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**MEM RECOMMENDATIONS ANALYSIS 2010:
BY ROUND, THEMATIC AREA AND SUBREGION**

Draft

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BY ROUND, THEMATIC AREA AND SUBREGION**

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I. PREFACE [PENDING]

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is an instrument designed to measure progress in actions taken by the 34 member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to address the global drug problem and other related offenses. The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), 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 April 1998.

The MEM is not only a diagnostic tool but has also become a vehicle for disseminating information on the progress achieved through the 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 evaluation reports are drafted by the Governmental Expert Group (GEG), a multidisciplinary group composed of experts designated from the 34 OAS/CICAD member states. Each expert functions independently from his or her own government, and experts do not participate in the evaluation of their own countries. Additionally, each country has the opportunity to review and comment on the contents of the evaluations, ensuring an open and participatory process.

II. INTRODUCTION [PENDING]

This report presents an analysis of the recommendations assigned¹ during the four Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) rounds, with details of the status of compliance and geographical breakdown.

For the mechanism's first, second, and third rounds, the evaluation period was two years. Starting in the fourth round, and continuing in the fifth round, the last year of the previous round was used as a reference point in the evaluation, and a three-year evaluation period approved to provide more information for the MEM process to evaluate with greater accuracy.

Round	Period evaluated	Year recommendations assigned	Year recommendations evaluated
1st	1999-2000	2001	2002
2nd	2001-2002	2003	2004
3rd	2003-2004	2005	2006
4th	2005-2006	2007	2009
5th	2007-2009	2010	2012

For the purposes of this report, the hemisphere consists of four regions: North America, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. These subregions comprise the following countries:

- North America: Canada, United States, and Mexico;
- Central America: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama;
- South America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela;
- Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

The recommendations of the fourth round reflect the MEM's most recent assessment of countries' needs, and are described in greater detail throughout this report as those are the recommendations on which countries are currently focusing on in addressing the drug problem and related offenses.

¹ For the purposes of this analysis, recommendations covering more than one thematic area have been counted more than once, as applicable.

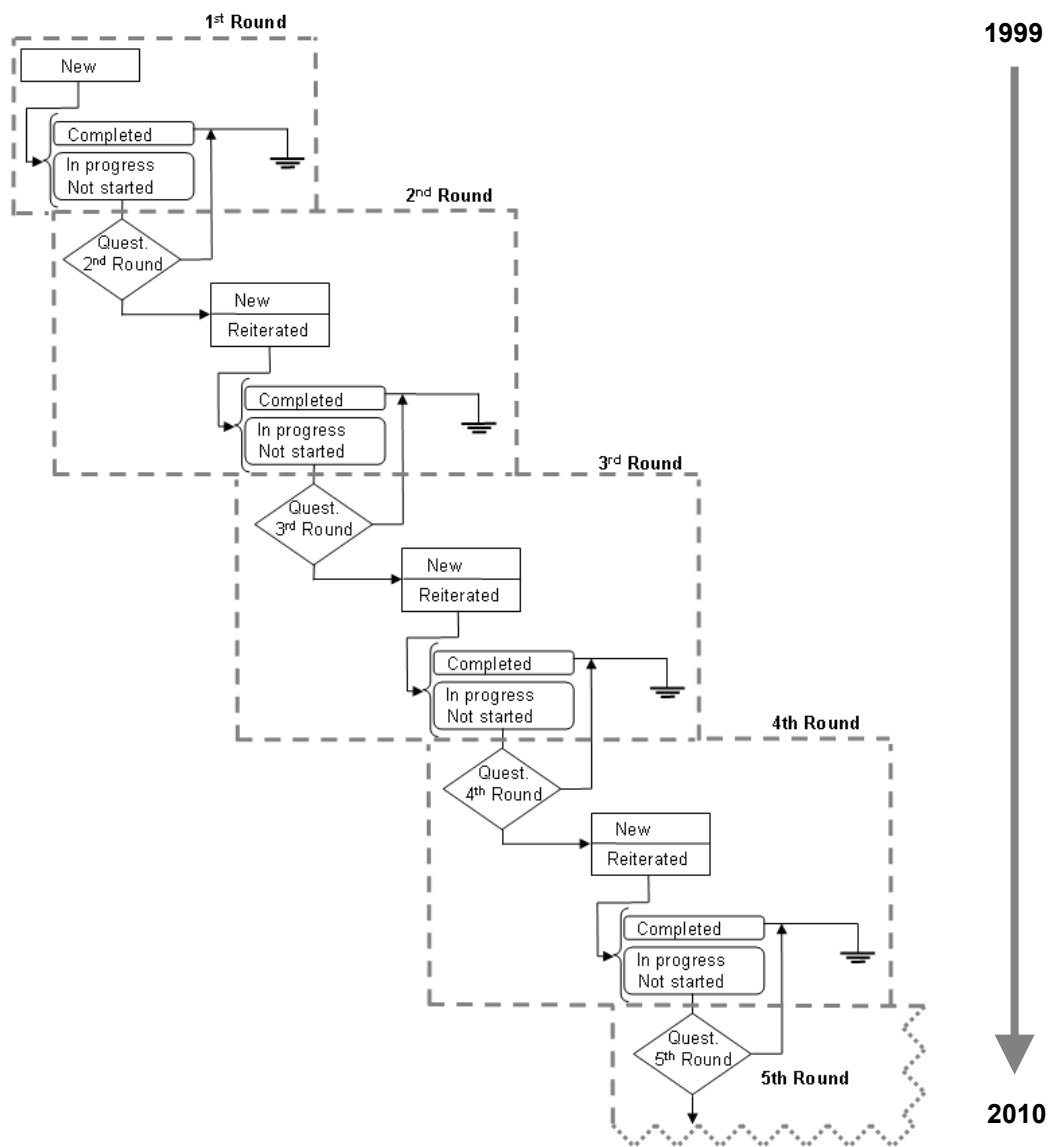
III. ANALYSIS OF RECOMMENDATIONS ASSIGNED TO MEMBER STATES BY EVALUATION ROUND

a) New and reiterated recommendations

In each round the MEM assigns recommendations to the countries, which can fall into two categories:

- New - originally developed in the round in which they were assigned, or
- Reiterated - drafted and assigned in previous rounds and reassigned in the current round

The following flow chart shows the course of the recommendations:



Reiteration of a recommendation (or its reassignment in a subsequent round) depends

on the status of implementation. If a recommendation is considered “completed,” there is no need to reiterate it, but if its status is evaluated as “in progress” (or “in execution”), or “not started,” consideration is given to the possibility and desirability of reiterating it in the current evaluation round.

In general, statistics of the MEM’s four complete evaluation rounds average 441 recommendations assigned in each round, for a total of 1,744, including both new recommendations and those reiterated from previous rounds.

Omitting the reiterated recommendations, which by their nature would be counted at least twice, a total of 1,317 unique (or new) recommendations were assigned in their respective rounds. Therefore, of all recommendations assigned during the Mechanism’s existence, 76% were new in each round and 24% were reiterated.

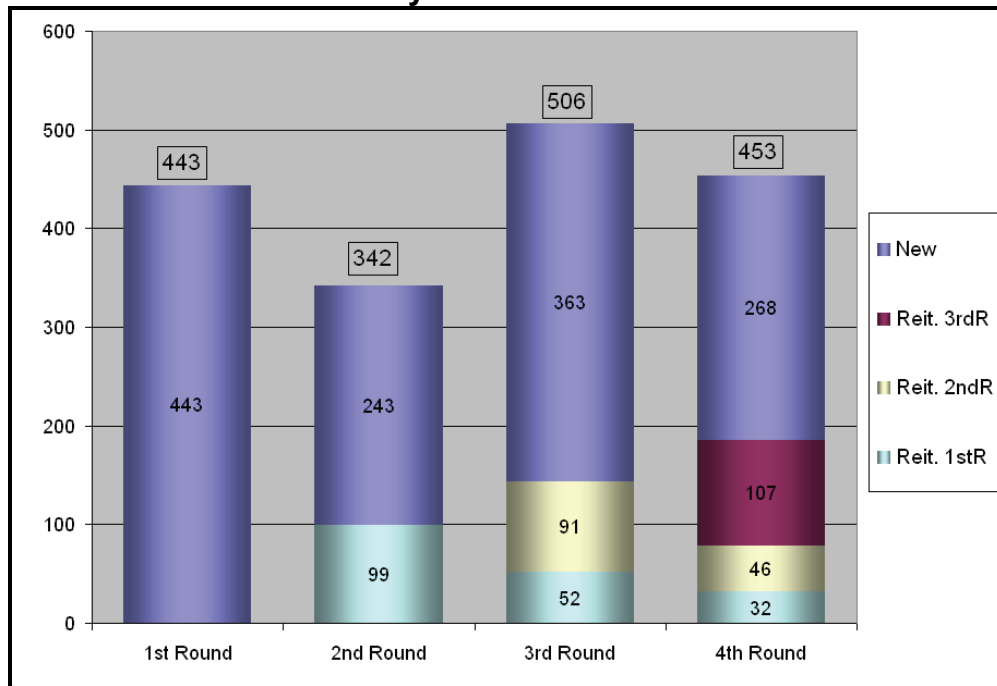
Recommendations by evaluation round and reiteration

	1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round	4th Round	Total	Average
Reit. 1stR		99	52	32		
Reit. 2ndR			91	46		
Reit. 3rdR				107		
New	443	243	363	268	1,317	329
Total	443	342	506	453	1,744	436

Of the four rounds, the third round saw the largest number of recommendations assigned—506—of which 143 were reiterated (52 from the first round and 91 from the second) and 363 were new, this also being the round in which the highest number of new recommendations were assigned (excluding the first round). It is important to note that the third round also had the highest number of indicators in the questionnaire out of all rounds.

The data also show that for all rounds, the number of reiterated recommendations increased with each successive round: in the second round, 99 were reiterated; in the third, 143; and in the fourth, 185.

Recommendations by evaluation round and reiteration



While the total number of reiterated recommendations from all rounds taken together will tend to increase in each advancing round, the number of reiterated recommendations from any individual round will tend to decrease over time as reiterated recommendations from earlier rounds are completed, with the exception of those that cannot be carried out because of particular circumstances.

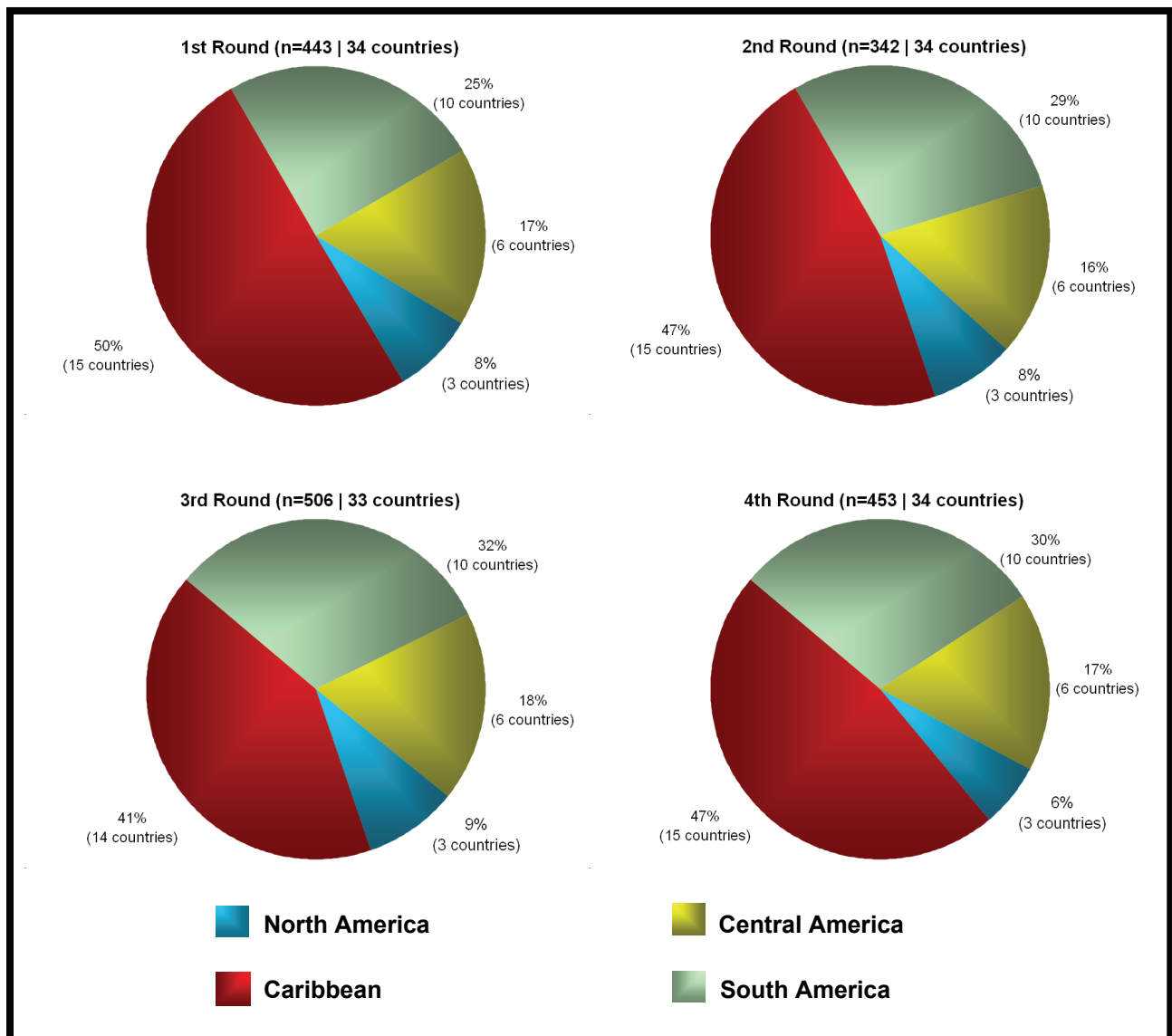
Specifically, 99 were reiterated from the first round and reassigned in the second round, but only 52 of those were reassigned in the third round and only 32 in the fourth round.

Similarly, the number reiterated from the second round and reassigned in the third and fourth rounds declined from 91 to 46.

b) Recommendations assigned by round and subregion

The breakdown of recommendations assigned in the four rounds shows that the Caribbean subregion has been assigned between 41% and 50% of the total recommendations assigned in the whole hemisphere in all rounds. South America's share varied from 25% to 32%; Central America's, from 16% to 18%; and North America's, from 6% to 9%. When analyzing these percentages it must be noted that each subregion has a different number of countries: 3 in North America, 6 in Central America, 10 in South America, and for the Caribbean, 15 countries in the first, second and fourth rounds and 14 in the third round.

Breakdown of recommendations assigned by round and subregion



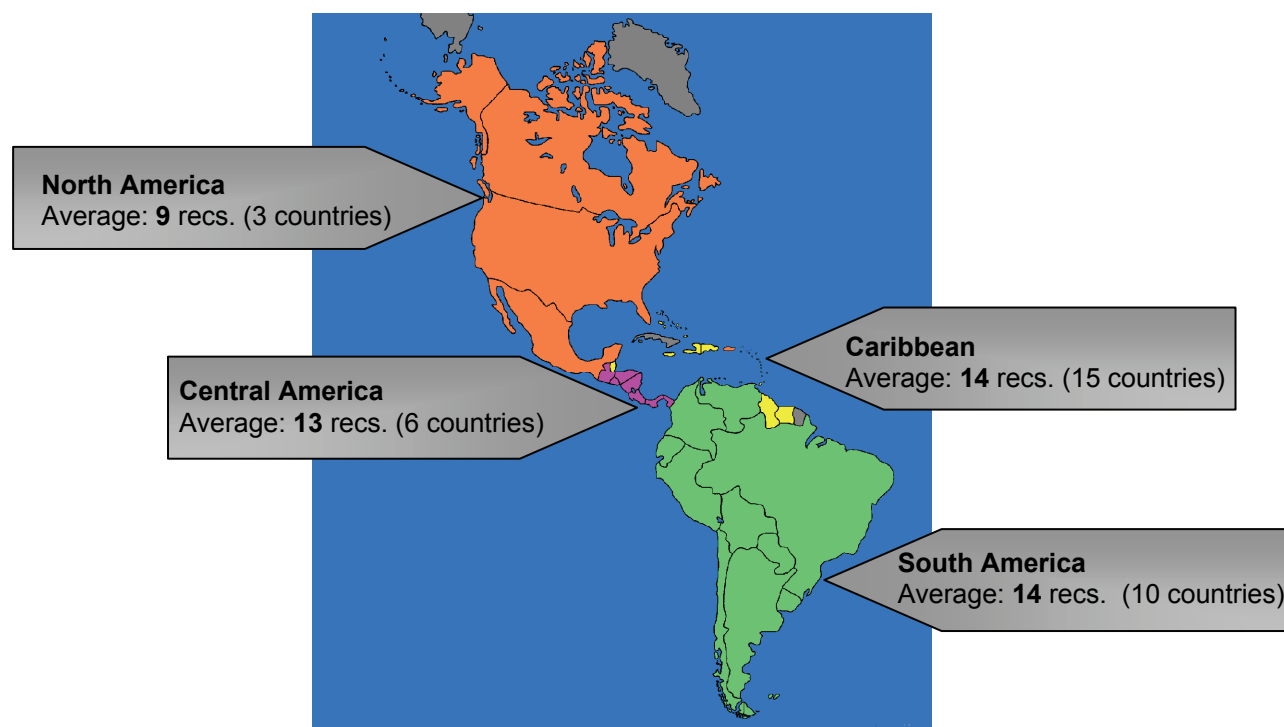
Fourth Evaluation Round

In the fourth round, the regional breakdown of recommendations reveals that 47% were assigned to countries in the Caribbean, 30% to countries in South America, 17% to Central American countries, and 6% to countries in North America.

Fifty-nine percent of the 453 recommendations in the fourth round were assigned for the first time in that round, 24% were reiterated from the third round, 10% were reiterated from the second round, and 7% were reiterated from the first round.

Bearing in mind that each subregion has a different number of countries, the average number for each was: 14 recommendations for the Caribbean and South America, 13 for Central America, and nine for North America.

Average number of recommendations assigned in the fourth round by subregion



Of the 268 new recommendations assigned in the fourth round, 44% were assigned to Caribbean countries, 35% to South American countries, 16% to Central American countries, and 5% to North American countries.

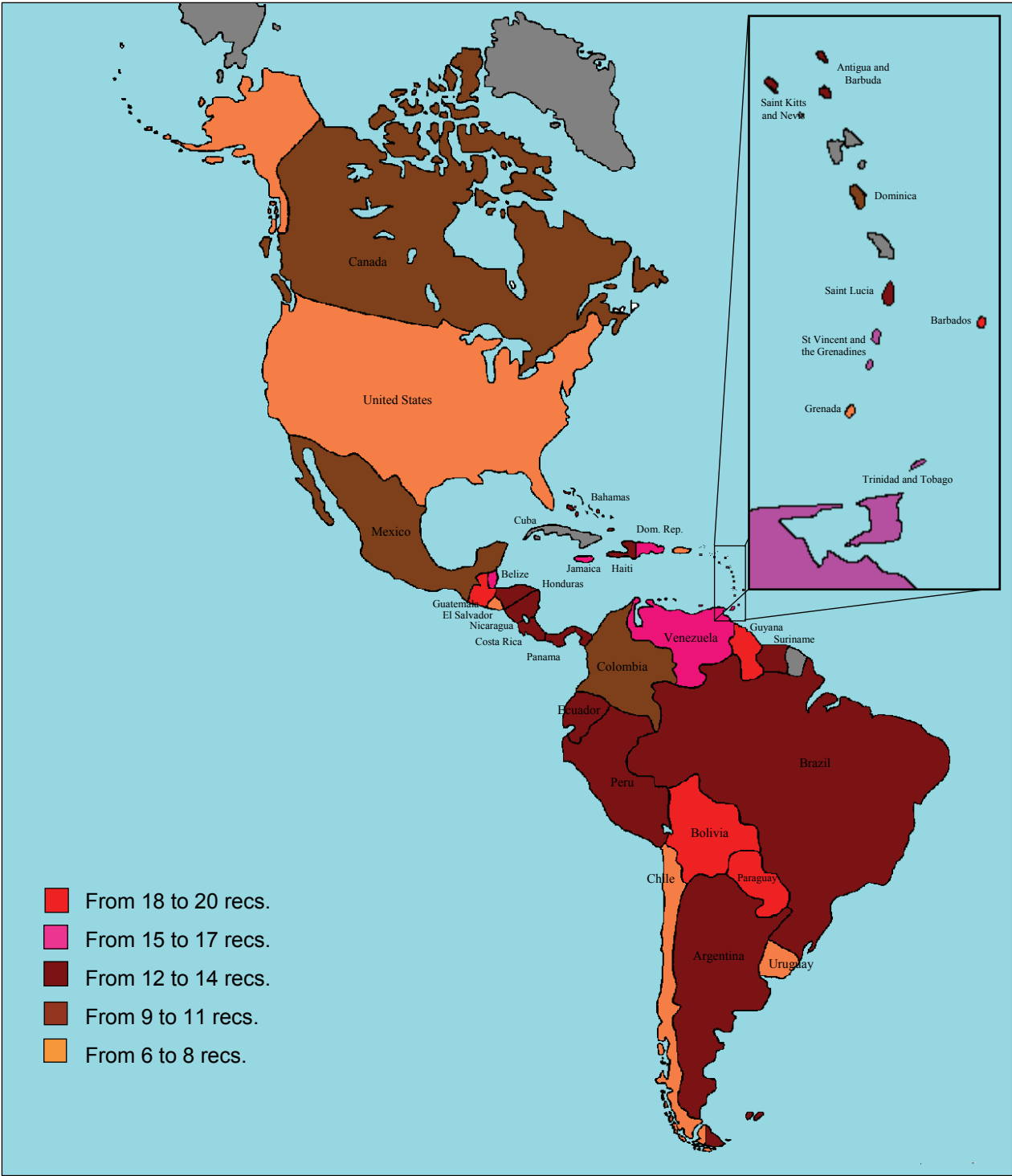
With respect to recommendations reiterated from previous rounds assigned in the fourth round, 52% were assigned to the Caribbean, 23% to South America, 18% to Central America, and 7% to North America.

In South America, 69% of the recommendations assigned to that subregion were new and 31% were reiterated from previous rounds, particularly the third round.

The groups of number of countries, categorized by number of recommendations assigned are the following (see map):

- From 18 to 20 recommendations – 5 countries
- From 15 to 17 recommendations – 6 countries
- From 12 to 14 recommendations – 15 countries
- From 9 to 11 recommendations – 3 countries
- From 6 to 8 recommendations – 5 countries

Geographic breakdown of the number of recommendations assigned in the 4th round by country



c) Recommendations assigned by round and thematic area

The thematic areas addressed by the mechanism in all of its rounds have been grouped into the following sections: institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, and human, social, and economic costs of drugs (this final section was included only in the first round).

The following table details these sections and the thematic areas that each of them covered in each round.

Distribution of thematic areas of the MEM, by sections and rounds

Section	Institutional Strengthening			Demand Reduction			Supply Reduction				Control Measures					Costs												
Round																												
5 th	National Anti-drug plans/strategies	International Conventions	Drug Information Systems	Prevention	Drug treatment	Statistics on Consumption	Drug Production	Alternative Development	Pharmaceutical Products	Chemical Substances	Illicit Drug Trafficking	Firearms	Money Laundering	Corruption	Displacement	Trans. Org. Crime	Judicial Coop.											
4 th																												
3 rd																		Drug Production and Alternative Development	Pharmaceutical Products and Chemical Substances									
2 nd	National Anti-drug plans/strategies, International Conventions and Drug Information Systems			Prevention, Drug treatment and Statistics on Consumption			Drug Production and Alternative Development		Pharmaceutical Products and Chemical Substances																			
1 st																	Drug Production, Alternative Development, Pharmaceutical Products and Chemical Substances											

Control measures is the section of the questionnaire in which the most changes have been introduced from round to round. These changes included the introduction of the topics of displacement and transnational organized crime in the third round as separate subchapters. In the first and second rounds there were some aspects on organized crime, but only as an indicator. Similarly, the theme of corruption was introduced in the second round, but unlike the two aforementioned topics, it has been retained through the current round, although not as a subchapter. In addition, in the fifth round a subtopic on judicial cooperation was added to the control measures sections.

Some thematic areas from other sections that were dealt with jointly in the earlier rounds began to be addressed separately in subsequent rounds. This is the case with the institutional strengthening and demand reduction sections, where during the first and second rounds their respective themes were addressed jointly, and beginning in the third round, were treated separately. Something similar occurred in the supply reduction section, in two areas.

Given these changes in the Mechanism over time, the thematic composition of the recommendations assigned has also varied over the course of the rounds.

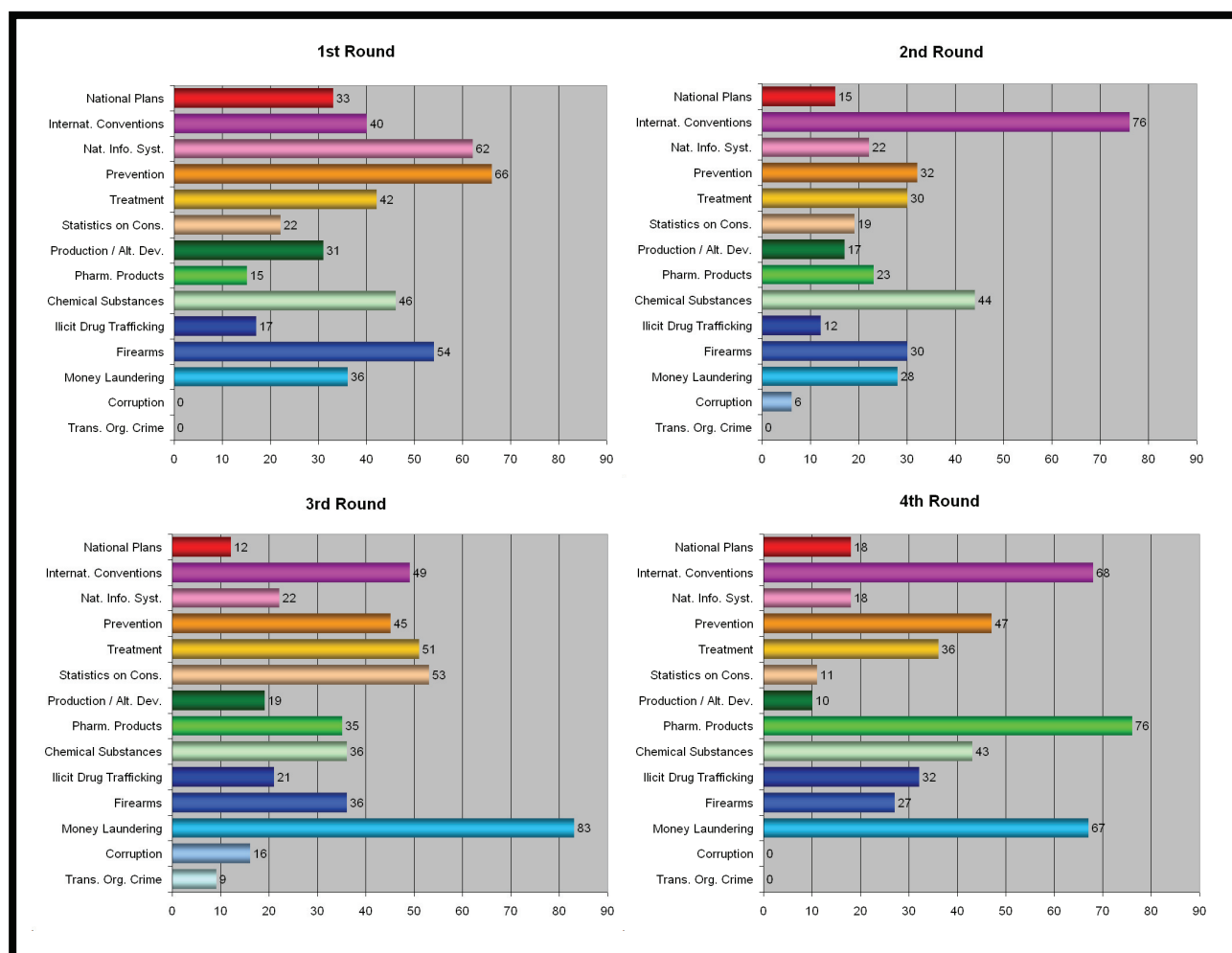
Given that throughout the Mechanism some recommendations have been assigned that address more than one thematic area, for the purposes of thematic analysis, these recommendations were counted in each of the areas to which they refer.

The thematic areas that have been the subject of the largest number of recommendations, both new and reiterated in order across all rounds:

- international conventions,
- money laundering,
- drug use prevention,
- control of chemical substances, and
- drug treatment.

Signature and ratification of conventions has been the topic that generated the most number of recommendations (233) in total across the four rounds. Specifically, it accounted for the greatest number in the second round, the second greatest number in the fourth round, and the fourth greatest number in the third round.

Number of recommendations assigned by round and thematic area



The five areas which received the most recommendations in order by round were:

First round:

- drug use prevention,
- national information systems,
- control of firearms,
- control of chemical substances, and
- drug treatment.

Second round:

- international conventions,
- control of chemical substances,
- drug use prevention,
- drug treatment, and
- control of firearms.

Third round:

- money laundering,
- statistics on consumption,
- drug treatment,
- international conventions, and
- drug use prevention.

Fourth round:

- control of pharmaceutical products,
- international conventions,
- money laundering,
- drug use prevention, and
- control of chemical substances.

The thematic area of prevention, part of the demand reduction section, figured among the five themes with the greatest number of recommendations in all four rounds. It was the subject with the greatest number of recommendations in the first round, ranking third in the second round, fifth in the third round, and fourth in the fourth round.

Likewise, the topic of drug treatment, also part of the demand reduction section, was among the topics with the greatest number of recommendations in the first, second, and third rounds.

In the control measures section, money laundering was the theme for which the highest number of recommendations was assigned in a single round, accounting for 17% of all recommendations assigned in the third round.

In the specific sub-regions, throughout the four rounds of the MEM, North America received most recommendations in the subject area of firearms control, Central America in drug abuse prevention, South America in money laundering control, and the Caribbean regarding the ratification of international conventions.

d) Recommendations assigned by round, thematic area, and subregion

First round

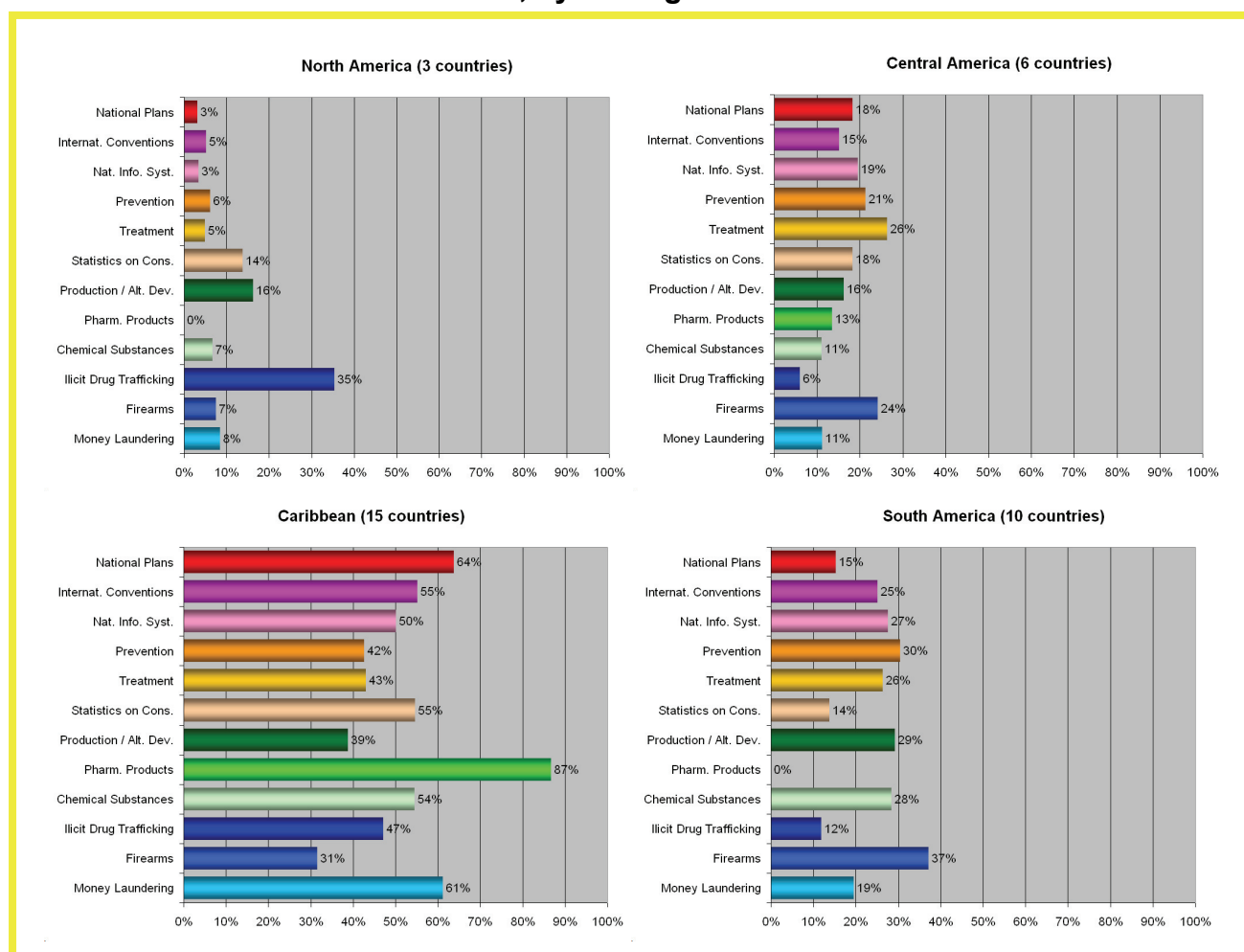
Period evaluated: 1999-2000

Year recommendations assigned: 2001

Year recommendations evaluated: 2002

The following graph shows the percentage of the total recommendations assigned to each sub-region in the hemisphere by round and thematic areas.

Percentages* of recommendations assigned in the 1st round, by subregion and thematic area



* The sum of the percentages of a specific theme in the four subregions is 100%.

In the first round, 87% of the recommendations assigned in the hemisphere on the subject of control of pharmaceutical products were assigned to the Caribbean subregion, followed by national plans and money laundering with 64% and 61%, respectively.

**Percentages of themes of recommendations
assigned in the 1st round, by subregion**

	North America	Central America	Carib-bean	South America	Total
National plans	3%	7%	9%	4%	7%
Intl. conventions	6%	7%	10%	9%	8%
Nat. Info. Systems	6%	14%	14%	15%	13%
Prevention	11%	17%	12%	17%	14%
Drug treatment	6%	13%	8%	9%	9%
Statistics on cons.	8%	5%	5%	3%	5%
Production/Alt Dev.	14%	6%	5%	8%	7%
Pharmaceuticals	0%	3%	6%	0%	3%
Chemicals	9%	6%	11%	11%	10%
Illicit drug trafficking	17%	1%	3%	2%	4%
Firearms	11%	16%	7%	17%	12%
Money laundering	9%	5%	10%	6%	8%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

The table above shows the percentages of the number of recommendations on each theme, as a fraction of the total recommendations assigned to each subregion in this round.

In this first round, the most prevalent theme for recommendations in North America was illicit drug trafficking, with 17% of the total assigned to that subregion, followed by drug production with 14%, and drug use prevention and control of firearms with 11%.

For Central America, the theme with the most recommendations assigned was drug use prevention, with 17% of the total assigned to that subregion, followed by control of firearms and national information systems.

In the Caribbean, the topic with the most recommendations was national information systems with 14% of the total assigned to the subregion, followed by drug use prevention and control of chemical substances.

In South America, the most prevalent themes for recommendations were drug use prevention and control of firearms, with 17% of the total assigned to the subregion, followed by national information systems and control of chemical substances, with 15% and 11% respectively.

Overall, of the total recommendations assigned in this round for the entire hemisphere, the theme of drug use prevention was the most prevalent, (14%), followed by national information systems (13%) and control of firearms (12%).

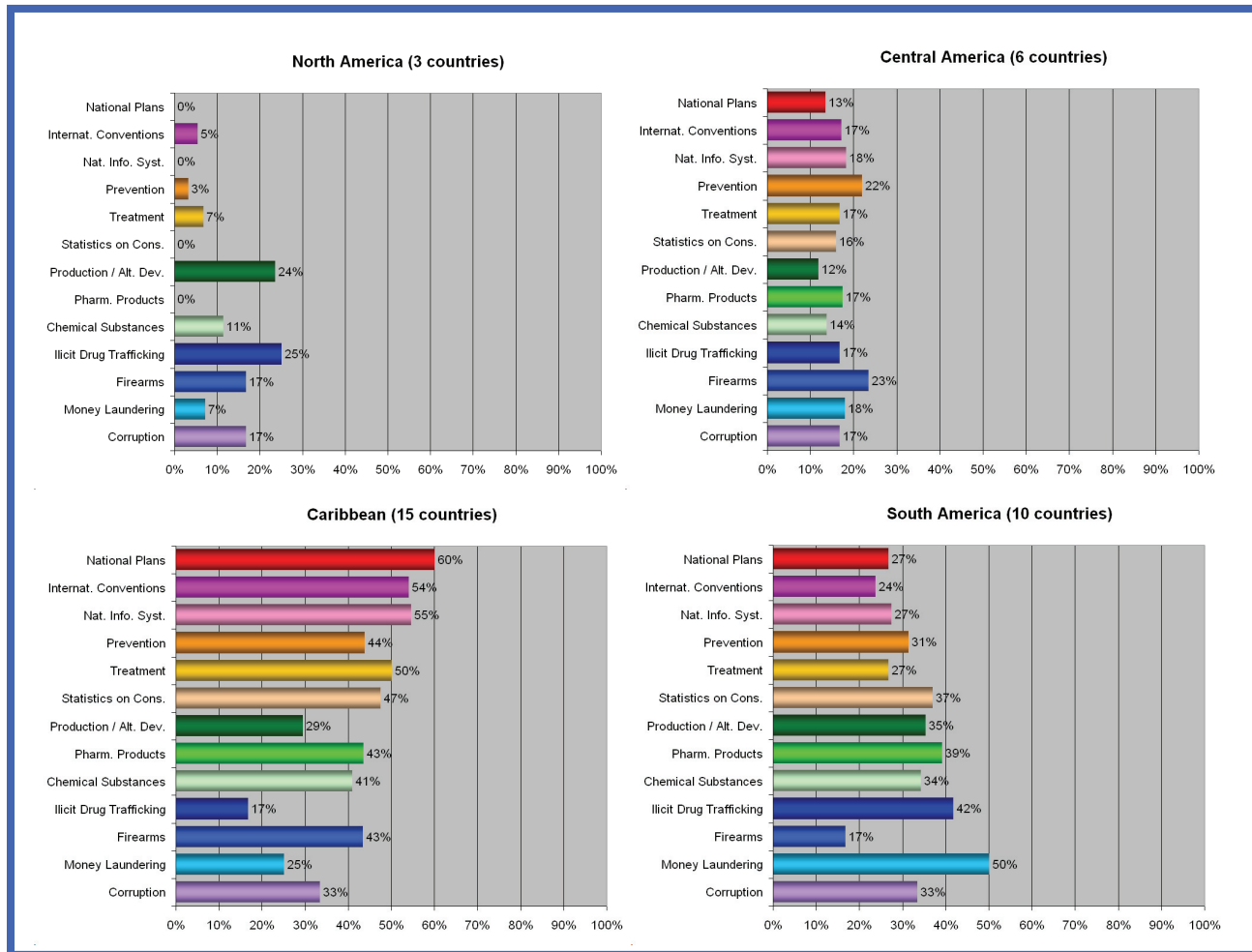
Second round

Period evaluated:2001-2002

Year recommendations assigned: 2003

Year recommendations evaluated: 2004

Percentages* of recommendations assigned in the 2nd round, by subregion and thematic area



* The sum of the percentages of a specific theme in the four subregions is 100%.

In the second round, although there was no separate category for corruption, recommendations on this topic were assigned—33% to the Caribbean and South America, and 17% in North and Central America.

The recommendations centered on national plans, national information systems, and international conventions, as the highest percentages of recommendations assigned on these topics are found in the Caribbean subregion—60%, 55% and 54% of the total recommendations assigned in the hemisphere, respectively.

**Percentages of themes of recommendations
assigned in the 2nd round, by subregion**

	North America	Central America	Caribbean	South America	Total
National plans	0%	3%	6%	4%	4%
Intl. conventions	15%	21%	26%	16%	21%
Nat. Info. Systems	0%	7%	8%	6%	6%
Prevention	4%	11%	9%	9%	9%
Drug treatment	8%	8%	10%	7%	8%
Statistics on cons.	0%	5%	6%	6%	5%
Production/Alt Dev.	15%	3%	3%	5%	6%
Pharmaceuticals	0%	7%	6%	8%	6%
Chemicals	18%	10%	11%	14%	12%
Illicit drug trafficking	11%	3%	1%	5%	4%
Firearms	18%	11%	8%	5%	8%
Money laundering	7%	8%	4%	13%	8%
Corruption	4%	3%	2%	2%	2%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

In this second round, in the North American subregion, control of chemical substances and control of firearms were the primary topics of recommendations, each accounting for 18% of the total assigned to this subregion, followed by ratification of international conventions and drug production, each representing 15%.

For Central America, 21% of the recommendations assigned to this subregion in this round were on ratification of conventions, followed by the themes of drug use prevention (11%), control of firearms (11%) and control of chemical substances (10%).

The percentage breakdown of the recommendations assigned to the Caribbean also emphasized ratification of international conventions (26%), followed by control of chemical substances (11%) and drug treatment (10%).

In South America, the two most prevalent subjects of recommendations assigned were also ratification of international conventions (17%) and control of chemical substances (14%), followed by recommendations on money laundering (13%).

Overall, of the total recommendations assigned in this round for the entire hemisphere, the theme of international conventions was the most prevalent, (21%), followed by control of chemical substances (12%) and drug use prevention (9%).

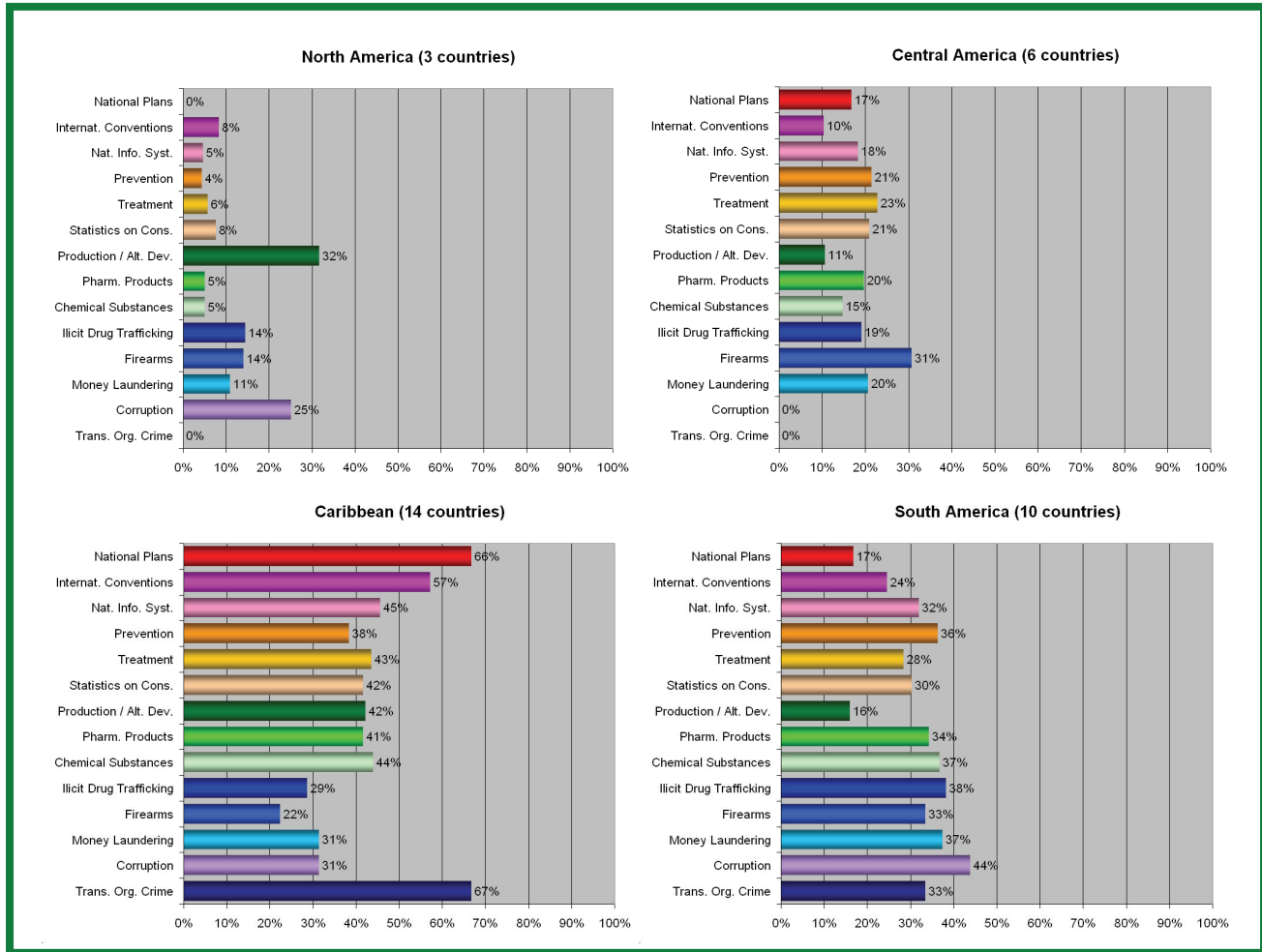
Third round

Period evaluated:2003-2004

Year recommendations assigned: 2005

Year recommendations evaluated: 2006

Percentages* of recommendations assigned in the 3rd round, by subregion and thematic area



* The sum of the percentages of a specific theme in the four subregions is 100%.

In the third round, 67% of the recommendations assigned to the hemisphere on the subject of transnational organized crime were assigned to the Caribbean subregion. This was the highest percentage of recommendations within a subregion, however, in numeric terms, there were only nine recommendations assigned to the hemisphere. The thematic areas of national plans (66%) and ratification of international conventions (57%), had the next highest percentages, also assigned to the Caribbean.

**Percentages of the themes of recommendations
assigned in the 3rd round, by subregion**

	North America	Central America	Carib- bean	South America	Total
National plans	0%	2%	4%	1%	2%
Intl. conventions	9%	6%	14%	8%	10%
Nat. Info. Systems	2%	4%	5%	4%	4%
Prevention	5%	11%	9%	10%	9%
Drug treatment	7%	13%	11%	9%	11%
Statistics on cons.	9%	12%	11%	10%	11%
Production/Alt Dev.	13%	2%	4%	2%	4%
Pharmaceuticals	4%	9%	8%	9%	8%
Chemicals	4%	7%	9%	9%	8%
Illicit drug trafficking	7%	4%	3%	5%	4%
Firearms	11%	12%	4%	8%	7%
Money laundering	20%	18%	13%	19%	17%
Corruption	9%	0%	2%	4%	3%
Organized crime	0%	0%	3%	2%	2%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

In North America, the theme that generated the most recommendations in the third round, was money laundering, with 20% of the total assigned to this subregion, followed by the theme of drug production (13%) and control of firearms (11%).

In Central America, the most prevalent theme for recommendations in this subregion was also money laundering (18%), followed by drug treatment (13%), statistics on consumption (12%) and control of firearms (12%).

In the Caribbean, the topic with the most recommendations assigned within the subregion in this subregion was ratification of international conventions (14%), followed by money laundering (13%), drug treatment (11%), and statistics on consumption (11%).

For South America, the primary theme of the recommendations assigned in this was money laundering with 19%, followed by prevention (10%), statistics on consumption (10%), drug treatment (9%), control of pharmaceutical products (9%), and control of chemical substances (9%).

Overall, the theme of money laundering was the subject of most recommendations in the third round, receiving 17% of the total assigned in the hemisphere, followed by the themes of drug treatment and statistics on consumption, with 11% each, and ratification of international conventions with 10%.

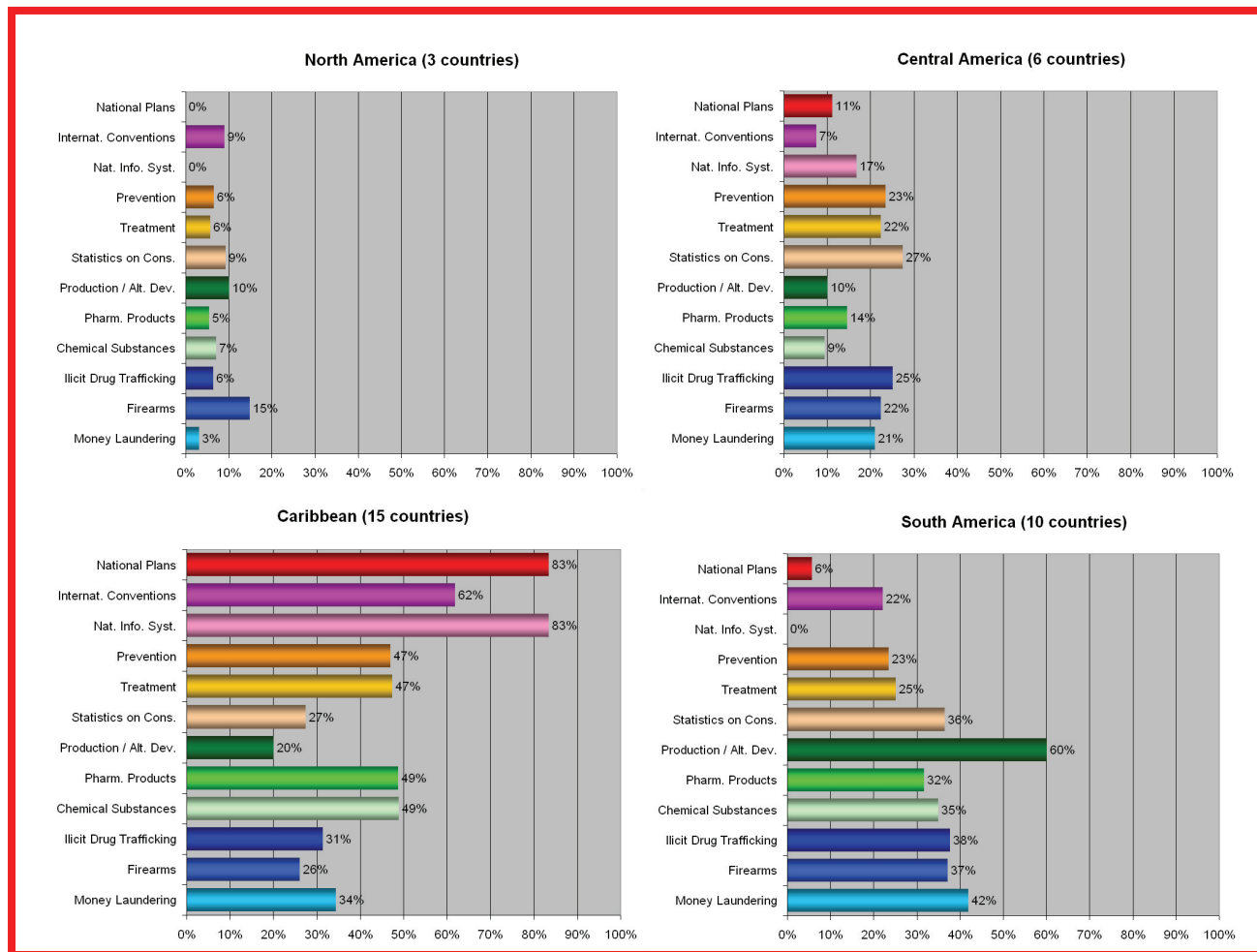
Fourth round

Period evaluated:2005-2006

Year recommendations assigned: 2007

Year recommendations evaluated: 2009

Percentages* of recommendations assigned In the 4th round, by subregion and thematic area

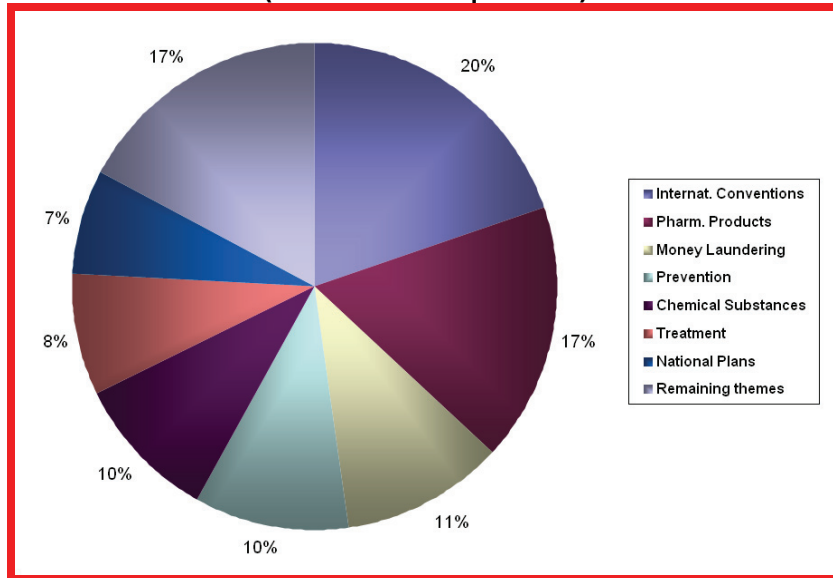


* The sum of the percentages of a specific theme in the four subregions is 100%.

In the fourth round, the Caribbean and South American subregions received the greatest percentages of recommendations in the 12 thematic areas addressed in this round.

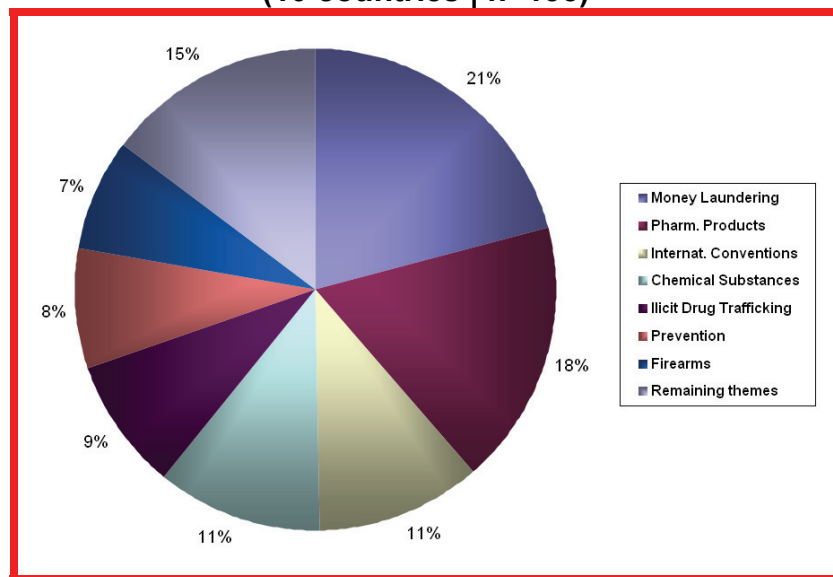
In general, 83% of the total recommendations assigned to the hemisphere on the topics of national plans and national information systems were assigned to the Caribbean, as well as 62% of those assigned regarding international conventions. These topics being those with the largest percentages assigned to a subregion.

Percentage composition of recommendations assigned in the 4th round in the Caribbean (15 countries | n=214)



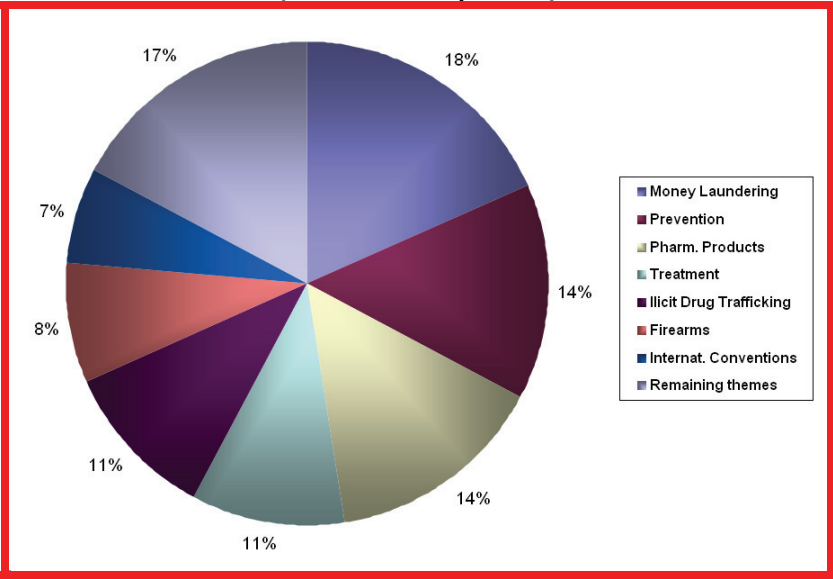
In the Caribbean, 20% of the recommendations received in this round were related to the ratification of international conventions, 17% regarding control of pharmaceutical products, 11% on money laundering, 10% on drug use prevention, 10% on control of chemical substances, and the remainder accounted for less than 10%.

Percentage composition of recommendations assigned in the fourth round in South America (10 countries | n=135)



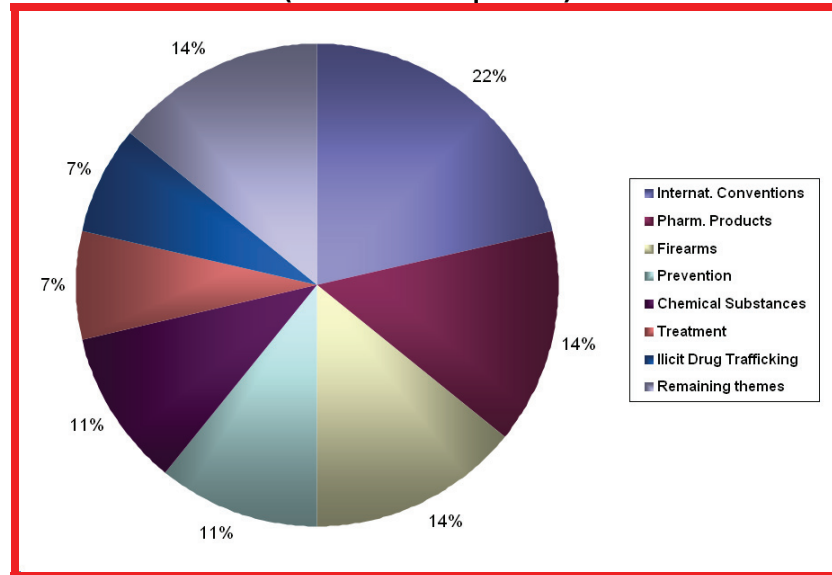
In South America, the theme of money laundering accounted for 21% of the recommendations assigned to this subregion, while 18% dealt with pharmaceutical products, 11% with international conventions, and the same percentage with chemical substances. The other themes represented less than 10%.

Percentage composition of recommendations assigned in the 4th round in Central America (6 countries| n=76)



In the Central American subregion, 18% of the recommendations assigned were in the area of money laundering, followed by 14% for drug use prevention and control of pharmaceutical products, and 11% for drug treatment and illicit drug trafficking. The other themes accounted for less than 10%.

**Percentage composition of recommendations assigned in the 4th round in North America
(3 countries | n=23)**



For the North American subregion, the area with the most recommendations was international conventions, with 22% of the total, followed by 14% for control of pharmaceutical products as well as control of firearms, and 11% for drug use prevention and control of chemical substances.

Overall, of the total recommendations assigned in the fourth round for the entire hemisphere, the theme of control of pharmaceutical products was the most prevalent, (17%), followed by international conventions (15%) and money laundering (15%).

New and reiterated recommendations in the fourth round

It is important to analyze recommendations reiterated in this fourth round, as they stem from prior rounds and reveal themes on which recommendations have not been fully executed at the time of evaluation in the fourth cycle.

**Recommendations reiterated from previous rounds
reassigned in the 4th round, and 'new' recommendations assigned
in the 4th round, by thematic area**

	New	Reiterated	Total
National plans	3%	6%	5%
Intl. conventions	8%	24%	16%
Nat. Info. Systems	4%	4%	4%
Prevention	13%	6%	10%
Drug treatment	5%	12%	9%
Statistics on cons.	3%	2%	3%
Production/Alt Dev.	2%	3%	3%
Pharmaceuticals	24%	6%	15%
Chemicals	12%	6%	9%
Illicit drug trafficking	9%	5%	7%
Firearms	7%	5%	6%
Money laundering	10%	21%	16%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%

The total reiterated recommendations from the fourth round are comprised of the following topics:

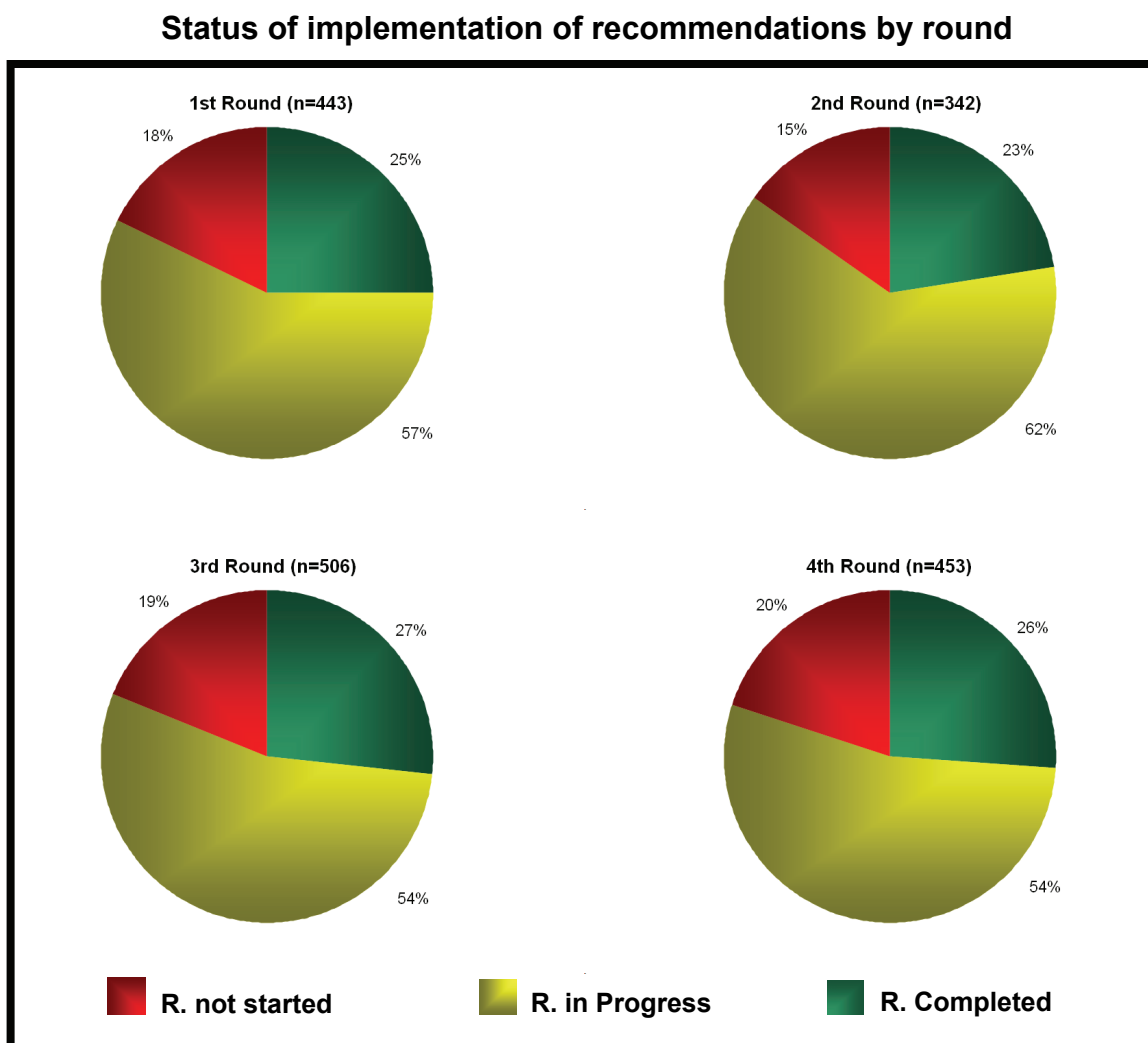
- 24% on ratification of international conventions,
- 21% on money laundering,
- 12% on drug treatment,
- 6% on drug use prevention, national plans, pharmaceutical products and chemical substances,
- 5% on control of firearms,
- 4% on national information systems and illicit drug trafficking, and
- 3% on drug production.

In North America, the theme with the highest percentage of reiterated recommendations in the fourth round was international conventions, followed by drug use prevention and control of firearms. For Central America, the primary theme was money laundering, followed by drug treatment. For the Caribbean, the thematic area with the highest percentage of recommendations was that of international conventions, followed by drug abuse drug treatment, and for South America, money laundering followed by international conventions.

VI. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

a) Status of implementation of recommendations by round

The following graph illustrates the status of implementation of the recommendations, from the first to the fourth round:

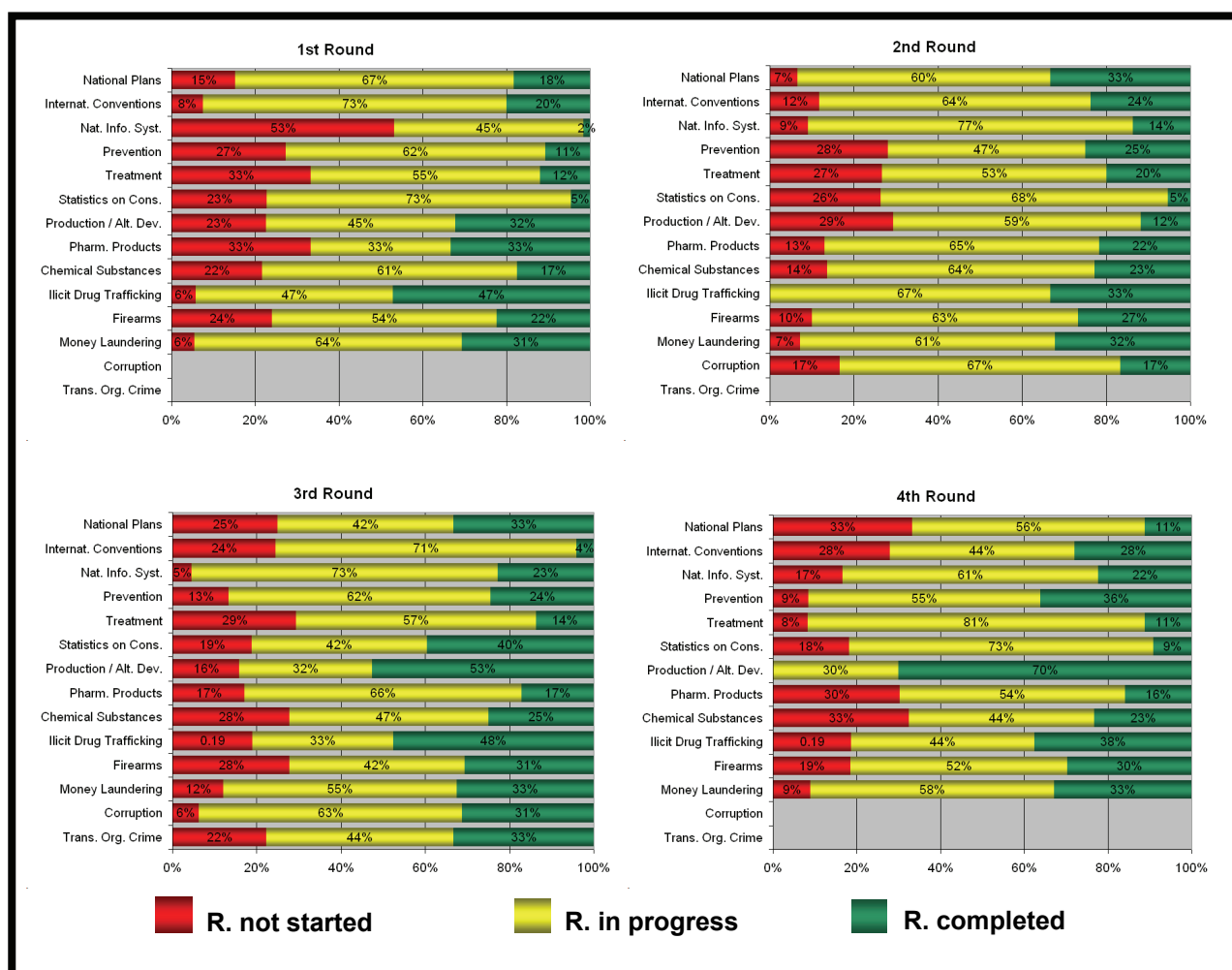


In general, during the four evaluation rounds, the percentages regarding implementation of recommendations indicate that, on average, 25% of the recommendations had been completed, 18% had not been started, and 57% were in execution.

The percentage of recommendations not started has increased slightly from the first to the fourth rounds, from 18% to 20%. In contrast, the percentage of recommendations in execution has decreased from 57% in the first round to 54% in the fourth round.

b) Status of implementation of recommendations by round and thematic area

Status of implementation of recommendations by round and thematic area



The breakdown of implementation of recommendations by thematic area for each round for the entire hemisphere shows that the topic with the highest percentage of completed recommendations in the fourth round was **drug production** with 70% of the recommendations completed and 30% in progress at the time of evaluation of recommendations. Similarly, in the third round, drug production was also the thematic area with the greatest progress, with 53% of the recommendations assigned in that round completed.

It is noteworthy that in the first round, 53% of the recommendations concerning **national information systems** had not been started, contrasting with 9%, 5%, and 17% not started during the second, third, and fourth rounds, respectively.

In the area of **illicit drug trafficking**, 47% of the recommendations on this theme had been completed in the first round, which was the highest percentage of completed

recommendations for the round. It was also the theme with the most completed recommendations in the second round, 48%, and the second highest in the third and fourth rounds, with 48% and 38%, respectively.

Recommendations in the area of **national plans**, show that the percentage that had not been started at the time of evaluation, in comparison with the total number of recommendations on the theme, was higher in the fourth round (33%) than in the three previous rounds, although the percentage completed in the fourth round was lower than in the three earlier rounds (11%).

The topic of **ratification of international conventions**, is one of those with the most recommendations in progress or in execution at the time they were evaluated in the corresponding round, with 73% in the first round, dropping to 64% in the second round, returning to 71% in the third round (and with a reduction in completed recommendations), and declining again to 44% in the fourth round, when completed recommendations increased to 28%.

A low percentage of recommendations were implemented on **statistics on consumption** in the first, second, and fourth rounds, with percentages of 5%, 5%, and 9%, respectively, contrasting with 40% of related recommendations completed in the third round.

By contrast, on the theme of **money laundering** there were generally low percentages of recommendations not started: 6% in the first round, 7% in the second, 12% in the third, and 9% in the fourth, with a relatively stable percentage, approximately 33%, of recommendations completed over the four rounds.

In the area of **drug use prevention**, the percentage of completed recommendations generally increased from one round to the next, starting at 11% in the first round, increasing to 25% in the second, and to 36% in the fourth round (with a slight decrease in the third round to 24%), as opposed to the percentage of recommendations not started, which began at 27% in the first round and decreased to 9% in the fourth round (with a slight increase in the second round to 28%).

On the theme of **control of firearms**, the percentage of recommendations completed generally increased each round from 22% in the first round to 31% in the third round (with a slight slip in the fourth round to 30%).

It should be noted that recommendations on the thematic area of **corruption** were only assigned in the second and third rounds. Recommendations on **organized crime** were only assigned in the third round.

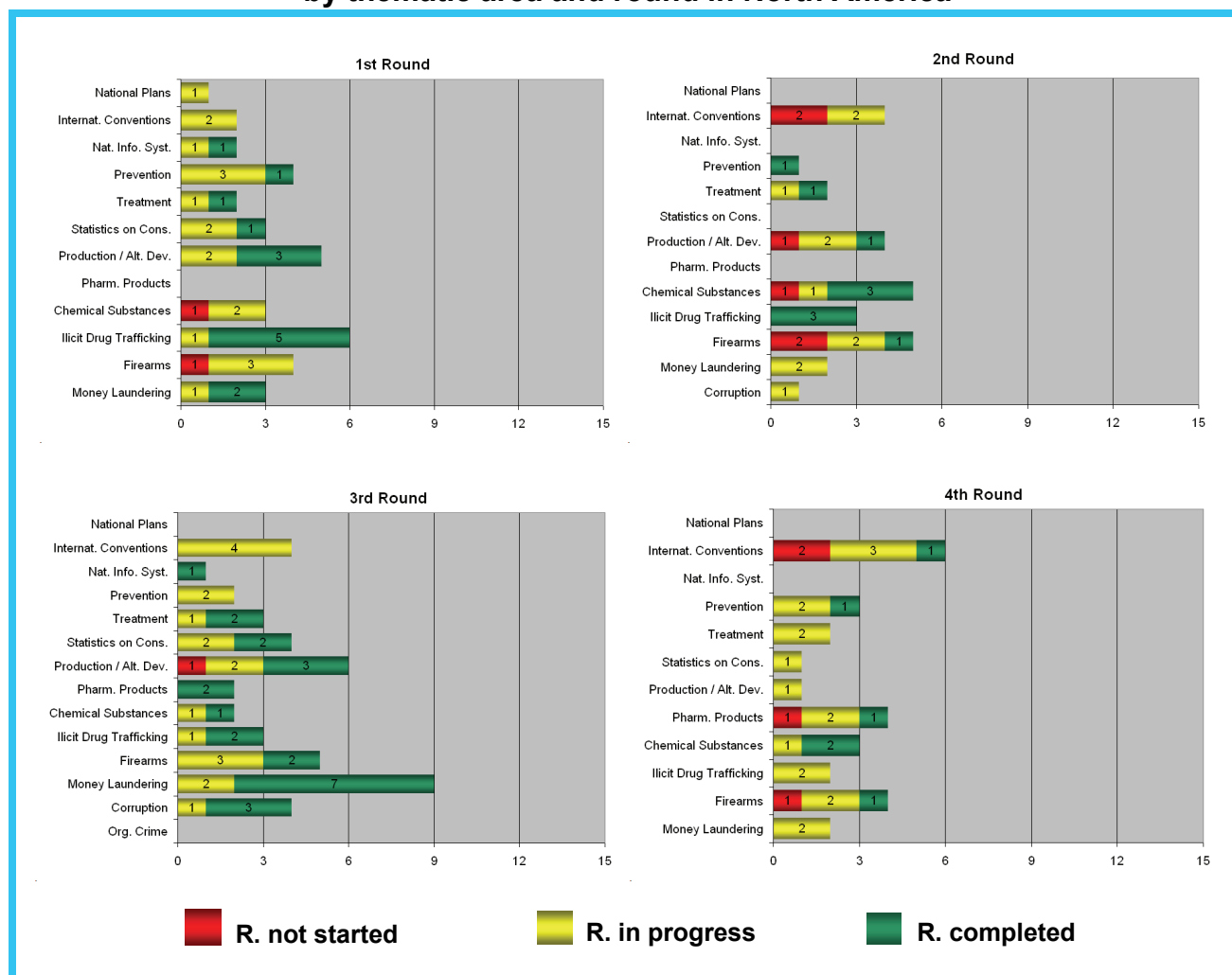
Recommendations to control illicit drug trafficking have the highest percentage rate of implementation completion in general, while the highest number of recommendations completed were in money laundering control.

Regarding the sub-regions, North America have the highest percentage rate of completion in general, with reference with the total number of recommendations assigned over the four evaluation rounds as a whole, while the sub-region of the Caribbean have the highest number of recommendations completed.

c) Status of implementation of recommendations by subregion, round, and thematic area

North America

Status of implementation of recommendations by thematic area and round in North America



The North American subregion, at the time of evaluation in the first round, recorded 14 of the assigned recommendations had been completed, mainly those involving illicit drug trafficking and drug production, as well as money laundering. The others were in

execution at that time with the exception of those regarding control of chemical substances and control of firearms, which had not been started.

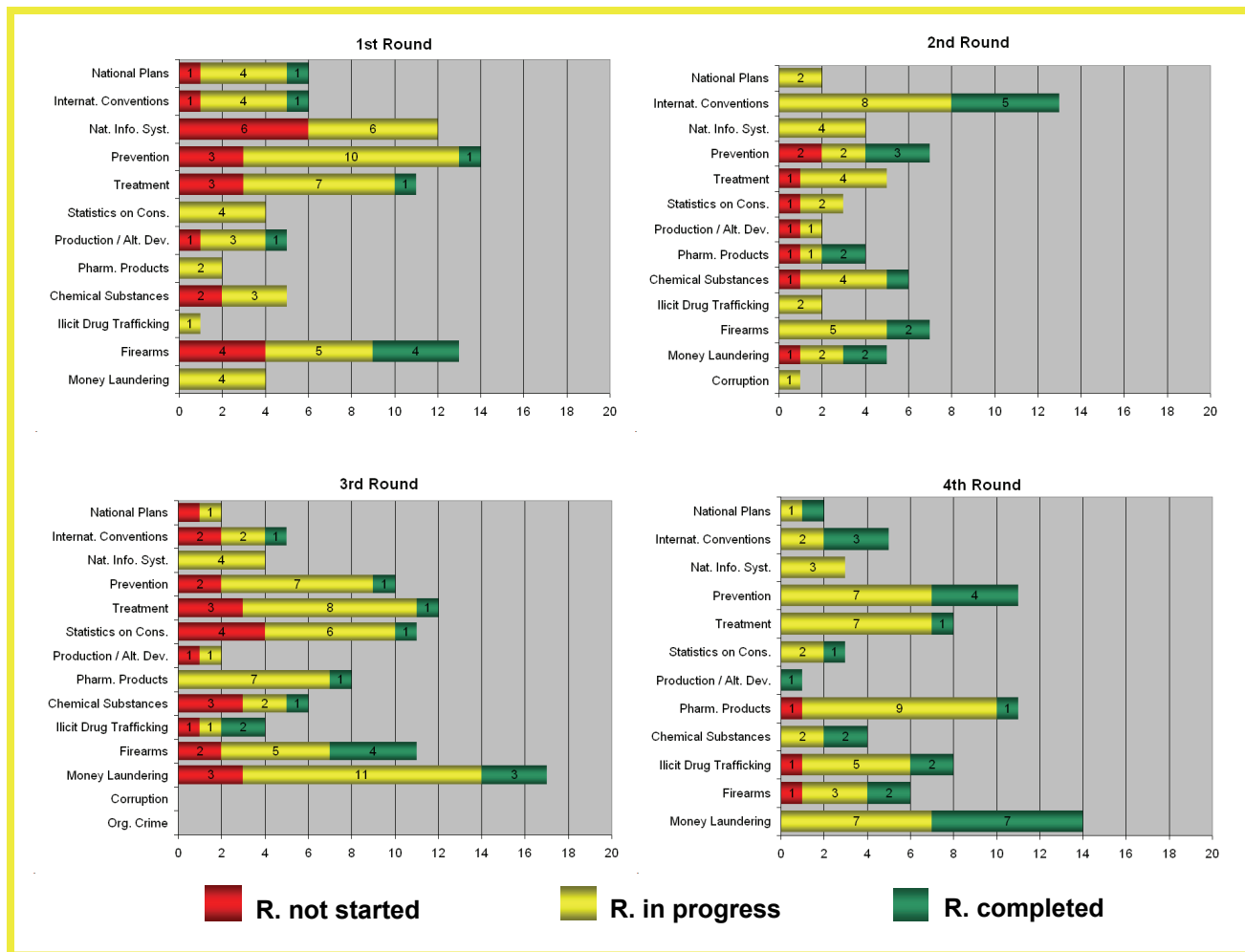
In the second round, there were fewer recommendations assigned to this subregion than in the previous round, and 10 were completed, primarily regarding control of chemical substances and illicit drug trafficking. There were 10 in execution and six not started, dealing mainly with international conventions and control of firearms.

Of the 45 recommendations assigned to this subregion in the third round, 25 were already completed at the time of evaluation, involving primarily money laundering, corruption, and drug production, and the remainder were in execution, with the exception of one on alternative development.

In the fourth round, 18 of the 28 recommendations assigned to this subregion were in execution at the time of evaluation, dealing with themes of international conventions, drug use prevention, drug treatment, control of pharmaceuticals, control of firearms, and money laundering. This subregion had six completed recommendations on control of chemical substances, international conventions, control of pharmaceutical products and control of firearms.

Central America

Status of implementation of recommendations by thematic area and round in Central America



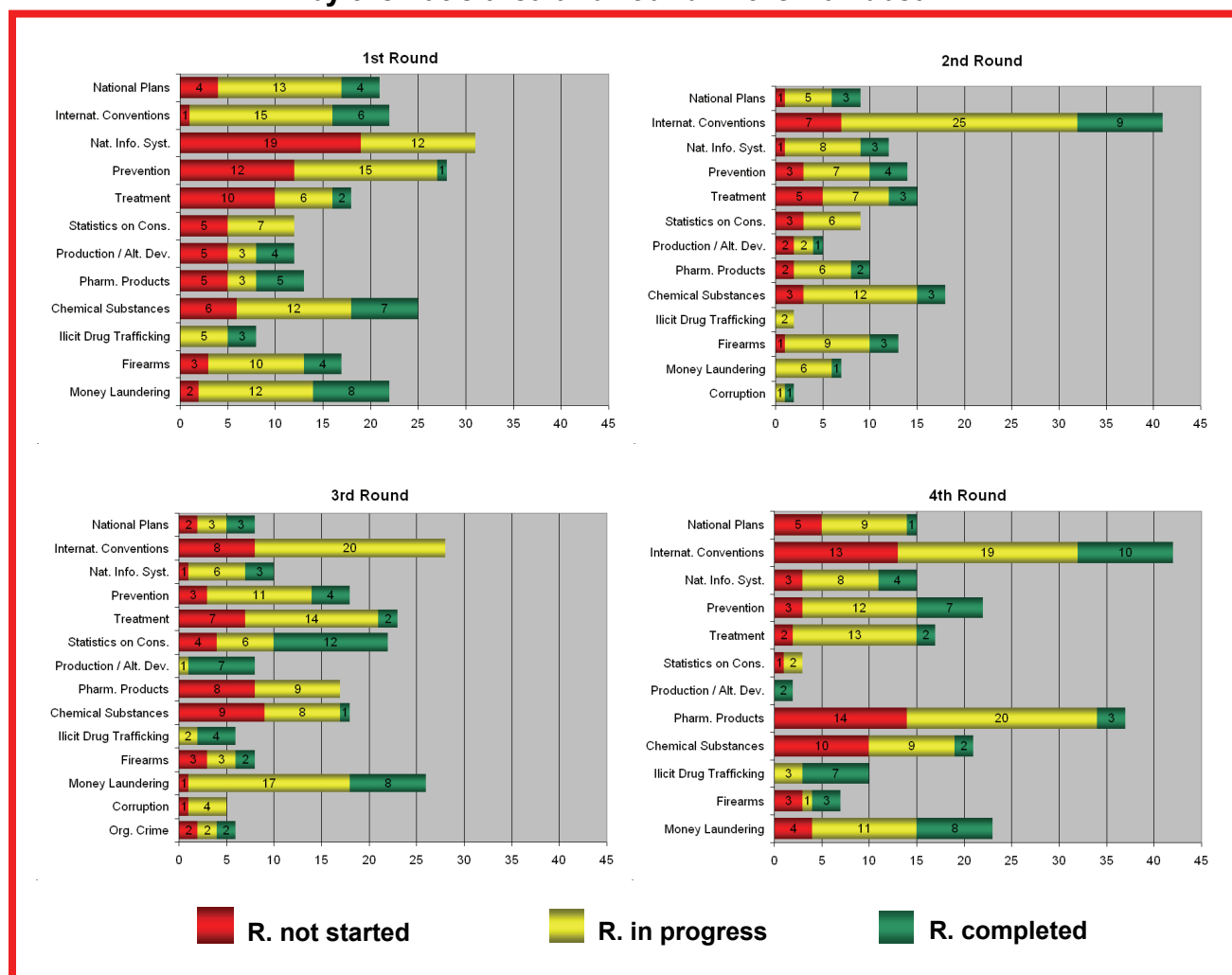
Of the 83 recommendations assigned to Central America in the first round, 53 were in execution at the time of the evaluation, dealing primarily with themes of drug use prevention, drug treatment, information systems, and control of firearms; 21 had not been started, concerning information systems, control of firearms, drug use prevention, and drug treatment, and nine had been completed, concerning mainly control of firearms.

In the second round, of the 61 recommendations assigned to this subregion, at the time of the evaluation 38 were in execution, spread among all the thematic areas, but especially in the ratification of international conventions, control of firearms, national information systems, drug treatment, and control of chemical substances; eight had not been started in five thematic areas, mainly international conventions and drug use prevention; and 15 had been completed, in six areas, principally international conventions and drug use prevention.

In the third round, of the 92 recommendations assigned to this subregion at the time of evaluation, 55 were in execution, spread among all the thematic areas, but especially in money laundering, drug treatment, drug use prevention, and control of pharmaceutical products; 22 had not been started, covering almost all subject areas, but mainly statistics on consumption, drug treatment, and money laundering; and 15 had already been completed, distributed among nine thematic areas, especially in control of firearms, money laundering, and illicit drug trafficking.

Finally, in the fourth round, of the 76 recommendations assigned to this subregion at the time of evaluation, 48 were in execution, distributed among nearly all the thematic areas, but mainly in drug treatment, drug use prevention, control of pharmaceutical products, and money laundering; three had not been started, in illicit drug trafficking and control of pharmaceutical products and firearms; and 25 had been completed, covering nearly all the themes, particularly money laundering, drug use prevention, and ratification of international conventions.

Status of implementation of recommendations by thematic area and round in the Caribbean



In the first round, 113 of the 229 recommendations assigned to the Caribbean subregion were in execution at the time of evaluation. These included over all the thematic areas, while the majority addressed international conventions, drug use prevention, and national plans; 72 had not been started, distributed among nearly all themes, but principally in information systems, drug use prevention, and drug treatment; and 44 had been completed, covering nearly all subjects, but especially money laundering, control of chemical substances, and ratification of international conventions.

In the second round, of the 157 recommendations assigned to this subregion, at the time of evaluation 96 were in execution, distributed in all thematic areas, but mainly in ratification of international conventions, control of chemical substances and firearms; 28 had not been started. These included nearly all the thematic areas, especially international conventions and drug treatment; and 33 had already been completed,

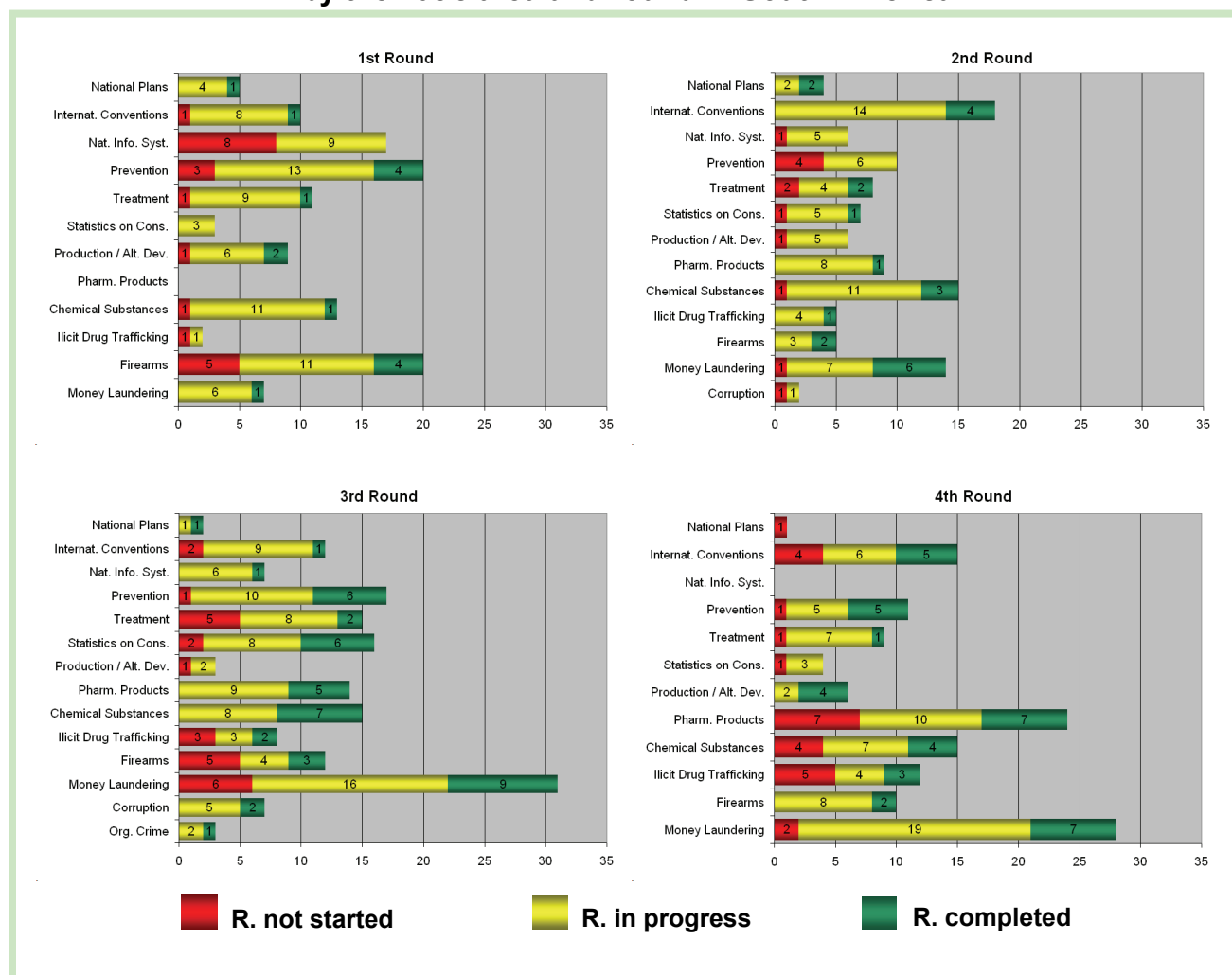
including nearly all the thematic areas, but especially in international conventions and drug use prevention.

In the third round, of the 203 recommendations assigned to this subregion, at the time of the evaluation 106 were in execution, distributed in all the thematic areas, but mainly in international conventions, money laundering, and drug treatment; 49 had not been started, covering nearly all the themes, but especially in control of chemical substances and pharmaceutical products and ratification of international conventions; and 48 had been completed, covering nine thematic areas, especially in statistics on consumption and money laundering.

Finally, in the fourth round, of the 214 recommendations assigned to this subregion, at the time of the evaluation 107 were in execution, distributed among nearly all the thematic areas, but mainly in control of pharmaceutical products, international conventions, and money laundering; 58 had not been started, covering nearly all the themes, but especially in control of pharmaceutical products and chemical substances and ratification of conventions; and 49 had been completed, involving nearly all the thematic areas, but especially in ratification of international conventions, money laundering, and drug use prevention.

South America

Status of implementation of recommendations by thematic area and round in South America



The South American subregion in the first round, at the time of the evaluation 81 of the 117 recommendations assigned were in execution, covering all the thematic areas, but mainly in drug use prevention, control of chemical substances and of firearms; 21 had not been started, distributed in eight of the themes, but especially in information systems, control of firearms, and drug use prevention; and 15 had been completed, involving eight of the thematic areas, but principally in drug use prevention, control of firearms, and drug production.

In the second round, of the 109 recommendations assigned to this subregion, at the time of evaluation 75 were in execution, distributed among all the thematic areas, but mainly in ratification of international conventions, control of chemical substances and pharmaceuticals; 12 had not been started, distributed in seven of the themes, but mainly in drug use prevention and drug treatment; and 22 had been completed, covering nearly

all the thematic areas, but principally in money laundering, international conventions, and control of chemical substances.

In the third round, of the 162 recommendations assigned to this subregion, at the time of evaluation 91 were in execution, distributed among all the thematic areas, but principally in money laundering, drug use prevention, international conventions and control of pharmaceutical products; 25 had not been started, covering eight themes, but especially money laundering, drug treatment, and control of firearms; and 46 had already been completed, involving nine of the themes, but mainly money laundering, control of chemical substances, drug use prevention, and statistics on consumption.

Finally, in the fourth round, of the 135 recommendations assigned to this subregion, at the time of evaluation 71 were in execution, covering nearly all the thematic areas, but mainly in money laundering, control of pharmaceutical products and firearms; 26 had not been started, distributed over nearly all the themes, but especially in control of pharmaceutical products and chemical substances, illicit drug trafficking, and ratification of conventions; and 38 had been completed, covering nearly all the thematic areas, but principally in money laundering, control of pharmaceutical products, ratification of international conventions, and drug use prevention.

V. CICAD EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

One of the primary purposes of the mechanism's recommendations is to identify the individual and collective needs of the member States. This allows the countries to request and receive assistance to address these needs, through projects carried out in cooperation with various international entities.

Specifically, the projects carried out in collaboration with the CICAD Executive Secretariat are the result of requests for assistance submitted by countries through the MEM, as well as the individual programs and work plans that the SE prepares annually, taking into consideration the recommendations of the mechanism. These work plans include activities such as subregional training workshops, national workshops, and implementation of prevention programs, among others, to strengthen the capacity of each member state to confront the drug problem and related activities.

a) Overview

Over the four evaluation rounds (1997–2010), 84 MEM assistance projects have been implemented in 27 countries. These projects have addressed a variety of topics in each of the thematic areas analyzed in this report. The majority of projects (76%) have been related to demand reduction, with supply reduction, control measures and institutional strengthening accounting for the remaining 9.5%, 9.5% and 5%, respectively.

Within the demand reduction area, projects have focused primarily on the establishment of a Drug Observatory or drug information network to collect and analyze drug-related statistics, and the completion of population surveys to obtain statistical data on drug consumption. Additional needs addressed by the projects in this area include the establishment or expansion of prevention programs, and the development of training on both prevention and drug treatment.

Projects in the Supply Reduction area have focused on training in handling pharmaceutical products and chemical substances, while those in the Control Measures area have included assisting countries in developing more comprehensive laws to control money laundering, and establishing databases to record information on firearms seizures and arrests related to illicit drug trafficking. Institutional Strengthening projects have primarily addressed the creation of national anti-drug plans.

Assistance projects have been implemented in three of the four regions analyzed throughout this report. Overall, the greatest number were carried out in South America (36) followed by the Caribbean (32) and Central America (16). Of the 84 projects implemented, to date 48% have been completed and 21% are currently in execution.

b) Assistance projects by round

First evaluation round

Fifteen assistance projects were implemented during the First Evaluation Round, all in the Demand Reduction area. The majority of these related to the establishment of an Observatory or carrying out surveys. Projects also addressed establishing or expanding prevention and drug treatment programs. The regional distribution of these projects was fairly even, with six projects implemented in South America, four in Central America and five in the Caribbean. All projects have been concluded.

Second evaluation round

Fourteen projects were implemented in the Second Round. The majority remained in the demand reduction area (10), but the thematic areas addressed expanded in this round to include the remaining three areas as well: 1 project in Institutional Strengthening, 1 project in Supply Reduction, and 2 projects in Control Measures. Demand reduction projects continued to focus on the creation of Drug Observatories and implementation of surveys, but also included the development of prevention programs, as well as training in prevention and the establishment of drug treatment facilities. The Control Measures projects addressed the creation of databases for firearms seizures as well as arrests for illicit drug trafficking. In the Supply Reduction area, the project addressed the improvement of a pharmaceutical control system, and in Institutional Strengthening, the project was to assist a country to develop a national anti-drug plan. In this round, six projects were implemented in both South America and the Caribbean, while two projects were carried out in Central America. To date, 13 of these projects have been completed.

Third evaluation round

The greatest number of assistance projects were carried out in the Third Round, a total of 31: 16 in South America, five in Central America and 10 in the Caribbean. Demand Reduction remained the thematic area with the most projects (26), followed by Control Measures (3) and Institutional Strengthening (2). The demand reduction projects in this round were more evenly distributed between projects related to Drug Observatories and surveys, projects to develop and expand prevention programs, and projects to evaluate and regulate drug treatment. Projects related to training in both prevention and drug treatment were also implemented. Institutional Strengthening projects again addressed the creation of national anti-drug plans, as well as establishing anti-drug agencies. Control Measures projects addressed money laundering laws, as well as databases for illicit drug trafficking convictions. To date, eight of the 31 projects have been concluded, and 11 are in execution.

Fourth evaluation round

In the most recent Fourth Evaluation Round, 24 projects were implemented, covering all four thematic areas. Demand Reduction again remained the area with the most projects

(13), but Supply Reduction saw a significant increase, with seven projects. Three projects were implemented in Control Measures, and one in Institutional Strengthening. Within Demand Reduction, an even number of projects were carried out regarding Drug Observatories and surveys, and instituting and expanding prevention programs. Several drug treatment-related projects were also implemented. In the Supply Reduction area, the majority of the projects focused on training in handling pharmaceutical products and chemical substances. Control Measures projects again focused on establishing firearms databases, as well as money laundering regulations, and the Institutional Strengthening project provided assistance in the creation of a national anti-drug plan.

In this latest round, the majority of projects were implemented in the Caribbean (11), followed by South America (8) and Central America (5). To date, four projects have been concluded, and seven are in execution.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

The MEM assigns recommendations to member states to assist in strengthening countries' policies to counter the problem of drugs and related activities and increase multilateral cooperation in the Hemisphere. Recommendations have helped identify weaknesses and setbacks in the anti-drug strategies and have become an important source of guidance for member states, helping raise awareness for the need to improve existing policies.

The thematic areas that in general have been the subject of the largest number of recommendations throughout the Hemisphere, both new and reiterated and including all rounds, are, in order: international conventions, money laundering control, drug use prevention, control of chemical substances, and drug treatment.

In the specific sub-regions, throughout the last four rounds of the MEM, North America received most recommendations in the subject area of firearms control, Central America in drug abuse prevention, South America in money laundering control, and the Caribbean regarding the ratification of international conventions.

In North America, the thematic area with the highest percentage of reiterated recommendations in the fourth round was the ratification of international conventions, followed by drug use prevention and control of firearms. For Central America, the primary theme was money laundering, followed by drug treatment. For the Caribbean, the thematic area with the highest percentage of recommendations was that of international conventions, followed by drug abuse and drug treatment, and for South America, money laundering followed by international conventions.

Overall, of the total recommendations assigned in the first round for the entire hemisphere, the theme of drug use prevention was the most prevalent, (14%), followed by national information systems (13%) and control of firearms (12%).

Of the total recommendations assigned in the second round for the entire hemisphere, the theme of international conventions was the most prevalent, (21%), followed by control of chemical substances (12%) and drug use prevention (9%).

The theme of money laundering was the subject of most recommendations in the third round, receiving 17% of the total assigned in the hemisphere, followed by the themes of drug treatment and statistics on consumption, with 11% each, and ratification of international conventions with 10%.

Of the total recommendations assigned in the fourth round for the entire hemisphere, the theme of control of pharmaceutical products was the most prevalent, (17%), followed by international conventions (15%) and money laundering (15%).

Throughout the four evaluation rounds, the MEM has encouraged member states to implement specific actions in different areas. On average, during the four evaluation

rounds, 57% of all recommendations were in execution, 25% of the recommendations had been completed, and 18% had not been started at the time of evaluation. This rate of action taken by countries in response to assigned recommendations has been maintained, which confirms the continuous commitment of the member states to the MEM process.

The breakdown of the status of implementation of recommendations by thematic area shows that recommendations to control illicit drug trafficking have the highest percentage rate of completion in general, while the highest number of recommendations accomplished were in money laundering control.

Regarding the sub-regions, North America have the highest percentage rate of completion in general, with reference with the total number of recommendations assigned over the four evaluation rounds as a whole, while the sub-region of the Caribbean have the highest number of recommendations completed.

Over the four evaluation rounds, 84 MEM assistance projects have been implemented in 27 countries. These projects have addressed a variety of topics in each of the thematic areas analyzed in this report. The majority of projects (76%) have been related to demand reduction, with supply reduction, control measures and institutional strengthening accounting for the remaining 9.5%, 9.5% and 5%, respectively.