

## Proposal for the New Evaluation Instrument

**Basic criteria** are those elements that should be present in order to demonstrate full compliance with the obligatory elements of each of the Recommendations. The Criteria to be evaluated are numbered consecutively for each Recommendation, but the order of the criteria is not important.

The **baseline or the parameters** (required for each criteria) are designed to help identify important aspects for the evaluation of the criteria. In addition, for some criteria they may offer example situations in which a particular requirement may apply, or where exceptions may arise to the obligations that are normally applicable. The examples are not part of the Criteria, and are only illustrative, but they may serve as guidelines regarding whether or not national measures for a particular criteria are appropriate.

In order to determine the **level of compliance with the recommendations**, each of them should be evaluated based on the **verification of the basic criteria**. To do

The **primary level of assessment** should be the **basic criteria**, not the baseline or parameters. Therefore, the basic criteria should be the minimum elements to be verified by the evaluators.

The basic criteria should not include elements beyond those directly addressed in the recommendation, and in turn, the baseline should not go beyond the content of the basic criteria. In order to avoid this, the actions contained in the Plan of Action should be used as a guideline for the basic criteria of each recommendation.

The following is an example that, while not exhaustive, allows for a better understanding of the contents of the basic criteria and baseline or parameters.

<b>CONTROL MEASURES</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATION X</b>
Strengthen national organizations for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

Basic criteria	Evaluation baseline or parameters
Countries should improve the capacities of agencies responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes, through ongoing training for relevant actors.	Countries should have offered training activities for personnel involved in work related to controlling illicit drug trafficking and related crimes, including personnel from national control agencies, as well as security and law enforcement agents. This training should be ongoing; that is, not isolated activities, but rather as part of a medium or long-term training program. Adequate coverage of these training activities should be ensured, based on the total number of agents employed by national control

	agencies, security and law enforcement.
Countries should improve cooperation and information exchange among law enforcement agencies responsible for controlling illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.	Countries should have mechanisms in place to allow cooperation and information exchange among control agencies. These mechanisms should ensure that formal and/or informal communication channels exist, including advisory councils, committees or regular meetings. In addition, channels allowing for information exchange among agencies should exist, including consolidated statistical data at the national level.
Others...	

Each recommendation and the respective basic criteria should be accompanied by a **glossary** that provides **working definitions** of the terminology used and that includes the different applications that a given term may have, based on the varying institutional structures that exist.

For example, the concept of “agencies responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes” refers to all agencies of the National Public Administration that have jurisdiction over the prosecution of illicit drug trafficking, and related crimes, whether through planning and programming, or operations.

Based on the basic criteria and baseline or parameters established for each recommendation, a series of **questions to gather information** should be developed. It is important that these question accurately cover all the elements addressed in the basic criteria and the baseline or parameters, and that they are formulated clearly. Though it is preferable that the majority of the questions be structured, based on the contents of the different areas, posing open questions may be possible, in order to allow countries to provide more details in their responses.

The following series of question is presented as an example, based on the first basic criteria of Recommendation X.

<b>INFORMATION GATHERING QUESTIONNAIRE</b>
<b>CONTROL MEASURES</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATION X</b>
Strengthen national organizations for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

<b>Basic criteria</b>	<b>Countries should increase the capacities of agencies responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes, through ongoing training for the relevant actors</b>
Does your country have an Ongoing Training Plan or Program for agencies responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking and related crimes? If so, please indicate its scope, content and audience.	
Please indicate the training activities carried out within the framework of the Plan or Program, including their contents, audience, and the number of agents trained.	
If your country does not have a Plan or Program, please report any training activities carried out, including their contents, audience and number of agents trained.	
Please indicate the coverage of the activities carried out, taking into consideration the total number of agents working for these control agencies.	
Please provide any additional information that may have contributed or will contribute to improving control agencies' capacities, through ongoing agent training.	

In addition, a **Guide for Evaluators** should be developed. This Guide should include the recommendations, their basic criteria, the baseline or parameters for each of the basic criteria, and a glossary.

However, some questions will contain general content for the evaluation—that is, they may be applicable to more than one recommendation, and can be included as a general consideration at the beginning of the Guide.

In addition, we might consider the possibility that the Guide would contain two additional items: one on “complementary elements” that, while they will not specifically be evaluated, might contribute to the evaluators’ views regarding fulfillment of the recommendations; and a second that might be referred to as “interpretation notes,” for those cases where the basic criteria or baseline require more thorough consideration.

The Guide should also include guidelines regarding the format of the report.