

**Multilateral  
Evaluation Mechanism  
MEM**



# Honduras

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





**RECOMMENDATION 1:****RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES OF 1971, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999–2000**

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001

REITERATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

JUNE 2005

Honduras reports that the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 was ratified on March 2, 2004 by Decree No. 23-004, and published in the Official Register "La Gaceta" of April 22, 2005. (Gaceta No. 30,677).

The country formally adhered to the Convention on May 5, 2005; the instrument of adherence was deposited on May 23, 2005.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction for the completion of this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 2:****RATIFY THE 1992 INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999–2000**

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001

REITERATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

JUNE 2005

Honduras reports that the Secretariat of State, through the Department of Foreign Affairs issued Adherence Agreement No. 9-DT on March 28, 2003, recommending adherence to this Convention. This agreement has been transmitted to the Office of the President for signature.

The country reports that steps have been taken to speed up the formalities required by domestic law for this to take place.

CICAD notes with concern that Honduras has not been able to make substantial progress with the implementation of this recommendation and urges the country to strengthen efforts to ratify the aforementioned Convention, taking into account that this is a reiterated recommendation from the First Evaluation Round, 1999–2000.

**RECOMMENDATION 3:**

**RATIFY THE FOLLOWING PROTOCOLS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002:**

- A) THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR.**
- B) THE PROTOCOL AGAINST ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION.**
- C) THE PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

**REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that the Protocols were remitted for approval to the Office of the President by the Secretariat of State's Department of Foreign Affairs on July 8, 2002. The country indicates that steps have been taken to speed up the formalities required by domestic law for this purpose.

CICAD notes with concern that Honduras has not been able to make progress with the implementation of this recommendation and urges the country to increase its efforts in order to ratify these Protocols, taking into account that this is a reiterated recommendation from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002.

**RECOMMENDATION 4:**

**STRENGTHEN THE HONDURAN OBSERVATORY ON DRUGS IN ORDER TO ENSURE ITS EFFECTIVE OPERATION**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that it intends to start implementing this recommendation during 2006.

The country has envisaged the procurement of suitable hardware and software and staff training for the Observatory.

The country also reports that most of its agencies lack solid and computerized databases.

CICAD encourages Honduras to increase its efforts to fully implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 5:**

**IMPLEMENT THE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN IN THE AREA OF DEMAND REDUCTION, FOCUSING ON POPULATIONS AT-RISK**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that the Honduran Institute for the Prevention of Alcoholism, Drug Addiction, and Drug Dependence (IHADFA), through the "Quality of Life" Association, launched a project in 2005



for women inmates in the Women's Center for Social Reform (CEFAS), which is serving 100 women with personal and technical training and social and family reinsertion.

The country also reports that in 2005 the Honduran Interagency Coordination Office on Addictions (CIHSA) began forming a network in the Garifuna area of Trujillo, Colón Department (northeastern zone of Honduras) with 15 organizations in the initial nucleus. From this initiative, the Liaison for Black Women will start a project for the prevention of drug addictions and HIV in 2006.

Similarly, it states that the Zas pilot project for comprehensive intervention is underway in the Zambrano community, Francisco Morazán Department (central zone of Honduras) and neighboring villages. Here, several organizations of the CIHSA Network carry out activities for drug prevention, leader training, culture of legality, use of free time, school for fathers and mothers, in preschool, primary school, two high schools, housewives' clubs, health volunteers, sports leagues, boosters, parent associations, and other community groups.

Moreover, Honduras reports that prevention work began in 2005 for personal and technical training and social and family reinsertion at the "Renacer" Juvenile Detention Center.

The National Council against Drug Trafficking is encouraging the formation of an Interagency Committee for Demand Reduction, reporting to that Council, as the organ for coordination and advisory services responsible for ensuring that the systems for prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and social and labor reinsertion for the use and abuse of drugs established in the country are functioning efficiently and effectively.

The country reports that development and implementation of the "Program of opportunities for the rehabilitation of drug dependents in Honduras" are still pending. This is a proposal of the IHADFA to work with drug dependents in recovery who belong to *maras* and gangs.

CICAD recognizes the progress made by Honduras and encourages the country to continue its efforts to fully comply with this recommendation.

## **RECOMMENDATION 6:**

### **CARRY OUT EVALUATIONS OF DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that it plans to begin activities toward implementing this recommendation during 2006, through the Honduran Institute for the Prevention of Alcoholism, Drug Addiction, and Drug Dependence (IHADFA), by means of a cohort survey of primary schools to evaluate the effectiveness of its prevention projects "Valuing Myself" and "Knowing Myself."

CICAD encourages Honduras to continue its efforts to fully implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 7:****IMPLEMENT MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE FOR DRUG DEPENDENTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002**

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005

Honduras reports that the Honduran Institute for the Prevention of Alcoholism, Drug Addiction, and Drug Dependence (IHADFA) began implementation of the minimum standards of care, drafted in 2001 and approved by its Board of Directors in February 2003, through a process of validation that has not been finished.

The country reports that it held a workshop in 2005, for follow-up on the process of implementing minimum standards. The country established a timeframe for the implementation and application of minimum standards of care for the third quarter of 2006, which will be followed by an evaluation and monitoring period extending from the fourth quarter of 2006 to the second quarter of 2007.

CICAD urges the country to make greater efforts to conclude the process of implementing minimum standards of care within the established timeframe, taking into account that this is a recommendation reiterated from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002.

**RECOMMENDATION 8:****CARRY OUT STUDIES TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT AND CHARACTERISTICS OF DRUG USE IN THE GENERAL POPULATION**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

Honduras reports that it plans to begin the implementation of this recommendation during 2006.

CICAD encourages Honduras to make all the necessary efforts to implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 9:****CARRY OUT DRUG USE AND ABUSE MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY STUDIES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002**

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005

Honduras reports that the Honduran Institute for the Prevention of Alcoholism, Drug Addiction, and Drug Dependence (IHADFA) plans to conduct a study of drug-related mortality in cooperation with the Office of Forensic Medicine of the Public Prosecutor's Office in 2006, and that the necessary contacts have been established between those agencies for this purpose.

Similarly, the country reports that the culmination of a secondary student survey is pending, and that the Honduran Observatory on Drugs for 2006 plans to take surveys in emergency rooms and treatment centers around the country with the Inter-American Uniform Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) methodology.



CICAD recognizes the actions taken toward complying with this recommendation, which is reiterated from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002, and urges the country to persevere with its efforts toward implementation.

### **RECOMMENDATION 10:**

#### **IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO REGISTER INFORMATION ON THE EXTENT OF ILLICIT CROPS AND POTENTIAL PRODUCTION**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that a date to start implementing this recommendation has not been established, as the country requires technical advice from experts who have conducted this type of study in other countries.

Furthermore, the country reports that authorities foresee other priorities to which it will be channeling any available resources.

CICAD encourages Honduras to make greater efforts to implement this recommendation.

### **RECOMMENDATION 11:**

#### **IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM TO EVALUATE CONTROLS AND REGULATIONS ON PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that it is conducting an institutional restructuring process in the Health Department of the Secretariat of State to develop processes for ongoing improvement and the process for the monitoring and evaluation of the operations. The country reports that an update of the respective control instruments is still pending and that it expects to complete this process in 2006.

Honduras indicates that the principal obstacle to implementing this recommendation is the amount of time needed for approval of the organizational structure.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made and encourages Honduras to implement this recommendation.

### **RECOMMENDATION 12:**

#### **ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF THE SYSTEM FOR PREVENTING THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICALS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

**REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that it has reviewed and updated the regulations referring to the prevention of the diversion of pharmaceutical products. This review has been approved by the Attorney General's Office.



The country states that, to conclude implementation of this recommendation, the following actions are pending: approval of the Regulations for Sanitation Control of Public Health Services, Products, and Institutions; strengthening of operations of the regulatory units within regional departments of the Secretariat of State in the Health Department; and strengthening of interagency coordination between the institutions in charge.

The country informs that, with support from the United Nations Office against Drugs and Crime (UNODC), training was provided on NDS 5.1 (National Drug Control System) to twelve public officials in 2005, and computer equipment was delivered to the institutions participating in the project.

The country reports that it expects full implementation of this recommendation during 2006.

CICAD recognizes the progress made by Honduras and urges it to make greater efforts toward full compliance with this recommendation, taking into account that it has been reiterated from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002.

### **RECOMMENDATION 13:**

#### **ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF THE SYSTEM FOR PREVENTING THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

**REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that it has conducted inspections of the companies which import and export controlled chemical substances and that it has implemented partial controls in customs.

The country indicates that it still needs to draft regulations to control chemical substances, and to formulate procedures for their regulation; carry out a national census of companies that market these substances; and train public officials who will enforce the regulation, as well as the users.

The country informs that the development of the framework to regulate controlled chemical substances will conclude in 2006.

CICAD expresses its concern at the slight progress made by Honduras to implement this recommendation, which is reiterated from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002, and urges the country to comply with it.

### **RECOMMENDATION 14:**

#### **CREATE A DATABASE ON ARRESTS, OPERATIONS AND SEIZURES RELATED TO THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS IN CONNECTION WITH ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that it has implemented the Joint Information Center (CEINCO), responsible for keeping a registry of the arrests, operations, and seizures related to the illicit trafficking in weapons, ammunition, explosives and other related materials in connection with illicit drug trafficking.





Nevertheless, the country points out that the operating system is not fully adequate and that it would be advisable to transfer the Center's data to a higher-capacity computer system.

Honduras reports that it needs technical advice from experts, the purchase of software and computer equipment with higher capacity, the acquisition of communication services, and the development of training programs for the full implementation of the present recommendation.

CICAD encourages Honduras to continue its efforts towards the full implementation of this recommendation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 15:**

##### **ESTABLISH A REGISTRY OR DATABASE WITH INFORMATION ON LICENSES, IMPORTATIONS, EXPORTATIONS, AND TRANSIT OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that, in accordance with current legislation, the Secretariat of State's Office of Defense is the agency responsible for the control of licenses, imports, exports, and movements of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, and that this entity currently keeps a record of authorized and declined licenses, importations and transit of these materials. Moreover, the country indicates that it is not an exporter of these materials, and thus it does not keep a registry of this type of transaction.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction at the compliance with this recommendation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 16:**

##### **EXPAND THE LAW AGAINST THE CRIME OF MONEY LAUNDERING TO INCLUDE THE PREDICATE OFFENSES OF PROSTITUTION, PORNOGRAPHY, EXTORTION, AND CRIMES AGAINST THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that the amendments to the Law Against the Crime of Money Laundering (Decree No. 45-2002) continue and that it plans to be able to implement them during 2006 in order to comply with this recommendation.

CICAD encourages Honduras to continue in its efforts to fully comply with this recommendation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 17:**

##### **EXPAND THE SCOPE OF THE LAWS IN FORCE ON MONEY LAUNDERING TO ENCOMPASS OFFSHORE BANKS, REAL ESTATE AGENCIES, LAWYERS, NOTARIES AND ACCOUNTANTS**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005**

Honduras reports that the amendments to the Law against the Crime of Money Laundering (Decree No. 45-2002) continue and that it plans to be able to implement them out during 2006 in order to comply with this recommendation.



CICAD encourages Honduras to continue with its efforts to fully comply with the present recommendation.

## CONCLUSIONS

During the Third Evaluation Round, 2003–2004, Honduras was assigned a total of 17 recommendations, out of which two have been completed, 11 are in progress, and four have not been started.

Honduras has complied with two recommendations: the ratification of the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971; and the establishment of database records with information on licenses, imports, exports, and movements of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.

Honduras has made progress in several areas, including: the execution of its national antidrug plan in the area of demand reduction, with emphasis on vulnerable populations; the implementation of minimum standards of care for drug dependents; the implementation of a program to evaluate the controls and regulations applicable to pharmaceutical products; and the effective operation of the systems to prevent the diversion of both pharmaceuticals and controlled chemical substances.

The country reports that it is amending its legislation governing the crime of money laundering in order to fully comply with the related recommendations.

The country reported no progress with four of the assigned recommendations, two of which involve the ratification of the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, and the three Protocols of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. However, the country states that it expects to start the implementation of these two recommendations in 2006.

In addition, the country points to technical and financial constraints as an obstacle for its compliance with most of the recommendations.

CICAD notes the progress made by Honduras in the MEM process and encourages the country to take the steps necessary for full compliance with the assigned recommendations.