

## Organization Attributes Sheet – Unnamed Russian DTO in Cancun

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<b>A. When the organization was formed + brief history</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In 2008, according to vice president of the Employers Confederation of Mexico (Coparmex), Rogelio Sierra Michelena, Cancun had “fallen into the hands of the Russian mafia.”<sup>1</sup></li><li>• However, a 2003 U.S. Congressional Research Service (CRS) report documenting organized criminal activity from the period 1992-2002 had already noted that “A variety of Russian criminal organizations, operating through dozens of small cells, are engaged in a wide range of illegal activities in Mexico,” in some cases entering into partnerships with Mexican criminal organizations.<sup>2</sup></li></ul>
<b>B. Types of illegal activities engaged in,</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. In general<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drug Trafficking</li></ul></li><li>b. <i>Specific detail: types of illicit trafficking activities engaged in</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Drug Trafficking:</b> It is only mentioned in reports that Russians are engaging in drug trafficking in Cancun; there are no further details in open source information.</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>C. Scope and Size</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Estimated size of network and membership<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unable to determine exact size from available information, but it would appear that the group is small if operating on its own. However, if it is linked with a larger Russian criminal organization, size could be considerable.</li></ul></li><li>b. Countries / regions group is known to have operated in. (i.e. the group’s operating area)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mexico</b> (particularly Cancun, Quintana Roo)<sup>3</sup> – According to a CRS report, “In order to maintain a low profile, Russian mafia groups in Mexico often operate out of resorts, hotels, or houses protected and owned by their Mexican associates.”<sup>4</sup></li></ul></li></ul>
<b>D. Leader Characteristics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Who is/are the leader(s)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information not found.</li></ul></li><li>b. Leadership timeline<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information not found.</li></ul></li><li>c. Leadership style (autocratic, diffuse, etc.)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information not found.</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>E. Organizational Structure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Topology (cellular, hierarchical, etc.)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information not found.</li></ul></li><li>b. Membership – is there formal or informal membership in the organization or network? What role do informal or nonmembers play in trafficking and other criminal activities?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information not found.</li></ul></li><li>c. Command and Control (decentralized or centralized)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information not found.</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>F. Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Financial<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information not found.</li></ul></li></ul>

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.

All research conducted according to the project manual.

b.	Human	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
c.	Logistical	
	i. Forgery, safe-houses, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
	ii. Key routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
d.	Transportation	
	i. Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
	ii. Sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
	iii. Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
	iv. Intermodal container	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>G. Trafficking Methods and Modalities</b>		
a.	Corruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
b.	Concealment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
c.	Deception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
d.	Circumvention (avoiding border entry points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>H. Prior / Existing Relationships</b>		
a.	Other criminal organizations (cooperative and conflictual)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mexican criminal organizations</b> – According to CRS, “Russian criminal organizations have discovered that linkages with one or more of the seven principal Mexican criminal organizations allow them to obtain drugs at low prices and under relatively secure circumstances.”<sup>5</sup> Reportedly, these links have existed for some time: “During the summer of 1997, the Mexican media began to report widely on the ties between Russian Organized Crime (ROC) groups and Mexican polydrug trafficking organizations. According to these reports, Mexican drug traffickers established formal alliances with Russian organized crime groups as early as 1992.”<sup>6</sup></li> </ul>
b.	Corrupt politicians, law enforcement , political parties and other state entities, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
c.	<i>Specific detail: Any alliances / past dealings with terrorist groups.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>I. Ideological / Ethnic / Familial Orientation (if any)</b>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>J. Technical Sophistication</b>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>K. Penchant for Innovation</b>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>

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<b>L. Activities in United States</b>	
a.	Includes both criminal and non-criminal activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
b.	<i>Specific detail: trafficking activities ; logistical activities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
c.	Linkages with US groups <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Market/transaction links <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Stable supplier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Franchise arrangement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>HQ and Branch office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>M. Evaluations</b>	
a.	Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unable to determine from available information.</li> </ul>
b.	Weaknesses and vulnerabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unable to determine from available information.</li> </ul>
c.	Additional insights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<b>Other Notes</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is very little information on this group and, in general, there is a lack of current information on organized Russian criminal activity in Mexico. It might be that this group and its operations are not extensive, but it also cannot be ruled out that this group might be a part or subdivision of a larger and more elusive Russian criminal organization operating in the region (e.g., Solntsevskaya Bratva, Tambovskaya, Mazukinskaya, Izmailovskaya, and/or Podolskaya).</li> </ul>	

<sup>1</sup> Rods, Adriana, "Cancun, a prisoner of Cuban and Russian mafia," *El Universal*, August 16, 2008. <http://www.eluniversal.com.mx/estados/69352.html>; and "Highlights: Mexico Southeastern Crime/Narcotics/Security Issues 17 Nov 08," *Open Source Center*, November 14-17, 2008, OSC: LAP20081117470001.

<sup>2</sup> "Organized Crime and Terrorist Activity in Mexico, 1992-2002," *United States, Federal Research Division - Library of Congress*, February 2003, 1.

<sup>3</sup> Rods, Adriana, "Cancun, a prisoner of Cuban and Russian mafia.;" and "Highlights: Mexico Southeastern Crime/Narcotics/Security Issues 17 Nov 08," OSC: LAP20081117470001 .

<sup>4</sup> "Organized Crime and Terrorist Activity in Mexico, 1992-2002," 29.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 29.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 29.