

**RECOMMENDATION 1:****COMPLETE THE DESIGN AND APPROVAL OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN AND PROCEED WITH ITS IMPLEMENTATION**

El Salvador indicates that it has already completed the draft of its National Plan, which is currently pending approval by the President of the Republic. It further indicates that different public and private institutions have been involved in the National Anti-drug Plan.

CICAD recognizes the progress made by the Government of El Salvador and encourages the country to continue implementing this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 2:**SIGN AND RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS**

El Salvador indicates that it is currently consulting with the relevant agencies through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

CICAD urges the Government of El Salvador to complete the consultation process and proceed to transmit the instrument to the legislative body for consideration in order to fully comply with the recommendation. The recommendation stands.

RECOMMENDATION 3:**CONTINUE THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING A DRUG OBSERVATORY SO THAT STATISTICS AND DOCUMENTS BECOME AVAILABLE ENABLING CONSOLIDATED INFORMATION ON DEMAND REDUCTION, SUPPLY REDUCTION, AND CONTROL MEASURES TO BE KEPT**

El Salvador indicates that the establishment of the National Observatory on Drugs is occurring at the same time as the approval and entry into force of the National Anti-drug Plan. For example, an Observatory web page is now accessible, a work plan is in place and work continues to establish an informational inventory. However, the Salvadorian government stresses that to make it fully operational, technical and financial assistance will be required to train staff in scientific investigation and evaluation of programs related to the Observatory.

CICAD maintains this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 4:**APPROVE A NATIONAL STRATEGY ON DEMAND REDUCTION, BASED ON THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION AND ITS PLAN OF ACTION FOR PURPOSES OF SYSTEMATICALLY DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS IN THIS CRITICAL AREA**

El Salvador reports that it has a National Anti-drug Strategy with two components: the Salvadoran Anti-drug Commission and the National Anti-drug Plan. The Commission is fully operational. The National Plan is pending approval by the President of the Republic, which is expected in early 2002.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by El Salvador and encourages the country to continue with its efforts to implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 5:****ESTABLISH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR "DRUGS IN THE WORKPLACE" PROGRAMS**

El Salvador reports that an antidoping plan has been launched. Carried out by the Antidoping Unit of the Vice Ministry of Transportation, it is aimed at drivers and future drivers of collective transportation and private vehicles, as well as air and maritime transportation personnel.

CICAD recognizes El Salvador's approach as one component of a "Drugs in a workplace" program and encourages the country to fully comply with the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 6:**ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE FOR INSTITUTIONS OFFERING TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION SERVICES**

El Salvador indicates that in order to establish standards that treatment and rehabilitation institutions must follow, a commission has been created led by personnel from the Ministry of Public Health and other entities which have prepared a document on minimum treatment and rehabilitation standards. The country reports its validation process began in the third quarter of 2001.

CICAD acknowledges the progress made by El Salvador in this area and encourages the country to continue its efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 7:**CREATE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONNEL WORKING IN DRUG PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND REHABILITATION**

El Salvador reports that progress has been made in fulfilling the mandate of this Recommendation through the development of guidelines for training modules, training workshops for technical staff and specialists working in public and private institutions in prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by El Salvador and encourages the country to continue to fully implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 8:**CONDUCT STUDIES TO DETERMINE THE MAGNITUDE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF DRUG USE IN THE GENERAL POPULATION TO INCLUDE INDICATORS ON PREVALENCE, INCIDENCE AND AGE OF FIRST USE**

El Salvador indicates that the Ministry of Health has launched a Research Protocol that includes the prevalence, incidence, and age of first use.

El Salvador also reports that it seeks the assistance of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs to conduct studies reflecting the magnitude and characteristics of drug use in the Salvadoran capital. The country further indicates that the Ministry of Education conducted a drug abuse survey among primary and secondary students in 30 public and private educational institutions in San Salvador. Two similar studies were conducted in surrounding municipalities. El Salvador has also developed a proposed pilot plan in demand and supply reduction to be launched in 20 of the country's municipalities. El Salvador further proposes to conduct an Inter-American Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) survey in secondary schools in cities with population over 30,000 in 2002.



CICAD acknowledges the progress made and encourages El Salvador to continue its efforts in fully implementing this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 9:

ESTABLISH A MECHANISM TO MONITOR AND CONTROL THE GROWTH OF ILLICIT CROPS

El Salvador informs that in terms of monitoring and control of illicit crops, the country conducts joint operations involving the National Civilian Police and the Armed Forces of El Salvador. Furthermore, in order to improve this mechanism, it has created a section for the specific purpose of crop eradication, which conducts ongoing reconnaissance missions in affected areas and identifies individuals involved in such activities. It is important to mention that currently they enjoy full political and legal support. A joint working group was created by presidential mandate to carry out these tasks.

CICAD congratulates the Government of El Salvador for the work done in this area, which will help ensure El Salvador's ability to handle illicit drug cultivation before the problem becomes unmanageable.

RECOMMENDATION 10:

STRENGTHEN MECHANISMS FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO INVESTIGATE AND PROSECUTE OFFENSES INVOLVING THE MANUFACTURE OF AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS

The country indicates that collaboration and coordination has been strengthened among the security organisms of Central America and the Caribbean, which have signed a declaration to implement mechanisms for investigation and prosecution through the exchange of information and cooperation. This fosters improved control measures in the region including interdiction and combating crime, in addition to arms trafficking.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction with the progress made by the Salvadoran government in implementing this recommendation and encourages it to continue its efforts to that end.

RECOMMENDATION 11:

DEVELOP THE CAPACITY TO ESTIMATE THE HUMAN, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC COST OF THE DRUG PROBLEM

Little progress is observed with regard to developing the capacity to evaluate the human, social, and economic cost, since it has only conducted an exercise that resulted in the design of a model for future implementation and states that it will require training and support to fulfill this recommendation.

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

In the recommendations concerning the National Anti-drug Strategy currently under way, it is clear that El Salvador is making full progress in the steps that will enable it to complete the design of its strategy, which is to be implemented beginning in 2002. Moreover, it is acknowledged that in the aspects related to demand reduction, treatment, rehabilitation and control of prevalence indicators, El Salvador has made advances that will be enhanced in the short term once it has successfully integrated, coordinated, and designated tasks concerning these issues in its National Plan.

With regard to control measures, CICAD considers that the Salvadoran authorities will be making significant progress in the short term, which will enable it to more effectively regulate actions that strengthen control of its territory for the fight against drugs.