

**RECOMMENDATION 1:**

INCORPORATE AN EVALUATION SYSTEM INTO THE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN THAT MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO ANALYZE, MONITOR, AND INTERPRET INFORMATION ON THE PROCESSES, EFFECTS, AND IMPACT OF INTERVENTIONS IN DEMAND AND SUPPLY REDUCTION AND CONTROL MEASURES

Venezuela reports that it has plans to add a chapter containing the recommended evaluation system to its draft 2002-2007 National Anti-Drug Plan.

CICAD recognizes the effort that the country has made and it urges Venezuelan authorities to implement the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS

Venezuela has ratified the Convention, which entered into force in the country on June 12, 2001. It also indicates that efforts aimed at its effective implementation continue.

CICAD expresses satisfaction with the Government of Venezuela on its ratification of the Convention and recognizes its efforts towards implementing it.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

EXPAND "DRUGS IN THE WORKPLACE" PROGRAMS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS WITHIN THE PUBLIC SECTOR

Venezuela indicates that it is currently developing "drugs in the workplace" programs based on the provisions of Article 101 of the Organic Law on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (LOSEP). In addition, it indicates that it has plans to extend and strengthen these programs with the implementation of the 2002-2007 National Anti-Drug Plan.

CICAD recognizes Venezuela's efforts towards fully complying with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

ESTABLISH A MECHANISM FOR DETERMINING THE PREVALENCE OF DRUG USE IN THE GENERAL POPULATION, THE AGE OF FIRST USE, THE TYPE OF DRUGS USED, AND THE ANNUAL INCIDENCE OF NEW DRUG USERS

Venezuela reports the approximate date of full implementation of this recommendation, will be during the 2002-2007 five-year period. The country indicates that it will gradually incorporate all public and private treatment, rehabilitation, and social reintegration centers into the statistical information system. With the support of CICAD, Venezuela informs that it plans to conduct a study in 2001 to begin monitoring drug abuse patterns in schools.

CICAD acknowledges the efforts made by the Government of Venezuela and maintains the recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 5:****CONTINUE SYSTEMATIC ERADICATION OF ILLICIT CULTIVATION**

The Government of Venezuela reports that efforts have been made by the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the National Armed Forces through the establishment of an annual four-monthly illicit crop eradication schedule. It is also considering requesting financial and technical assistance to carry out crop eradication activities.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction for the fulfillment of this recommendation, keeping in mind that eradication of illicit crops is an on-going effort.

RECOMMENDATION 6:**DEVELOP A SYSTEM TO IDENTIFY ILLICIT CROP LOCATION AND AREA, AS WELL AS PRODUCTION POTENTIAL**

Venezuela reports that there is a national interest in establishing an aerial photography and satellite surveillance subsystem and a land-based intelligence system, through bilateral efforts with the Government of Colombia in observation areas, particularly on the Colombian-Venezuelan border. However, as was mentioned in the implementation report, for institutional, political, and economic reasons, it has been difficult to move forward with these initiatives.

CICAD urges the Government of Venezuela to intensify its efforts to develop the recommended identification system.

RECOMMENDATION 7:**STRENGTHEN THE APPLICATION OF THE 1988 VIENNA CONVENTION, ISSUING PRE-EXPORT NOTIFICATIONS FOR CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES**

The Government of Venezuela reports that it has taken the pertinent steps to obtain relevant information to fully implement this recommendation. This includes the organization of meetings with companies that export controlled chemical substances in order that they may issue pre-export notifications in accordance with the 1988 Vienna Convention.

CICAD recognizes the progress made and urges Venezuela to continue with the implementation of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 8:**IMPROVE MECHANISMS TO CONTROL THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES FROM LEGAL INDUSTRY TO ILLEGAL INDUSTRY**

The Government of Venezuela reports that the recommendation will be implemented in the first quarter of 2002, after the National Assembly has had the opportunity to pass into law draft legislation, entitled "Prevention, Control and supervision of Chemical Substances." Provisions relating to chemical controls are also considered in the draft National Anti-Drug Plan for 2002-2007.

CICAD recognizes the country's progress towards complying with this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 9:****IMPROVE THE DATA BANK TO IDENTIFY THE NUMBER OF DRUG SEIZURE OPERATIONS CONDUCTED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

Venezuela states that it is taking the necessary steps to comply with this recommendation; it will be fulfilled when the 2002-2007 National Anti-Drug Plan is implemented.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by Venezuela and urges the country to fully implement this recommendation as soon as possible. progress towards complying with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 10:**CREATE A REGISTER AND/OR DATABANK TO IDENTIFY THE NUMBER OF PERSONS CHARGED AND CONVICTED FOR TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER MATERIALS IN CONNECTION WITH ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING**

Venezuela reports that in reference to with its ratification of the Inter-American Convention against firearms, a draft Organic Law against Organized Crime and Corruption and related legislation was expected to be passed by the National Assembly by the end of 2001. The new legislation contains provisions for a data bank contained in the recommendation.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by Venezuela and urges the country to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 11:**PROMOTE THE SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS TO ENSURE APPLICATION OF CONTROL MEASURES LINKED TO THE MANUFACTURE, TRAFFICKING, EXPORT, AND IMPORT OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, AND EXPLOSIVES**

Venezuela reports that it has ratified the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction for the fulfillment of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 12:**DEVELOP THE CAPACITY TO ESTIMATE THE HUMAN, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC COST OF THE DRUG PROBLEM**

Although the National Anti-drug Plan contemplates it, Venezuela informs that it does not have an adequate methodology that will permit it to quantify and determine the human, social and economic cost. Therefore, it considers that it is necessary that a system be implemented that would allow for easy recognition of these variables.

CICAD concludes that for this recommendation to be implemented, it will be necessary to



devise a project addressing the methodological bases for conducting a study of the social, human, and economic costs of the drug problem.

Accordingly, in the first half of 2002 CICAD, together with states in the Hemisphere that have progressed in this area, will present a proposed basic and homogeneous methodology applicable to all countries.

FINAL COMMENT

Venezuela has taken steps to implement the drug control recommendations contained in the first MEM report. The country's efforts in the international arena, particularly in terms of ratifying the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials and implementing the chemical control requirements in the 1988 UN Convention, are noteworthy. National programs to promote demand reduction are reaching wider audiences.