **'model'** in the Caribbean. Thanks to everyone who has assisted in the development of GRENDEN.

Be assured of our best wishes. Thank you.



Dave Alexander
Drug Control Officer



Elizabeth Japal
Assistant Drug Avoidance Officer



Carvell Lambert-Bartholomew
Secretary

Agenda, Tenth Annual Meeting, GRENDEN

Invocation: Mrs. Veronica Alexander, Medical Technologist, Laboratory, General Hospital

Introduction of Participants

Remarks: Mr. Dave Alexander, Drug Control Officer, Drug Control Secretariat

Reports:

1.1 Report: Ninth Annual General Meeting Of The Grenada Drug Epidemiology Network (GRENDEN), 7 December 2012; Elizabeth Japal, Assistant Drug Avoidance Officer; Drug Control Secretariat

1.2 Status: Results of the Third Secondary Schools' Drug Prevalence Survey; Dr. Cecilia Younger, Professor of Biostatistics, St. George's University

1.3 Sixth Evaluation Round Of The Multilateral Evaluation (MEM); Dave Alexander, General Coordinator, MEM

Address: Honourable Anthony Boatswain, Minister for Education and Human Resource Development

Presentations: Analysis Of The Nature And Extent Of The Drug Situation In Grenada: 1 January To 30 June 2012 And 1 January To 30 June 2013:

Panel 1: Drug Consumption:
Rathdune Unit (Admissions)
Carlton House (Admissions)
Mt, Gay Psychiatric Hospital (Admissions)
Medical Records Office (Admissions)

Panel 2: Consequences of Drugs:
Her Majesty's Prisons (Incarceration)
Financial Intelligence Unit (Financial Crimes)
Criminal Investigation Department (Criminal Deportees)

Panel 3: Consequences of Drugs:
Customs and Excise Department (Seizures)
Criminal Records Office/Drug Squad (Seizures, Arrests, Firearms)

Panel 4: Results of Policy and/or Program Responses:
Pharmacy Unit (Control of Diversion of Pharmaceuticals and Controlled Chemical Substances)
Produce Chemist Laboratory (Tests for Presence of Drugs)

Vote of Thanks: Elizabeth Japal, Assistant Drug Avoidance Officer; Drug Control Secretariat, Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development

Adjournment

Report, Ninth Annual Meeting, GRENDEN

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Grenada Drug Epidemiology Network and the National Observatory On Drugs (GRENDEN & NOD), was held on 7 December 2012, at Coyaba Beach Resort, Grand Anse, St. George's. The meeting was held under the theme, '**GRENDEN: Celebrating Ten Years of Data, 2002 to 2012.**' It commenced at 9:45 a.m. and concluded at 11:25 a.m.

Invocation:

Reverend Deacon Cecil St. Louis, Representative, Conference of Churches, Grenada, delivered the Invocation.

Remarks:

Mr. Dave Alexander, Drug Control Officer, Drug Control Secretariat, delivered welcome remarks. He extended special welcome to the Honourable Prime Minister Tillman Thomas, Senator the Honourable Franka Alexis-Bernadine (Minister for Education and Human Resource Development) and Ambassador Terence Craig, Organization of American States (OAS) Representative, Grenada. Mr. Alexander expressed thanks on behalf of the Drug Control Secretariat, to all Officers from Ministries and Departments who have provided data to GRENDEN, during the period 2002 to 2012. He also thanked the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), which provided financial and technical assistance to GRENDEN, and the St. George's University, and in particular Dr. Cecilia Younger, who partnered with GRENDEN, and assisted in several research projects and data analysis.

Remarks:

Senator the Honourable Franka Alexis-Bernadine, Minister for Education and Human Resource Development, extended congratulations on behalf of the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, to GRENDEN, in recognition of its tenth anniversary. The Minister noted that this was a significant milestone, both for Grenada and the Caribbean. She indicated that GRENDEN has been a source of accurate, reliable and timely information on several aspects of drug control, and to advise on drug trends, and policy formulation. Through the use of its twelve Indicators, GRENDEN was in an excellent position to monitor the drug situation on a constant and regular basis.

Remarks:

Mr. Rodriguez James, Superintendent of Police, Royal Grenada Police Force, stated that the Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF), through the National Anti-Drug Strategy was inextricably linked to the Drug Control Secretariat and as a consequence to GRENDEN. He announced that the RGPF had consistently enjoyed an excellent mutually beneficial relationship with the Drug Control Secretariat. The Secretariat and by extension GRENDEN has seamlessly, but prominently established itself as an informal extension of the RGPF. Superintendent James also indicated that GRENDEN had contribute to testing and verification of the statistics collected by the RGPF, as this statistics is periodically triangulated between GRENDEN, Drug Squad and the Criminal Records Office, resulting in the best quality information possible. He also noted that the information provided by GRENDEN also assisted the RGPF in gauging the success of strategies and intervention taken to mitigate against observed trends. Superintendent James pledged the support of the RGPF to continue to support the initiatives of GRENDEN and to strengthen its resolve in conjunction with Drug Control Secretariat to combat the dug pandemic plaguing the state of Grenada and the region.

Remarks:

Mr. Terence Craig, Organization of American States (OAS) Representative, Grenada, congratulated GREN DEN and its Officers on its tenth anniversary. Mr. Craig announced that GREN DEN is a good example in this regard, and that Grenada has one of the best systems in the Caribbean region and has been consistently one of the best countries both in terms of its performance in the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) process and its outcomes.

Report:

The Report on the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Grenada Drug Information Network (GREN DEN), 9 December 2011, was presented by Mrs. Elizabeth Japal, Assistant Drug Avoidance Officer, Drug Control Secretariat. Mrs. Japal highlighted key aspects of the Eighth Annual Meeting of GREN DEN, which was held 9 December 2011. She reported that there were four presentations delivered at the meeting.

Presentation:

Mr. Dave Alexander highlighted the development and progress made by GREN DEN, for the period 2002 to 2012. He noted the excellent support provided by the various Ministries/Departments to GREN DEN, and expressed thanks to the GREN DEN Focal Points in these Ministries/Departments. Mr. Alexander also noted that GREN DEN had achieved significant success in the region, and is used as a model by several Caribbean countries.

Feature Address and Launch of document, 'A Pictorial Analysis Of The Extent, Patterns And Trends Of The Drug Situation In Grenada, 2001 To 2010':

Honourable Tillman Thomas, Prime Minister, **Grenada** announced that he felt a sense of pride, to be present at the meeting which celebrated the tenth anniversary of GREN DEN. He stated that this was an accomplishment not just for GREN DEN, but for the people of Grenada. The Prime Minister noted that GREN DEN had achieved its objectives, during the past ten years, namely:

- i. To provide accurate, relevant and timely statistical data on the nature and extent of the drug situation in Grenada;
- ii. To increase coordination, dialogue, and cooperation among the institutions which work in the area of drug control, through the exchange of drug-related statistical information;
- iii. To inform policy makers and the general public on drug trends and related matters.

The Prime Minister also highlighted some of the achievements of GREN DEN, for the period 2002 to 2012. These included:

- i. Availability of data on drug-related issues for the period 1 January 1988 to 30 September 2012.
- ii. Improvement in Grenada's ability to provide data for local, regional and international projects, and Institutions, such as the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), Annual Reports Questionnaire (ARQ), Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), United Nations (UN), Caribbean Community (CARICOM).
- iii. Publication of thirty-nine (39) editions of, 'GREN DEN Statistical Report of Indicators', each quarter, per year, (March 2003 to September 2012), and nine (9) GREN DEN

Statistical Report of Indicators annually (2003 to 2011).

iv. Use of GRENDEN as a model in the region by CICAD.

Prime Minister Thomas reaffirmed the Government of Grenada's commitment to the national anti-drug campaign. He announced that Grenada will not bow to pressure to legalize marijuana. He said that the Government rejected calls to decriminalize marijuana, made 10 years ago and would stick to its position, given the potential impact on, ***"national well-being and law and order."*** He stated, ***"Today, amid renewed attempts at the regional and international levels, I wish to place on record that my Government will not yield to such pressures or persuasions. We will not decriminalize or legalize marijuana"***.

The Prime Minister also announced that Cabinet had endorsed a recommendation for the name '***Grenada Drug Information Network***' (***GRENDEN***), to be amended to, '***Grenada Drug Epidemiology Network***' (***GRENDEN***). He indicated that the name, '***Grenada Drug Epidemiology Network***' (***GRENDEN***), would provide greater clarity and emphasis to its functions.

The document, '***A Pictorial Analysis Of The Extent, Patterns And Trends Of The Drug Situation In Grenada, 2001 To 2010***' was launched by Prime Minister Thomas. It outlines drug trends in Grenada, for the period under review. It was published by the Drug Control Secretariat. Copies of the Pictorial Analysis were emailed to participants of the meeting and the general public on 10 December 2012.

Presentation of copies of document, '*A Pictorial Analysis Of The Extent, Patterns And Trends Of The Drug Situation In Grenada, 2001 To 2010*':

Senator the Honourable Franka Alexis-Bernardine, presented copies of the document to the following Officials:

Honourable Tillman Thomas, Prime Minister, Grenada

Mr. Terence Craig, Organization Of American States (OAS) Representative, Grenada

Mr. Rodriguez James, Superintendent Of Police, Royal Grenada Police Force

Reverend Deacon Cecil St. Louis, Representative, Conference Of Churches, Grenada

Mrs. Japal presented a copy of the said document to Senator Bernardine.

Vote of Thanks: Mrs. Elizabeth Japal, Assistant Drug Avoidance Officer, Drug Control Secretariat.

Announcement:

The Tenth Annual Meeting of GRENDEN is scheduled to be held on 6 December 2013.

Structure and Function of Grenada Drug Epidemiology Network (GRENDEN)

Establishment of the Grenada Drug Epidemiology Network (GRENDEN)

On 11 December 2002, the workshop, *“Network To Improve Recording, Exchange And Comparability Of Data Between Agencies”*, was convened. The establishment of the Grenada Drug Epidemiology Network (GRENDEN), which would facilitate the collection, and dissemination of data, was the primary outcome of this workshop. GRENDEN was formally endorsed by Cabinet in December 2002.

GRENDEN would also provide a forum to promote the use of international standard indicators of drug abuse, as represented in regional and international reporting requirements.

Grenada Drug Epidemiology Network (GRENDEN)

GRENDEN is the mechanism through which Grenada collects, analyzes, and disseminates information on drugs, and related information, for the purpose of monitoring trends, developing policy, and implementing appropriate programmes and responses.

The objectives of GRENDEN are:

- i. To provide accurate, relevant and timely statistical data on the nature and extent of the drug situation in Grenada;
- ii. To increase coordination, dialogue, and cooperation among the institutions which work in the area of drug control, through the exchange of drug-related statistical information, and
- iii. To inform policy makers and the general public on drug trends and related matters.

GRENDEN has significantly strengthened Grenada’s ability to participate in local, regional and international drug control projects and programmes. It has also played a major role in the implementation of the national drug control programme.

GRENDEN focuses on the issue of drugs in four categories:

1. Drug Consumption

- i. Magnitude of Consumption

2. Drug Production

- i. Type and Quantity of Drugs Produced and Seized

3. Consequences of Drugs

- i. Arrests
- ii. Firearms
- iii. Treatment
- iv. Financial Crimes

- v. Incarceration
- vi. Criminal Deportees
- vii. Court Cases

4. Results of Policy and/or Program Responses

- i. Extradition requests
- ii. Tests Conducted for Presence of Drugs
- iii. Mechanism to Control Diversion of Pharmaceuticals and Precursor Chemicals

GRENDEN covers fourteen (14) Governmental Departments, through its Questionnaire of Indicators.

- i. Epidemiology Unit; Ministry of Health
- ii. Pharmacy Unit Ministry of Health
- iii. Customs and Excise Department; Ministry of Finance
- iv. Criminal Records Office; Royal Grenada Police Force
- v. Criminal Investigation Department; Royal Grenada Police Force
- vi. Financial Intelligence Unit; Royal Grenada Police Force
- vii. Her Majesty's Prisons, Ministry of National Security
- viii. Produce Chemist Laboratory; Ministry of Agriculture
- ix. Rathdune Psychiatric Unit; Ministry of Health
- x. Carlton House; Ministry of Health
- xi. Mt. Gay Psychiatric Hospital; Ministry of Health
- xii. Medical Records Office; General Hospital; Ministry of Health
- xiii. Community Relations Department; Royal Grenada Police Force
- xiv. Drug Control Secretariat; Ministry of Education

Indicators

Twelve (12) Indicators comprise the **GRENDEN Statistical Report of Indicators**. This information is collected quarterly.

GRENDEN Statistical Report of Indicators

GRENDEN Statistical Reports of Indicators are produced four times annually. Several other documents are also produced, as required. These reports can be sourced from the webpage: www.gov.gd/ncodc.html

Management

The Drug Control Secretariat is the National Observatory on Drugs in Grenada. It performs the administrative functions of GRENDEN.

Contact/visit GRENDEN Online:

Facebook: facebook.com/DrugControl

Twitter: twitter.com/DrugControl

Email Addresses: drugcontrolgda@gmail.com

Webpage: www.gov.gd/ncodc.html

Status: Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)

1. The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is the mechanism designed to measure the progress of actions taken by the thirty-four (34) member states of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD).
2. The objective of the MEM is directly to strengthen mutual confidence, dialogue and hemispheric cooperation in order to deal with the drug problem with greater efficacy. It follows the progress of individual and collective efforts of all the countries participating in the Mechanism, indicating both results achieved as well as obstacles faced by the countries.
3. The Sixth Evaluation Round, 2013 to 2015, commenced in March 2013.
4. The evaluation process for the Sixth Round is using a new methodology, different from that used in the previous rounds. The process is based on a set of twenty-seven (27) common recommendations, on the basis of which member states will be evaluated. The primary objective will be to determine each member state's situation with regard to the complete set of recommendations, which were developed based on the Hemispheric Drug Strategy and its Plan of Action for the period 2011-2015.
5. An Evaluation Survey was used to collect the relevant information from member states, between April to June 2013. It consisted of five thematic areas, in accordance with the Hemispheric Drug Strategy and its Plan of Action, 2011-2015: Institutional Strengthening, Demand Reduction, Supply Reduction, Control Measures and International Cooperation.
6. The Preparatory Session of the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) for the Sixth Evaluation Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) was convened 27 to 28 August 2013, in Miami. The GEG consists of Experts from the 34 member states, on the above-mentioned thematic areas.
7. Dave Alexander, Grenada's Principal Expert to the MEM, was elected as the General Coordinator of the GEG, for the Sixth Evaluation Round.
8. Draft country reports based on the findings of the Evaluation Survey, were prepared by members of the GEG, at the First Plenary Session of the GEG, 18 to 23 November 2013, in the Dominican Republic.
9. The General Coordinator of the GEG presented a report on the status of the GEG to the Fifty-fourth Regular Session of CICAD, 11 to 13 December 2013, in Colombia.
10. The Second Plenary Session of the GEG is scheduled for February 2014, Washington D.C.
11. Each country would receive its report in April 2014, to review and amend accordingly. All country reports would be then updated by the GEG, approved by the CICAD Commissioners. Final reports would be published in December 2014.
12. Grenada has successfully participated in the five previous evaluation rounds of the MEM:

Round 1: 1999 – 2000; Round 2: 2001 – 2002; Round 3: 2003 – 2004; Round 4: 2005 – 2006; Round 5: 2007 – 2009

Key Activities of GRENDEN, December 2013 to December 2014

- i. Publication of, 'Analysis Of Drug-Related Statistics, for the periods 1 January To 30 June 2012 And 1 January To 30 June 2013'; December 2013
- ii. Presentation of results of the Third Secondary Schools Drug Prevalence Survey; January 2014
- iii. Meetings with selected GRENDEN Focal Points to revise GRENDEN Indicators on admissions; January 2014
- iv. GRENDEN Fact Sheet, Vol.6, No. 1; March 2014
- v. Identification of Alternate GRENDEN Focal Points; March 2014
- vi. GRENDEN Annual Report 2013; April 2014
- vii. GRENDEN Fact Sheet, Vol.6, No. 2; June 2014
- viii. GRENDEN Fact Sheet, Vol.6, No. 3; September 2014
- ix. Meeting of GRENDEN Focal Points to plan the Eleventh Annual Meeting of GRENDEN/NOD; October 2014
- x. GRENDEN Biannual Statistical Report of Indicators, January to June 2014; October 2014
- xi. Observance of Caribbean Statistics Day, in collaboration with the Central Statistics Office of the Ministry of Finance; October 2014
- xii. GRENDEN Fact Sheet, Vol.6, No. 4; December 2014
- xiii. Eleventh Annual Meeting of GRENDEN/NOD; December 2014

Appendix 1

GRENDEN expresses its thanks to the following Officers who were responsible for completing the GRENDEEN Indicators in 2013.

Ms. Verlina Straker
Medical Records Clerk
Medical Records Department
General Hospital

Mr. Kester Sylvester
Prison Officer
Her Majesty's Prisons

Ms. Portia Fraser
Customs Officer
Customs and Excise Department

Mr. Urban Norcisse
Corporal
Financial Intelligence Unit

Mr. Sharm Roberts
Corporal
Criminal Investigation department
Royal Grenada Police Force

Mr. Toppin Pierre
Sergeant
Criminal Records Office
Royal Grenada Police Force

Ms. Brenda Jones
Nurse
Rathdune Psychiatric Unit

Ms. Marcelle Belmar
Pharmacy Inspector

Mrs. Brenda Scott & Mr. Gary Cox
Nurses
Carlton House

Mr. Sean Henry
Chief Analytical Chemist
Produce Chemist Laboratory

Appendix 2

St. George's Grenada, Monday January 13, 2014 – The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Grenada Drug Epidemiology Network, (GRENDEN) and the National Observatory on Drugs (NOD), would be held on 23 January 2014. Theme for the meeting is 'An Analysis of the Nature and Extent of the Drug Situation In Grenada: 1 January to 30 June 2012 and 1 January to 30 June 2013'.

The Honourable Anthony Boatswain, Minister of Education and Human Resource Development, is scheduled to deliver remarks at the meeting. Other officials scheduled to address the meeting include: Dr. Cecilia Younger, Professor of Biostatistics, St. George's University, who would present some preliminary results of the Third Secondary Schools' Drug Prevalence Survey conducted in 2013, and Dave Alexander Drug Control Officer who would report on the status of the Sixth Evaluation Round of the Multilateral Evaluation (MEM).

The key feature of the meeting would be four panel discussions to analyze the nature and extent of the drug situation in Grenada, for the period 1 January to 30 June 2012 and 1 January to 30 June 2013. They would examine the drug situation in relation to drug consumption; the consequences of drugs; and results of policy and program responses.

Panelists would include Officers from the Customs and Excise Department; Royal Grenada Police Force, Financial Intelligence Unit, Her Majesty's Prisons, Rathdune Unit; Carlton House; Mt. Gay Psychiatric Hospital; Medical Records Office of the General Hospital, Pharmacy Unit and the Produce Chemist Laboratory.

The meeting will be held at the Conference Room of the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

GRENDEN is the mechanism through which Grenada collects, analyzes, and disseminates information on drugs, and related information, for the purpose of monitoring trends, developing policy, and implementing appropriate programmes and responses.

**Drug Control Secretariat
13 January 2014**