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**PILOT PROJECTS TO INTEGRATE
BORDER CITIES IN
PROGRAMS TO REDUCE
THE DEMAND FOR DRUGS**

Pilot Projects to Integrate Border Cities in Programs to Reduce the Demand for Drugs

Phase One

In this phase, the international legal framework is created for developing the projects. Based on agreements reached through the exchange of notes supplementing bilateral agreements on combating drugs, the establishment of cooperative instruments among National Anti-Drug Agencies, municipal governments and other institutions will be authorized. Thereafter, Technical Groups will be set up consisting of representatives from the National Anti-Drug Agencies, charged with coordinating and supervising actions to be developed in the context of the pilot projects. One of the Technical Groups' first tasks will be draw up the terms of reference for research studies that will make it possible to obtain a diagnosis of the actual situation in the pairs of cities involved, in order to encourage joint actions to prevent the use of drugs. Following this preliminary phase, a process of continued social mobilization will be initiated, which will extend throughout the duration of the projects, the objective being to maintain the target cities' commitment to the projects.

Phase Two

During this phase, Municipal Anti-Drug Councils or similar entities will be established in the context of city governments. These Councils, in the pairs of cities targeted by the projects, will be encouraged to set up formal and informal cooperative mechanisms such as periodic meetings, participation of the members of one Council on the Council of the neighboring city, etc. In order to start the process of training local communities, on-site courses will be conducted, with the target audience being council members and representatives from other segments of the community, as indicated by the Technical Groups. The Brazilian Government will also make available to each of the Brazilian and foreign cities involved two places in a remote learning course on drug prevention and one place in a remote learning course on treatment. The parameters of the above-mentioned research studies will then be defined in consultation with the municipal governments.

Phase Three

During this phase, the above-mentioned research studies will be carried out according to the following terms:

- The studies will seek to qualitatively identify the types of drugs consumed, patterns of consumption, relationship with STDs/AIDS and violence, the community's level of training;
- The studies will be directed to schools, health institutions or institutions caring for or treating addicts (public and/or private), prison facilities, companies, etc.

- The studies will be carried out by qualified university institutions, preferably institutions located in the area where pilot projects are being developed.
- The studies will result in detailed reports, indicating the extent of the drug problem and providing suggestions and data to guide future actions.

Phase Four

During this phase, forums will be held in the pairs of cities to discuss local problems and develop proposals for integrated actions to reduce the demand for drugs, based on the information gathered by the studies. These forums will involve the participation of municipal authorities, community leaders and representatives from social movements involved in education, health, sports, religion, commerce, etc., as well as the general population, particularly young people. The Technical Groups will provide support for organizing these meetings. Upon conclusion of these efforts, there should be a document summarizing the conclusions reached, identifying actions needed and developing proposals for work between the pairs of cities and reflecting the communities' commitment to resolving problems associated with reducing the demand for drugs. The resulting actions will be carried out or coordinated by the Municipal Councils.

Phase Five

During this phase, the Municipal Councils will adopt actions plans that seek to put into operation the proposals emanating from the forums. In formulating these action plans, the Councils will receive support and guidance from the Technical Groups. On this subject, it should be noted that the Brazilian government is in the process of developing, in collaboration with CICAD, a training project on drawing up Municipal Anti-Drug Plans. It is expected to become operational during the second half of this year and its methodology could be useful to the Councils.

Phase Six

During this phase, meetings will be held at the Technical Group level to analyze the results obtained throughout the project and to prepare the report submitting the conclusions of the Groups to the final evaluation meeting that will follow at the level of National Anti-Drug Agencies, to develop the final report to be submitted to CICAD in Washington by the National Agencies involved.

Conclusion

When these six phases have been satisfactorily completed, the Municipal Councils will be included in the networks comprised of the respective National Anti-Drug Agencies. The pilot projects can then be considered concluded and new projects can be started with other pairs of border cities. This does not mean that the cooperative ties between those municipalities and the Technical Groups would be broken, but the hope is that by

that point in time the dynamic developed in drug reduction activities would be self-sustaining.