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**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION
CICAD**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**FIFTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION
November 28 - 30, 2012
San José, Costa Rica**

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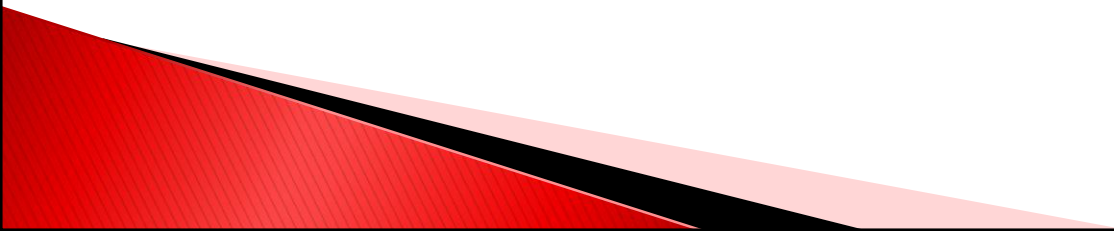
**IMPLEMENTATION OF DRUG TREATMENT COURT PILOT PROJECT IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
THE HONOURABLE IVOR ARCHIE,
CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Implementation of Drug Treatment Court Pilot Project in Trinidad and Tobago

**The Honourable Ivor Archie, Chief
Justice of the Republic of Trinidad and
Tobago**



The Existence of Fertile Soil

- ▶ The Judiciary already had experience and success with Problem Solving Courts and their positive impact on the legal and social landscape
 - ▶ Two members of the Judiciary previously sat on the National Drug Council and the national agency with responsibility for Demand Reduction respectively
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NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN

OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

2008 - 2012

The plan outlines five key areas of focus:

- Demand Reduction
- Institutional Strengthening
- Research
- Supply Control
- Monitoring and Evaluation

The background features a collage of images representing law enforcement, community support, and social issues.

- Inclusion in the National Anti-Drug Plan 2008–2012
- Institutional Strengthening
 - Demand Reduction

Implementation of the Drug Treatment Court Pilot Project – Trinidad and Tobago

▶ CICAD Regular Sessions:

- CICAD 46 – Trinidad and Tobago delegation viewed the operation of the Dade County Miami Drug Treatment Court
- CICAD 48 – Trinidad and Tobago delegation expressed interest in participating in the Drug Treatment Courts In the Americas project
Also supported by the CARICOM Secretariat and delegations of Jamaica, Barbados and the Bahamas.
- CICAD 50 – Trinidad and Tobago delegation supported the position of the panel for ongoing development of DTC's in the Caribbean

Implementation – Capacity Building Opportunities

- ▶ Participation in CICAD / CARICOM Training Feb 2011 – Jamaica, Suriname and T&T



NADCP July 2011

- ▶ Participation at NADCP Conference – July 2011
- ▶ Meeting between officials of the Secretariat for Multi-Dimensional Security of the OAS , NADCP and delegations from T&T and Jamaica



Commitment by the Judiciary



- ▶ Opening of the Law Term – September 2011
- ▶ Announced the Judiciary's intent to:
 - Establish a DTC pilot during 2012
 - Host a sub-regional workshop for DTC stakeholders –Oct 2012

October 2011 DTC Workshop

- ▶ DTC Workshop hosted in Port of Spain – Participants from Jamaica and Bahamas
- ▶ Important outcomes
 - Learn from the Jamaican experience
 - Sensitization to a wide cross section of partner agencies
 - Media exposure of the concept
 - Commitment to establish a Steering Committee
 - Commitment by the OAS / CICAD and the Canadian DTC training team to assist

Establishment of the Multi-Sectoral Steering Committee – Nov 2011

- Judiciary / Magistracy
Case management and statistics
- Prosecution Services
- Ministry of the Attorney General
- Ministry of National Security
National Drug Council
Trinidad and Tobago Police Service
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Justice
Probation Services
Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service
Forensic Science Centre
- Legal Aid and Advisory Authority
- Treatment and Rehab

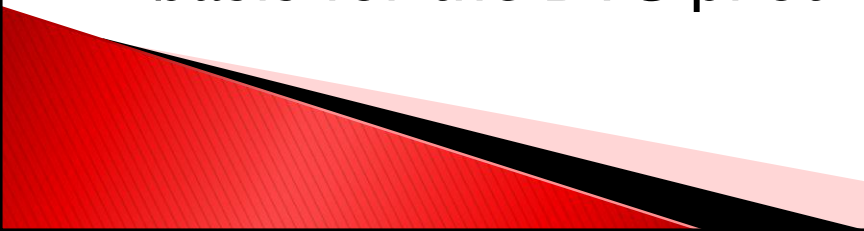
Work of the Committee

- ▶ Development of a policy document that addressed:
 - The appropriate court for DTCs
 - Charges to be considered
 - Process for operation of the court
 - Composition and identification of the DTC team
 - Location of the DTC pilot sites
 - Development of testing protocols
 - Development of the Juvenile component
 - Cost of establishment and operations of the court
 - Identification of support services
 - Drafting of legislation to create DTCs


Additional Considerations

The Committee considered how to resource the DTC:
Decisions:

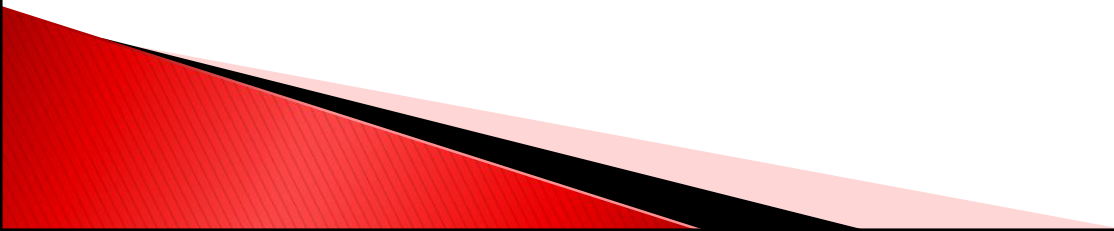
- ▶ Redeployment of existing resources
 - Identification of a court room
 - Utilization of existing staff from stakeholder agencies
 - Utilization of existing services from stakeholder agencies

 - ▶ DTC to proceed on a pilot basis without legislation
 - Existing legislation to provide statutory basis for the DTC pilot
 - Existing criminal practice and procedure to provide the basis for the DTC pilot
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Ongoing Capacity Building

- ▶ Training of evaluation team – Washington D.C Jan 2012
 - ▶ Study visit and conference – Toronto, Feb 2012
 - ▶ Recall workshop – Port of Spain, August, 2012
 - ▶ Training for Treatment and Rehabilitation providers & GAP analysis – October 2012
 - ▶ Sensitization for the Law Association Executive and first group of Magistrates – Nov, 2012
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Progress of the Committee

- ▶ Presentation of the Steering Committee's Report and recommendations to the Inter-Ministerial Committee convened by the Honourable Chief Justice
 - ▶ Review of the MOU
 - ▶ Refining of the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) brochure for public information
 - ▶ Assistance with the launch
 - ▶ On-going evaluation
 - ▶ Finalization of the Policy Document
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Signing of the MOU – Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the OAS

- ▶ Ambassador Ramdin and the Minister of National Security signed the MOU which provides opportunities for technical and financial support




Launch of the DTC – September 11, 2012

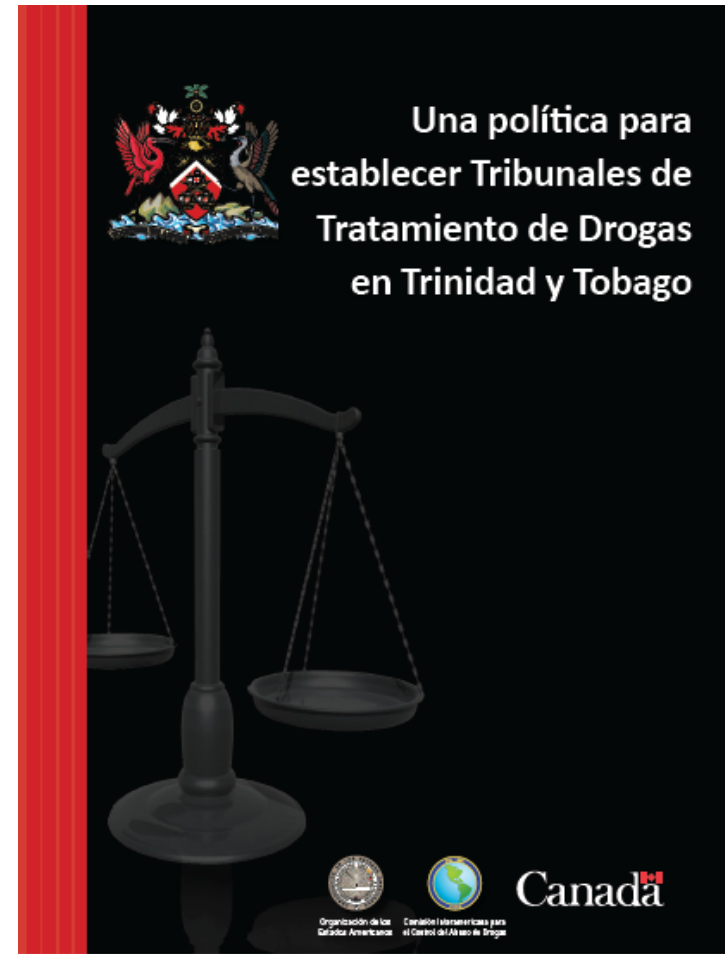
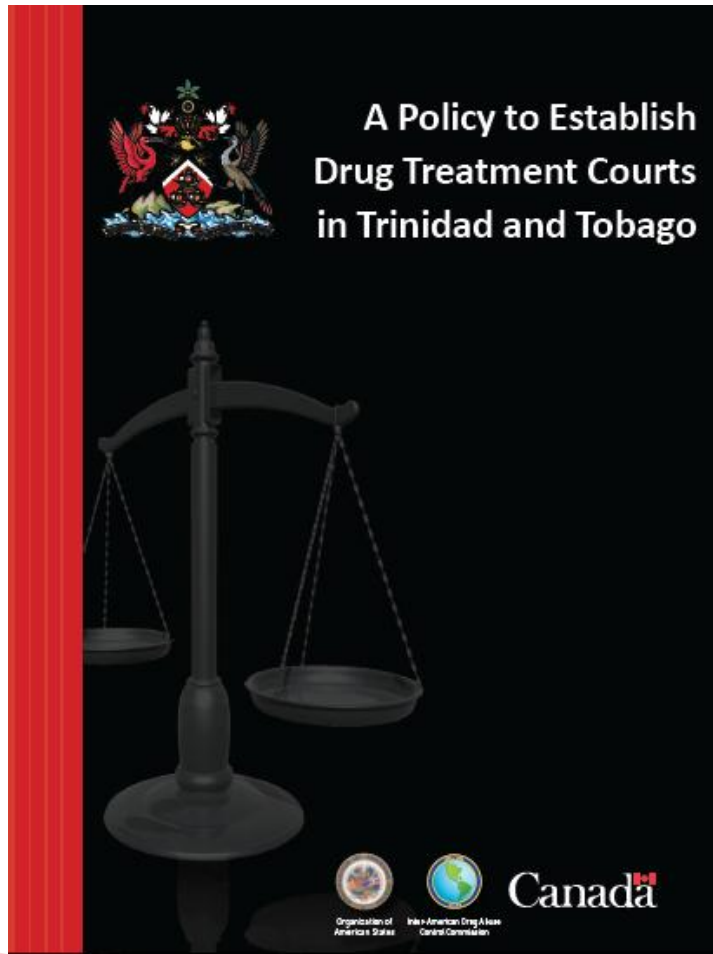


“ This week Chief Justice Archie added a potent and valuable arrow to the quiver of justice, and having shot that shaft of promise into the air, it falls to the justices and the social support systems that must be mobilised to shape this project into a life changing enterprise” Trinidad Guardian Editorial – Sunday September 16th, 2012

Ongoing Activities

- ▶ Ongoing planning and development of the courts
 - ▶ Sensitization of additional support agencies
 - ▶ Facilitation of meetings with the DTC Team and Treatment Providers
 - ▶ Development of the juvenile component
 - ▶ Oversight of the San Fernando and other Pilots
 - ▶ Support for the operation of the DTC and its Team
 - ▶ Admission of participants
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Our Policy Document



Our Gratitude



Our Motivation

“Do not wait until the conditions are perfect to begin. Beginning makes the conditions perfect.”

Alan Cohen – Author *“Chicken Soup for the Soul”*

THANK YOU

