

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism MEM



El Salvador

2009 EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL
IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND



**RECOMMENDATION 1:****RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA, 1982.**

El Salvador reports that it is unable to accede to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea due to its incompatibility with the Constitution of the Republic.

The country reports that according to its legal system, it has sovereignty and jurisdiction over the sea, the subsoil, and the seabed up to a distance of 200 nautical miles, measured from the lowest tide line, while the Convention provides for only 12 miles of territorial sea. However, the country has set up an advisory committee, which is studying the topic.

CICAD observes the reasons expressed by El Salvador and encourages the country to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 2:**EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF PREVENTION PROGRAMS FOR TARGET POPULATIONS.**

El Salvador reports that it has updated the national curricula and study programs in primary and secondary education. The new programs include drug abuse prevention. Within the secondary system, the guidance for life course was created.

In addition, El Salvador reports that it expanded the coverage of most of the programs targeting school students between 10 and 12 years of age and secondary school students between 13 and 18 years of age.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction with the fulfillment of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 3:**IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM FOR REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION OF TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION INSTITUTIONS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.**

El Salvador reports that with the support of the AD/CAM/H-90 Project, under the auspices of the Regional Office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the identification of establishments involved in treating persons with drug problems was carried out in 2006. A list of establishments was compiled, and these now need to be profiled for an official directory to be validated by the appropriate agencies. This task is under way as part of the coordinated efforts of the Executive Office of the National Anti-Drug Commission and the Ministry of Public Health and Welfare.

In addition, the country reports that with CICAD's support, the Executive Office of the National Anti-Drug Commission is developing the "Certification of Human Resources for the Treatment of Persons with Substance-Abuse Behaviors" project.

CICAD takes notes of the information provided and urges the country to comply with this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned during the Third Evaluation Round, 2003-2004.

**RECOMMENDATION 4:****CONDUCT A STUDY ON DRUG USE PREVALENCE AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.**

El Salvador reports that it administered the “Second Nationwide Survey on Drug Use Prevalence among Primary and Secondary School Students, 2008” and submitted the final report.

The study was conducted nationwide at schools in urban areas with populations over 30,000, employing the Inter-American System of Uniform Drug-Use Data (SIDUC) method.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction with the fulfillment of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 5:**ESTABLISH CRIMINAL SANCTIONS FOR THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND 2003–2004.**

El Salvador reports that it has a Draft Bill that proposes criminal sanctions for the diversion of pharmaceutical products.

CICAD urges the country to comply with this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Third Evaluation Round, 2003-2004.

RECOMMENDATION 6:**IMPLEMENT TRAINING ACTIVITIES FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER DRUGS OVER THE INTERNET IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY THE COUNTRY’S REGULATORY AND OPERATIONAL NEEDS.**

El Salvador reports that it is initiating a review process to identify its regulatory and operational needs.

In this respect, the San Salvador International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA), in coordination with CICAD/OAS, organized a course on “Internet Research Technologies and Techniques”, taught by instructors from the Microsoft Services Law Enforcement Support Team, from November 6-8, 2007. Participants included delegates from the Tax Investigation Unit and the Customs Risks Management Unit of the Ministry of Finance, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, National Civilian Police, Ministry of Public Security and Justice, National Anti-Drug Commission, and delegates from countries such as Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

CICAD acknowledges the progress made by El Salvador and encourages the country to comply with this recommendation.



RECOMMENDATION 7:

EXPAND TRAINING FOR THOSE INVOLVED IN CONTROLLING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.

El Salvador reports that as part of the activities jointly coordinated by the National Anti-Drug Commission (CNA) and the Substance Control Group, made up of representatives of the Higher Council for Public Health (CSSP), the Anti-Narcotics Division of the National Civilian Police (DAN/PNC) and the Customs Office (DGA) of the Ministry of Finance, a number of training courses are given each year. These have included "Enforcement of Regulations on Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs and Chemical Substances and Precursors and Aggregates", two basic anti-narcotics courses given by the National Public Security Academy and a course on inspections given by the United States of America at the Canine School of the National Civilian Police.

The country reports that in November 2007, as part of the XCAI86 project "Central American Group for Control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs and Chemical Precursors", of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), a National Workshop on Chemical Precursors was held. The country participated in the Regional Workshop on Chemical Precursors, held in Panama City.

In July 2008, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) gave an "International Seminar on Chemical Precursors", which was attended by representatives of the CNA, CSSP and DAN-PNC.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction with the fulfillment of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 8:

IMPLEMENT SPECIALIZED TRAINING COURSES ON THE CONTROL OF ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING, ESPECIALLY COVERING SPECIAL TECHNIQUES FOR INVESTIGATING ORGANIZED CRIME AND RELATED OFFENSES.

El Salvador reports that it is holding training programs and seminars on methods to control illicit drug trafficking.

The country reports that during 2007 and 2008, it held several drug training courses on this topic and attended several training events organized in different countries of the region. In addition, 18 officials received training as part of the law enforcement program.

CICAD takes notes of the progress made by El Salvador and encourages the country to implement this recommendation.

CONCLUSIONS

During the Fourth Evaluation Round, El Salvador was assigned a total of eight recommendations. Of these, three have been implemented; progress has been made on four; and one is pending execution.

On the subject of ratifying international instruments, CICAD observes the reasons expressed by El Salvador that it is unable to accede to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, due to its incompatibility with the Constitution of the Republic.



CICAD acknowledges El Salvador's progress in the area of demand reduction. The country has administered the "Second Nationwide Survey on Drug Use Prevalence among Primary and Secondary School Students, 2008"; expanded the coverage of its prevention programs; and incorporated drug prevention into its primary and secondary education curricula.

Although the country is developing the "Certification of Human Resources for the Treatment of Persons with Substance-Abuse Behaviors" project, it has not yet implemented the registry and accreditation of treatment centers, which is a reiterated recommendation from the Third Evaluation Round.

Regarding control measures, CICAD acknowledges that El Salvador has complied with the recommendation for expanding training for those involved in controlling chemical substances.

The country has also made progress with specialized training for the control of illicit drug trafficking, special investigation techniques and preventing illicit trafficking in pharmaceutical products and other drugs over the Internet.

There has been no substantive progress in establishing criminal sanctions for the diversion of pharmaceutical products, a reiterated recommendation from the Third Evaluation Round.

CICAD acknowledges the participation of El Salvador in the MEM process and appreciates its efforts in fulfilling the assigned recommendations. CICAD encourages the country to continue implementing the pending recommendations.