



## CICAD Commission sets regional drug policy priorities for next five years



At the 49<sup>th</sup> regular session of CICAD in Paramaribo, Suriname in May, the Commission approved a Plan of Action to define core policy guidelines and recommendations in key policy areas that aim to make the Hemispheric Drug Strategy more practical for government planning. A working group, with Mexico serving as chair, met for four days in

November last year in Washington and again six days in Guadalajara in February to finish the draft. The Action Plan consists of Strategy objectives and actions. The actions are the concrete activities, both joint and individual, designed to achieve each objective; these actions are prioritized and sequenced according to the level of development required and take into account differences in the dimensions of the problems in member states. As with the Strategy, the Plan of Action focuses on five areas: institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, international cooperation.

### Compendium on drug laws to solidify regional framework

The *Collection of Drug Legislation in the Americas*, known by its Spanish-language acronym LEDA for **Legislación sobre Drogas en las Américas**, has compiled more than 300 laws and regulations from 34 countries. CICAD is making the collection available on its website. Member states are encouraged to verify that the information is current, accurate and complete, and to provide CICAD with



any missing laws or regulations. Panama and Guyana are using CICAD's reference guide on developing national drug policies as a blueprint for the process of revamping their national drug policies, with technical assistance from the Institutional Strengthening Section.

### Jamaica takes lead in adopting drug treatment court approach:

In February in Montego Bay, Jamaica, CICAD and partners organized a training workshop, *Court-Supervised Treatment Alternatives to Incarceration for Drug-Dependent Offenders*, that drew 58 trainees, representing six teams of judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, treatment providers, probation officers and police officers from Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. The government of Canada provided the funding as well as eight specialized instructors. Jamaica already had two drug treatment courts (Kingston and St. James) operating since 2000 and will be adding two more. The CARICOM Secretariat and Jamaica's Office of the Chief Justice and National Council on Drug Abuse (NCDA) co-sponsored the event with CICAD. [Photo, below: Jamaica workshop trainees break into smaller groups.]

The Drug Treatment Court (DTC) Project is working with Argentina, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic to carry out feasibility studies in these countries to determine the best course of action for implementing this approach to dealing with drug dependent offenders. If plans come together, 18-month pilot projects may be able to start in each of these countries in September. In the case of Argentina, the Inter-American Development Bank has indicated that it will help underwrite the project.

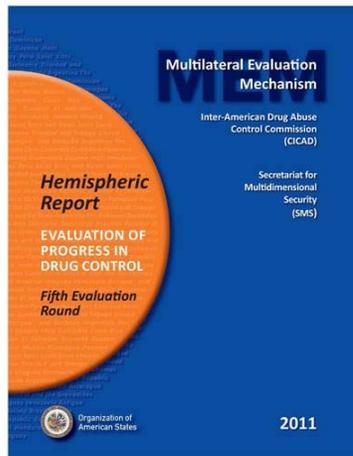


Salud y Vida en las Américas  
Youth groups enlisted to develop new message to promote drug prevention in Colombia

As part of an initiative funded by the Government of Spain for the development of local efforts on drug issues in Latin America, SAVIA –Drogas is co-financing new empowerment strategies for youth organizations that work on drug abuse prevention in Colombia. Grants have been awarded to community groups that develop their own outreach campaigns to discourage drug use. Groups use video, photos, skits and other communication tools to drive home their message. This effort is being supported by Colombia's Ministry of Social Welfare and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. [Photo above: a youth group gathers to write a video script.]

**Trans-Atlantic Cooperation:** CICAD is working closely with the project team of the European Commission through its Cooperation Programme between Latin America and the European Union on Anti-Drugs Policies (COPOLAD) and partners to make sure this initiative builds on and complements CICAD's initiatives and experience.

May 2011



**MEM Hemispheric Report:** The Commission approved the Hemispheric Report: Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control, 2011 of the Fifth Evaluation at its May meeting. The report examines the region as a whole to pinpoint shortcomings and gaps in international cooperation on the drug front for the period 2007-2009. 🌀

**SMART Programme starts up in CICAD:** The Inter-American Drug Observatory (OID) has joined with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to implement the SMART Programme in the Americas: the regional coordinator of UNODC's Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends Programme has been working out of the OAS headquarters in Washington, DC, since January. The SMART Programme aims to track trends on synthetic drugs, the chemical substances used in their production, and synthetic

drug consumption. 🌀 In addition, the Argentine drug control agency, SEDRONAR, has seconded an economist at CICAD headquarters at their expense for five months to complete a study to estimate the monetary cost of drugs to the countries of the Americas. 🌀

**Linkage between information and policy underscored:** The OID organized a two-day training seminar in St. Kitts and Nevis in February on setting up sustainable drug information networks in Caribbean countries. Participants came from the drug councils of St. Kitts & Nevis, Barbados, Grenada, Suriname, and Trinidad & Tobago, as well as branches of the St. Kitts government and a local medical school. The Drug Information Network (DIN) project has been building momentum over the past three years, benefiting from the strong support of Trinidad and Tobago and Grenada, which have provided technical assistance. 🌀

**Caribbean Counterdrug Training:** The CICAD Executive Secretariat is well advanced in standing up a Caribbean regional training center on counterdrug intelligence to be located in Trinidad and Tobago, similar to the ERCAIAD school for drug law enforcement that has been training police in Spanish-speaking countries for over 11 years. Funding is coming from the Canadian government.

**Caribbean Universities respond to CICAD call for preparation on drug issues:** An exploratory meeting held in March in Kingston, Jamaica, drew 100 senior representatives from eight Caribbean universities and other organizations. The participants, from 12 countries, heard about CICAD University Partnership Program that has worked with over 100 universities in Latin America for the past 13 years to introduce drug-related content in under- and post-graduate curricula, engage in community outreach for the promotion of healthy life styles and drug abuse prevention, and carry out research on drug-related problems. Each university then had break-out sessions to determine how they could introduce the CICAD methodology on their campus. The University of the West Indies and the National Council on Drug Abuse (NCDA) of Jamaica hosted the event, with the CARICOM and CICAD secretariats. [Photo: participants at the Jamaica meeting of Caribbean universities.] 🌀



## Training & Certification program gets website



CICAD's training and certification program for drug treatment professionals unveiled a new website that will serve as a focal point for

information (publications, multimedia and other materials), video conferences, forums and coordination among the multiple participants in the efforts to upgrade qualified drug treatment specialists. [PROCCER.org](http://PROCCER.org) is currently only available in Spanish. The program is currently operating in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama and Mexico. It has a cooperation program with the Latin American Federation of Treatment Communities (FLACT). This year, it will start a program in the Caribbean, with a first meeting to take place in May in Barbados. It is funded by the U.S. government. 🌀

### CICAD Contributions in 2010

CASH	
Country – Donor Agency	Contribution
United States	\$ 2,900,569
Canada	\$ 2,267,665
OAS Regular Fund	\$ 1,929,397
Spain	\$ 491,467
Mexico	\$ 130,000
France	\$ 51,808
Trinidad and Tobago	\$ 20,000
Chile	\$ 15,000
<b>Total cash contributions</b>	<b>\$ 7,818,799</b>
IN KIND	
Country – Donor Agency	Contribution
Canada	\$ 150,000
Mexico	\$ 80,000
Spain	\$ 61,000
UNODC	\$ 18,867
Brazil	\$ 15,000
Colombia	\$ 12,000
Panama	\$ 10,000
Dominican Republic	\$ 9,000
Costa Rica	\$ 8,000
United States	\$ 6,321
<b>Total in-kind contributions</b>	<b>\$ 370,188</b>
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 8,188,987</b>

Estimated Expenditures 2011: USD\$8.1 million