


2<sup>nd</sup> Annual COPOLAD Conference  
Buenos Aires, Argentina  
16-17 May, 2017

# Options for Public Policy to Tackle the Challenge that the Illegal Market for Drug Sales on the Internet Represents

Mr. David Ramsey  
National Anti-Drug Secretariat  
Ministry of National Security  
Nassau, Bahamas

A stylized silhouette of a mountain range in shades of brown and tan, positioned at the bottom of the slide against a blue gradient background.

# THE BAHAMAS - A 'CONNECTED' ARCHIPELAGO

- Two internet service providers with physically connected high speed transmission throughout North and South America and The Caribbean
- In excess of 80,000 fixed broadband internet subscribers
- 145 mobile and fixed line telephone subscribers per 100 people
- Affordable and competitive mobile data packages
- 72 internet users per 100 people
- 100% population covered by mobile cellular networks
- 311,000 mobile cellular subscriptions for 410,000 citizens



# THE BAHAMIAN APPROACH

The Bahamas follows the United Nations guidelines on preventing the illegal sale of internationally controlled substances and as such has approached the effort in a three-tiered manner

- Legislative and Regulatory Provisions
- National and International Cooperation
- General Measures



# THE BAHAMAS

## Legislative and Regulatory Provisions

- Dangerous Drug Act
- Misuse of Computer Act
- Data Protection Act
- Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT'S)



# National and International Cooperation

- Bahamas National Anti-Drug Secretariat
- The Bahamas National Drug Council
- The Bahamas National Drug Agency
- The Royal Bahamas Police Force
  - Drug Enforcement Unit
  - Central Detective Unit
  - Digital Forensic Investigations Unit

# National and International Cooperation cont'd

- Operation Bahamas, Turks & Caicos (OPBAT)
- Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI)
- CARICOM - Implementing Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS)
- Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD/OAS)
- Pan-American Health Organization & World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO)



# GENERAL MEASURES

- There exists within The Bahamas a number of cultural nuances that create a positive environment for greater advancement in tackling internet drug sales
- Cooperative ISP's who legally cooperate and provide Law Enforcement Authorities with requisite information in a relatively timely manner
- The recent legalization and regularization of The Bahamas Gaming Industry(Web Shops) has resulted in a regulatory framework which makes exponential advancement in the areas of:
  - Website Hosting
  - IP Tracking
  - Server Log Auditing, etc.



# EDUCATION and TRAINING

Education with regard to counteracting the effects and advancement of illegal narcotics over the internet has occurred within the four(4) years

- Anti Terrorism Assistance / Digital Forensics Investigations and Analysis Course, Basic and advanced which trained approximately 12 Bahamian Police Officers in disciplines of Cyber crime investigations and analysis
- OAS/CICAD
- COPOLAD Seminars and Symposiums





# CHALLENGES IN SUMMARY

- Focus and activity has been on tracking and engaging ‘visible web’ criminal targets who utilize social media platforms
- The need for cyber-crime investigators to be trained on a consistent basis
- The need to increase resources to engage in any meaningful way the threats posed by illegal *cyber-narco* markets
- Need to raise the awareness of the existence of the “deep web/dark web narco-markets”



# INTERPOL Workshop on Internet Drug Trafficking – Nassau, Bahamas

- Participation from 6 Caribbean Countries

