

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE COUNTRY REPORT ON DRUG CONTROL

1. LEADING AGENCY

Narcotics Control Bureau as the leading agency in combating narcotics crimes in Brunei Darussalam sees the importance of cooperation and collaboration with other agencies in eradicating narcotic crimes, be it at national, regional and international level. Such collaboration does not only involve enforcement agencies but also other ministries and agencies especially in reaching out to the public on drug awareness.

The Bureau is in view of the importance in the balance between reducing drug demand and drug supply and thus to efficiently eradicate drug crimes, the Bureau adopts two strategies:

- i. The reduction of supply through the preventive of the entry of drugs either through legal or illegal point of entry; and
- ii. The reduction of demand through effective activities such as preventive of drug education, supervision and rehabilitation.

2. DRUG SEIZURE

Brunei Darussalam continues to face endless challenges in combating drug crimes in the country as drug related crimes continues to increase. The number of arrests made by the Bureau in the past years and shows a decreasing trend for the year 2010 – 2012. However, in 2013, the Bureau has improved the rate of quality arrest focusing on High Impact Operation which resulted in 50.8% increase in drug arrest from the year 2012 to 2013. Majority of the arrests made by the Bureau are those with Bruneian citizenships which is over 80% each year. The record shows as up to April 2014 drug confiscated and most favoured amongst drug users were found to be involved with Syabu (159.89) followed by Cannabis (162.99 grams), Erimin (490 tablets), Ketamine (51.81 grams) and Ecstasy (25 tablets).

3. LEGISLATION

Brunei Darussalam introduced numbers of legislations to support its National Drug Control Policy. This includes:

- i. **The Misuse of drugs Act, Chapter 27** enforced by Narcotic control Bureau to conduct arrest, seizure, investigation and prosecution into drug trafficking activities;

- ii. **The Misuse of drugs (Amendment) Order 2012** reclassification for controlled drugs including the elevation of Cannabines as a “Class A Drugs” and other several ATS substances;
- iii. **The Criminal Asset Recovery Order 2013 (CARO)** to consolidate the various procedures and powers in asset recovery and remove complexities found in the previous provisions; and
- iv. **Criminal Law (Preventive Detention) Act, Chapter 150.** To empower Narcotic Control Bureau to request to the Minister for an order to detain or place under the Bureau’s Supervision of persons who have been associated with activities of criminal nature in the interest of public safety and peace and good order.

4. PREVENTIVE EDUCATION

Narcotic Control Bureau introduced a number of activities in its efforts in preventive drug education to promote public awareness and disseminate the anti-drug messages to the public. This includes:

- a) **Advocacy and information Programme.** To provide education and public awareness on the danger used of illegal drugs through the mass media campaign that includes adverts, digital displays, radio stations, banner, posters, pamphlets and billboards.
- b) **School based drug Prevention Programmes.** Lectures and talks regarding the harmful effects of drug continued to be one of the main ways to educate students not to engage in these illegal activities.
- c) **Workplace based Drug Prevention Programme.** Narcotic Control Bureau collaborates with the relevant agencies to curb issues of drugs among employees in the workplace.
- d)

5. TREATMENT AND RERHABILITATION

Brunei Darussalam has one Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre which is called **Al-Islah Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre**. It is the only approved treatment and rehabilitation of drug centre which adopts the Psycho-social model focusing on behavioural changes through Therapeutic Community Program, spiritual therapy, life skills and vocational training.

A new provision called “**Temporary Released Scheme**” was introduced in 2012. This is transnational phase for residents prior their release from the centre and it aims is to gradually prepare the residents psychologically to be integrated in the community. It also allows the residents to find employment, having employment, participate in any work attachment

and involve with community services outside the centre with close supervision of the centre.

The role of family is vital in support for recovery process of residents. The centre is delivering its services by psycho-educating family members through family visits, social gathering with family at the centre and encouraging regular open family visits with residents.

6. INTERNATIONAL DRUG SYNDICATE

Brunei Darussalam has been used as a transit point for drug traffickers in their journey of drug trafficking. The investigations of three cases involving foreign nationals have revealed that these drug couriers transited in Brunei Darussalam carrying concealed drugs in their luggage are meant for the drug market in a foreign countries being the final destination. In the past, Brunei Darussalam has seen its own citizen being victim of West African Drug Syndicate and being used as drug couriers. Five cases have been reported involving Brunei citizen being apprehended at foreign international airport for attempting to bring in controlled drug into Australia, China and Chile.

7. THE 2ND ASEAN SPECIAL MINISTERIAL MEETING

On September, 2013 Brunei Darussalam hosted the 2nd ASEAN Special Ministerial Meeting on drug matters. At the end of the meeting, a Chairman's statement was adopted amongst which the ASEAN Ministers commended ASOD in its relentless efforts to achieve its missions on realizing a vision of drug-free ASEAN by 2015 and urged ASOD and other relevant bodies to discuss necessary measures to work toward a cost 2015 agenda for ASEAN to further realize this vision.

8. CONCLUSION

Drugs is a serious problem and should be tackled seriously and effectively by continuously pursuing its strategy of supply and demand reduction. Brunei Darussalam is not a drug producing nor a crop cultivation country and the drugs seized in Brunei Darussalam entered the country through our borders. Law enforcement agencies in Brunei Darussalam is doing everything in its power to control entry of drugs into Brunei Darussalam and constantly keep a close eye in monitoring and take steps in ensuring that this menace or other growing threats experienced by the region does not surface.

Brunei Darussalam also believes that it is necessary to have concerted effort with other national and regional counterparts to fight the drug crimes together. Brunei Darussalam also aims to provide adequate treatment to drug abusers to reduce their addiction level rather than to reduce "harm" associated with drug use.