**Red de Observancia y Aplicación de la Normativa de Vida Silvestre de Centroamérica y la República Dominicana (ROAVIS/CAWEN)**

<table>
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<th>Region and countries of the network</th>
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<td>Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panamá, and Dominican Republic</td>
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**Authorities involved**

Focal Points/Points of Contact = Public Ministries, Attorney General, or Solicitor General Offices, Law Enforcement (police, border forces, public security forces, inspectors), CITES authorities (usually Ministries of Environment, Ministries of Agriculture, Ministries of Fisheries), Customs.

**Brief description**

CAWEN/ROAVIS is a regional network and forum for strengthening law enforcement and related institutions, regional and national cooperation and information exchange, and capacity building for government officials. CAWEN/ROAVIS operates at a regional, multi-national, and national level and participates in local to global events related to countering wildlife trafficking. CAWEN/ROAVIS has evolved to include national-level networks in member countries that promote inter-agency cooperation, support, information exchange, and inspection and operation planning to ensure effective implementation and enforcement of wildlife laws.

**Formal network launched in September 2010 with a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Attorneys and Solicitors General of each member country**

**Reporting) structure / decision-making process**

CAWEN/ROAVIS is comprised of seven member countries with the Focal/Contact Points being the Public Ministry, the Attorney General’s Office, or the Solicitor General’s Office. Per a procedures manual, the Points of Contact hold an internal vote, generally at an annual regional meeting, to elect a country to serve as Secretary of CAWEN/ROAVIS for a two-year period. The Point of Contact for the nominated country usually serves as the working Secretary. The Secretary works for the strengthening, expansion, training, and benefit of CAWEN/ROAVIS.
**Key activities**

- Coordination and communication between governments, and fluid exchange of information about wildlife trafficking groups and networks.
- Operations to regulate and control the trafficking of species along borders, at ports, and in domestic markets.
- Exchange of experiences and resources between CITES officials and law enforcement agencies to improve regulation of legal global trade of species and detect and deter trafficking of species.
- Training for the next generation of environmental attorneys, prosecutors, solicitors, and judges to strengthen CAWEN/ROAVIS.
- Increasing awareness of judicial officials in order to achieve thorough and impactful adjudication of wildlife cases.
- Education and outreach to government and the public to raise awareness of the regulations on the use, conservation, and protection of wildlife.

**Key partners in the region**

**Financial and technical assistance partners**

- U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (DOS-OES) = principal partner
- U.S. Department of the Interior, International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) = principal partner
- U.S. Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division (DOJ-ENRD)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
- CITES Secretariat

**Strategic partners**

- Red Latinoamericana de Ministerio Público Ambiental
- Red de Fiscales Ambientales de Centroamérica
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- International Consortium on combatting Wildlife Crime (ICCWC)
- NGOs = Traffic, WCS, Asociación Balam (Guatemala), Foro de Justicia Ambiental (Guatemala)

**Network focal points**

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**Website and other useful links**

www.roavis.net