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(CICAD)

Secretariat for
Multidimensional
Security
(SMS)

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

**EVALUATION OF
PROGRESS IN
DRUG CONTROL**

2007-2009



Organization of
American States

2010



ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)
Governmental Expert Group (GEG)

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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- Ministry of Health and the Environment
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mental Health Centre
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Royal Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force, Narcotics Division
- Financial Intelligence Unit



PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is a diagnostic tool designed by all member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to periodically carry out comprehensive, multilateral evaluations of the progress of actions taken by member states and by the hemisphere as a whole, in dealing with the drug problem. The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), of the Secretariat of Multidimensional Security, an OAS specialized agency, implemented this Mechanism in 1998, pursuant to a mandate from the Second Summit of the Americas held in Santiago, Chile in 1998.

The MEM is not only an evaluation instrument, but has also become a vehicle for disseminating information on the progress achieved by individual and collective efforts of OAS member state governments, catalyzing hemispheric cooperation, promoting dialogue among member state government authorities and precisely channeling assistance to areas requiring greater attention by optimizing resources. The MEM process itself is assessed by the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), comprised of delegations from all member states, which meets before the onset of each MEM evaluation round to review and strengthen all operational aspects of the mechanism, including the indicators of the evaluation questionnaire.

National evaluation reports are drafted by experts from each member state, with experts not working on their own country's report, guaranteeing the transparent multilateral nature of the MEM. Each chapter is based on countries' responses to a questionnaire of indicators covering the main thematic areas of institution building, demand reduction, supply reduction and control measures as well as subsequent comments and updated information provided by the government-appointed coordinating entities.

This report covers the full country evaluation for the MEM Fifth Round evaluation period 2007-2009. The follow-up report on the implementation progress of recommendations assigned to the country will be published in June 2012. All MEM reports can be accessed through the following webpage: www.cicad.oas.org.



INTRODUCTION

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has a total area of 389 km² with 84 km of coastline. The country has a population of 117,848 (2006). The main ethnic group in the country is of African descent and its literacy rate is 96%. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is a parliamentary democracy, member of the Commonwealth, and is divided into 6 parishes or administrative regions. The country has a GDP per capita of US\$ 3,600 (2005) and an inflation rate of 1% (2005). The principal exports are bananas, vegetables and flour with a value of US\$37 million annually.

I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

A. National Anti-drug Strategy

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not have a national anti-drug plan during the evaluation period. The country reports that its anti-drug activities are financed through the activities of the various government ministries and agencies.

The country does not have a national anti-drug authority. Anti-drug activities are conducted in an ad hoc manner by agencies such as the Police Force, the Ministry of Health and the Environment, and the Ministry of Education.

B. International Conventions

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has ratified the following international conventions:

- The Inter-American Convention against Corruption, 1996;
- The United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol;
- The United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971; and
- The United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988.

The country has signed but not ratified the Inter-American Convention against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA); the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and its Protocols against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; and to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not signed or ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption, The Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, or the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and



Components and Ammunition of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

C. National Information System

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reports that it has a centralized office that organizes, carries out studies, compiles and coordinates drug-related statistics and other drug-related information. This office does not have an assigned budget. In 2008, a Drug Network Project was piloted with the Drug Inspector in the Ministry of Health as the focal point. The first annual report was produced in August of 2009.

The country reports that, in 2008, it carried out a cross section survey of patients and kept a register of deceased persons which showed the association of drug use and cause of death in 2008.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reports the availability of the following supply reduction information for the years 2006–2009:

Information	2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Priority Information								
Drug availability indicators		X		X		X		X
Quantities of drugs seized	X		X		X		X	
Number of persons charged with and convicted of drug use, possession and trafficking	X		X		X		X	
Number of drug labs dismantled	X		X		X		X	
Recommended Information								
Number of persons formally charged with and convicted of money laundering	X		X		X		X	
Number of persons formally charged with and convicted of trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition and related materials	X		X		X		X	
Number of persons formally charged with and convicted of diversion of chemical substances	X		X		X		X	
Quantities of chemical substances seized	X		X		X		X	



II. DEMAND REDUCTION

A. Prevention

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not provide any information with regard to drug abuse prevention programs or training in the demand reduction area.

B. Treatment

The Ministry of Health and the Environment is responsible for designing and executing public policies regarding the treatment of drug use-related problems, controlling and regulating treatment services, treatment program supervision and the training of human resources for this area.

The country reports the following amounts allocated for the mental health centre through which treatment activities are carried out:

Estimated Amount of the National Budget Allocated for Financing Treatment Programs*

2006 (US \$)	2007 (US \$)	2008 (US \$)	2009 (US \$)
\$ 367,424	\$ 377,844	\$ 467,081	\$ 480,759

* These figures represent the amount allocated to the Mental Health Centre (the lone psychiatric centre) where all mental disorders are treated including substance use disorders. There is no separate budget allocation for drug abuse treatment.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have official operating standards in place for specialized facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use, nor does it have an official licensing procedure for such facilities. The country does not have an official register of facilities that provide treatment services, and there is no monitoring system in place for these facilities.

The country indicates that there is no formal integration of drug treatment to Primary Health Care (PHC). However, clients with severe substance-related disorders are referred to the psychiatric hospital.

The country reports that, in 2009 (up to September), 139 cases were treated, which include substance induced psychotic disorders, dually diagnosed persons and acute intoxication and withdrawal. Treatments include pharmacotherapy and subsequent brief intervention. The country does not provide information on the number of cases treated during years 2006–2008.

Follow up activities are not carried out in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for patients discharged after completion of their prescribed treatment plan.



C. Statistics on Consumption

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not undertake drug use studies during the evaluation period.

III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

A. Drug Production

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reports that it has significant cultivated areas of cannabis. The country uses mountain patrols to follow up on the replanting of illicit crops in areas where they were previously eradicated, and indicates that, in most cases, the entire area that was eradicated is replanted.

The country has a forced manual eradication program in place for cannabis crops, which resulted in the eradication of 20 hectares in 2006, 26 hectares in 2007, 34 hectares in 2008, and 69 hectares in 2009 (up to September). No indoor cultivation of cannabis has been detected.

B. Alternative, Integral and Sustainable Development

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines informs that it has the conditions to carry out alternative, integral and sustainable development. The country has been implementing an Alternative Sustainable Livelihood Program since July 2009, aimed at providing alternative means of sustainable living for persons involved in cannabis production or cultivation. Its purpose is to strengthen organizations, to support other production activities, to build economic infrastructure, and to provide market access. The country reports that, during the evaluation period, this Program was in its second phase. The first phase consisted of consultations, and the second phase consisted of data analysis.

The country has a system to evaluate the progress of alternative, integral and sustainable development programs, within the context of the fight against drugs. The key indicator used to evaluate progress is participation.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reports that in 2009¹ an estimate of 800 individuals cultivated cannabis.

To mitigate the environmental impact of cannabis cultivation, the Forestry Department is engaged in a structured reforestation program, particularly in areas where there has been continuous destruction of cannabis farms.

¹ Through September 2009



C. Control of Pharmaceutical Products

The Drug (Prevention of Misuse) Act, as Amended by Act #32 of 1993 and Act #4 of 2008; and the Pharmacy Act # 54 of 2004 are the laws of national scope in place for the control of pharmaceutical products. All of the products listed in the international conventions are controlled in the country, and no additional products are controlled.

The authorities responsible for coordinating activities related to the control of pharmaceutical products are the Chief Medical Officer and Drug Inspector in the Ministry of Health and the Environment, and the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Pharmacy Council, which is responsible for handling the registration of entities and drugs.

To control pharmaceutical products and prevent their diversion in the health sector, the country monitors their distribution, controls and monitors prescriptions, carries out inspections, imposes administrative sanctions, and transfers unusual cases detected by administrative authorities to judicial authorities. The country does not carry out register control.

Private sector responsibilities include import and export control, register control, manufacturing control, monitoring distribution, inspections, and registry of licensees. A registry of quantities of pharmaceutical products sold or manufactured is not included, and free trade zone control is not applicable.

The country indicates that, although there is currently no manufacturing enterprise, the Pharmacy Act provides that such an activity should fall under the remit of the Pharmacy Council.

The country does not have an integrated procedure in place to monitor and prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products, whose formula contains one or more controlled substances, in accordance with relevant international conventions.

The country has an administrative system in place for the control of pharmaceutical products, which includes one inspector.



Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has a system to compile information on administrative and regulatory activities related to controlled pharmaceutical products and sanctions imposed, and provides the following data:

	2006	2007	2008	2009*
Regulated Activities				
Number of licenses issued to:				
Importers	10	10	16	17
Exporters	0	0	0	0
Manufacturers	0	0	0	0
Distributors/Wholesalers	3	1	2	4
Number of permits issued for importation	24	39	59	42
Regulated Entities				
Number of inspections conducted of:				
Pharmacies	50	51	49	15
Importers	10	10	12	12
Distributors	2	2	1	1

* Through September 2009.

The country does not offer training courses for personnel in the public and private sector involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products and does not have an automated information management system to facilitate their control.

National laws provide for the imposition of penal, civil and administrative sanctions for the illicit production and diversion of pharmaceutical products. The country's laws provide for the imposition of penal sanctions for the trafficking of these products.

The country informs that the penal sanctions for illicit production, diversion and illicit trafficking of pharmaceutical products range from a minimum of 6 years in prison and a fine of EC\$400,000 (approximately US\$152,963) to a maximum of 25 years in prison and a fine of EC\$1,500,000 (approximately US\$573,613).

The country has not applied any sanctions for the illicit production, diversion or illicit trafficking of pharmaceutical products during the period 2006–2009.

The country reports three seizures of pharmaceutical products in 2006, which included 250 diazepam tablets and 250 alprazolam tablets. All of these products were eliminated using the country's established disposal system. No seizures were reported for the period 2007–2009.



D. Control of Chemical Substances

The Precursor Chemical Act, enacted on July 9, 2003, is the national law in place for the control of chemical substances, in accordance with international conventions. All chemical substances listed in the United Nations Conventions are controlled by the country, and no additional substances are controlled.

The country reports that no regulations have been adopted under the Precursor Chemical Act, and that no licensing regime is in place.

The country does not have an integrated system or a mechanism through which the institutions responsible for preventing or imposing sanctions for the diversion of controlled chemical substances can communicate and share information.

The Ministry of Health and the Environment is the national authority responsible for law enforcement for the control of chemical substances in the administrative area. The country does not indicate what authorities are responsible for law enforcement for the control of these substances in the judicial and customs areas.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines uses pre-export notifications to control the diversion of chemical substances. The country's controls do not include a national registry of licensees, license control (manufacture, distribution), import/export control, inspections, transaction audits, control of distribution, control of the final commercialization, transport control or the imposition of sanctions. Chemical control actions are not carried out as part of an integrated procedure that is applicable to individuals and entities authorized to handle these substances.

The country does not have an automated information management system in place to facilitate the management and control over movements of chemicals.

The country does not have a regulatory or administrative system in place for the control of chemical substances that includes inspectors or investigators.

The country does not offer training courses for administrative, police and customs officers in the control of the diversion of chemical substances.

National laws provide for the imposition of penal, civil and administrative sanctions for the illicit production, diversion, and trafficking of controlled chemical substances.

Penal sanctions for illicit production of chemical substances depend on the substance class, and range from a minimum of 6 years in prison and a fine of EC\$400,000 (approximately US\$152,963) to a maximum of 20 years in prison and a fine of EC\$2,500,000 (approximately US\$956,022).

The country has not applied any sanctions for the illicit production, diversion or illicit trafficking of controlled chemical substances during the period 2006–2009.



Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not export controlled chemical substances and reports that it imports these products, but does not handle their transit. The country did not provide information on the number of imports received during the period 2006–2009.

The country reports that it received 3 pre-export notifications and sent 2 responses during the period 2006–2009. The country informs that no pre-export notifications received from exporting countries were not approved or resulted in an investigation during the evaluation period.

The country reports that it uses the Pre-Export Notification System (PENS) and that it is a partner in the Operation Ice Block and the Prism project.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not carried out any seizures involving controlled chemical substances during the period 2006–2009.

IV. CONTROL MEASURES

A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines provides the following information with regard to the quantities of drugs forfeited to law enforcement agencies during the period 2006–2009:

Type of illicit drugs and raw materials	Quantities of drugs forfeited				
	Unit of Measure	2006	2007	2008	2009*
Heroin	gr	-	-	54	-
Cocaine HCl	kg	14.35	306.94	5.22	8.50
Crack	gr	1,170	431	332	58
Cannabis plants	units	34,831	615,890	2,935,611	2,164,898
Leaf cannabis (grass)	Kg	2,121.16	3,031.44	47,596.22	6,116.00
Cannabis resin (hashish)	gr	0	0	5	0
Cannabis seed	kg	0	0	0	139.38

* Through September 2009

The country provides the following information regarding persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug trafficking during the period 2006–2009:

Year	Number of persons formally charged	Number of persons convicted
2006	392	254
2007	316	255
2008	426	423
2009*	435	209

* Through September 2009.



No public officials were formally charged with or convicted of offenses related to illicit drug trafficking during the period 2006–2009.

Section 7(2) of the Drug Prevention of Misuse Act, Chapter 219 of the Revised Edition of the Laws of St. Vincent and the Grenadines of 1990 are the relevant laws for handling cases related to illicit drug possession. The country provides the following information regarding persons formally charged with and convicted of drug possession between 2006 and 2009:

Year	Number of persons formally charged	Number of persons convicted
2006	70	66
2007	82	74
2008	84	78
2009*	73	71

* Through September 2009.

The country has alternative sentencing measures for illicit drug possession. During the period 2006–2009, a bond to keep the peace was applied to 25 persons and probation was applied to 14.

The Royal Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force and the Customs Department are the national authorities responsible for controlling illicit drug trafficking. These institutions use regional and international networks to promote the timely exchange of operational information and collaboration with national authorities of foreign countries responsible for the control of illicit drug trafficking.

In 2006 and 2007, drug identification courses were carried out for both the Police and Customs officials. Also, drug investigation courses were carried out in 2007 and 2008 for the Police and Customs officers. In 2009, the Police and Port Police attended the drug identification and investigation courses. The country has not provided specialized training courses to address illicit drug trafficking for prosecutors and the judiciary.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reports that the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code has been implemented in 60% of its ports.

The Coast Guard, the Police Force, Port Security, Customs and Immigration coordinate and participate in the implementation of the counterdrug port security programs.

The country does not use a common interagency database or mutual access to databases to gather, analyze, exchange and share information and intelligence among the national and public entities involved in counter drug control activities in ports. In this regard, the country uses shipping documents and informants.



Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have mechanisms to exchange and share information and intelligence among the national and public entities involved in counter drug control activities in ports.

The country has a control mechanism to monitor the movement in and out of its ports. Records for both commercial and non-commercial vessels are maintained by the Customs and Excise Department in manual and computerized systems.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines determines which vessels, cargo or containers should undergo a more complete inspection or physical examination by a review of documents and based on suspicions and intelligence received from regional coastguards and informants.

Maritime counter-drug detection monitoring and interdiction activities including daily maritime control, lookout informants and intelligence gathering are undertaken by law enforcement agencies.

The National Police and the Coast Guard are responsible for coordinating maritime monitoring and interdiction activities, with the participation of Customs. The Public Prosecutor's office also participates in maritime interdiction activities.

During the years 2006–2009, four maritime counterdrug operations were undertaken in partnership with the Regional Security System² (RSS) member States, and other countries in accordance with Article 17 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines carries out aerial surveillance to prevent illicit drug trafficking activities through the Regional Security Systems (RSS).

The National Police and the Coast Guard are responsible for coordinating aerial monitoring activities, with the participation of Customs. All aerial anti drug operations are conducted by the coast guard and the RSS.

The country reports that five aerial anti-drug interdiction operations were carried out in 2006, 10 in 2007, five in 2008 and three in 2009³.

The country does not provide information on the number of aircraft seized or decommissioned in aerial interdiction operations during the evaluation period.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has no legislation or regulations in place that can be applied to control the sale of drugs over the Internet.

² The Regional Security System (RSS) is an agreement for the defense and security of the Eastern Caribbean region, created out of a need for collective response to security threats, which were impacting on the stability of the region in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The express function of the RSS is to ensure the stability and well being of the Eastern Caribbean region through mutual cooperation, in order to achieve social and economic development and to maintain the principles of democracy, liberty of the individual and rule of law.

³ Through September 2009.



The country does not have procedures, investigation techniques, training or equipment to detect suspicious transactions or diversion of drugs through the Internet; has not carried out activities or programs to increase awareness of this subject among administrative, judicial, law enforcement, postal, customs or other authorities; and has no mechanism for citizens to report the illicit sale of drugs through the Internet.

B. Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not provide information on the legal framework in place to control firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

The Police Force is responsible for issuing licenses and permits for the import, export, transit, purchasing, sale, transfer, registration, marking, transport, possession, carrying, and storage of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. The Police Force and Customs are responsible for issuing licenses and permits for the shipment of these materials.

The country has mechanisms for information exchange and cooperation between national and hemispheric institutions regarding all forms of control of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reports that no information is available regarding shipments of firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials not authorized due to the absence of the necessary licenses or permits, during the period 2006–2009.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines uses manual records, maintained by the Police Force and Customs, to register the importation, exportation, and transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. These records are maintained for an indefinite period.

The Police Force is responsible for the seizure and forfeiture of illicitly trafficked firearms and ammunition, information exchange within the country between the relevant national entities, and for information exchange with relevant national entities in other countries.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has a non-computerized, book-based registry for the confiscation of firearms, ammunition, explosives or other related materials. This registry is kept indefinitely.

The Police Force documents all paperwork for firearm transfers that follow up from the initial sale through subsequent transfers.



The country reports the following quantities of firearms, ammunition and explosives seized and forfeited in narcotrafficking cases during the period 2006–2009:

Quantities of Firearms, Ammunition, and Explosives Seized

Year	Firearms	Ammunition	Explosives
2006	10	161	0
2007	5	78	0
2008	14	146	0
2009*	19	238	1

* Through September 2009.

Quantities of Firearms, Ammunition, and Explosives Forfeited

Year	Firearms	Ammunition	Explosives
2006	10	161	0
2007	5	78	0
2008	14	146	0
2009*	7	52	0

* Through September 2009.

The country also reports the following quantities of firearms and ammunition seized and forfeited in relation to the number of arrests for narcotrafficking:

Quantities of Firearms and Ammunition Seized

Year	Number of arrests	Quantity of firearms	Quantity of ammunition	Number of operations
2006	6	10	119	3
2007	5	5	78	5
2008	14	14	146	9
2009*	8	8	56	7

* Through September 2009.

Quantities of Firearms and Ammunition Forfeited

Year	Number of arrests	Quantity of firearms	Quantity of ammunition	Number of operations
2006	6	10	119	6
2007	5	5	78	5
2008	14	14	146	12
2009*	8	8	56	3

* Through September 2009.

The country reports that it does not keep records for the tracing of illicitly trafficked, diverted or seized firearms.



C. Money Laundering

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reports that the Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering (Prevention) Act, No. 39 of 2001, as amended by Act No. 25 of 2002 and Act No. 8 of 2005 is the national law that criminalizes money laundering. Applicable sanctions consist of 5 years imprisonment and/or a fine of EC\$500,000 (approximately US\$191,204) on summary conviction, and 20 years imprisonment and/or an unlimited fine on indictment.

According to the Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering (Prevention) Act, drug trafficking or any indictable or summary offence are considered as predicate to money laundering. However, human trafficking and migrant smuggling are not covered as predicate offences, since they are not found in the domestic legislation.

It is not necessary for a person to be convicted of a predicate offence in order to be convicted of laundering the proceeds of that offence. The Act also allows for the prosecution of the person who commits the predicate offence to also be prosecuted for money laundering.

The country’s law allows for the use of undercover investigations, electronic surveillance, informants, controlled deliveries, and sentence reduction for cooperating witnesses in money laundering investigations.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is a member of the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force. Its most recent evaluation was completed in 2010.

Under the Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering (Prevention) Act, the banking sector, offshore banks, the currency exchange sector, the insurance sector, the real estate sector, lawyers, notaries, accountants, casinos, car dealers, jewelers, non-profit organizations, credit unions, and trust services are subject to the obligation to submit suspicious transaction reports to prevent money laundering. This obligation is not applicable to stock exchanges. Additionally, the banking sector is subject to the obligation to submit objective information reports to prevent money laundering.

The Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) was established by the Financial Intelligence Unit Act of 2001, Act No. 38 of 2002. This Unit is autonomous and has an annual budget.

The FIU is a member of the Egmont Group and has access to the Egmont Group’s secure network. The country reports the following number of information requests received and answered through the Egmont Group’s secure network during the period 2006–2008:

Year	Information requests received	Responses to information requests sent
2006	20	12
2007	21	11
2008	4	10



Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reports that no limitations exist on obtaining financial documents and registers in money laundering cases, and limitations do not exist on obtaining financial documents in money laundering cases subject to secrecy, confidentiality or reserve agreements.

The Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering (Prevention) Act established the Confiscated Assets Fund to administer assets that have been subjected to confiscation and forfeiture. The country's legislation does not permit the presale or disposition of seized goods.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not provide information on the number of investigations initiated through a Financial Intelligence Report submitted by the Financial Intelligence Unit during the period 2006–2009.

The country reports that three penal proceedings were initiated for money laundering offences in 2006, one in 2007 and two in 2008. No information was reported for 2009.

The country reports that three persons were formally charged with and three were convicted for money laundering in 2006, one person formally charged, and one convicted in 2007, and three persons formally charged in 2008. No information was provided for 2009.

D. Judicial Cooperation

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reports that extradition, including extradition of nationals, is permitted under national law for drug trafficking and money laundering crimes. In accordance with the international legal framework, the country has designated a competent authority to receive, respond to and transmit extradition requests.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not indicate whether its laws provide for persons whose extradition has been denied in a drug trafficking or money laundering case to be tried for the offense in the country.

The country reports that its national laws permit the provision of reciprocal judicial assistance in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988. The country uses secure technological resources to facilitate communication among authorities directing criminal investigations. Granting of controlled delivery requests is permitted under the country's laws, while the country uses MOUs and treaties to recover assets forfeited abroad.

The country does not provide information on the number of active and passive extradition requests or reciprocal judicial assistance requests made and received regarding money laundering cases and illicit drug trafficking cases during the period 2006-2009.



EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

In the area of institutional strengthening, CICAD views with concern that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not approved a national anti-drug plan or established an anti-drug authority.

CICAD also notes with concern that the country has not ratified or acceded to the Inter-American Convention against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA); the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and its Protocols Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; and against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition; the United Nations Convention against Corruption; or the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters.

CICAD observes that St. Vincent and the Grenadines has a centralized office that organizes, carries out studies, compiles and coordinates drug related statistics and other drug related information. CICAD notes that the country carries out demand reduction studies and collects supply reduction information.

In the area of demand reduction, CICAD notes with concern that no information has been provided to enable an assessment of prevention programs for schools, the community, or the workplace. Likewise, no information was provided regarding the evaluation of prevention programs or on training in the demand reduction area.

CICAD observes that the country provides basic drug abuse treatment services through its health care system. However, CICAD notes with concern that there are no official operating standards for drug abuse treatment in place for specialized facilities or an official licensing procedure for these facilities.

CICAD notes with concern that no drug use studies were carried out during the evaluation period.

In the area of supply reduction, CICAD notes the country's activities in the detection and eradication of cannabis crops. CICAD also notes the country's efforts in carrying out an alternative, integral and sustainable development program to prevent the cultivation of illicit crops.

CICAD observes that the country has legal and administrative provisions for the control of pharmaceutical products. However, the country does not have an integrated procedure to monitor and prevent the diversion of these products, and does not carry out register control.

CICAD observes with concern the lack of training of public and private sector personnel involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products.

CICAD notes that the country has a legislative framework for the control of chemical substances. However, CICAD views with concern that the country does not have mechanisms to coordinate



the control of chemical substances, and that it has not provided training to the personnel responsible for its control.

In the area of control measures, CICAD recognizes that the country has mechanisms for the control of illicit drug trafficking, including maritime and aerial surveillance, and also notes that the country has information exchange mechanisms among authorities involved in counter drug control activities in ports. However, CICAD notes that no laws and procedures to control the illicit traffic of drugs via the Internet are in place.

CICAD notes the activities carried out by the country to control the trafficking of firearms, ammunitions, explosives and other related materials. However, CICAD observes that the country has not informed which laws are in place to control these materials.

CICAD also notes that there is no system to trace illicitly trafficked, diverted or seized firearms.

CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has established mechanisms to control money laundering and that its legislation includes a list of services and individuals to report suspicious transactions and objective information reports. However, CICAD notes with concern that human trafficking and migrant smuggling are not covered as predicate offences to money laundering.

CICAD notes that the country has laws and mechanisms to facilitate judicial cooperation in illicit drug trafficking and money laundering cases. However sufficient information was not provided to undertake a comprehensive evaluation in this thematic area.

CICAD recognizes Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' efforts in the context of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) and encourages the country to continue to participate actively in the process.



RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are assigned to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in order to assist the country in strengthening its policy to combat the problem of drugs and related activities and increase multilateral cooperation in the Hemisphere:

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

1. APPROVE A NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN THAT SERVES AS THE FRAMEWORK FOR ALL ANTI-DRUG ACTIVITIES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
2. ESTABLISH A NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG AUTHORITY, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
3. RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS (CIFTA), A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
4. ACCEDE TO THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
5. RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND ITS FOLLOWING PROTOCOLS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002:
 - THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR;
 - THE PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN;
6. ACCEDE TO THE PROTOCOL AGAINST ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
7. ACCEDE TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION, 2003, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.

DEMAND REDUCTION

8. EXTEND COVERAGE OF PREVENTION PROGRAMS TARGETING SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.
9. PROVIDE SPECIALIZED TREATMENT SERVICES FOR DRUG USE RELATED PROBLEMS.



10. ESTABLISH OFFICIAL OPERATING STANDARDS FOR DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
11. CONDUCT A DRUG USE SURVEY AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

SUPPLY REDUCTION

12. CONDUCT TRAINING COURSES FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR PERSONNEL HANDLING PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.
13. IMPLEMENT A CONTROL MECHANISM TO MONITOR AND PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.
14. IDENTIFY, TRAIN AND ASSIGN PERSONNEL TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF THE CONTROL OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.

CONTROL MEASURES

15. CARRY OUT RESEARCH AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER DRUGS VIA THE INTERNET, TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL REGULATORY AND OPERATIONAL NEEDS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005–2006.

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Organization of American States
1889 F Street, NW
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Tel: (202) 458 3000
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