Organization of American States – OAS Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission – CICAD

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism MEM



Antigua and Barbuda

2009 EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL



IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND





RECOMMENDATION 1:

APPROVE THE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that Cabinet approved the National Plan.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction with the implementation of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

ASSIGN THE CORRESPONDING SPECIFIC BUDGET FOR THE NATIONAL DRUG AUTHORITY.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that the establishment of the Secretariat and budget allocation are pending.

CICAD encourages the country to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

ACCEDE TO THE THREE PROTOCOLS TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME, 2000, 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:
- THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that implementation of this recommendation has not started.

CICAD notes with concern that the country has shown no progress, and urges it to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Second Evaluation Round, 2001-2002.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

SET UP A CENTRALIZED UNIT SPECIALIZED IN COORDINATING, COLLECTING, ORGANIZING, ANALYZING AND REPORTING ON DRUG-RELATED INFORMATION.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that it has attempted to reinstate the National Drug Council and has held meetings with a view toward implementing the recommendation.

CICAD urges the country to continue its efforts to ensure implementation of this recommendation.



RECOMMENDATION 5:

SET UP A "HELP LINE" OR INFORMATION DESK TO PROVIDE DRUG-RELATED INFORMATION TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that this recommendation is in progress, and that the country's Substance Abuse Prevention Division is available to provide drug-related information during business hours.

CICAD encourages the country to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

EXPAND COVERAGE OF DRUG PREVENTION PROGRAMS TARGETING SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that drug abuse prevention programs in schools have been expanded in order to include more schools and develop a more comprehensive program. However, the country did not provide data on coverage that would permit an evaluation.

CICAD encourages the country to continue its efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT DRUG PREVENTION PROGRAMS THAT TARGET THE WORKPLACE.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that implementation of this recommendation has not started.

CICAD encourages the country to fulfill this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 8:

DEVELOP MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE FOR DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT PROGRAMS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001-2002.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that this recommendation is in progress, and that it has developed a substance abuse/rehabilitation unit.

CICAD expresses its concern for the lack of progress, and urges the country to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Second Evaluation Round, 2001-2002.

RECOMMENDATION 9:

DEVELOP AN INFORMATION SYSTEM TO COMPILE INFORMATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND REGULATORY SANCTIONS IMPOSED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PHARMACEUTICAL ACT, AND ON THE QUANTITIES SEIZED AND THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

Antiqua and Barbuda reports that it is reviewing the Pharmacy Act and its regulations.



CICAD encourages the country to make efforts to comply with the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 10:

CARRY OUT RESEARCH AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER DRUGS VIA THE INTERNET, WHICH WILL ENABLE THE COUNTRY TO IDENTIFY ITS REGULATORY AND OPERATIVE NEEDS.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that it has appointed drug inspectors and strengthened drug inspections.

CICAD encourages the country to continue its efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 11:

DEVELOP AND ENACT LAWS AND REGULATIONS TO CONTROL THE DIVERSION OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.

Antigua and Barbuda supplied no information regarding this recommendation.

CICAD encourages the country to initiate efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 12:

ESTABLISH A SYSTEM FOR RECEIVING AND REPLYING TO PRE-EXPORT NOTIFICATIONS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that this recommendation is in progress. However, the information provided by the country is not relevant to evaluate progress made in this recommendation.

CICAD urges the country to comply with this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000.

RECOMMENDATION 13:

DEVELOP SPECIALIZED TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS TO ADDRESS ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING.

Antigua and Barbuda reports that the recommendation is in progress, and training activities are planned to address this topic.

CICAD encourages the country to implement this recommendation.

CONCLUSIONS

In the Fourth Evaluation Round, Antigua and Barbuda received 13 recommendations, of which one was implemented, nine are in progress, and three have not been started.

CICAD observes with satisfaction that Antigua and Barbuda has approved the National Plan.



CICAD is concerned that the country has not made progress in acceding to the three Protocols to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, given that this reiterated recommendation was assigned in the Second Evaluation Round.

In the area of demand reduction, the country has made some progress in expanding coverage of school-based prevention programs, but not in developing and implementing drug prevention programs in the workplace. Additionally, the country has not developed Minimum Standards of Care for drug abuse treatment programs.

Furthermore, the country has not started the process of establishing a system for receiving and replying to pre-export notifications for chemical substances.

CICAD acknowledges that Antigua and Barbuda has appointed drug inspectors to strengthen inspections, and that it has initiated steps to provide specialized counter-narcotics training for police, security, and customs officials.

CICAD recognizes Antigua and Barbuda's participation in the MEM process and urges the country to continue its efforts to fully comply with the pending recommendations.