

# Dominican Republic

## Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control 2005-2006

# MEM

**Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism**



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





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

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

# **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

**EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL  
2005–2006**

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**CICAD wishes to thank the following national institutions of the Dominican Republic which provided information for this MEM national Fourth Round report:**

- National Drug Council (CND)
- National Drug Control Bureau (DNCD)
- National Drug Control Bureau (DNCD), Drug Control Academy of the Dominican Republic
- National Institute of Forensic Pathology
- Office of the Attorney General of the Republic
- State Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, Legal Department
- State Secretariat for Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS)



## PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is a diagnostic tool designed by all 34 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), 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 the 34 member states, which meets before the onset of each MEM evaluation round to review and improve 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<sup>1</sup> 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 Fourth Round evaluation period 2005–2006. The follow-up report on the implementation progress of recommendations assigned to the Dominican Republic will be published in June 2009. All MEM reports can be accessed through the following webpage: [www.cicad.oas.org](http://www.cicad.oas.org).

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<sup>1</sup> Information for the money laundering sub-section was also taken from the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) Detailed Evaluation Report on Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism on the Dominican Republic (2005).



## INTRODUCTION

The Dominican Republic occupies an area of 48,442 km<sup>2</sup>, with 360 km bordering Haiti. The country is surrounded by the Caribbean Sea to the south and the Atlantic Ocean to the north. Jamaica is located to the west and Puerto Rico to the east across the Mona Passage. The coastline of the Dominican Republic is 1,600 km in length. The country has a population of 9,183,984 (2006) comprised of the following ethnic groups: caucasian, black and mestizo. Its literacy rate is 84%. The Dominican Republic is a representative democracy divided into 32 provinces and a National District. The country has a per capita Gross National Product (GNP) of US\$8,000 (2006) and an inflation rate of 8.2% (2006). The Dominican Republic exports a total of US\$6,495 billion annually and the main exports include: goods produced in industrial free zones, alloys of gold and processed silver, ferronickel alloy, sugar and its derivatives, gold, silver, green coffee, cocoa, black and leaf tobacco, cigars, canned *gandules* (pigeon peas), cocoa butter, coconut milk/oil, dried coconut, bananas, sweet oranges, avocados, cocoa beans, macadamia nuts, ice cream, processed fruit pulp, sugarcane rum, beer, flowers, tropical plants, beef, handicrafts, and chemical fertilizers.

## I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### A. National Anti-drug Strategy

The Dominican Republic reports that its Anti-drug Strategy expired in 2005 and it is currently preparing a new anti-drug plan.<sup>2</sup> The National Anti-drug Council (CND) is the coordinating agency for the execution of the Plan, and several national agencies participate in it. Provincial, municipal and local authorities do not have jurisdiction in drug policy-related areas.

The national anti-drug plan has a budget financed through direct allocation from the overall state budget, self-financing in accordance with the law, and contributions from civil society and international cooperation. In this regard, the country provides the following figures:

**Annual budget of the National Anti-drug Strategy by area, 2005–2006**

Area	Approved budget (US\$)		Executed budget (US\$)	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
<b>Demand Reduction</b>	360,000	400,000	345,790	176,339
<b>Supply Reduction</b>	43,800	48,000	44,173	21,035
<b>Logistics/Support</b>	1,332,800	1,355,969	1,407,947	—
<b>Control Measures</b>	8,059,400	8,014,400	8,059,400	8,014,400
<b>Money Laundering</b>	466,612	440,909	454,214	282,758

The CND was created under the Executive Branch by Law No. 50-58 of May 30, 1988 and is comprised of a Board of Directors, presided over by the President of the CND.

<sup>2</sup> The country reports that the new anti-drug plan will be adopted in late 2007.



The CND is responsible for coordinating actions in the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, drug observatory and international cooperation. It also chairs the National Committee on Money Laundering and the Financial Analysis Unit. The Dominican Republic reports that the CND has a technical office, responsible for carrying out its Board's mandates, which is the office of the Board's president.

The CND has an independent annual budget whose financial sources are as follows: governmental allocation, self-financing, contributions from civil society and international cooperation. The following amounts were presented with respect to the budget proposed and total received for the fiscal years 2004–2006.

**Annual budget for the CND, 2004–2006**

Fiscal year	Proposed budget (US\$)	Total budget received (US\$)
2004	1,542,384.69	948,365.48
2005	1,987,103.70	1,797,909.40
2006	2,445,476.25	1,813,236.63

**CICAD notes with concern that the country did not have a national anti-drug plan during the evaluation period (2005–2006). Nevertheless, CICAD notes that the Dominican Republic has a national authority in place, which is under the Executive Branch and coordinates anti-drug activities. This entity has been created by law and has its own independent annual budget, which the country deems inadequate to fulfill its duties.**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE NEW NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN.

## **B. International Conventions**

The Dominican Republic has ratified the following Inter-American and United Nations Conventions with no reservations:

- Inter-American Convention against Corruption, 1996 (June 2, 1999)
- United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, amended by the 1972 Protocol (September 21, 1973)
- United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971 (November 19, 1975)
- United Nations Convention against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988 (September 21, 1993)
- United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000 (September 12, 2006) and one of its Protocols:
  - Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children
- United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003 (July 18, 2006).



The country has the following international instruments pending ratification: the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (1992); the Inter-American Convention against the Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials - CIFTA (1997); the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982); and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air, and 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 (2000).

During the years 2004–2006 and within the framework of these international conventions, the Dominican Republic signed the bilateral agreement to Combat the Use, Production and Illicit Trafficking of Drugs and Related Crimes with Peru on July 13, 2006. This Convention is currently in the process of ratification.

**CICAD recognizes the Dominican Republic's progress in ratifying the United Nations Convention against Corruption (2003), as well as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in 2006.**

**Nonetheless, CICAD views with concern that during the current Fourth Evaluation Round, 2005–2006, the country has not made progress in ratifying the Inter-American Convention against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials – CIFTA (1997), nor the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (1992), which were recommended during the First Evaluation Round, 1999–2000. In addition, ratification of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air, and 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 (2000), which was recommended to the country during the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002, as well as the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982), also remain pending.**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

2. RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA (1982).
3. RATIFY THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (2000), A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
4. RATIFY THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURE OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS, AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (2000), A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
5. RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS (1992), A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999–2000.
6. RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURE OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITIONS, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS - CIFTA (1997), A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999–2000.





## C. National Information System

CND's Bureau of Scientific Research and Information is the centralized office at the national level that is responsible for organizing, compiling and coordinating drug-related statistics and information. The country reports that it has records of patients at treatment centers for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006.

The Dominican Republic reports that the following indicators that would enable a study on the social and economic costs of the drug problem are available for the years 2004, 2005, 2006:

- Number of persons convicted and length of sentences for illicit drug trafficking
- Direct government spending (drug related)
- Number of persons in treatment, type and duration of treatment
- Property destruction
- Arrests for illicit drug possession and use
- Incarcerations for drug-use crimes and offenses

The country indicates that in order to provide drug-related information to the general public, there are lending services for national and international clients and a referral service. In addition, the country participates in the preparation of specialized bibliographies and the selective dissemination of information. This type of information service registered a total of 103 users per year, but has no help line to provide information in this area. The country has a budget to distribute information on prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programs; it totaled US\$6,593.44 in 2004, US\$23,023.70 in 2005, and US\$53,604.64 in 2006. These funds come from the budget allocated to the National Anti-drug Council.

The Dominican Republic reports that impediments it has encountered in collecting, organizing, analyzing and utilizing drug-related statistics and information include scattered information, lack of coordination among institutions, inconsistencies in the information system, and the absence of a mechanism to collect data.

**CICAD notes the activities undertaken by the Dominican Republic in attempting to compile drug-related information, and the availability of that information to the general public. However, CICAD notes that these activities are very limited and that the country does not have a help line. CICAD also observes that the country has not carried out any survey that would enable it to ascertain the magnitude of drug use and its impact on the country during the evaluation period, 2005–2006.**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

7. IMPROVE THE INTERAGENCY COORDINATION MECHANISMS TO ALLOW THE TIMELY GATHERING OF DATA AND THE POSSIBILITY OF CENTRALIZING IT WITHIN THE DRUGS OBSERVATORY.
8. ESTABLISH A HELP LINE TO PROVIDE DRUG-RELATED INFORMATION TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

## II. DEMAND REDUCTION

### A. Prevention

The Dominican Republic is currently implementing drug abuse prevention programs aimed at the school populations. Actions carried out within these programs are being implemented with limited



coverage in three regions at the district and national levels. The prevention programs developed by the Dominican Republic through the National Anti-drug Council during the years 2004–2006 include the following:

**Prevention Programs in the Dominican Republic, 2004–2006**

TARGET POPULATION	COVERAGE	TYPE OF PROGRAM
<b>STUDENTS</b>		
Primary: 9–12 years of age	11.34%	The Comprehensive Preventive Education Program (PRODEPI) - to incorporate drug abuse prevention into the Dominican education system. Includes discussions on drug use prevention, with the goal of providing the tools and developing the skills to manage conflicts related to drugs and violence
Secondary: 13–20 years of age	39.71%	The Comprehensive Preventive Education Program (PRODEPI) – involves student social services in drug prevention, with the goal of developing and educating multiplier agents in schools
<b>COMMUNITY PROGRAMS FOR OUT OF SCHOOL YOUTH</b>		
Street/abandoned children	537 children in 2006	National Council for Children (CONANI) – provides attention to children in residential settings. Programs and projects include those for children in residential programs, and for adolescent offenders
General adult and adolescent population	13% of the general adult population 3.6% of the adolescent population	The Program of Youth Drug Prevention Council (COJUPRE) - implements drug abuse prevention activities in communities in coordination with community-based organizations. The program has the following projects: “Drug Abuse Prevention Multipliers,” “Healthy Family,” and “Emphasizing the Value of the Family Nucleus, Citizen Orientation.”
Workplace	10.9%	The Workplace Prevention Program (PRAL) – promotes drug abuse prevention in all areas of companies and institutions in the public and private sectors.
Athletic Population (children, young athletes, trainers, coaches and physical education teachers)	7%	The Program on Prevention of Drugs in Sports (PRODEPORTE) - promotes constructive use of free time and capacity-building to counter risk factors for drug abuse. This program has the following projects: “Commitment to a Healthy Life,” “The Successful and Healthy Athlete,” “Role of the Sports Leader in Prevention.”

The country does not have prevention programs aimed at the pre-school, tertiary (university level) and female populations. In the case of working children, indigenous groups and incarcerated individuals, the country reports that these programs do not target these populations.

During the years 2004–2006, the Dominican Republic did not offer specialized training in the areas of drug abuse prevention, treatment or research. However, during 2006, it did take part in regional and international study abroad programs, such as the Internship on Drug Abuse Counseling and Treatment in Prisons in Central America and the Dominican Republic, as well as the Internship on Drug Abuse Treatment. The country indicates that the aforementioned internships do not meet the



national demand for professional training in prevention and treatment. In addition, the country is implementing an optional drug dependency course within the Social Work and Psychology Degree Course at the State University, and at other national universities. Similarly, the Treatment and Rehabilitation Bureau of the National Anti-drug Council holds three annual basic training courses on Drug Dependency for doctors, psychologists, professionals and staff working at hospitals and institutions where drug abuse treatment services are offered.

**CICAD views with satisfaction that the Dominican Republic is implementing drug abuse prevention programs targeting primary and secondary school populations, and encourages the country to increase their coverage. Furthermore, CICAD notes with satisfaction that the country has maintained prevention programs in the workplace and targeting the athletic community, and is engaged in joint prevention activities with community organizations. Nevertheless, CICAD is concerned that there has been a suspension of the programs launched in 2003 targeting other key sectors of the population, such as special prevention programs for women and prison inmates, and that the country does not have programs in place aimed at preschool and college student populations, women, working children and indigenous groups.**

**CICAD notes that the country continues to report that the availability of professional training is insufficient to meet specialized training needs in the field of drug use prevention, even though increased training was recommended during the Third Evaluation Round, 2003–2004.**

**In addition, CICAD is concerned that the country has not undertaken substance abuse prevention program evaluations, also recommended to the country during the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002.**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

9. INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF PROFESSIONAL SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN DRUG USE PREVENTION, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
10. CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF RESULTS TO MEASURE SCHOOL-BASED PREVENTION PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
11. EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF PREVENTION PROGRAMS FOR THE SCHOOL POPULATION.

### **B. Treatment**

The Dominican Republic has Minimum Standards of Health Care for Substance Abuse and Dependency, which are mandatory at the national level. These minimum standards are supported by Resolution No. 010002 of 11 March 2004 of the State Secretary for Public Health and Social Assistance. The country does not have a national mechanism to oversee adherence to the Minimum Standards of Care, nor to evaluate the quality of services provided.

The National Anti-drug Council (CND) has a national registry of treatment services and programs, and indicates that this task is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health. The country does not have the tools necessary for the accreditation of said services and programs.



The country provides basic refresher courses for personnel working in the area of drug abuse treatment through the CND's Treatment and Rehabilitation Bureau. During 2006, 24 people participated in a Basic Course on Drug Dependency, 17 attended a course on institutional strengthening, and 30 took a refresher course on mental disorders and addiction.

The outpatient drug treatment modalities that exist in the Dominican Republic total two programs in the public sector and seven programs in the private sector, aimed at adults and minors of both sexes. There are three residential programs in the public sector and 17 in the private sector for adults and minors of both sexes.

The existing drug use treatment services in the country include the following: one private service for early detection, patient training and referral of cases with provincial coverage; three public and six private detoxification services with provincial coverage; 24 private treatment and rehabilitation services with municipal, provincial and national coverage; two private social reintegration services with municipal coverage; 56 private self-help group services with municipal, provincial and national coverage; and one private brief intervention service with provincial coverage.

The "*Hogar Crea*" program in the Dominican Republic supports treatment centers and programs aimed at women, adolescents and inmates. In the case of women, there are two "homes" available, whereby the intervention methodology is based on the therapeutic community concept, carried out through 14 therapy modalities. In the case of adolescents, a program exists that offers therapy on an individual level as well as in a family environment, including direct social work. This represents a systematic intervention project in which other entities participate, including "*Niños del Camino*" and "*Casa Abierta*." In the case of inmates, a program exists that provides support to a total of 60 inmates of both sexes at the Najayo Public Prison. These programs are carried out according to the same philosophy as the "homes," which promote healthy lifestyles and self-control mechanisms. The Emergency Health Care Network offers care for intoxication and treatment for withdrawal.

Studies have not been conducted in the Dominican Republic to assess the effectiveness of various early intervention, drug abuse treatment modalities, rehabilitation and social reintegration programs.<sup>3</sup>

With respect to the demand for drug abuse treatment, CND's Treatment and Rehabilitation Bureau provided the following statistics concerning the number of patients receiving treatment and the total number of admissions to treatment:

**Demand for drug abuse treatment, 2004–2006**

Year	Number of patients receiving treatment	Number of admissions to treatment
2004	2,469	2,530
2005	1,561	1,637
2006	3,867	3,356

Additionally, this Bureau provided the following statistics on the number of treatment programs:

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<sup>3</sup> The country reports it is conducting a survey of institutions that offer treatment for subsequent diagnosis; completion is planned for the last quarter of 2007.

**Treatment programs, 2004–2006**

Year	Total number of programs	Total number of new programs
2004	18	5
2005	23	5
2006	28	3

According to the figures provided by the country, CICAD detects a substantial increase in the number of patients receiving treatment during the evaluation period, 2005–2006, and notes that the country has expanded its treatment programs. Nevertheless, CICAD encourages the country to verify that available treatment programs meet demand.

CICAD recognizes that the country has approved the Minimum Standards of Health Care for Substance Use and Dependence, and that these standards are mandatory. Nonetheless, CICAD notes that their effectiveness is limited by the fact that the necessary instruments are not in place to accredit and evaluate the treatment services and programs.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

12. IMPLEMENT THE TOOLS NECESSARY TO ACCREDIT DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS.

**C. Statistics on Consumption**

During the Fourth Evaluation Round, 2005–2006, the Dominican Republic has not undertaken studies on the magnitude of consumption in the general population nor among school students.

The country reported that the use of ecstasy was detected in 2004, and heroin in 2006.

The Dominican Republic has a mortality sub-register of the National Institute of Forensic Pathology that has data on all bodies that tested positive for drugs. This register keeps records of all cases in which an autopsy was conducted to determine cause of death, but cannot determine deaths directly related to drug use.

Executive Order No. 308-06 of July 24, 2006 limits the sale of alcoholic beverages at certain places and times, in an effort to prevent alcohol-related accidents in the Dominican Republic.

**CICAD views with satisfaction the enactment of a binding national regulation designed to reduce alcohol-related traffic accidents. Nevertheless, CICAD notes with concern that the Dominican Republic has not conducted any recent studies on drug use in the general population nor among school students.**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

13. CONDUCT A STUDY TO ASSESS THE MAGNITUDE OF DRUG USE IN THE GENERAL POPULATION, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.



### III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

#### A. Drug Production

The Dominican Republic states that it has a system in place to detect and quantify the total area of illicit crops. Through use of this system, the country detected a total of one hectare of illicit cannabis crops in the year 2004; one in 2005; and one in 2006. Regarding the potential production of raw materials of cannabis, potential drug production, and the indoor cultivation of cannabis plants, due to the unclear data furnished by the country, it was not possible to conduct a complete evaluation in this area.

The Dominican Republic uses forced manual eradication in the case of cannabis crops. The total area of eradicated cannabis crops during 2004–2006 was one hectare in 2004; one in 2005; and one in 2006.

**CICAD views with concern that the information provided by the country in the area of drug production is scarce and unclear, and has prevented CICAD from conducting an evaluation of the country's activities during the evaluation period, 2005–2006.**

#### B. Control of Pharmaceutical Products

For the purpose of controlling the diversion of pharmaceutical products, the Dominican Republic enacted Law No. 50-88 on Drugs and Controlled Substances on May 30, 1988. The country has a mechanism to monitor and prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical products applicable to health professionals and entities authorized to handle these products. The State Secretariat for Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS) and the National Drug Control Bureau (DNCD) are the competent authorities responsible for coordinating activities related to the control of pharmaceutical products. All pharmaceutical products containing substances listed in the international conventions are controlled in the country.

In the commercial sector, the control mechanisms for pharmaceutical products include the control of import/export, license control, monitoring distribution, inspection, administrative sanctions, registry of licensees and registry of quantities of pharmaceutical products sold. In the health care sector, the control mechanisms for pharmaceutical products include the control of licenses, monitoring distribution, monitoring of prescriptions, inspection, administrative sanctions, and the transfer of unusual cases detected by administrative authorities to judicial authorities.

The Dominican Republic has a system in place to compile information on administrative and regulatory activities and sanctions imposed in connection with them; it is run by the Secretariat for Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS).

**Administrative and regulatory activities, 2004–2006**

<b>Regulatory Activities</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Number of licenses issued to:</b>			
Importers	75	77	63
Exporters	02	02	01
Manufacturers	26	24	20
Distributors	57	60	42
Others*	605	711	687
<b>Number of permits issued for:</b>			
Importation	357	190	270
Exportation	01	0	03
<b>Number of inspections conducted:</b>			
Physicians	0	0	0
<b>Number of licenses issued to:</b>			
Dentists	0	0	0
Pharmacists	0	0	0
Importers	4	12	8
Manufacturers	4	3	—
Distributors	1	5	4

\* Includes pharmacies, clinics, hospitals, and analysis laboratories.

The Basic Training Course on Identification of Drugs and Controlled Substances is offered by the country to train personnel in the public and private sectors involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products, but the country indicates that it fails to satisfy the demand for national training. In addition, the information system run by SESPAS covers all matters related to pharmaceutical products, ranging from import and manufacturing to local consumption.

Legislation in the Dominican Republic makes provisions for penal, civil and administrative sanctions for the diversion of pharmaceutical products. The country does not provide information on the number of times sanctions were applied during the years 2004–2006.

During 2005–2006, the following quantities of pharmaceutical products were seized and disposed of:

**Pharmaceutical product seizures, 2005–2006**

<b>Pharmaceutical products</b>	<b>Number of seizures</b>		<b>Quantities seized</b>	
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Oxycodone</b>	—	1	—	3,413 pills
<b>Diazepam</b>	2	—	310 pills	—
<b>Alprazolam</b>	1	—	8 pills	—



No legislation or mechanism is in place to prevent or suppress the use of Internet services for the illicit trafficking of controlled pharmaceutical products or other drugs. The country has not carried out activities or programs to increase awareness regarding the illicit sale of pharmaceutical products and other drugs over the Internet.

**CICAD notes that the Dominican Republic has national institutions and adequate regulations to control and monitor pharmaceutical products and prevent their diversion. Nevertheless, CICAD notes that during the evaluation period, 2005–2006, no inspections of pharmacies or health professionals (doctors, dentists, pharmacists) were conducted. CICAD also notes that training of personnel in the private and public sectors who are involved in the handling of pharmaceutical products does not satisfy the demand.**

**CICAD notes that the country does not have regulations or specific mechanisms in place to prevent and control the illicit trafficking of pharmaceutical products and other drugs via the Internet.**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

14. 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.

## **C. Control of Chemical Substances**

Law No. 50-88 of May 30, 1988 includes regulations for the control of chemical substances used in the illicit manufacturing of drugs. There is a mechanism in place in the country to monitor and prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances, applicable to health professionals and entities authorized to handle these substances. All of the chemical substances listed in the international conventions are controlled.

The identified components of the internal mechanism for the control of the diversion of chemical substances include the following: national registry of licensees; license control for manufacturing and distribution; import/export control; inspections; control of distribution; pre-export notifications and imposition of sanctions. The national entities responsible for these components are SESPAS and the National Drug Control Bureau (DNCD). This does not include the component of the control of the final marketing. Control over the transport of chemical substances is the responsibility of the law enforcement authorities, in accordance with Regulation 288-96.

The Basic Training Course on Identification and Controlled Substances is offered by the country with the aim of training administrative, police and customs officials on the control of the diversion of chemical substances. However, the country indicates that this course does not satisfy the demand for training.

The automated system in the Dominican Republic to facilitate the handling of information on the control of the diversion of chemical substances consists of registries of export/import licenses; registries of distribution licenses; registries of licenses issued to companies using controlled substances to manufacture products; and reports on the use and sale of controlled substances.

Legislation makes provisions for criminal, civil and administrative sanctions for the diversion of controlled chemical substances in accordance with international conventions. Within the





administrative sanctions, one year suspension of the controlled drugs and substances certificate can be applied.

The Dominican Republic reports exporting controlled chemical substances. During the current evaluation period, the country did not issue pre-export notifications in 2004, and issued 67 pre-export notifications in 2005, and 31 in 2006. During these same years, only one pre-export notification was not approved by the importing or trans-shipment country, in 2005. In addition, the country imports controlled chemical substances; 32 pre-export notifications were received and answered in a timely manner in 2005, and 15 in 2006.

Concerning the number of pre-export notifications received that were not approved, and the number of investigations initiated, the country reports that no such cases occurred during the years 2004–2006.

The country reports that no seizures of controlled chemical substances were conducted during the years 2004–2006.

**CICAD notes that the Dominican Republic has the institutions and legal standards in place to exercise control and prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances. CICAD also notes, however, that their effectiveness could not be assessed because the information submitted was inadequate. Furthermore, CICAD points out that the Dominican Republic is sending and receiving pre-export notifications for chemical substances, as was recommended during the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002.**

**CICAD notes that training for administrative, police, and customs officers in the area of control of chemical substance diversion does not meet the national demand.**

## IV. CONTROL MEASURES

### A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

The Dominican Republic has carried out the following seizures of drugs during the years 2004–2006:

**Quantities of drugs seized, 2004–2006**

Type of drug	Number of Seizures			Unit of Measure	Quantities of Drugs Seized		
	2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006
Heroin	65	75	75	kg	69	122	257.6
Cocaine hydrochloride	1,886	2,960	2,535	kg	2,235	2,233	5,019.8
Crack	1,141	1,915	1,532	kg	7.27	14.27	13.5
Cannabis plants	11	15	12	units	476	2,425	175
Leaf cannabis (grass)	2,885	3,535	2,708	kg	530	563	429.2
Cannabis resin (hashish)	0	3	0	kg	0	.30	1.36
Cannabis seed	2	11	5	units	84	204	480
MDMA (ecstasy) and derivatives	6	14	16	units	20,578	280,722	121,882



Regarding the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug trafficking, the country only provided figures for 2006: 937 persons charged and 349 convicted. Regarding public officials prosecuted for illicit drug trafficking and related acts of corruption, the Dominican Republic indicates that several public officials have been accused of those offenses, but no pertinent statistics were submitted.

The number of persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit possession of drugs in the Dominican Republic is shown in the following table:

**Persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit drug possession, 2004–2006**

Year	Persons formally charged	Persons convicted
2004	1,542	616
2005	1,236	543
2006	2,329	854

The criteria used by the Dominican Republic to distinguish possession for personal use from possession for illicit trafficking is quantitative; the country indicates that it classifies according to the type and quantity of the substance.

In the Dominican Republic, when a person is formally charged with or convicted of illicit possession of drugs for personal use, there are alternative sentencing measures available. The country does not provide information on the type of alternative sentencing measures available, the number of sanctions imposed, the number of persons to which the sentences were applied, nor whether the country evaluates the results of said alternative measures. The number of persons arrested for illicit possession of drugs for personal use was 40 in 2005 and 12 in 2006.

The means employed by the country to facilitate the exchange of operational information and collaboration among national authorities responsible for controlling illicit drug trafficking, include joint operations forces, joint training and inter-agency information network systems. In addition, the Dominican Republic shares information on joint operations and drug seizure statistics with other countries to promote and facilitate the operational exchange of information and collaboration among national authorities responsible for controlling illicit drug trafficking.

The Dominican Republic did not make any judicial cooperation requests to other states in the area of illicit drug trafficking based on international agreements for the evaluation period, 2005–2006. The country did, however, receive and grant judicial cooperation requests in illicit drug trafficking cases: 25 in 2004, 19 in 2005, and two in 2006.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Dominican Republic is the central authority responsible for making extradition requests to other countries. The countries with which the Dominican Republic has extradition treaties include the United States of America, Spain, Republic of China (Taiwan), and France. The country indicates that, to date, it has not made any extradition requests in connection with drugs, and two extradition agreements are currently pending ratification (one with Colombia and one with Brazil).

The extradition requests are received by the State Secretariat of Foreign Affairs; however, this entity then forwards these requests to the Office of the Attorney General, which is the agency responsible



for processing extradition requests. Subsequently, the Office of the Attorney General transmits the request to the Executive Branch for approval. The country's laws permit the extradition of its nationals.

The number of requests received by the Dominican Republic for extradition in illicit drug trafficking cases and the replies granting those requests were 25 and 26, respectively, for the year 2004; 34 and 29 for 2005; and 23 and 19 for 2006. The reasons for which the country did not grant the requests received during 2005 included: humanitarian reasons; offenses not recognized in the treaty; and individuals tried in the country for the same offenses. The country stated that no major impediments have been encountered in receiving extradition requests.

During the years 2004–2006, the Dominican Republic developed various specialized training courses to address illicit drug trafficking for law enforcement, police, customs officers, and Judiciary Branch officers, in which regional organizations and national institutions of Canada, Spain, the United States of America, France, Holland and the Dominican Republic participated. Courses entitled Police Technological Investigation, Undercover Agents, Advanced Tactical Training, Training Course of the Commissioner for Support and Modernization of the Judiciary, and Mock Trial on Money Laundering and Financial Fraud were carried out in the Dominican Republic. With respect to these courses, the country indicates that they have satisfied the training needs of the country.

**CICAD views with satisfaction that the Dominican Republic has successfully continued with its mechanisms for collaborating with and engaging in effective information exchange between different national agencies that are involved in illicit drug trafficking control. CICAD also notes that during the evaluation period, 2005–2006, the country has provided specialized training to security forces, police officers, customs officers, and Judiciary Branch officers. The country has also maintained a good level of collaboration regarding international judicial cooperation in the illicit drug trafficking area.**

**However, CICAD views with concern that the country does not have in place an adequate judicial record-keeping system for statistics on illicit drug trafficking cases, which was apparent given the lack of information provided on this topic.**

**CICAD also notes with concern the detection of synthetic drugs such as ecstasy in the Dominican Republic and encourages the country to conduct awareness-raising activities and information campaigns on trafficking and use of these substances, directed at those authorities responsible for demand and supply reduction.**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

- 15. ESTABLISH A JUDICIAL DATABASE CONTAINING INFORMATION ON PERSONS FORMALLY CHARGED WITH AND CONVICTED OF ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING OFFENSES, ENABLING THE IDENTIFICATION OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.**

### **B. Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials**

The national entities in the country responsible for controlling activities related to firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials include: State Secretariat of the Armed Forces, State Secretariat of the Interior and Police, the National Drug Control Bureau (DNCD), Immigration Bureau, Office of the Attorney General of the Republic and General Customs Bureau.



Responsibility for the issuance of import and in-transit licenses and permits for firearms, ammunition and related materials falls to the State Secretariat of the Armed Forces and the State Secretariat of the Interior and Police. Issuance of exports licenses for these materials is also the responsibility of the State Secretariat of the Armed Forces.

Cancellation of licenses and permits for firearms, ammunition and related materials is the responsibility of the State Secretariat of the Interior and Police, while confiscation or forfeiture of illicitly trafficked firearms or ammunition falls to both the State Secretariat of the Armed Forces and State Secretariat of the Interior and Police, subject to the order of a competent tribunal.

Regarding explosives, issuance of import and in-transit licenses and permits, issuance of export licenses, cancellation of licenses and permits, and confiscation or forfeiture of illicitly trafficked explosives, subject to competent tribunal order, are all handled by the State Secretariat of the Armed Forces.

The exchange of information related to firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials among the country's relevant national entities is the responsibility of the State Secretariat of the Armed Forces, State Secretariat of the Interior and Police, the National Drug Control Bureau, General Immigration Bureau, Investigative Agencies, Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, and the Office of Customs. Information exchange with national entities in other countries falls to the State Secretariat of the Armed Forces.

The country indicates that the main obstacle encountered to ensuring the effective exchange of information and collaboration among the competent entities is the lack of modern legislation. In addition, the Dominican Republic does not have a database that is easily accessible by all institutions.

Law No. 36 on Illegal Possession of Firearms (1965) of the Dominican Republic, criminalizes the illicit trafficking in and manufacture of firearms, ammunition and explosives and other related materials and establishes sanctions for non-compliance.

During the years 2004–2006, no persons in the Dominican Republic were formally charged with and convicted of illicit possession of and trafficking in ammunition, explosives and other related materials. The number of individuals formally charged with and convicted of possession of and illicit trafficking in firearms can be observed in the following table:

**Persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit possession of and trafficking in firearms, 2004–2006**

Year	Charged	Convicted
2004	167	81
2005	144	59
2006	79	28

Law No. 36 (1965) and Law No. 262 (1948) constitute the current legislation that permits the Dominican Republic to establish administrative controls over the importation and in-transit movement of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials and the type of sanctions applicable in the case of non-compliance. With respect to export operations, the country indicates that no



administrative controls exist for firearms, however it does not provide information on ammunition, explosives and other related materials cases.

The country reports that between 2004 and 2006, no sanctions were imposed for violations of laws and regulations controlling the import, export, and in-transit movement of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

With respect to the quantities of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials confiscated during the years 2004–2006, the Dominican Republic reported that in 2005, 405 firearms were confiscated, while in 2006, 81 were confiscated, totaling 486. The country did not provide data on confiscated firearms for 2004 or ammunition, explosives and other related materials, nor did it provide information on confiscations in relation to the number of arrests for illicit drug trafficking offenses. In addition, the country did not provide information regarding the existence of investigations that make it possible to estimate, percentage-wise, if any of the firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials were destined for illicit trafficking organizations.

In the Dominican Republic, the national entities responsible for the exchange of information and collaboration with agencies in other countries regarding the control of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials include: the State Secretariat of the Interior and Police, which shares information from its database; the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, which shares information on deportation; the National Drug Control Bureau; and the State Secretariat of the Armed Forces (through the area of Investigative Agencies of the General Immigration Bureau), which shares data analysis.

In order to facilitate information exchange and collaboration with national agencies of the Dominican Republic and with similar entities in other countries, an interagency committee, joint forces/operations and joint training are used as cooperation mechanisms. There are no interagency information or communications systems/networks. The country reported that the cooperation mechanisms previously mentioned include joint training and the exchange of experiences (operating under the authority of the United Nations (UN) and the Organization of American States (OAS), and the International Committee and the Joint Operations Forces, whose authority was not provided). The country promotes and facilitates exchanges of information and assistance with counterpart agencies in other countries through the State Secretariat of the Armed Forces.

**CICAD views with concern that the Dominican Republic has not made any progress in updating its existing, outdated legislation to control illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.**

**In addition, CICAD notes that the country also lacks effective interagency communications and coordination in this area; it does not have a registry or database containing all information related to this subject nor does it have a formal mechanism in place to evaluate the effectiveness of the activities conducted by each national institution in charge of controlling the illicit trafficking.**

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

16. ESTABLISH A REGISTRY OR DATABASE CONTAINING ALL INFORMATION RELATED TO THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.
17. UPDATE NATIONAL LEGISLATION TO CONTROL ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON THE SUBJECT, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.



## C. Money Laundering

The Dominican Republic reported that it issued Law No. 72 of 2002 on Laundering of Proceeds of Illicit Trafficking of Drugs and Controlled Substances and other Serious Offenses, which criminalizes money laundering-related crimes and provides for sanctions for such offenses. Money laundering is considered an autonomous offense and may be prosecuted even if no conviction is issued for the predicate offense.

The legislation of the Dominican Republic includes the following predicate offenses for money laundering: illicit drug trafficking, firearms trafficking, human trafficking, organs trafficking, prostitution, pornography, kidnapping, extortion, and crimes against public administration, *inter alia*, corruption, fraud and any offense for which the highest penalty is not less than 3 years imprisonment.

The country reports that to combat money laundering, national laws permit special investigation techniques, consisting of special undercover operations, electronic surveillance, use of informants, monitored delivery, and plea bargaining or cooperative witness testimony.

Regarding administrative controls to prevent money laundering, the following are regulated under Law No. 72-02: the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic, the banking sector, “offshore” banks, money exchanges, stock exchange, insurance companies, casinos, real estate, attorneys, notaries, accountants, cross-border movements of currency and negotiable bearer instruments, issuers of credit cards, travelers’ cheques, money orders, sales of aircrafts, jewelry, ships, archeological objects, works of art, and metals, all of which are required to comply with the compulsory control measures established. These control measures include all those currently in use at the international level, such as reporting of large transactions, client registry, verification of client identity, transaction registry, preservation of records, existence of enforcement officials, existence of independent audits, know-your-client policies, know-your-employee policies and prohibition of anonymous accounts. Regulated sectors are required to report suspicious or unusual transactions to the competent authority or face administrative sanctions, annulment of the administrative act, and punishment of the official or employee directly responsible in the event of omission.

Intermediary and Money Exchange Institutions overseen and regulated by the Office of the Superintendent of Banks of the Dominican Republic are developing their respective Prevention Programs and Internal Compliance Manuals pursuant to the instructions in the “Guidelines” and “Know Your Client Instruction Book” issued by the oversight entity. Furthermore, currency remittance and exchange agents, who are overseen by the Superintendency of Banks (SB), have their own compliance officers.

With respect to the number of persons formally charged with and convicted of money laundering crimes, the following data has been reported for the years 2004–2006:

**Persons formally charged with and convicted of money laundering, 2004–2006**

Year	Persons formally charged	Persons convicted
2004	105	0
2005	4	1
2006	9	2



The Financial Analysis Unit (FAU), which is the executing body of the National Anti-money Laundering Committee, was created in 2002 by Law 72-02. This Unit became operational in 2005 and its functions are: receiving, requesting, analyzing, and disseminating reports of suspicious financial transactions or cash transactions above US\$10,000 in a foreign currency or its equivalent in national currency. In addition, the FAU provides technical support to the other competent authorities in any stage of the investigation.

The country reports that this FAU is independent and has a staff of 18 people. The budget assigned to the Unit was US\$480,264 (RD\$13,657,748) for 2005 and US\$423,856 (RD\$14,550,521) for 2006. This Unit controls regulated sectors for both the financial institutions as well as the non-financial sector.

Furthermore, Law No. 72-02 created the National Anti-money Laundering Committee, whose purpose is to promote, coordinate and recommend policies to prevent, detect, and suppress money laundering.

In the Dominican Republic, by legal mandate and as a direct obligation, all regulated sectors must file reports with the FAU about any transactions suspected of being linked to money laundering. There are two entities in the Dominican Republic that report and investigate suspicious transaction reports; one is the Department of Financial Intelligence (DIF) of the Superintendence of Banks, and the other is the National Drug Control Bureau (DNCD). The country only provided figures for the number of suspicious transaction reports received in 2004. These totaled 1,149 (Department of Financial Investigation) and 1,500 (received by the National Drug Control Bureau).

In accordance with Law No. 72-02, for investigation purposes and money laundering cases, it is not legally possible to invoke bank secrecy. Therefore, financial documents and records may be requested for the purposes of intelligence and prosecution.

The provisions contained in Law 72-02 establish the precautionary measures to preserve assets, proceeds or instruments associated with the offense, and also expressly state that the competent judicial authority shall order the seizure or freezing of the asset without any need for notification or preliminary hearing. Nonetheless, said provisions are considered to be applicable to money laundering.

Forfeited assets in money laundering cases are administered and/or managed by the Office for Custody and Administration of Seized Assets of the National Anti-money Laundering Committee. The law permits the distribution of confiscated assets in money laundering cases that involve more than one country.

Current legislation for extradition of nationals and persons that are located in the Dominican Republic is regulated by the Dominican Criminal Procedural Code. Extradition requests are received through diplomatic channels by the State Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, which it forwards to the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, the agency responsible for referring them to the Supreme Court of Justice for its decision. If the Supreme Court favors the extradition, the Attorney General sends the requests to the Executive Branch for issuance of the decree.

The laws of the country permit the extradition of nationals in cases where there is an extradition agreement between the requesting state and the Dominican Republic, where the principle of reciprocity has been established, and when the request involves illicit drug trafficking and controlled substances and the laundering of assets stemming from this activity, and any other serious offenses.

**CICAD notes that the Dominican Republic has laws, regulations, and an institutional structure for the prevention and control of the money laundering. However, CICAD makes note that the country did not provide statistical data on the number of extradition requests sent or received, the number of requests granted, or the number of suspicious transaction reports.**



## CONCLUSIONS

CICAD is concerned about the absence of a national anti-drug plan during the evaluation period (2005–2006). Nevertheless, CICAD notes that the Dominican Republic has a national authority, under the Executive Branch, that is responsible for coordinating anti-drug activities. This entity has a legal foundation and an annual independent budget, although the country indicates that this budget is inadequate to carry out its functions.

CICAD recognizes the Dominican Republic's progress in ratifying, during 2006, the United Nations Convention against Corruption (2003) and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000), along with its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Nevertheless, CICAD views with concern that during this Fourth Evaluation Round, 2005–2006, the country has made no progress in ratifying the Inter-American Convention against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials – CIFTA (1997) or the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (1992), which were recommended during the First Evaluation Round, 1999–2000. In addition, ratifications are pending for the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air and 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 (2000), both recommended to the country during the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002, and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982).

With regard to national information systems and drug use statistics, CICAD notes that information gathering activities are very limited and the interagency coordination mechanisms for data collection are weak. Likewise, the country does not have a help line to provide drug-related information to the general public. CICAD views with concern that during the 2005–2006 evaluation period, the country did not carry out studies of the general population and student population in order to determine the dimensions of drug use and its impact on the country.

In the area of drug-use prevention, CICAD views with satisfaction that the Dominican Republic is implementing drug use prevention programs targeting the school population and encourages the country to broaden their coverage. In addition, CICAD notes that the country is maintaining prevention programs in the workplace and the athletic community, and is implementing preventive measures in coordination with community organizations. However, CICAD is concerned about the disruption of the programs targeting other key sectors of the population, such as women, prisoners, preschool and tertiary school populations, working children and indigenous groups, which were initiated in 2003.

Additionally, CICAD notes that no evaluations of results have been performed to measure the effectiveness of the prevention program carried out in primary schools, a recommendation that was made during the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002. Likewise, the availability of professional training is still inadequate to cover the need for specialized training in drug-use prevention matters, even though a recommendation in that regard was made during the Third Evaluation Round, 2003–2004.

CICAD values that the country has approved the Minimum Standards of Health Care for Substance Abuse and Dependency and that these standards are mandatory. Nonetheless, CICAD notes that their effectiveness is limited by the fact that the necessary instruments are not in place to accredit and evaluate the treatment services and programs.

Regarding control and monitoring of pharmaceutical products and controlled chemical substances, CICAD notes that the Dominican Republic has in place the national institutions and adequate





regulations to control, monitor, and prevent their diversion. However, the country must strengthen the control mechanisms for health professionals and pharmacies and increase the training of personnel in the private and public sectors who are involved in the handling of these products, since the current level does not satisfy demand. In this same area, the country must also implement mechanisms to investigate and control the sale and distribution of controlled pharmaceutical products and other drugs over the Internet.

CICAD notes with concern the scant information supplied by the country regarding drug production, which resulted in the inability to adequately evaluate the country's progress in this area.

Regarding the control of illicit drug trafficking, CICAD views with satisfaction that the Dominican Republic has provided specialized training for the relevant officials and has maintained a good level of international cooperation.

However, CICAD notes with concern that the country does not have an adequate judicial records system for maintaining statistics in illicit drug trafficking cases; this is apparent in the inadequate information provided, which made it impossible to conduct a full assessment of this subject.

CICAD views with concern that the Dominican Republic has made no progress in updating the existing legislation for the control of illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. In addition, the country does not have effective communications or interagency coordination, lacks a register or database containing all information on this topic, and does not have a formal mechanism for assessing the effectiveness of the actions of each of the national agencies with responsibility for controlling illicit trafficking.

CICAD notes that the country has the appropriate legislation, regulations and institutional structures to prevent and control money laundering. However, CICAD notes that the country did not provide statistical data on extradition requests made and received, the number of such requests granted, or the number of suspicious transaction reports.

CICAD recognizes the Dominican Republic's active participation in the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM). Nevertheless, CICAD hopes that the country is able to overcome the weaknesses identified in the absence of mechanisms for gathering information in various areas, so that during the next Evaluation Round, the country can provide the information and statistics necessary for a proper evaluation of all aspects of drug control and continue to collaborate in the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism process in the manner previously demonstrated.



## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are assigned to the Dominican Republic 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 AND IMPLEMENT THE NEW NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN.
2. RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA (1982).
3. RATIFY THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (2000), A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
4. RATIFY THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURE OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS, AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (2000), A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
5. RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS (1992), A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999–2000.
6. RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURE OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITIONS, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS - CIFTA (1997), A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999–2000.
7. IMPROVE THE INTERAGENCY COORDINATION MECHANISMS TO ALLOW THE TIMELY GATHERING OF DATA AND THE POSSIBILITY OF CENTRALIZING IT WITHIN THE DRUGS OBSERVATORY.
8. ESTABLISH A HELP LINE TO PROVIDE DRUG-RELATED INFORMATION TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

### DEMAND REDUCTION

9. INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF PROFESSIONAL SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN DRUG USE PREVENTION, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
10. CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF RESULTS TO MEASURE SCHOOL-BASED PREVENTION PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.
11. EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF PREVENTION PROGRAMS FOR THE SCHOOL POPULATION.
12. IMPLEMENT THE TOOLS NECESSARY TO ACCREDIT DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS.



13. CONDUCT A STUDY TO ASSESS THE MAGNITUDE OF DRUG USE IN THE GENERAL POPULATION, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.

### **SUPPLY REDUCTION**

14. 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.

### **CONTROL MEASURES**

15. ESTABLISH A JUDICIAL DATABASE CONTAINING INFORMATION ON PERSONS FORMALLY CHARGED WITH AND CONVICTED OF ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING OFFENSES, ENABLING THE IDENTIFICATION OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.
16. ESTABLISH A REGISTRY OR DATABASE CONTAINING ALL INFORMATION RELATED TO THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.
17. UPDATE NATIONAL LEGISLATION TO CONTROL ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON THE SUBJECT, A REITERATED RECOMMENDATION FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.



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