

M E M M

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism

**Inter-American Drug Abuse
Control Commission
(CICAD)**

**Secretariat for
Multidimensional
Security
(SMS)**

Uruguay

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)

URUGUAY

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

RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS, 1992, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.

Uruguay reports that it approved the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters through Law N° 18.810 on September 23, 2011, and deposited the ratification instrument on March 14, 2012.

CICAD views with satisfaction the fulfillment of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 2

CREATE A REGISTER OF SPECIALIZED FACILITIES THAT PROVIDE TREATMENT SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE.

Uruguay reports that, according to the rules set out in Decree 35/2007, in 2010 it set up the Register of Specialized Facilities for Treating Patients with Substance Abuse Problems.

CICAD takes note of the information provided by the country and considers that this recommendation is complete.

RECOMMENDATION 3

OFFER SPECIALIZED TRAINING COURSES ON THE PREVENTION OF THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

Uruguay reports that it conducted a seminar on “Strengthening Policies for Preventing the Diversion of Pharmaceutical Products and Controlled Chemical Substances”, from November 23 - 24, 2011, in which representatives of both the public and private sector participated. In addition, the country reports that, within the framework of the “Prevention of the Diversion of Drug Precursors in the Latin American and Caribbean Region” Project (PRELAC), a one-day workshop on prevention of diversion of chemical substances in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances was held.

CICAD notes the information provided by the country and considers the recommendation fulfilled.



RECOMMENDATION 4

ESTABLISH A COMPUTERIZED SYSTEM TO MANAGE DATA RELATED TO ADMINISTRATIVE AND REGULATORY MEASURES FOR THE CONTROL, MONITORING AND PREVENTION OF THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

Uruguay reports that it carried out the study “Diagnosis of Control Mechanisms for the Diversion of Pharmaceutical Products, Chemical Substances and Licit and Illicit Seized Substances and their Destruction” in 2011, which included a review of the information systems currently used, and their scope, strengths and weaknesses.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and encourages the country to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 5

PROVIDE TRAINING ON THE PREVENTION OF THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.

Uruguay reports that it conducted a seminar on “Strengthening Policies for Preventing the Diversion of Pharmaceutical Products and Controlled Chemical Substances”, from November 23 - 24, 2011, in which representatives of both the public and private sector participated. In addition, the country reports that within the framework of the “Prevention of the Diversion of Drug Precursors in the Latin American and Caribbean Region” Project (PRELAC), a one-day workshop on prevention of diversion of chemical substances in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances was held.

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

RECOMMENDATION 6

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 OPERATIONAL NEEDS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND, 2005-2006.

Uruguay attended the “Training Workshop on the Investigation of Illicit Drug Trafficking over the Internet”, held by CICAD in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in September 2011.

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



RECOMMENDATION 7

CRIMINALIZE THE TRAFFICKING IN AND ILLICIT PRODUCTION OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.

Uruguay reports that, during 2011, the Interior Ministry prepared a preliminary draft law criminalizing illicit arms trafficking in accordance with international standards. Uruguay informs that this draft law is under consideration by the President of the Republic, who will determine its presentation to the National Parliament.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and encourages the country to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 8

INCLUDE ATTORNEYS AND ACCOUNTANTS IN THE LIST OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO THE OBLIGATION OF REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT MONEY LAUNDERING.

Uruguay reports that, in accordance with its domestic legislation, lawyers and accountants are obligated entities when they perform transactions on behalf of third parties or customarily manage commercial companies.

CICAD takes note of the information provided by the country.



CONCLUSIONS

During the Fifth Evaluation Round, Uruguay was assigned a total of eight recommendations, of which five have been implemented, initial steps were taken in the implementation of two, and the information provided on one of them has been noted.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that the country ratified the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, and highlights Uruguay's progress in providing specialized training to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances and pharmaceutical products, as well as on the illicit traffic of these products and other drugs over the Internet. CICAD also observes with satisfaction that the country reports the establishment of a register of specialized facilities that provide treatment services for persons with problems associated with drug use.

CICAD takes note of the efforts made by Uruguay to establish an automated information management system for administrative and regulatory measures for the control, monitoring and prevention of the diversion of pharmaceutical products, and to criminalize the trafficking in and illicit production of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

CICAD recognizes Uruguay's participation in the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) and encourages the country to continue its efforts to fully implement the pending recommendations.





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