

**TWENTY-THIRD REGULAR SESSION**  
**May 5-8, 1998**  
**Washington, D.C.**

**OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.23**  
**CICAD/doc.965/98 add. 1**  
**5 May 1998**  
**Original: Spanish**

**STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION**  
**PLAN OF ACTION**  
**ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY IN THE HEMISPHERE**

May 1998

## INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)

### Plan of Action Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere

Assist countries in data base development and data gathering regarding all aspects of the drug issue.

(par. 37 of the Plan of Action)

#### I. INTRODUCTION/SITUATION

As part of a comprehensive strategy to address the key components of the illicit drugs issue, CICAD's Executive Secretariat develops computerized formats for the organization and storage of statistical and document information. At the same time, it promotes uniform systems and the adoption of common criteria for the inputting of comparable data so as to make possible, the easy retrieval of information, the execution of analyses related to emerging trends, the reorientation of programs and projects, and the design and execution of activities for selective information dissemination.

The Executive Secretariat manages its regional information activities using the framework of the InterAmerican Drug Information System (IADIS), with the cooperation of 39 information centers throughout the Hemisphere for document management purposes. The statistical part is implemented through the Inter-American Data Bank. The Uniform Statistical System for the Control of Supply (CICDAT), which operates within the Bank, has made it possible to standardize criteria and to compile comparable data in the control area, with considerable progress that allows us to have a time series made up of many important variables.

#### II. PROGRESS

##### **Statistics:**

Five volumes of the annual "Statistical Summary" have been published, containing standardized statistical timelines on seizures by type of drug, precursors or other chemical substance, equipment, money, and immovable property, as well as on persons detained for trafficking or possession, arms, laboratories discovered, and areas eradicated.

The availability of uniform time series has facilitated a regional analysis, allowing the observation of the tendencies and presence of important variables, as well as other statistics in addition to those previously mentioned. Currently the CICDAT software

program which operates this data base is being reviewed with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of its multi-user operation and improving its automation.

**Documentation:**

The full text capabilities of the database containing official CICAD documents was considerably expanded during the period October 1997 - April 1998, with the inclusion of available full text documents from CICAD's XI - XVII Regular Sessions. This new version of the CICAD documents' database will be uploaded to the @RNET in the second quarter of 1998 for consultation by OAS Member States under IADIS' section of the CICAD WEB page.

As noted under other Strategy items progress continued on the automation of records for the legislation (LEGIS) and projects/research (PROYE) databases. Updated versions of both databases will be uploaded to the @RNET in the second or third quarter of 1998. Compilation of drug-related information and data for the second IADIS CD-ROM continued during this period. Publication is now scheduled for the third quarter of 1998.

Database development and data gathering is an ongoing responsibility of CICAD's Information Systems and Services Division/IADIS which it carries out in coordination with LADIS Member Centers and through the development of databases for regional use.

### III. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/FORECAST

**Statistics:**

Given the need to revise and update, the statistical regulations will be discussed again in a future technical meeting, where they will be reviewed as well as broadened, besides improving the computer equipment used by countries, through a financial donation by Spanish government.

**Documentation:**

Scarcity of funding.

### IV. RESOURCES/ACTION REQUIRED

**Statistics:**

Given the importance of the statistical information produced by CICDAT, which apart from showing general tendencies of the supply of drugs, also indicates basic variables for the control of drug production and drug trafficking, it is necessary to continue developing the CICDAT. While the second stage of the project is being

financed by the Government of Spain, for the development of the third stage, a budget of approximately

US\$ 175,000.- is required.

Documentation:

Resources to continue full text document scanning

us\$ 10,000.00

(Stratf8-ing)

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**OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.23**  
**CICAD/doc.965/98 add.2**  
**6 May 1998**  
**Original: Spanish**

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**ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY IN THE HEMISPHERE**

May 1998

**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)**  
**Plan of Action**  
**Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere**

Prepare statistics on drug consumption in countries including illicit drugs and licit pharmaceuticals; Strengthen its capacity and assist countries in monitoring trends and promote research on drug abuse, including studies on the health and social costs of substance abuse;

Assist countries in data base development and data gathering regarding all aspects of the drug issue; Develop impact indicators regarding programs and initiatives; and assist countries in monitoring trends in abuse, and prepare statistics on drug consumption, including illicit drugs and licit pharmaceuticals (*paras. 3, 6, 37, and 39 of the Plan of action.*

I. INTRODUCTION

At its twentieth regular session, CICAD approved and sent to the General Assembly a request for funding to help expand the science research base of drug abuse prevention and treatment programs, by: (a) setting up a CICAD Science Advisory Committee that would, inter alia, serve as a Peer Review Group for research projects, and (b) engaging a Science Director within the Executive Secretariat, at the level of Principal Investigator capable of directing international research projects.

For 1998 program-budget of the Regular Fund of the OAS allocates US\$14,500 for a meeting of the Science Advisory Committee. However, the General Assembly did not fund the post of Science Research Director. Nonetheless, the member states continue to stress the need for accurate and timely data on drug use in their countries, and for many other types of research on the causes and etiology of substance abuse, risk factors, best practices in prevention, treatment and rehabilitation. Interest is also growing in the development and refining of methods of measuring the impact of drug abuse prevention and treatment programs.

II. PROGRESS

For over six years, CICAD promoted and funded epidemiological research on drug abuse in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic. On the basis of that expertise, the Inter-American Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) was developed and approved by CICAD at its twentieth regular session. The findings of the initial SIDUC effort, in which over twenty member states participated, were considered by CICAD at its twenty-second regular session in Lima, Peru in November 1997. SIDUC will enable member states to develop baseline data and trend indicators to help measure progress in reducing drug use. The Secretariat has developed a proposal to implement SIDUC in

the Caribbean, for which it is currently seeking funding in the amount of US\$1.2 million; has helped design and negotiate a grant proposal for an indepth study of drug use among high school students in Central America, and has organized and sponsored a pilot ethnographic study of drug use and attitudes towards drugs in ethnic communities in Roatan, Honduras. Training and technical assistance in drug epidemiology continue to be given to the SIDUC coordinators in each country, and to members of the teams working on the Central American Atlantic Coast Prevention Initiative. An evaluation methodology has been developed for this latter project. A pr 'ect on the national social and economic costs of drug abuse is being developed with Argentina.

## I. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/FORECAST

A solid inter-American research program, covering data collection, analysis and interpretation, program evaluation, and determination and selection of best practices is essential to progress in reducing the demand for drugs, as noted in the *Antidrug Strategy in the Hemisphere*. CICAD must maintain credibility and leadership in research, and the Executive Secretariat needs to recruit a senior in-house drug researcher of international standing. Funding is again being sought in the 1999 OAS Regular Fund budget for this purpose. Cooperation is also invited from research institutes in this hemisphere and elsewhere to provide specialized training on survey methods, technical assistance and advice, as well as funding to apport the SIDUC project and the national research teams.

## II. ESOURCES/ACTION REQUIRED

Training opportunities for drug researchers in specific topics of the research agenda (for example, program evaluation, drug survey methods, sampling, factor analysis) financial support for research in the member states through SIDUC (US\$250,000) P-4 level position in the CICAD Executive Secretariat for a Science Director, financed by the OAS Regular Fund in 1999.

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**5-8 May, 1998**  
**Washington, D.C.**

**OEA/Ser.XIV.2.23**  
**CICAD/doc.965/98 add.3 rev.1**  
**11 September 1998**  
**Original: Spanish**

**ACTION PLAN**  
**FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE**  
**ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY IN THE HEMISPHERE**



## **ACTION PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY IN THE HEMISPHERE**

The current Plan of Action has been adjusted in accordance with the decision adopted during the twenty-third regular session of CICAD.

### **Demand Reduction**

1. Mandate the Group of Experts on Demand Reduction to continue to examine the subject of Demand Reduction, and to periodically incorporate its conclusions and recommendations in the Plan of Action.
2. Establish a mechanism to compile and disseminate information on experiences and successes related to demand reduction programming and initiatives.
3. Prepare statistics on drug consumption in countries including illicit drugs and licit pharmaceuticals.
4. Compile and disseminate information regarding best practices in the areas of prevention and treatment in relation to special groups such as youth, women, indigenous peoples, etc.
5. Strengthen its capacity and assist countries in monitoring trends and promote research on drug abuse including studies on the health and social costs of substance abuse.
6. At technical meetings held by CICAD on the subject, to promote the preparation of clear guidelines outlining those aspects and factors that, from a conceptual and methodological standpoint, should be included in a national prevention program, with a view to achieving standardization at the interAmerican level on the basis of successful experiences carried out thus far.

### **Supply Reduction**

7. Assist in promoting greater coordination among law enforcement agencies/officials and among the judiciary in member states.
8. Promote and facilitate better coordination in intelligence gathering/exchange and regarding drug related investigations internationally.
9. Establish a mechanism for the compilation and dissemination of information concerning experiences in alternative development efforts and programs (including those of NGO'S).

10. Assist member states making representation to international financial institutions for financial support for alternative development initiatives.
11. Develop a mechanism for the verification of illicit drug cultivation, environmental damage and identification of economic redevelopment of these areas in member states.

### **Control Measures**

12. Reinforce training initiatives regarding the control of precursor chemicals including the safe and acceptable disposal of these substances and the neutralization of chemical by-products on the environment with the assistance of relevant experts in these fields.
13. Develop model systems and procedures for the control of precursor chemicals while not interfering with legitimate commercial or industrial trade in/use of these substances.
14. Develop mechanisms to control precursor chemicals.
15. Promote collaboration and cooperation among the countries regarding the movement of precursor chemicals, using various mechanisms including standard form and procedures for verification.
16. Provide support and assistance in the review and modification of laws as part of a harmonization of legislation and judicial review.
17. Provide assistance/training in the use of intelligence in investigations and prosecutions.
18. Establish a mechanism for the electronic exchange of information regarding judicial reform and modernization of criminal/legal procedures.
19. Redouble its efforts before the Inter-American Development Bank to re-emphasize the importance of recommendations of the December 1995 Summit of the Americas Buenos Aires Communique and inquire as to what assistance is required from the OAS to expedite approval of the funding proposal related to the foregoing recommendations (with the good offices of the Secretary General of the OAS and member states).
20. Promote and encourage hemispheric cooperation among member states in customs and maritime control issues.
21. Encourage member states to enter into constructive dialogue with the private sector to identify mechanism for the control of drug smuggling.

**General Issues**

22. Assist with institutional strengthening in member states to promote collaboration (integration) among agencies, ministries and other entities responsible for the various aspects of the country's response to the drug problem.
23. Assist with training (relates to all priority lines of action and programs of CICAD).
24. Assist countries in data base development and data gathering regarding all aspects of the drug issue.
25. Assist countries with the identification of sources of money to support implementation of the strategy.
26. Develop impact indicators regarding programs and initiatives.
27. Identify and compile information concerning existing training activities being carried out by agencies/organizations and further coordinating training initiatives being contemplated by CICAD with these existing programs.

**GLOBAL COMMITMENT**

28. Ensure strong coordination with the UNDCP and other appropriate international organizations to avoid overlap and duplication, promoting the development of collaboration and the pursuit of joint initiatives.