

**Multilateral
Evaluation Mechanism
MEM**



El Salvador

**2005 PROGRESS REPORT IN DRUG CONTROL
IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND**



**RECOMMENDATION 1:****IMPLEMENT A NATIONAL SYSTEM TO COMPILE INFORMATION ON TRIALS AND CONVICTIONS, BROKEN DOWN BY TYPE OF OFFENSE**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador reports that it has a program to facilitate the production of all types of reports needed on the topic of drugs, including information on persons prosecuted and convicted of drug-related offenses. This information is broken down by type of offense, as indicated in the recommendation.

The National Penitentiary Register (RNP) was established in early 2005, and contains a range of indicators related to the incarcerated population. The RNP has some limitations in terms of its ability to gather information and feed it to the central server's database, as it does not have a centralized link providing connectivity to the country's 20 penitentiaries. This makes it difficult to generate reports in a timely manner.

CICAD notes progress in implementing this recommendation and encourages the country to continue to improve its National Penitentiary Register in order to fully implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 2:**ESTABLISH PREVENTION PROGRAMS WITH NATIONAL COVERAGE TARGETING WOMEN, STREET CHILDREN, OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH, AND WORKING CHILDREN, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002**

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador reports that it does not consider necessary to implement specific prevention programs targeting women because of the low prevalence of drug use in this target population.

Regarding street children, El Salvador reports that the principal prevention strategy focuses on enrolling or re-enrolling street and working children and adolescents in the formal education system as a fundamental factor for protecting them from drug use and other behavior. In this area, the programs are implemented by the Salvadoran Institute for Children and Adolescents (ISNA) and the Ministry of Education in the framework of the National Education Plan 2021 and consist of the following: a)- Expanding coverage with flexible modalities and tackling lags in schooling; b)- Enrolling 100% of the school-age population, including street children; c)- Broadening the Family Code to protect children from hazardous child labor; d)- Promoting 11 years of schooling; and e)- Coordinating actions in the framework of the solidarity networks program.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by the country and encourages it to continue working to comply with this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 3:****ESTABLISH PREVENTION, REHABILITATION, AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS THAT HAVE NATIONAL COVERAGE SPECIFICALLY TARGETING MEMBERS OF THE YOUTH GANGS OPERATING IN THE COUNTRY**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador reports that is developing projects and programs focusing heavily on prevention, especially promoting schooling, public safety and the development of skills for life and human values. These programs, among others, are: a)- Culture of Due Process of Law; b)- Safe Schools; c)- Education for Life Program; d)- Effective and Supportive Schools. Furthermore, two pilot projects on the prevention of violence are being implemented, one for pre-school and the other for high-risk education centers.

The country recognizes that the gang phenomenon in its territory is a complex problem and that there is increasing evidence that gangs are connected to organized crime and illicit drug trafficking and sales.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by El Salvador to implement many prevention programs and encourages the country to take the steps it deems necessary to address the other areas of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 4:**EXPAND THE AVAILABILITY AND GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE OF TRAINING ON DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT TO INCLUDE SPECIALIZED COURSES AT THE UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE LEVELS**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador reports that, to comply with this recommendation, it must step up national actions, providing further training to teachers through short courses, seminars, conferences, congresses, and certification programs specializing in prevention.

In the course of 2005, the National Civil Police has trained police officers in the framework of the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program. Furthermore, El Salvador reports that it has not taken any concrete steps to establish graduate and post-graduate courses specializing in prevention.

CICAD encourages El Salvador to make progress in complying with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 5:**ISSUE REGULATIONS TO GOVERN THE OPENING AND OPERATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE CARE OF DRUG DEPENDENTS**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador reports that in early 2006, revision of the Regulations by the Legal and Juridical Affairs Secretariat of the Office of the President of the Republic was finished and approved. The country anticipates that approval by the President and publication will take place in the course of 2006.



CICAD encourages the country to effectively implement the Regulations contained in the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO MONITOR PRIVATE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION INSTITUTIONS, WITH REGARD TO BOTH LEGAL ASPECTS AND APPLICATION OF THE MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador reports that since late 2004 and in 2005, authorities have held a series of working meetings with a group of national experts to draft technical-legal provisions to govern care for drug users. The country also indicates that it has drafted Regulations Governing the Operation of Institutions and Establishments Providing Care for Drug Dependent Individuals.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has financed the H-90 Project: "Establishing a Network for Treatment, Rehabilitation, Social Reintegration, and Job Training," through which a record-keeping pilot study was made for 43 institutions identified in the study of local prevention initiatives.

In short, El Salvador plans to carry out the following actions in 2006:

- Organizing the call to establish the network.
- Conducting the call for establishment of the network, data systematization and profile drafting, ministerial validation and approval of the board of directors, and establishing the network.
- Starting the processing of the registration and obtaining legal status for the network.

CICAD recognizes the progress made by El Salvador and encourages the country to comply with the indicated timeframe for effective compliance with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

CARRY OUT EVALUATIONS OF REHABILITATION, FOLLOW-UP, AND SOCIAL REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador reports that the draft "Regulations for the Operation of Institutions and Establishments Providing Treatment for Drug Dependent Individuals", which will come into force shortly, establishes as one of its provisions (Art. 51) the use of an evaluation instrument at least once each year. With this instrument, the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance and the Higher Council on Public Health will monitor and evaluate the level of compliance of institutions and establishments with the requirements of the Regulations.

For this purpose, the country provided a timetable for 2006 to implement the recommendation.

CICAD encourages El Salvador to take the steps that are pending for the effective implementation of this recommendation.



RECOMMENDATION 8:

CONDUCT A NATIONWIDE SURVEY OF DRUG ABUSE-RELATED MORBIDITY

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador indicates that its drug use information systems are now being modernized. The country estimates that a database will be available as of the first quarter of 2007, which will be used to conduct a study of drug use-related morbidity.

CICAD encourages the country to continue working to comply with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 9:

CONDUCT A SURVEY ON DRUG USE IN THE GENERAL POPULATION

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador reports that it has finished the field work for the survey on drug use in the general population, as well as the task of codification and data entry.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction at compliance with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 10:

ESTABLISH PENAL SANCTIONS FOR THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador indicates that it has set up a working group to review its legislation and draw up the proposal for legal reforms and its subsequent submittal to the corresponding legislative bodies, which is expected to conclude between 2006 and 2007.

CICAD encourages El Salvador to continue taking the steps necessary to comply with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 11:

ESTABLISH CIVIL SANCTIONS FOR THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador indicates that civil liability for the perpetration of crimes involving the diversion of controlled chemical substances is coupled with criminal proceedings and this is provided for in the country's legislation.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction at compliance with this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 12:****DEVELOP A STATISTICAL SYSTEM TO COMPILE DATA ON ARRESTS, TRIALS, AND CONVICTIONS FOR POSSESSION OF ILLICIT DRUGS FOR PERSONAL USE**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador indicates that the Anti-Narcotics Division of the National Civilian Police has a system to obtain information on persons arrested nationwide for illicit drug possession for personal use. The country informs that records of this type of arrest are obtained from the different regional police departments and subsequently included in statistics kept by the Anti-Narcotics Division on this and other drug-related crimes.

The country reports that thus far, there are no cases in its penitentiary system of incarcerations for illicit drug possession for personal use as alternative measures decided by the judge are applied.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction at compliance with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 13:**DEVELOP UP TO DATE STATISTICS ON PERSONS ARRESTED, TRIED, AND CONVICTED FOR ILLICIT TRAFFICKING AND POSSESSION OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITIONS IN ALL NATIONAL PENITENTIARY CENTERS**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador indicates that the National Penitentiary Record System now has this type of information on prosecutions and convictions of illicit possession and trafficking of firearms and ammunition.

The National Civilian Police maintain statistics of persons arrested for this type of offense nationwide, and records are kept via the Operations and Statistics Unit.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction at compliance with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 14:**EXPAND THE TRAINING GIVEN TO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS IN MONEY LAUNDERING CONTROL**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

El Salvador reports that it has held several Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) training seminars on the topic of "Transparency and Knowing your Customer" in companies, corporate groups and other legal entities.

CICAD acknowledges the progress made by El Salvador in complying with this recommendation and encourages it to continue taking steps aimed at providing administrative officials with training in the money laundering area.



CONCLUSIONS

El Salvador has made efforts to comply with the recommendations formulated during the Third Evaluation Round, 2003–2004. Of the 14 recommendations, four have been fully complied with and the rest are in the process of being implemented.

The country finished the survey on drug use in the general population, developed a statistical system to obtain information on persons arrested, tried, and convicted for illegally possessing drugs for personal use, and developed updated statistics on persons arrested, tried, and convicted for illegally trafficking in and possessing firearms and ammunition in all the country's penitentiary centers.

Furthermore, in terms of demand reduction, progress has been made in prevention programs aimed at street children, and prevention programs have been implemented for the school population with regard to the problems of juvenile gangs.

In the area of rehabilitation of drug-dependent persons, El Salvador has made progress by means of the prompt drafting of the Regulations for the Operation of Institutions and Establishments Providing Care for Drug Dependent Individuals.

In the area of supply reduction and control measures, the establishment of penal sanctions imposed for the diversion of pharmaceutical products, as well as increasing the training provided to administrative officials in money laundering matters, is pending.

CICAD encourages El Salvador to comply with the pending recommendations in full and to continue participating actively in the MEM process.