NATIONAL
ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY
for the Period 2009 – 2012

English version
translated by EURO-VKM Bratislava
Dušan Čaplovič
Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic for knowledge society, European affairs, human rights, and minorities and Chairman of the Board of Ministers for Drug Addictions and Drug Control of the Slovak Republic.
The Government of the Slovak Republic is submitting its programme document in the area of the solution of drug-related issues for the fourth time since the establishment of the independent Slovak Republic; however this is the first time that it will be published. The particular aim of the special edition of the anti-drug strategy is to present as extensively as possible its intentions, the enhancement of awareness regarding the issues and measures adopted by the Executive in the interest of their solution and thus the improvement of the quality of the strategy for the upcoming periods based on the collected comments.

When we look back in history, the difference in the state of the drug-related issues today compared to those in the period of the designing of the first National Programme for Combating Drugs in 1995 is striking. At that time, society faced the new unknown phenomenon of drug epidemics – especially heroin – and therefore the most serious drug problems in the modern history of the independent Slovakia had to be solved urgently: the theretofore unknown and shocking social exclusion of the population of drug users – the loss of their social links and social status with wide ranging and clearly visible consequences, the beginning of serious damage to health and chronic problems in the affected population, the spread of death and infectious diseases and the growth of crime related to illegal merchandizing of drugs and precursors, and the growth of secondary crime as a consequence of addiction with a view to acquiring means for obtaining drugs. A fast solution was also required for the urgent questions such as how to help the affected people but also how to protect their environment and others who did not become addicts. The attention of the entire general public was focused on this area with the support of media attention. Specialists were mobilized and re-profiled and groups and associations of enthusiastic and determined volunteers were formed.

Today, the situation is substantially different and thus the submitted programme reflects different framework priorities and proposes different system solutions for this complicated and complex phenomenon. Society became used to its existence and also to the fact that no fast solutions exist. Exhaustion has set in, public interest has declined and voluntarism has become rare. However we can not resign no matter what the cost and the submitted programme demonstrates our refusal to give up. The effort for new approaches and a new perception of responsibility arises from its close connection with the anti-drug strategy of the European Union, which is also manifested in the title of this document. It is not dominated by the image of “combat”. We have acquired new experience and knowledge, new scientific proof, evaluations of programmes and interventions. We stopped being afraid, we began to study and get to know this issue. A wider context was revealed, an expert background was created and institutionally anchored and many activities constituting the core of the anti-drug strategy of the state run routinely. Therefore it is more appropriate to talk about strategic solutions, searching for feasible and realistic approaches documented by arguments to improve the situation. This does not mean the abandonment of the repressive part of the anti-drug policy – reducing demand and availability remains one of the basic strategies of preventing damage. However it must be counterbalanced by well researched measures for reducing demand, for effective and professionally led and evaluated prevention and for the reduction of the health and social damage to individuals and the entire society.

The strategy itself does not constitute a solution. However it provides the framework and aspirations for a solution. Its subsequent elaboration into action plans of individual sectors, but especially the wide support of the expert and lay public in everyday practice, constitutes the necessary condition for the fulfilment of the National Antidrug Strategy. With this support, the implementation of the anti-drug policy can achieve success which will become a success for all of us.
In 2008, the “Inter-ministerial Expert Working Group for the Preparation of the National Anti-drug Strategy for the Period 2009 – 2012” worked under the expert management of the General Secretariat. Its members included delegated representatives of the ministries and the Office of the General Prosecutor, upper-tier territorial units, the Association of Towns and Municipalities of Slovakia and NGOs.


The above mentioned documents were discussed and approved by the SR Government through its Resolution No. 259 of April 1, 2009.

The National Council of the SR discussed both documents in June 2009, and through its Resolution No. 1496 of June 18, 2009, it noted it what enabled the launch of the concretization of the strategy on the partial action plans of the ministries involved.

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
No. 259
Of April 1st, 2009


The Government

Confirms


Taking into account

Imposing
Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic for knowledge society, European affairs, human rights, and minorities and Chairman of the Board of Ministers for Drug Addictions and Drug Control of the Slovak Republic
To ensure consequently and to control implementation of the strategy, and to assure the financing of the strategy

**Till 31, December, 2012**
To submit to the Government deliberations the evaluation report on the half-way strategy implementation

**Till March 31, 2011**
To submit the comprehensive evaluation report on the implementation of the strategy

**Till March 31, 2013**
Members of the Board of Ministers for Drug Addictions and Drug Control of the Slovak Republic
Board of Ministers for Drug Addictions and Drug Control of the Slovak Republic
To elaborate action plans of the strategy in the framework of the national strategy and scope of actions

**Till November 15, 2009**

Entrusting
Prime Minister
To submit the report and the strategy to the Chairman of the National Council of Slovak Republic to be discussed in the National Council of Slovak Republic

**Till April 30, 2009**
Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic for knowledge society, European affairs, human rights, and minorities and Chairman of the Board of Ministers for Drug Addictions and Drug Control of the Slovak Republic
To give reason for the report and the strategy in the National Council of Slovak Republic

**Recommendations to**
The chairs of regional self-governments,
the chiefs of magistates,
the chiefs of communes
To cooperate with the Heads of Districts in the seats of regions in elaborating of strategy to the conditions of regions, cities, and communes; to create conditions, and to collaborate in actions.

**Will be accomplished by:**
Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic for knowledge society, European affairs, human rights, and minorities and Chairman of the Board of Ministers for Drug Addictions and Drug Control of the Slovak Republic
Members of the Government – Members of the Board of Ministers for Drug Addictions and Drug Control of the Slovak Republic
The development of illegal drugs in Slovakia has distinctively changed since 1993 and has undergone many significant phases. The drug phenomenon affects the essence of the existence of society as such, disturbs its moral foundations, economic links and legal system and negatively affects the level of public health. It has become a serious social issue. The effort of society is to react responsibly to changes in the drug situation and to adopt measures that will significantly help to prevent the occurrence and resolve the issues related to the abuse, production and illegal merchandizing of drugs.

The Slovak Republic has become a full partner in the fulfilment of tasks connected with the drug phenomenon in the European space. It actively participates in the elaboration and implementation of the aims of the European Union in its European Anti-Drug Strategy. It has become part of the coordinated course of action of the EU countries in the joint resolving of issues related to the threat to the health of citizens, in ensuring their psychological and mental well-being as well as their safety. It represents a respected segment of the European information network on drugs and drug addiction.

The National Anti-Drug Strategy for the Period 2009 – 2012 is the manifestation of political will of the Slovak Republic Government to resolve drug-related issues. It constitutes the fundamental document of the Slovak Republic in the area of anti-drug policy based on the previous anti-drug strategies in compliance with the level of the current knowledge of the drug phenomenon. It represents a well balanced and integrated approach to the solution of one of the serious social problems. It respects world and European values and standards aimed at adherence to human rights, respect for human dignity and protection of the individual. It defines the direction of solving the problems connected with drugs and the basic framework for the design and implementation of anti-drug strategies on the level of resorts, regions and municipalities. Its primary aim is to resolve the issues in the area of reducing the supply of drugs, the demand for drugs and the damage that occurs due to their abuse. It emphasizes the importance of reliable and comparable information and the need for learning and knowledge regarding the development of the drug scene in the context of European knowledge as the foundation for adopting qualified decisions. It is characterised by its effort for balance in individual areas and openness. It is targeted on the protection of public health with an emphasis on ensuring the protection of the population from the risk of drug addiction and drug abuse and the issues connected with the social exclusion and inclusion of vulnerable groups.

The Slovak Republic will continue to base the resolving of the drug issues on activities of relevant international organizations, good methods and examples of best practices in this area and support the development of information and monitoring. It is fully aware of the fact that in the current unfavourable situation, changes can only be achieved by a joint and coordinated course of action based on the cooperation of subjects whose competence is affected by issues of drug abuse on all levels of public administration and society.
Illegal drugs are considered as the third largest industrial sector in the world. Their abuse brings suffering to individuals and society and has become a world-wide problem which does not respect geographical and state borders. It is estimated that in 2007, approximately 200 million people in the world used drugs. The development of the drug issue in the world distinctively affects the abuse of drugs in Europe where drug abuse currently remains at a historically high level. A growing number of EU states have adopted strategic and planned approaches to the resolution of drug-related issues. International cooperation aimed at reducing the supply and demand is being intensively developed and strengthened through programmes and projects. Despite the achieved progress, drug issues in their individual areas continue to constitute a challenge for developing national policies and designing effective strategies, the strengthening of cooperation and coordination and adequate reactions to drug-related issues.

Within the framework of the European Union, it is estimated that in 2007 approximately 25 to 30 million adults between the ages of 15 to 64 abused some type of illicit drug. This is a historically high figure despite the fact that it has recently stabilized. The trends and patterns of behaviour in drug abuse have changed. Cannabis is the most popular illegal substance in the EU; heroin still contributes the largest share to drug addiction and damage to health. The abuse of ecstasy and amphetamines reached its peak and is gradually decreasing and in several countries the abuse of cocaine is growing. The growth in the abuse of several drugs simultaneously, including the combination of the use of legal and illegal substances constitutes new challenges for prevention and treatment as one of the tools for the protection of the health of the population of the European Union. Illegal drug merchandizing leads to delinquency and corruption. There is no simple solution to these issues. The European Union, through the European Anti-Drug Strategy for the Period 2005 – 2012, supports the approach based on experience and acquiring knowledge of the most effective policies aimed at the analysis of the problem and the assessment of the reaction of the general public to this issue. The goal of all European anti-drug strategies is to reduce drug abuse and the damage that drugs cause not only to the people who abuse them but also to the communities they live in.

The Slovak Republic consistently respects international undertakings arising from European Union documents in the area of combating drugs. It adheres to the international conventions and principles of international cooperation regarding the control of the legal production of drugs and their precursors and limits illegal drug production and merchandizing. It applies drug demand reduction programmes, healthcare for addicted individuals and strengthens the positive approach of society and individuals to the protection of health and life. It purposefully supports measures aimed at assistance to risk groups and the re-integration of reformed persons into society. In the area of drug demand reduction, anti-drug upbringing and education was implemented in the curricula of elementary and secondary schools. A network of specialized preventative centres was created in the sector of education, healthcare and social affairs and within the competence of

2 CORDROGUE 77, 22. 11. 2004.
non-governmental organizations. Various forms of judicial cooperation with an emphasis on specialized information exchanges have been developed in compliance with the legal system. The control of the legal production of narcotic and psychotropic substances has been improved and several measures against money laundering have been adopted. International cooperation with EU member states has been actively developed. The Slovak Republic is open to all international initiatives aimed at the effective elimination and resolution of drug-related issues.

Despite exerted efforts, drug abuse constitutes a serious social problem. Due to the negative impacts related to drug abuse, the healthy development of society, the protection of public health and the general order in towns and municipalities are at risk. The number of persons experimenting with drugs is growing; the number of prosecuted persons and criminal offences of illegal production, possession and distribution of drugs are also growing. The largest number of drug users undergoing treatment, the largest share of drug crime offenders and the largest share of drug seizures are connected with marihuana, pervitin and heroin (however a slower growth in the number of heroin users was recorded in 2008). In the case of marijuana, the current state is characterized by the high prevalence of use especially among young people. From the long-term perspective, the lifelong prevalence of the use of heroin in the general population is approximately the same; the number of opiate users under treatment is decreasing. The abuse and availability of pervitin and ecstasy among young people in particular are growing. The population of problem drug users is estimated at between 13 800 and 34 500. At most, one third of them are in contact with services that ensure the reduction of the social and health consequences of the (problem) use of drugs.
II Objectives of the National Anti-Drug Strategy

The National Anti-Drug Strategy comprises a well-balanced, comprehensive and coordinated set of preventative, therapeutic, social, and educational and control measures and measures in the area of law enforcement implemented on the international, national, regional and local levels. It constitutes a significant instrument for the solution of drug-related issues and an active means for the gradual strengthening of safety, justice, health and the protection of freedom in society. It is based on the fundamental values and principles of European Union law, knowledge and experience acquired in the current and previous periods. It is designed within the intentions of the anti-drug strategy of the European Union and in the context of national priorities and creates the conditions for the full incorporation of the Slovak Republic in combating drugs on the international level.

New recent economic, health and social laws, changes in the organization and status of the state administration and delegation of part of the competence to self-governing bodies have changed the character of the environment. It has created space for the design of new strategies, forms and methods of work, thus mobilizing pertinent capacities and strengthening regional and local resources. The need for mutual cooperation and coordination under the actual conditions is growing.

The goal of the national anti-drug strategy is the reduction of drug abuse in society and its related risks and damage, the reduction of the supply with an emphasis on sanctioning the organized crime groups involved in illegal drug trafficking and enforcement of adherence to the law in connection with their production and distribution.

In order to achieve an effective policy, the anti-drug strategy will continue to be based on available information, objective data and acquired experience. The effort will be targeted on effective prevention with the goal of increasing the age of first experimentation with drugs, decreasing the consumption of all types of drugs and reducing the related risks and damages, ensuring the availability of treatment, the social reintegration of individuals, groups at risk and the vigorous enforcement and enforceability of the law against illegal drug merchandizing and production. The aim is to achieve progress in health, social coherence and its safety.

The fulfilment of the above mentioned plans requires:

- a comprehensive approach based on the inimitability and equality of individual components of the anti-drug policy;
- a well-balanced, integrated and coordinated approach on all levels of society,
- the directness of prevention, and build-up the quality of the treatment, re-socialization and re-integration process of the individual,
- long-term strategies and the creation of space for the improvement of the quality of the assessment process and the development of initiatives and multi-sector dialogue,
- the design of effective measures aimed at limiting drug production and the growth of drug-related delinquency,
- the design of effective instruments to identify persons and groups living on the margin of society and to provide adequate care and assistance to these groups and instruments that prevent the spread of drug abuse-related diseases, HIV and hepatitis in particular.
Objectives of the National Anti-Drug Strategy

The multidisciplinary character of the drug issues and the development of the drug scene in society calls for more effective strategies on all levels, their implementation in practice, the existence of platforms for the assessment of the adopted measures, information and acquired experience exchanges, and the need for a joint course of action. Despite the achieved progress in the field of reducing the drug supply and demand on all levels of society and in compliance with the principles of common responsibility, efforts will be focused on:

- the availability and quality of information,
- more effective monitoring of the status and development of the drug scene,
- improvement of coordination, intensification of communication, strengthening of cooperation and partnership,
- improving the quality of the evaluation process, the level of decision making, planning and developing of the institute of the implementer of activities,
- support of science and research,
- raising the awareness of the general public regarding drug-related issues and the involvement of the civil society in solving tasks aimed at improving the situation in the area of drug abuse,
- active international dialogue connected to resolving drug-related issues.
The issues related to drug abuse constitute a phenomenon which can be assessed and evaluated from various aspects and levels. Their solution is based on the will and decisions of politicians and the interest of citizens. Achieving change and fulfilling established goals and objectives of the National Anti-drug Strategy require an integrated, multi-disciplinary and well-balanced approach, constant attention and the concentration of all involved parties.

The basic principles of the National Anti-drug Strategy are as follows:

1. The National Anti-drug Strategy resolves issues connected to drug abuse. Its central aim is to protect public health and raise public awareness, understanding and sensitivity towards the risks related to drug abuse in society.

2. It is transparent. It creates the prequalification for increasing responsibility and the change of attitude of the general public and the entire society towards drug abuse as one of the keys to achieving the established goals.

3. It expresses the basic framework for the legitimacy of public action focused on resolving drug abuse-related issues based on truthful knowledge and data.

4. It creates a well-balanced, integrated, coordinated and partnership approach in compliance with the identifiable needs and issues arising from the development of the drug scene and the social and individual consequences of drug abuse.

5. In compliance with scientifically verified knowledge and new trends, it creates the prequalification for the design of long-term strategies and measures aimed at building a safe environment, protecting society and the individual and the modification and evaluation of their effectiveness. It is based on European and national legislation and legal norms.
IV Priorities of the National Anti-Drug Strategy

1. REDUCING DEMAND

To prevent drug abuse, drug abuse-related risks and damage to individuals and society. To improve the quality of interventions and methods based on acquired knowledge and good experience.

In compliance with new knowledge and trends in drug abuse and new behaviour patterns of young people related to this, to focus attention on the preparation and introduction of innovative approaches in the area of the prevention and reduction of drug use or abuse-related damages. To aim efforts on the support of protective factors and a healthy lifestyle, the reduced consumption of legal and illegal drugs by children and youth and the creation of conditions for the active and meaningful use of leisure time.

To focus attention on the development of the quality of the educational environment, the preparation and implementation of preventative programmes and educational activities, the enhancement of the information level and the improvement of the quality of support services. To pay special attention to risk groups. To support the monitoring and evaluation of universal, selective and indicated prevention.

To strengthen the system of care and services for drug users in compliance with the needs of clients with an emphasis on the reduction of related health and social consequences. To support measures aimed at providing effective assistance to addicted persons, risk groups and problem drug users.

Through a well-balanced and coordinated approach in the field of public health, to focus attention on the development of services oriented on the reduction of risks related to the spread of infectious diseases among drug users.

To develop drug-services as to achieve the measurable progress. Through effective measures in the field of care for drug addicted individuals, to strengthen efforts aimed at the effective reduction of damage and the re-integration of individuals into society.

2. REDUCING SUPPLY

Through a joint approach and cooperation in developing activities aimed at preventing, detecting and restraining drug delinquency. To focus efforts on the area of abuse of precursors, the production and distribution of narcotic and psychotropic substances and illegal cross-border drug merchandizing.

When enforcing the law, to develop activities aimed at detecting and preventing the smuggling of drugs and their precursors. With the objective to help to detect suspicious transactions and to develop the coordination of subjects legally merchandizing with precursors which can be abused in the production of illicit drugs.

To develop cooperation in the enforcement of the law with EU member states, Europol and Eurojust and third countries with the use of existing instruments (such as JIT, JCO, joint projects and operations).

To focus on the development of information and the provision of information within the framework of EU MS, Europol, Eurojust and third countries, to join international projects and if necessary to use existing instruments (such as AWF, etc.).
To improve the effectiveness, efficiency and actions aimed at law enforcement with a focus on the export, import, transport, illegal merchandizing and abuse of narcotic and psychotropic substances and precursors and to increase the level of safety in Slovakia.

To focus on the sanctioning of drug driving, and its detection and prevention.

3. COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

Anti-drug issues constitute the space for developing coordination and strengthening cooperation on all levels of society. The anti-drug policy and strategy must become a significant and important area of the civil society and the activities of experts operating in this area and it must have space for the provision of feedback to these structures as one of the sources of information on the fulfilment of the established goals and objectives.

The aim is to extend the possibilities for mobilizing a wide scale of society structures active in the anti-drug area and all those who would like to officially undertake to do their best and having available to means so, be able to reduce the human damage caused by drugs.

Through joint strategies, coordinated courses of action and activities of general government bodies and organizations, to increase the responsibility for implementing the measures aimed at reducing the growing drug demand and supply on the national, regional and local levels in compliance with the priorities of the National Anti-Drug Strategy and the Framework Action Plan.

In order to achieve a well-balanced approach in resolving the objectives of the anti-drug strategy, it is necessary to improve feedback by implementing a framework plan on the national, regional and local levels. This requires strengthening and developing horizontal and vertical coordination and cooperation and strengthening coordination mechanisms on individual levels of society.

The efforts focus on creating conditions for the development of cooperation with the civil society and increasing its participation in implementing the anti-drug policy.

4. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

To improve the quality of the efficient and effective cooperation and coordination with EU member states and relevant international organizations. To participate actively in the design of a well-balanced European approach to drug-related issues.

In the area of combating drugs, the Slovak Republic, through the Permanent Mission of the SR at the UN in Vienna, New York and Geneva, will continue to strengthen its cooperation and coordination with the UN Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) with its seat in Vienna, the UN Commission for Narcotic Substances (CND) the World Health Organization (WHO) the UNAIDS Program Coordination Council and other relevant organizations of the UN system.

The Slovak Republic will intensively continue to develop its cooperation with and coordination of the activities with EU authorities and member states in the area of anti-drug policy. It will participate in enforcing a well-balanced European approach to drug-related issues and developing international cooperation in compliance with the valid agreements on cooperation and association on the principle of partnership and common responsibility. It will aim its efforts on
developing cooperation with third countries, neighbouring countries and the countries of the origin or transit of drugs.

The Slovak Republic will continue to actively join the activities of the Horizontal Working Group for Drugs (HWPD) and will actively speak on the level of the Committee of the Permanent Representatives of the EU Member States (COREPER) in preparing external and internal political standpoints and documents designated for approval by the EU Council or the EU Council and Parliament. The Slovak Republic will also continue to strengthen its cooperation within the framework of the Pompidou Group, the ministerial group of the Council of Europe (CoE) for drug-related issues.

Through the development and improvement of the quality of monitoring instruments of the drugs situation in society, it will actively participate in the activities of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and the development of cooperation with national centres for drug monitoring of EU member states within the framework of the European Information Network on Drugs (REITOX).

5. INFORMATION, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

To employ the available information of the national level and the EU knowledge base. To develop and support the development of science and research and the dissemination of experiences and good-practice methods on national and regional levels.

To strengthen the system of information exchange on measures aimed at reducing the unfavourable consequences of drug abuse with a view to acquiring knowledge and information about the most effective approaches and tested experience.

The improvement of the anti-drug policy instruments for planning and management on the national and regional levels. To create an effective system of evaluating the effectiveness of adopted and implemented goals and objectives.

To focus efforts on the design of relevant databases, the development of instruments for monitoring the state of the drug scene and the exchange of important information on the national and regional levels with an emphasis on the reduction of risks connected with the consumption of the most common psychoactive substances.
The Board of Ministers for Drug Addiction and Drug Control (hereinafter the “BM DADC”) is a consultative, coordination, initiative and control body of the Slovak Republic Government in matters of anti-drug policy. It creates the platform for the design, evaluation and analysis of the fulfilment of the intents of the National Anti-drug Strategy and the development of communication with the relevant state administration authorities – members of the BM DADC, general government bodies and subjects participating in implementing the anti-drug policy. The BM DADC submits to the SR Government evaluations of the implementation of the intents and objectives of the anti-drug policy of the Slovak Republic and the proposals for measures ensuring their fulfilment. It participates in the evaluation and control of the fulfilment of the intents and objectives set up by the National Anti-drug Strategy by the relevant state administration authorities and members of the BM DADC. Through its executive – general secretariat – it is responsible for implementing the adopted measures regarding matters of the anti-drug policy on individual levels. Through the General Secretariat/ National Monitoring Centre for Drugs, it ensures and is responsible for collecting, processing, assessing and distributing data on drug abuse and its related impacts on society.

Central State Administration Authorities

The pertinent minister is responsible for the design, implementation and evaluation of adopted measures arising from the National Anti-drug Strategy (Action Plan) and on the local level it is the pertinent state administration authority (municipal authority in the seat of the region).

V Main Subjects in the Implementation of the National Anti-Drug Strategy

The anti-drug policy forms part of the policy of the following central state administration authorities – members of the BM DADC:

- Ministry of Education of the SR; Ministry of Culture of the SR; Ministry of Health of the SR; Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR; Ministry of Interior of the SR; Ministry of Defence of the SR; Ministry of Justice of the SR; Office of the Prosecutor General of the SR; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the SR; Ministry of Finance of the SR; Ministry of Transportation, Post and Telecommunications of the SR; Ministry of Agriculture of the SR; Ministry of Economy of the SR;

The fulfilment of the tasks of the National Anti-drug Strategy – ensuring knowledge and information on developments on the drug scene from the national level to the level of the local state administration and self-government – will be ensured through the regional anti-drug coordinators (district administration in the seat of the region) in cooperation with the territorial self-government. The above mentioned institute of coordinator will participate in the design and provision of assistance in implementing pertinent regional strategies by the bodies of self-government in compliance with identified needs.

The organs of the territorial self-government are the key partners for the state administration authorities

Through their own plans, activities and acquired experience reflecting local needs and conditions, they will participate in the design and implementation of measures in compliance with the goals and needs of the National Anti-drug Strategy. The measures and activities of the anti-drug
strategy will be also implemented through the partnership approach, cooperation and coordination with relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil and expert activities in the field of assistance services to various groups at risk of drug abuse.

**Timetable for the Implementation and Evaluation of the National Anti-Drug Strategy**

The timeline for implementing and evaluating the National Anti-drug Strategy for the Period 2009 – 2012 is in compliance with the plan of the EU Anti-drug Strategy for the Period 2005 – 2012. The basis for the medium-term and complex evaluation of the fulfilment of the national anti-drug strategy will be constituted by Action plans elaborated by the relevant resorts.

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Document Title</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Framework</th>
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The Slovak Republic must exert increased effort aimed at reducing the implications of the health, social and economic issues as well as strengthening law enforcement in order to reduce the supply of narcotic and psychotropic substances and precursors connected to drug abuse. This effort requires a long-term strategy, concentrated into two basic pillars of the anti-drug policy – reducing the drug demand and reducing the drug supply and overlapping themes – coordination, international cooperation and information, research and evaluation.

Part of the National Anti-drug Strategy is the framework action plan, which is a significant instrument for fulfilling its goals and priorities, based on recently acquired experience. It constitutes the basic framework for the elaboration and practical implementation of the National Anti-drug Strategy for the Period 2009 – 2012 in concrete terms and conditions, environments and levels. It creates the space for an integrated and well-balanced approach to the fulfilment of the tasks arising from the goals of the National Anti-drug Strategy by individual resorts.

The framework action plan defines the areas of the national anti-drug strategy, their main priorities, goals, measures, timeline, responsible parties and instruments for the evaluation of the established objectives.


The basic mission of the action plans is to ensure the fulfilment of the objectives and priorities set up in the National Anti-drug Strategy with an emphasis on reducing the spread of drug abuse among the population, social damage and damage to health caused by the use and merchandizing of illegal drugs.

The framework action plan defines the following priorities and measures with an adequate view to the developments on the drug scene, in society and on the international level and in compliance with the legal regulations of the Slovak Republic, international law and the objectives of the National Anti-drug Strategy for the Period 2009 – 2012:
### DEMAND REDUCTION

**Main Priority:** By extending interventions based on acquired knowledge and good experience, to prevent drug abuse by individuals and reduce the health and social consequences connected to drug abuse in society.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Time Table</th>
<th>Responsible Party</th>
<th>Evaluation Indicator and Instrument</th>
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| **1. To prevent drug abuse and related risks** | 1. Support of new and evidence-based approaches and measures in the area of prevention and making them available in various environments with the goal to prevent or delay the first use of drugs.  
2. In the area of prevention, to focus attention on the combined use of drugs (combined use of illegal and legal drugs). | on going | Board of Ministers Relevant departments Regional bodies | Prevalence of drug use among the youth, attitude towards drug abuse among peers. Availability and number of innovative and tested programmes and strategies targeted on first use in particular. International surveys (HBSC, ESPAD) as well as representative national surveys, NMCD reports and relevant evaluation. |
| **2. Through targeted prevention, to prevent high-risk behaviour of drug users** | 3. To develop the instruments of early detection, counselling and interventions guaranteed by experts.  
4. Programmes of effective selective and indicative prevention for vulnerable groups with high risk of the incidence of problem drug use, to develop information and the instruments for monitoring and evaluation.  
5. To expand the possibilities and availability of counselling and the early solution of risky behaviour. | on going | Relevant departments | Analysis of risks and protection factors in drug abuse; availability and number of expert and targeted preventative programmes with outcome-evaluated. Indicator PDU; reports of NMCD. |
| **3. By maintaining the availability and quality of services, to strengthen the effectiveness of anti-drug treatment and rehabilitation** | 6. To ensure or expand proof-based possibilities of anti-drug treatment corresponding to the needs of individuals using drugs. | on going | Relevant departments | Availability of diverse and proof-based treatment. |
7. To improve and develop programmes of rehabilitation, re-socialization and social inclusion with measurable outcomes.  
   
   on going  
   Relevant departments  
   Regional bodies  
   
   Increased availability and effectiveness of the programmes of rehabilitation, re-socialization and social inclusion of individuals in society.

8. Development of information on treatment, rehabilitation and re-socialization services and the possibilities which these services offer for given target groups.  
   
   on going  
   Relevant departments  
   Regional bodies  
   
   Existence of information strategies.  
   Public register of available services (such as internet portals).

9. Development and use of effective alternatives for imprisonment of drug-using offenders, monitoring their implementation and developing them further.  
   
   on going  
   MJ SR  
   MH SR  
   
   Increased availability of alternatives.

4. To provide access to healthcare for drug-using prisoners with the aim to prevent the harmful effects of drugs  

| 10. To develop and carry out services for the prevention, treatment and reduction of drug-related damage and the rehabilitation of prisoners, equivalent to the services available outside prison. To put special emphasis on follow-up care after release from prison.  
   | on going | MJ SR  
   | MH SR  | 
   | Interventions carried out with the aim to provide services for individuals using drugs in prison and continuous measures for former prisoners. Reduction of drug-related health issues in prison. |

11. To introduce indicators in detention facilities for the monitoring of drug abuse, drug-related health issues and the provision of services for individuals using drugs.  
   
   on going  
   MJ SR  
   
   Indicators for the monitoring of drug abuse, drug-related health issues and the provision of services. Progress report.

5. To ensure access to services in the area of reducing the damage caused by drugs with the aim to slow down the spread of HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C and other drug-related infectious diseases transmitted via blood and reduce the number of drug-related deaths  

| 12. To provide access to services related to the reduction of damage caused by drugs, to expand them and use available effective interventions³.  
   | on going | Relevant departments  
   | 
   | Reduction of drug use-related infectious diseases. Reduction of deaths caused by drug abuse. Expanding services in the area of the reduction of drug-related damages. |

## SUPPLY REDUCTION

### Main Priority: To improve the effectiveness of law enforcement in the area of drugs. To develop activities for stamping out drug-related delinquency. To improve the effectiveness and coordination of national and EU activities. To concentrate efforts on the area of the abuse of precursors and the production and distribution of drugs and illegal cross-border drug trafficking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Time Table</th>
<th>Responsible Party</th>
<th>Evaluation Indicator and Instrument</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. To strengthen cooperation in law enforcement in the area of reducing drug production and illegal drug trafficking on the national and international levels.</td>
<td>13. To focus on criminal organizations, markets and new threats using access based on intelligence information.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>Relevant departments Board of Ministers</td>
<td>Assessment of threats and establishment of priorities in combating organized crime. Identification of new threats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14. Development of cooperation with Europol and Eurojust in the area of law enforcement through bilateral and multilateral initiatives, operations and measures.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>MI SR MJ SR OGP SR MF SR</td>
<td>Number and outcomes of initiatives in the area of cooperation related to drug issues and joint customs operations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. The development of judicial cooperation in the area of combating drug trafficking and law enforcement in the area of drug (precursors) trafficking and related money laundering</td>
<td>15. Use of existing EU instruments in connection with requests for mutual assistance in criminal cases, European arrest warrants and sanctions issued by the SR courts.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>MI SR MJ SR OGP SR MF SR</td>
<td>Report on courses of action and recommendations Requests for mutual assistance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16. If necessary, to consider the design of programmes for the protection of witnesses and for studying the potential added value of common international cooperation in this area.</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Relevant departments</td>
<td>Current legal regulations. Evaluation reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Fast and effective reaction to the operations and regulations on the political level to new threats (such as new drugs, new trails)</td>
<td>17. When necessary, to adopt measures for combating new threats through coordinated operative operation.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>MI SR MJ SR OGP SR MF SR</td>
<td>Operative introduction of reaction measures for the proactive solution of the risks and minimizing of threats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Reduce the production and supply of synthetic drugs</td>
<td>18. The strengthening of active cooperation in the area of law enforcement and to carry out joint operations in this area and to exchange intelligence information and best practices. To optimally use the Analytic Working Files (AWF) Synergy, its components and the related initiatives of EJUP and COSPOL.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>MI SR</td>
<td>MJ SR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20. The support of international operative cooperation oriented on the prevention of drug precursor abuse. The development of cooperation among the investigative bodies. 21. Development of activities and support of projects against criminal networks involved in precursor merchandizing.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>Relevant departments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

Main Priority: Through joint strategies and coordinated courses of action of the bodies and organizations of the general government, to increase the effectiveness of adopted measures aimed at limiting the growing demand for drugs and reducing the drug supply on the national, regional and local levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11. To ensure that a well-balanced coordinated approach is reflected in the national anti-drug policy on the national and regional levels</td>
<td>22. The main subjects of the National Anti-drug Strategy: to effectively coordinate the activities and intents of the anti-drug policy in compliance with the objectives of the Anti-drug Strategy of the SR for the Period 2009 - 2012 and the EU Strategy for the Period 2005 – 2012 and this action plan.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>Relevant departments Board of Ministers Regional bodies</td>
<td>Goals of the anti-drug strategy and framework action plan of the SR included in the resort strategies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. To ensure implementation and effective coordination of the anti-drug strategy of the SR on the level of the SR Government</td>
<td>23. The Board of Ministers for Drug Addiction and Drug Control as a consultative body to the SR Government for drug-related issues with the aim to actively coordinate the anti-drug policy on the national level.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>SR Government Members of the Board of Ministers</td>
<td>Sessions of the SR Government Committee of Ministers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. To ensure the effective coordination of the implementation of the anti-drug policy on the level of the Board of Ministers</td>
<td>24. Coordination of anti-drug policy among the ministries – members of the Board of Ministers with the aim to ensure effective fulfilment of the goals and the framework action plan of the National Anti-drug Strategy</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>Board of Ministers Members of the Board of Ministers</td>
<td>Regular sessions of the Board of Ministers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. To create conditions for the participation of the civil society in implementing the anti-drug strategy</td>
<td>25. To include the civil society on all suitable levels of anti-drug policy in compliance with the intents and needs of the practice.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>Members of the Board of Ministers Relevant departments</td>
<td>Civil society participates in the national dialogue.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**Main Priority:** Through closer cooperation with the EU policy, to increase the effectiveness of the cooperation of the Slovak Republic with international organizations in the field of combating drugs. To promote a well-balanced approach to drug-related issues in the pan-European and world standards.

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>15. To systematically implement the questions of the EU anti-drug policy in the national policy and strategy</td>
<td>26. To ensure the implementation of the intents and objectives of the EU anti-drug policy in the national policy in compliance with the needs and possibilities of society.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>SR Government Board of Ministers members of the Committee of Ministers</td>
<td>National Anti-drug Strategy and the Framework Action Plan. Individual departments’ Action Plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. In compliance with the EU intents, to develop relationships with third countries or regions</td>
<td>27. In compliance with the possibilities and needs of the anti-drug strategy, to develop cooperation with third countries.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>Board of Ministers members of the Board of Ministers</td>
<td>Agreements, activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28. To use the counselling mechanism of the Dublin Group and to continue in active dialogue with third countries.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>Board of Ministers members of the Board of Ministers</td>
<td>Number of carried out recommendations of the Dublin Group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29. To contribute to the initiatives in the area of drugs, the aim of which is to reduce poverty, conflicts and vulnerability through the support of legal, viable and sustainable living.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>SR Government Board of Ministers</td>
<td>Existence of supported activities and projects with positive impact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. To participate in strengthening EU coordination in the multilateral context and to promote an integrated and well-balanced approach</td>
<td>30. Through the joint assumption of the obligations, to activate the share of better coordination between the horizontal working group for drugs and the delegations of the member states in the UN Commission for Narcotic Substances (CND).</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>MFA SR Board of Ministers</td>
<td>Strengthened coordination between representations in Vienna and the horizontal working group for drugs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31. To coordinate the activities with other international forums or programmes. UNODC, European Council - Pompidou Group, WHO, UNAIDS, WCO and Interpol in particular.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>Board of Ministers Involved departments and organizations</td>
<td>Regular mutual notification of activities on suitable forums especially the sessions of the HDG.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. To improve the quality of cooperation with the countries of the European neighbouring policy</td>
<td>32. To open the dialogue on drugs with the countries of the European neighbouring policy in bilateral or regional contexts.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>Board of Ministers Involved departments and organizations</td>
<td>Effective dialogue.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### INFORMATION, RESEARCH, EVALUATION

Main Priority: The support and development of an approach based on the dissemination of knowledge and information on the drug phenomenon, understanding the risks connected with their abuse to the health of individuals. To improve the quality of the system of monitoring and evaluation of the development of the drug scene and adopted aims and objectives of the anti-drug strategy.

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19. The expand the knowledge base on drugs through the promotion of research</td>
<td>33. To activate research in the area of illegal drugs and mechanisms necessary for acquiring new knowledge.</td>
<td>2009 – 2010</td>
<td>ME SR, MH SR, MI SR, NMCD</td>
<td>Set up research priorities. Mechanisms designated and introduced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34. In compliance with EU requirements, to participate in the design of the internet evaluation study as a tool of illegal drug merchandizing and the analysis of the national or international measures that may be effective in combating this.</td>
<td>2010 – 2012</td>
<td>Relevant departments</td>
<td>Provided information for the design of scientific study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35. In compliance with key EU indicators for the collection of policy-relevant data on drug-related crime, illegal cultivation, the drug market and interventions to reduce the supply in order to elaborate the strategy of their collection on the national level.</td>
<td>on going</td>
<td>MI SR, MJ SR, OGP SR (in cooperation with EMCDDA and Europol)</td>
<td>Elaboration of the data collection strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. To ensure the continuous evaluation of the anti-drug policy</td>
<td>36. Regularly (continuously) evaluate and update national anti-drug policy.</td>
<td>2011 and on going</td>
<td>NC SR, SR Government, BM DADC</td>
<td>Assessment of the anti-drug strategy and policy, medium-term evaluation, continuous evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>37. To develop analytical tools to improve the assessment of the effectiveness and effect of the anti-drug policy (such as model evaluation tools, policy effectiveness indicators, of public expenditure analyses)</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Board of Ministers, Relevant departments – members of the Board of Ministers</td>
<td>Analytic tools developed. More exact analysis of drug-related issues.</td>
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<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>21. To ensure the evaluation of anti-drug policy implementation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>38. To evaluate the implementation of the national anti-drug strategy and policy.</td>
<td>2012 – 2013</td>
<td>NC SR, SR Government BM DADC members of the Board of Ministers</td>
<td>Evaluation report on the implementation of the anti-drug strategy and policy. Continuous and final evaluation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>22. Ensure accurate and policy-relevant information in the field of illicit drugs</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>39. Through the NMCD, to regularly contribute to the EMCDDA based on the agreements and with proper support from the EMCDDA. To responsibly carry out the undertakings and norms of quality arising from EMCDDA membership</td>
<td>on going, at least once per year</td>
<td>GS BM DADC NMCD</td>
<td>Processing and exchange of data required for monitoring and evaluation purposes in compliance with agreed upon standards. Annual NMCD report on the situation in society</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>23. Development of instruments for monitoring the drug situation and the effectiveness of relevant responses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>40. To further improve and fully implement the five EMCDDA key epidemiological indicators.</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>NMCD in cooperation with MH SR MJ SR MI SR ME SR</td>
<td>Improvement of adherence to the implementation criteria for key indicators.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>