

Part One

# Introduction

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There has been a shift in the type of narcotics from the early 1960s and forth due to rapid economic development and changing social environment. In order to avoid damage caused by narcotics to the state, society and household, the government worked out two anti-drug strategies, namely supply eradication and demand reduction. All ministries concerned were also mobilized since May 1994 to take assertive actions such as law enforcement, anti-drug campaigns and rehabilitation under the leadership of the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Department of Health (DOH) respectively. In addition to central and local authorities, workforce in private sectors has also joined the anti-drug networks.

The government renamed "Executive Yuan Narcotics Hazard Control Project" as "Narcotics Hazard Control Project" on January 31, 2001. The previous "Central Anti-Drug Meeting" was also upgraded to the Social Security Reinforcement Project Conference convened by the Executive Yuan. The organization of anti-drug operations dealing with integrated and cross-sectional issues complies with the key points of implementation of the Social Security Reinforcement Project Conference so as to enhance effective regulations, seizure, prohibition, enforcement and judicial operations against narcotic hazards on the basis of disintegration.

"Law enforcement," "anti-drug actions" and "drug rehabilitation" are three interweaving and indispensable elements in anti-drug operations. Law enforcement aims to cut off drug supply for the purpose of "interdiction at habitat, interception at disembarkation and wiping-out within inland." Key issues in law enforcement against narcotic-related crimes include development of enforcement laws, intensification of international collaboration, training programs for enforcement workforce, integrating information and science-based approaches for better performance. The goal of anti-drug actions is to help the public cultivate a healthy lifestyle and anti-drug ideas through progressive and formative influence. The main point of anti-drug actions lies in family, school and social education, which instill anti-drug ideas into people as a fun-

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Respect Your Life by Saying No to Drugs

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damental attitude toward life. Drug rehabilitation is used to correct unhealthy habits such as drug abuse and addiction based on the principles of "treatment rather than punishment" and "medical treatment coming before judicature."

More facilities and workforce are needed for physical, mental rehabilitation services and counseling to help abusers return to society.

This report has been made possible with collective endeavor. In the first place, organizations concerning law enforcement, anti-drug operations and rehabilitation made their contributions by providing data or drafts. It was followed by the writing-up of "Law Enforcement for Drug Crimes" (Part Three), "Anti-Drug Effort" (Part Four) and "Drug Abstinence" (Part Five) done by the MOJ, MOE and DOH respectively. Finally the MOJ edited the finished draft chapters into a book. My thanks are to Minister of Education Jong-tsun Huang and DOH Minister Ming-liang Lee in particular, for their firm support. I also appreciate every effort taken by all colleagues and organizations concerned into anti-drug operations on a continual basis. I hope this report will not only be remembered as a page of significance in our country's history but also motivate people in Taiwan to respect life and say no to drugs. By doing so, we will be able to resist tempting narcotics and sustain an ideal public health condition.

Minister, Ministry of Justice

***Ding-Nan Chen***

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