

MEMEM

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)

Trinidad and Tobago

EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FIFTH EVALUATION ROUND

2012



Organization of American States



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Inter-American Drug Abuse
Control Commission

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control

Implementation of Recommendations from the Fifth Evaluation Round

2012



PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is an instrument designed to measure progress in actions taken by the 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 1988.

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 all 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.

The Fifth Evaluation Round, covering the period 2007-2009, consisted of two phases. The full evaluation phase assessed progress made by all member states in combating the drug problem in the subject areas of institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction and control measures. This culminated with the publication of national reports containing 350 recommendations for individual member states. The follow-up phase evaluated progress made in the implementation of the recommendations assigned in the Fifth Round.



RECOMMENDATION 1

DEVELOP DRUG USE PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EVALUATIONS BEING CARRIED OUT.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that the National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP), has developed a pre-school drug education prevention program based upon previous evaluations.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and considers this recommendation fulfilled.

RECOMMENDATION 2

ESTABLISH OFFICIAL OPERATING STANDARDS FOR SPECIALIZED TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.

Trinidad and Tobago has drafted a Standards of Care policy document that defines operating standards for specialized treatment facilities.

CICAD takes note of the steps taken, and urges the country to comply with this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Second Evaluation Round, 2001-2002.

RECOMMENDATION 3

DEVELOP AN OFFICIAL LICENSING PROCEDURE TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF FACILITIES THAT PROVIDE TREATMENT SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that its draft Standards of Care document includes a section addressing treatment licensing.

CICAD takes note of the steps taken, and encourages the country to comply with this recommendation.



RECOMMENDATION 4

CARRY OUT A DRUG USE SURVEY AMONG THE SECONDARY SCHOOL POPULATION.

Trinidad and Tobago has not begun implementation of this recommendation.

CICAD encourages the country to comply with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 5

INTEGRATE ALL OF THE RELEVANT ENTITIES INVOLVED IN THE CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS INTO THE AUTOMATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

Trinidad and Tobago has not begun implementation of this recommendation.

CICAD encourages the country to comply with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 6

APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF THE PROVISIONS AND PROPOSALS OF ARTICLE 12 OF THE UN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, 1988, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005–2006.

Trinidad and Tobago has not begun implementation of this recommendation.

CICAD urges the country to comply with this recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Fourth Evaluation Round, 2005-2006.

RECOMMENDATION 7

IMPLEMENT SPECIALIZED TRAINING COURSES FOR PERSONNEL IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVED IN THE HANDLING OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005–2006.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that relevant agencies participated in a training workshop on the handling of chemical substances in 2008.

CICAD takes note of the information provided.



RECOMMENDATION 8

INTEGRATE ALL OF THE RELEVANT ENTITIES INVOLVED IN THE CONTROL OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES INTO THE AUTOMATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

Trinidad and Tobago has not begun implementation of this recommendation.

CICAD encourages the country to comply with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 9

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, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005–2006.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that training on this issue has been accessed from local and international agencies.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and considers the recommendation fulfilled.

RECOMMENDATION 10

ESTABLISH A NATIONAL REGISTRY FOR THE CONFISCATION OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.

Trinidad and Tobago has developed a web-based national registry for the confiscation of firearms through the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service. Arrangements are being made to incorporate data from the Customs and Excise Division into the registry.

CICAD recognizes the progress made and encourages the country to fulfill this recommendation.



RECOMMENDATION 11

EXPAND THE OBLIGATION TO SUBMIT SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTION REPORTS TO INCLUDE NOTARIES.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that the Proceeds of Crime Act, as amended in October 2009, makes provision for the reporting of suspicious transactions, which includes “other legal professionals.” Notaries are included in this section of the legislation.

CICAD takes note of the information provided by the country, and considers the recommendation fulfilled.

RECOMMENDATION 12

ADOPT LEGISLATION TO ALLOW SPECIAL INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES, SUCH AS UNDERCOVER OPERATIONS, TELEPHONE TAPPING, AND CONTROLLED DELIVERIES, IN MONEY LAUNDERING INVESTIGATIONS, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that the 2010 Interception of Communication Act authorizes the use of electronic surveillance by law enforcement officials in connection with money laundering investigations. This legislation does not address other special investigation techniques.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and urges the country to fulfill this recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Third Evaluation Round, 2003-2004.



CONCLUSIONS

During the Fifth Evaluation Round, Trinidad and Tobago was assigned twelve recommendations; seven were new and five were reiterated recommendations. Of these recommendations, Trinidad and Tobago has fulfilled three, made progress in the implementation of four, and has not commenced implementation of four. CICAD notes the information provided with regard to one recommendation.

CICAD acknowledges that Trinidad and Tobago has developed a pre-school drug education prevention program based on evaluations carried out. In addition, CICAD notes that Trinidad and Tobago has developed a draft Standards of Care policy document that speaks to both the issues of establishing official operating standards for specialized treatment facilities and licensing of facilities that provide drug treatment services. However, Trinidad and Tobago has not conducted a survey on drug use in secondary schools.

CICAD takes note that the country has not begun the process of integrating all relevant entities involved in the control of pharmaceutical products and chemical substances into the automated information management system, and has not implemented legislation to fulfill the provisions of Article 12 of the UN Convention against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

CICAD recognizes that Trinidad and Tobago has participated in training activities related to the prevention and control of illicit trafficking of pharmaceutical products and other drugs via the Internet, and notes the information provided regarding a training workshop on the handling of chemical substances, in which relevant agencies participated. In addition, the country has developed a web-based national registry for the confiscation of firearms, which is pending the incorporation of data from the Customs and Excise Division.

CICAD notes that amended legislation passed in 2009 expands the requirement for reporting of suspicious transactions to legal professionals, including notaries, and that recently enacted legislation authorizes the use of electronic surveillance techniques by law enforcement officials in connection with money laundering investigations, but does not allow for other special investigation techniques.

CICAD recognizes Trinidad and Tobago's participation in the MEM process and encourages the country to continue its efforts to fully implement all of the recommendations.

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